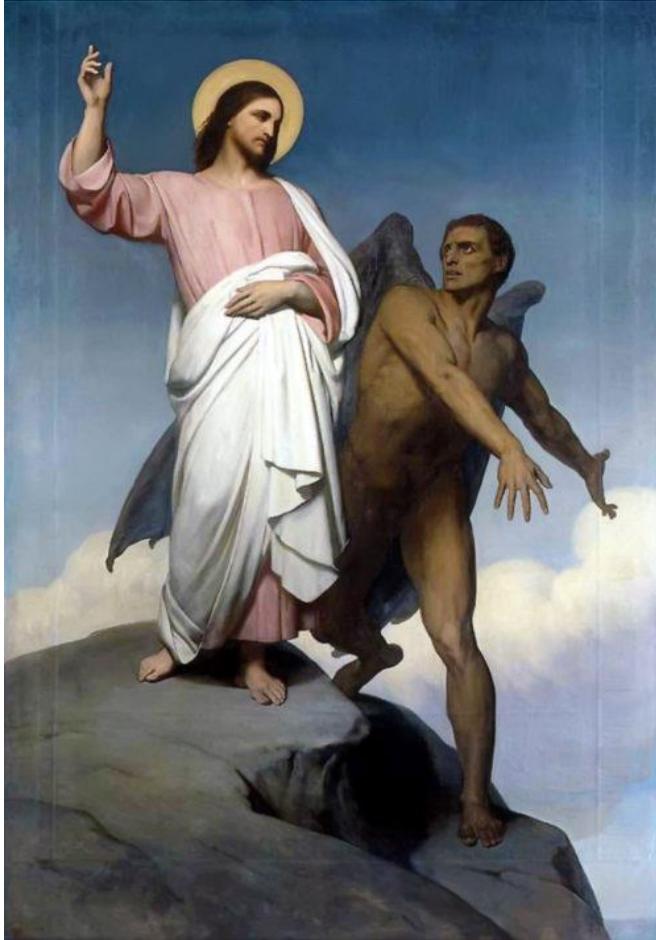


+DIVINE SERVICE IV+
OF THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

+FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT+ 26 FEBRUARY 2023+



The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

A member congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

902 S. Maple

Inglewood, CA 90301-3824

tgslcms.org

The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

“A Church where God gives and we receive.”

- ❖ The Rev. Edward Killian, Pastor (mobile) 424.293.6588
- ❖ Ms. Moira Killian, Secretary (Office) 310.671-7644
 - ❖ Mr. Jay Rogers, Organist/Music Director
 - ❖ Mr. Jose Lopez, Congregational Chairman
 - ❖ Mr. Greg Griffin, Acolyte

Welcome to our Divine Service!

We are pleased that you are with us.

+Worship Notes+

*The entire service, including the **rubrics** of when to sit and when to kneel or stand, and what to say, is printed out in this folder so you may follow along.*

Welcome to weekly Divine Service at The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church! We are a congregation that confesses the Holy Bible as inerrant, that justification is by faith according to the Holy Bible and confessed in the 1580 Book of Concord. God bless you.

To all of you who are visiting our service this morning, we extend a most cordial welcome in Jesus' name. Please introduce yourself to our pastor. It is our hope that you will feel at home in our midst and will be blessed by our message of Christ crucified and risen for the sins of the world. If you are looking for a church home and would like to know about our membership, pastor would love to speak with you!

A Note From The Organist:

Paul Manz gives us a most beautiful setting of “Jesus, Lead Thou On,” using the soft stops of the organ, including flutes, strings, and the Cromorne, a reed stop which is a forerunner of note the oboe and clarinet.

John Behnke's setting of “God's Own Child” is very straightforward, but the middle section incorporates the Choral “Jesus, Priceless Treasure” along with the hymn.

The Hymn tune was written by Johann Caspar Bachofen (1695-1755) whose name sounds like a conflation of Bach and Beethoven, but he is related to neither. He was Swiss, and lived mainly in Zurich, where he composed a great deal of music, much of which is all but forgotten today.

Confession and Absolution

Hymn of Invocation

424 O Christ, You Walked the Road



1 O Christ, You walked the road Our wan-d'ring feet must go.
 2 No bread of earth a-lone Can fill our hun-g'ring hearts.
 3 No blind-ing sign we ask, No won-der from a-bove.
 4 When lures of eas-y gain With prom-ise bright-ly shine,
 5 O Christ, You walked the road Our wan-d'ring feet must go.



You faced with us temp-ta-tion's pow'r And fought our an-cient foe.
 Lord, help us seek Your liv-ing Word, The food Your grace im-parts.
 Lord, help us place our trust a-lone In Your un-swerv-ing love.
 Lord, help us seek Your king-dom first; Our wills with Yours a-lign.
 Stay with us through temp-ta-tion's hour To fight our an-cient foe.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007
 Tune: William Daman, c. 1540–1591

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**
- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Kneel/Stand

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

Stand

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 91:9–13; antiphon: vv. 15–16

When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in | trouble;*

I will rescue him and | honor him.

**With long life I will sat- | isfy him*
and show him my sal- | vation.**

Because you have made the LORD your | dwelling place—*

the Most High, who is my | refuge—

no evil shall be allowed to be- | fall you,*

no plague come | near your tent.

For he will command his angels con- | cerning you*

to guard you in | all your ways.

On their hands they will | bear you up,*

lest you strike your foot a- | gainst a stone.

You will tread on the lion and the | adder;*

the young lion and the serpent you will trample | underfoot.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in | trouble;*

I will rescue him and | honor him.

**With long life I will sat- | isfy him*
and show him my sal- | vation.**

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Gloria in Excelsis is omitted during Lent.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 3:1–21

¹Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made.

He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?’” ²And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’” ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. ⁵For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” ⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

⁸And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” ¹⁰And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.” ¹¹He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” ¹²The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.” ¹³Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

¹⁴The LORD God said to the serpent,

“Because you have done this,
cursed are you above all livestock
and above all beasts of the field;
on your belly you shall go,
and dust you shall eat
all the days of your life.

¹⁵I will put enmity between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and her offspring;
he shall bruise your head,
and you shall bruise his heel.”

¹⁶To the woman he said,

“I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing;
in pain you shall bring forth children.
Your desire shall be for your husband,
and he shall rule over you.”

¹⁷And to Adam he said,

“Because you have listened to the voice of your wife
and have eaten of the tree
of which I commanded you,
‘You shall not eat of it,’
cursed is the ground because of you;
in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life;

¹⁸thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you;
and you shall eat the plants of the field.

¹⁹By the sweat of your face
you shall eat bread,
till you return to the ground,
for out of it you were taken;
for you are dust,
and to dust you shall return.”

²⁰The man called his wife’s name Eve, because she was the mother of all living.

²¹And the LORD God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

⁶“As for me, I have | set my King*
on Zion, my | holy hill.”

⁷**I will tell of | the decree.***

**The LORD said to me, “You are my Son;
today I have be- | gotten you.**

⁸Ask of me, and I will make the nations your | heritage,*
and the ends of the earth your pos- | session.

⁹**You shall break them with a | rod of iron*
and dash them in pieces like a potter’s | vessel.”**

¹⁰Now therefore, O | kings, be wise,*
be warned, O rulers | of the earth.

¹¹**Serve the | LORD with fear,*
and rejoice with | trembling.**

¹²Kiss the Son,
lest he be angry, and you perish in the way,
for his wrath is quickly | kindled.*

Blessèd are all who take ref- | uge in him.

Epistle

Romans 4:1-8, 13-17

¹What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh? ²For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.” ⁴Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. ⁵And to the one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness, ⁶just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works:

⁷“Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven,
and whose sins are covered;

⁸blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin.” . . .

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Verse

He who dwells in the shelter of the | Most High*
will abide in the shadow of the Al- | mighty.
He will cover you with his | pinions,*
and under his wings you will find | refuge.
When he calls to me, I will | answer him;*
I will be with him in | trouble.
With long life I will sat- | isfy him*
and show him my sal- | vation.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:1-11

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ²And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. ³And the tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." ⁴But he answered, "**It is written,**

**"Man shall not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."**

⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple ⁶and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written,

"He will command his angels concerning you,'

and

**"On their hands they will bear you up,
lest you strike your foot against a stone."**

⁷Jesus said to him, "**Again it is written, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'**" ⁸Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹And he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." ¹⁰Then Jesus said to him, "**Be gone, Satan! For it is written,**

**"You shall worship the Lord your God
and him only shall you serve."**

¹¹Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

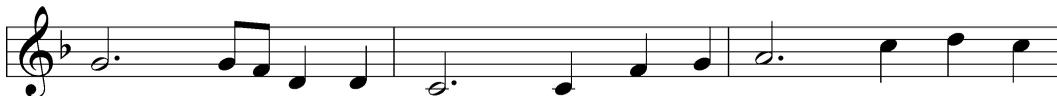
C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life **✝** of the world to come. Amen.



1 The tree of life with ev - 'ry good In E - den's
 2 The still - ness of that sa - cred grove Was bro - ken,
 3 What mer - cy God showed to our race, A plan of
 4 Now from that tree of Je - sus' shame Flows life e -



ho - ly or - chard stood, And of its fruit so pure and
 as the ser - pent strove With tempt - ing voice Eve to be -
 res - cue by His grace; In send - ing One from wom - an's
 ter - nal in His name; For all who trust and will be -



sweet God let the man and wom - an eat. Yet in this
 guile And Ad - am too by sin de - file. O day of
 seed, The One to fill our great - est need— For on a
 lieve, Sal - va - tion's liv - ing fruit re - ceive. And of this



gar - den al - so grew An - oth - er tree, of which they
 sad - ness when the breath Of fear and dark - ness, doubt and
 tree up - lift - ed high His on - ly Son for sin would
 fruit so pure and sweet The Lord in - vites the world to



knew; Its love - ly limbs with fruit a -
 death, Its aw - ful poi - son first dis -
 die, Would drink the cup of scorn and
 eat, To find with - in this cross of



dorned A - gainst whose eat - ing God had warned.
 played With - in the world so new - ly made.
 dread To crush the an - cient ser - pent's head!
 wood The tree of life with ev - 'ry good.

Stand

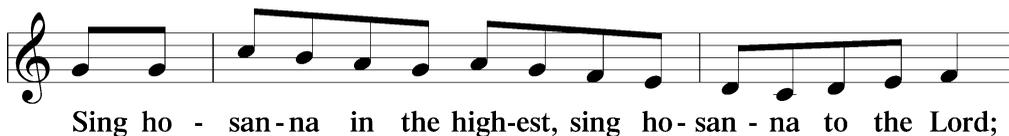
Prayer of the Church

Proper response is "Hear our prayer."

- P** Heavenly Father, as we enter this Lenten season of repentance and renewed devotion, we pray that You would remember us according to Your steadfast love and goodness in Christ and instruct and lead us by Your Spirit in Your ways so that we may repent and believe the Gospel. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Lord God, You placed the wood of the cross on the back of Your only begotten Son, that as the promised offspring of Abraham He might possess the gates of hell. Bless, we pray, His Church and all those called to preach and teach within her with the certainty that those gates cannot prevail against them, that in faith they may boldly trample every power of the enemy underfoot. Lord, in Your mercy,
- P** Almighty God, preserve all catechumens and their teachers, all children and their parents, and every Christian home from the assaults of the evil one. As Your Son overcame Satan in the desert by the Word of God, so also give us the victory through Christ and His Word. Lord, in Your mercy,
- P** Father of lights, from whom every good and perfect gift comes down to us from above, keep us from being enticed by our own desires to misuse Your gifts in sin, and help us to use them rightly in service to You and our neighbor. Bless all our leaders, that we may be governed wisely and justly for the good of this present generation and all those to come. Lord, in Your mercy,
- P** Most High God, our refuge in every trouble, You have promised to hear when we call to You. We pray that You would command Your angels to guard our brothers and sisters, especially *Alice, Bev, Carmen, Cynthia, Debra, Dolores, Gene, Jane, Jod, Johnathan, Karen, Lynette, Marion and her family, Megan, Naomi, Royce and her family, Sabrina, Steven, Susie and her family, Suzanne, and Timothy, and those we name in our hearts*, and all those who suffer in our midst. Keep them from every evil that can befall the body, mind and soul. Lord, in Your mercy,
- P** Lord God, the time is fulfilled and Your kingdom is at hand as Your beloved Son comes to us here at the altar. By Your Spirit, grant that we may receive Him in repentance and believe the Gospel proclaimed to us in His body given and His blood shed. Lord, in Your mercy,
- P** Lord God, we remember with thanksgiving those before us whom You brought forth by the Word of truth who now live and reign in Your presence with Your



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

At Your command, Abraham prepared to offer his son Isaac as a sacrifice on the mountain; yet, in mercy You provided a ram as a substitute. We give You thanks that on Calvary You spared not Your only Son but sent Him to offer His life as a ransom for many.

As we eat and drink His body and blood, grant us, like Abraham our father, to trust in Your promise now fulfilled in Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

C Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,

**but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.**

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My **✠** body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My **✠** blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 210



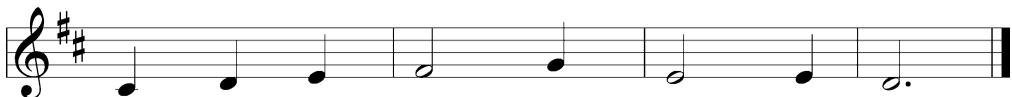
C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Distribution

Distribution Hymn

637 Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord



1 Draw near and take the bod - y of the Lord,
 2 He who His saints in this world rules and shields,
 3 Come for - ward then with faith - ful hearts sin - cere,



And drink the ho - ly blood for you out - poured;
 To all be - liev - ers life e - ter - nal yields;
 And take the pledg - es of sal - va - tion here.



Of - fered was He for great - est and for least,
 With heav'n - ly bread He makes the hun - gry whole,
 O Lord, our hearts with grate - ful thanks en - dow



Him - self the vic - tim and Him - self the priest.
 Gives liv - ing wa - ters to the thirst - ing soul.
 As in this feast of love You bless us now.

Text: Latin, 7th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, alt.
 Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois
 Text and tune: Public domain

Distribution Hymn

643 Sent Forth by God's Blessing



1 Sent forth by God's bless - ing, Our true faith con - fess - ing,
 2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing, To God ev - er - liv - ing,



The peo - ple of God from His dwell - ing take leave.
 The tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will face.



The Sup - per is end - ed. O now be ex - tend - ed
Our faith ev - er shar - ing, In love ev - er car - ing,
The fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve.
Em - brac - ing His chil - dren of each tribe and race.
The seed of His teach - ing, Re - cep - tive souls reach - ing,
With Your feast You feed us, With Your light now lead us;
Shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.
U - nite us as one in this life that we share.
His grace did in - vite us, His love shall u - nite us
Then may all the liv - ing With praise and thanks - giv - ing
To work for God's king - dom and an - swer His call.
Give hon - or to Christ and His name that we bear.

Text: Omer E. Westendorf, 1916–97, alt.

Tune: Welsh

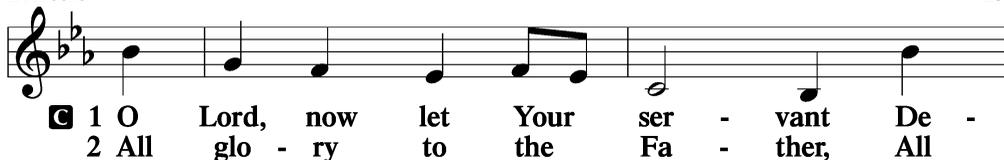
Text: © 1964 World Library Publications. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000401

Tune: Public domain

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 211



1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All



part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Post-Communion Collect

- P** Let us pray.
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Benedicamus

LSB 212

- P** Let us bless the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

Hymn to Depart

418 O Lord, throughout These Forty Days



1 O Lord, through - out these for - ty days You
2 You strove with Sa - tan, and You won; Your
3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet You prayed And
4 Be with us through this sea - son, Lord, And



prayed and kept the fast; In - spire re - pen - tance
faith - ful - ness en - dured; Lend us Your nerve, Your
fixed Your mind a - bove; So teach us to de -
all our earth - ly days, That when the fi - nal



for our sin, And free us from our past.
skill and trust In God's e - ter - nal Word.
ny our - selves, Since we have known God's love.
Eas - ter dawns, We join in heav - en's praise.

Text: based on Claudia F. Hernaman, 1838–98; para. Gilbert E. Doan, 1930

Tune: The Psalms of David in Prose and Meeter, 1635, Edinburgh

Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000401

Tune: Public domain

God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It

John H. Behnke (b. 1953)

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright

© 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2023 Concordia Publishing House.

✠ THIS WEEK'S NOTES ✠

Announcements

- + Last Sunday's Attendance: 36
Midweek Attendance:
- + Altar Guild Set Up: February 26th Gayle
March 5th Maurine
- + Voter's Meeting after service today.
- + Thank you to everyone who donated items for the Orphan Grain Train!

February Birthdays

Greg Griffin 20th
Marlene Wood 28th

Lenten Midweek Services

Vespers - Wednesday, March 1st @7pm – The Creed
Vespers – Wednesday, March 8th @7pm – The Lord's Prayer
Vespers – Wednesday, March 15th @7pm – Holy Baptism
Vespers – Wednesday, March 22nd @7pm – Confession
Vespers – Wednesday, March 29th @7pm – Sacrament of the Altar
Vespers – Wednesday, April 5th @7pm

Lenten Suppers will be held in the Assembly Room at 6pm before service.

A Snippet From 1517

...As Dr. Luther's notes, this second temptation – the temptation to abandon the Lord's clear Word – it is the greatest. With this temptation, the devil has shattered the outward unity of the Church into thousands of sectarian shards. Men and women, walking not in the clear way of God's Word but in their own muddled emotions and opinions, have jumped from the pinnacle of truth and struck their feet upon the stone of heresy. Do not put the Lord your God to the test; rather, inscribe the Words of God onto your heart that you may not subscribe to the lies of the Tempter's mouth.

Having now been defeated in the first two rounds with our Lord, Satan stepped forward for one final swing. In the first temptation, the devil held adversity and pain in the face of Jesus; here, he holds prosperity and delight before him. The devil “took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. ‘All this I will give you,’ he said, ‘if you will bow down and worship me,’” ([Mt 4:8-9](#)). The devil knew that Jesus knew what sufferings awaited him, so he says, “You who claim to be God’s Son are not worthy of this miserable life; see the riches, view the honor, covet the glory I would bestow upon you! All, yes, all and more I will give if only you will get on your knees before me.”

But our Lord came not to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many, as a ransom for you. And if he came not to be served, certainly he came not to pursue wealth, fame, and glory! He came to fear, love, and trust in God above all things, and in so doing, to fulfill the law for you. So he said, “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only,’” ([Mt 4:10](#)).

Do you see what our Lord has done in his conquest of Satan with all his temptations? He has utterly reversed the fall of the first man. But that is not all. He has not only reversed Adam’s fall; he has brought forward a new humanity, with himself being a new Adam, who bears in his own body the source of all true and lasting life. What you could not do, Christ has done for you. The tempter whom you could never defeat on your own – Christ has defeated. The new genesis which you could never create – Jesus has created for you.

In the plush Garden of Eden, the first Adam was defeated by the ancient Serpent. But in the wasteland of the Judean wilderness, Jesus fought off the temptations of the Evil One. Every fiery arrow shot from Satan’s bow was doused in the water of the Word. Heaven and hell stood toe-to-toe and hell was left lying in the dust, that you, O man of dust, might stand toe-to-toe with God and be embraced by Him as a beloved child.

The Lord Jesus fought and won this battle for you. In his victory over the devil is your victory as well, for all that Christ accomplished has been reckoned to you as your very own. When you fall prey to the temptations of Satan, flee to the One in whom Satan has already been defeated. Those who are in Christ Jesus cannot be harmed by the enticements of evil. As in Adam you died in sin so in the obedient Christ you live. Repent and return to him. Leave the Old Adam with his death and come to the New Adam with all his life. He will receive and embrace you as his very own. He who was tempted for you is never tempted to turn you away who turn back to him. His Baptism is your Baptism, his conquering of sin is your conquering of sin, his crucifixion, his resurrection, his ascension are all yours. What belongs to the Head belongs to the Body, and you are the Body of Christ, living members of that man who is also God, the one in whom you have the life of the Father.

“Lead us not into temptation,” our Father, but lead us into the One who conquered the Tempter for us, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen. *“The Temptation of Jesus”, Chad Bird, 2013*