

+DIVINE SERVICE III+
OF THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST
+SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT + 16 MARCH 2025+



The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

A member congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

902 S. Maple

Inglewood, CA 90301-3824

tgslicms.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!

Communion Policy

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, and welcome to The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church!

To Those Intending To Commune This Morning:

We respectfully request that those visiting this morning would speak to Pastor Killian before coming to the altar for Holy Communion. While we desire that all who believe would join us in this feast of forgiveness, we are mindful of what God has spoken to us in His word regarding receiving this precious meal:

"Whoever therefore eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgement on himself." (1 Corinthians 11:27-29)

In light of this scripture and others, we take admittance to the Lord's Supper most seriously. **It is God's desire that you approach His table with a prepared heart and mind, and our desire that you join us. Please speak to Pastor Killian that we may maintain good order and a God pleasing approach to His most precious gift of mercy! Thank you.**

Confession and Absolution

Hymn of Invocation

431 Not All the Blood of Beasts



1 Not all the blood of beasts On Jew - ish al - tars slain
 2 But Christ, the heav'n - ly Lamb, Takes all our sins a - way;
 3 My faith would lay its hand On that dear head of Thine,
 4 My soul looks back to see The bur - den Thou didst bear
 5 Be - liev - ing, we re - joice To see the curse re - move;



Could give the guilt - y con - science peace Or wash a - way the stain.
 A sac - ri - fice of no - bler name And rich - er blood than they.
 While as a pen - i - tent I stand, And there con - fess my sin.
 When hang - ing on the curs - ed tree; I know my guilt was there.
 We bless the Lamb with cheer - ful voice And sing His bleed - ing love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.
 Tune: William Daman, c. 1540-1591

Stand

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

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

Exhortation

LSB 184

- P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- C** **who made heaven and earth.**
- P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- C** **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Kneel/Stand

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

LSB 184

- P** O almighty God, merciful Father,
C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

Absolution

LSB 185

- P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the **✠** Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Stand

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 74:1-3; antiphon: Psalm 69:9

For zeal for your house has con- | sumed me,*
and the reproaches of those who reproach you have fall- | en on me.

O God, why do you cast us off for- | ever?*

Why does your anger smoke against the sheep of your | pasture?

Remember your congregation, which you have purchased of old, which you have redeemed to be the tribe of your | heritage!*

Remember Mount Zion, where | you have dwelt.

Direct your steps to the perpetual | ruins;*

the enemy has destroyed everything in the sanctu- | ary!

Gloria Patri

LSB 186



C Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Kyrie

LSB 186



C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



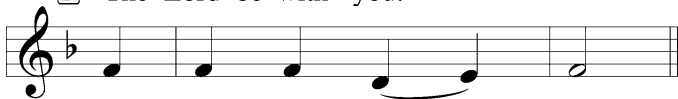
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

+ Gloria in Excelsis is omitted during Lent +

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



P Let us pray.

P O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Old Testament

Jeremiah 26:8-15

⁸When Jeremiah had finished speaking all that the LORD had commanded him to speak to all the people, then the priests and the prophets and all the people laid hold of him, saying, "You shall die! ⁹Why have you prophesied in the name of the LORD, saying, 'This house shall be like Shiloh, and this city shall be desolate, without inhabitant'?" And all the people gathered around Jeremiah in the house of the LORD.

¹⁰When the officials of Judah heard these things, they came up from the king's house to the house of the LORD and took their seat in the entry of the New Gate of the house of the LORD. ¹¹Then the priests and the prophets said to the officials and to all the people, "This man deserves the sentence of death, because he has prophesied against this city, as you have heard with your own ears."

¹²Then Jeremiah spoke to all the officials and all the people, saying, "The LORD sent me to prophesy against this house and this city all the words you have heard. ¹³Now therefore mend your ways and your deeds, and obey the voice of the LORD your God, and the LORD will relent of the disaster that he has pronounced against you. ¹⁴But as for me, behold, I am in your hands. Do with me as seems good and right to you. ¹⁵Only know for certain that if you put me to death, you will bring innocent blood upon yourselves and upon this city and its inhabitants, for in truth the LORD sent me to you to speak all these words in your ears."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 4

Answer Me When I Call

¹Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness!

You have given me relief when I was in distress.

Be gracious to me and hear my prayer!

²O men, how long shall my honor be turned into shame?

How long will you love vain words and seek after lies?

³But know that the LORD has set apart the godly for himself;
the LORD hears when I call to him.

⁴Be angry, and do not sin;

ponder in your own hearts on your beds, and be silent.

⁵Offer right sacrifices,
and put your trust in the LORD.

⁶There are many who say, "Who will show us some good?"

Lift up the light of your face upon us, O LORD!"

⁷You have put more joy in my heart
than they have when their grain and wine abound.

⁸**In peace I will both lie down and sleep;
for you alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.**

Epistle

Philippians 3:17—4:1

¹⁷Brothers, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. ¹⁹Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things. ²⁰But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.

¹Therefore, my brothers, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm thus in the Lord, my beloved.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Tract

Psalm 106:1–4

Oh give thanks to the LORD, for | he is good,*
for his steadfast love endures for- | ever!

**Who can utter the mighty deeds | of the LORD,*
or declare | all his praise?**

Blessèd are they who observe | justice,*
who do righteousness | at all times!

**Remember me, O LORD, when you show favor to your | people,*
help me when you | save them.**

Holy Gospel

Luke 13:31–35

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the thirteenth chapter.



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

Lament over Jerusalem

³¹At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus], "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." ³²And he said to them, "Go and tell that fox, 'Behold, I cast out demons and perform cures today and tomorrow, and the third day I finish my course. ³³Nevertheless, I must go on my way today and tomorrow and the day following, for it cannot be that a prophet should perish away from Jerusalem.' ³⁴O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not! ³⁵Behold, your house is forsaken. And I tell you, you will not see me until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!'"

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, 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.

Sit

Hymn of the Day

708 Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart



1 Lord, Thee I love with all my heart; I pray Thee, ne'er from
2 Yea, Lord, 'twas Thy rich boun-ty gave My bod - y, soul, and
3 Lord, let at last Thine an - gels come, To A - br'ham's bos - om



me de - part, With ten - der mer - cy cheer me. Earth
all I have In this poor life of la - bor. Lord,
bear me home, That I may die un - fear - ing; And



has no plea - sure I would share. Yea, heav'n it - self were
grant that I in ev - 'ry place May glo - ri - fy Thy
in its nar - row cham - ber keep My bod - y safe in



void and bare If Thou, Lord, wert not near me. And should my
lav - ish grace And help and serve my neigh - bor. Let no false
peace - ful sleep Un - til Thy re - ap - pear - ing. And then from



heart for sor - row break, My trust in Thee can noth - ing shake.
 doc - trine me be - guile; Let Sa - tan not my soul de - file.
 death a - wak - en me, That these mine eyes with joy may see,



Thou art the por - tion I have sought; Thy pre - cious
 Give strength and pa - tience un - to me To bear my
 O Son of God, Thy glo - rious face, My Sav - ior



blood my soul has bought. Lord Je - sus Christ, my God and
 cross and fol - low Thee. Lord Je - sus Christ, my God and
 and my fount of grace. Lord Je - sus Christ, my prayer at -



Lord, my God and Lord, For - sake me not! I trust Thy Word.
 Lord, my God and Lord, In death Thy com - fort still af - ford.
 tend, my prayer at - tend, And I will praise Thee with - out end.

Text: Martin Schalling, 1532–1608; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
 Tune: Zwey Bücher . . . Tabulatur, 1577, Strassburg

Sermon

Pastor Edward Killian

Stand

Offertory

LSB 192



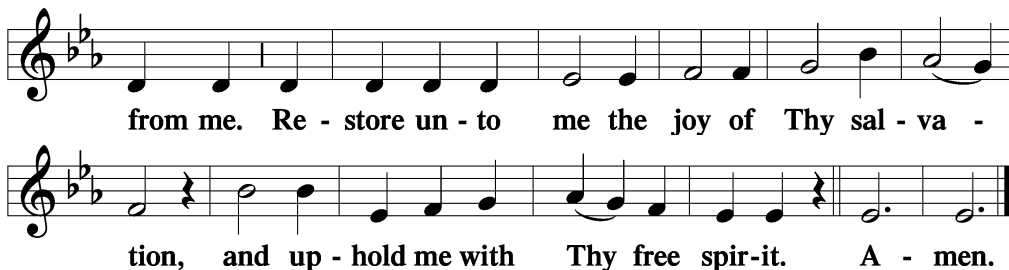
☐ Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -



new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -



way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it



from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

Offering *Collected after service in the back of the church.*

Prayer of the Church

The proper response is "Hear our prayer."

P Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Remember the congregations of Your Church, O Lord, which You have purchased with the holy blood of Your Son. Strengthen and defend all pastors and church workers, giving them every good gift as they attend to Your people. Cause us rightly to fear Your anger and rejoice in Your redemption. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Remember us in a world convulsed by the wages of sin. As we watch nations falter, remind us that our eternal citizenship is in heaven with our Lord Jesus Christ, who will subject all things to Himself. As we watch our own bodies fail, remind us that Christ will transform our lowly bodies to be like His glorious body. Lord, in Your mercy,

P Remember the households of this congregation, O Lord. Provide help and companionship to those who live alone, and foster love between husbands and wives, parents and children, that our homes would not be places to worship our bellies, glory in shame or set our minds on earthly things, but a refuge while here and a foretaste of our heavenly home. Lord, in Your mercy,

P Remember our nation and those You have placed in authority, O Lord. Give them wisdom and integrity, and grant that neither they nor the citizens of our land would hinder Your Church or despise Your call to repentance. Lord, in Your mercy,

P Remember the sick and afflicted, O Lord *especially Alice, Allison, Annie, Betty, Bev, Bill, Chris and his family, Diane, Eric, Jason, Johnathan, Lynette, Marion and her family, Ron, and Timothy.* Deliver them for the sake of Christ, who cast out demons and performed cures on His way to the cross. Strengthen their faith to hold fast to Him, who rose again to raise them also. Lord, in Your mercy,

- P** Remember this household of faith, O Lord, and gather us together at Your altar as a hen gathers her brood under her wings. Unite us in true confession of Your Word, sincere repentance for our sins, and joyful confidence in Your Son's body and blood for our forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,
- P** Remember us, O Lord, for the sake of Your Son, who suffered the reproach of mankind as He bore our sins to the cross. Strengthen us gladly to bear reproach in Your name and declare Your salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,
- P** All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever.
- C** Amen.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 194



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



C It is meet and right so to do.

Proper Preface (Abbreviated)

LSB 194

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 195



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 196



P Our Father who art in heav - en, hal - low - ed be Thy name,



Thy king - dom come, Thy will be done on earth as it



is in heav - en; give us this day our dai - ly bread;



and forgive us our tres - pass - es as we forgive those who



tres - pass a - gainst us; and lead us not in - to



temp - ta - tion, but deliver us from e - vil.



C For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the



glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197



P Our Lord Je - sus Christ, on the night when He was be - trayed, took bread,



and when He had giv - en thanks, He broke it and gave it to the



dis - ci - ples and said: "Take, eat; this is My † bod - y, which is giv - en for you.



This do in re - mem - brance of Me." In the same way al - so



He took the cup after sup - per, and when He had giv - en thanks, He gave it



to them, say - ing: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in



My † blood, which is shed for you for the for-give-ness of sins.



This do, as often as you drink it, in re-mem-brance of Me."

Pax Domini

LSB 197



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



G A - men.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the
world, grant us Thy peace. A - - men.

Sit

Distribution

Distribution Hymn

611 Chief of Sinners Though I Be

1 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Je - sus shed His
2 Oh, the height of Je - sus' love, High - er than the
3 On - ly Je - sus can im - part Balm to heal the
4 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Christ is all in
5 O my Sav - ior, help af - ford By Your Spir - it

blood for me, Died that I might live on high,
heav'ns a - bove, Deep - er than the depths of sea,
wound - ed heart, Peace that flows from sin for - giv'n,
all to me; All my wants to Him are known,
and Your Word! When my way - ward heart would stray,

Lives that I might nev - er die. As the branch is
Last - ing as e - ter - ni - ty! Love that found me—
Joy that lifts the soul to heav'n, Faith and hope to
All my sor - rows are His own. He sus - tains the
Keep me in the nar - row way; Grace in time of

to the vine, I am His, and He is mine.
won - drous thought! Found me when I sought Him not.
walk with God In the way that E - noch trod.
hid - den life Safe with Him from earth - ly strife.
need sup - ply While I live and when I die.

Text: William McComb, 1793–1873, alt.
Tune: Richard Redhead, 1820–1901
Text and tune: Public domain

Distribution Hymn

628 Your Table I Approach



1 Your ta - ble I ap - proach; Dear Sav - ior, hear my prayer.
2 Lord, I con - fess my sins And mourn their wretch - ed bands;
3 Your bod - y and Your blood, Once slain and shed for me,
4 Search not how this takes place, This won - drous mys - ter - y;



Let not an un - re - pen - tant heart Prove hurt - ful to me there.
A con - trite heart is sure to find For - give - ness at Your hands.
Are tak - en at Your ta - ble, Lord, In blest re - al - i - ty.
God can ac - com - plish vast - ly more Than what we think could be.

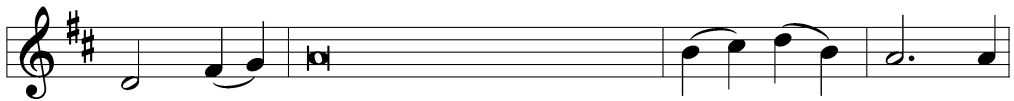
- 5 O grant, most blessèd Lord,
That earth and hell combined
May not about this sacrament
Raise doubt within my mind.
- 6 Oh, may I never fail
To thank You day and night
For Your true body and true blood,
O God, my peace and light.

Text: Gerhard Wolter Molanus, 1633–1722; tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.
Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois
Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

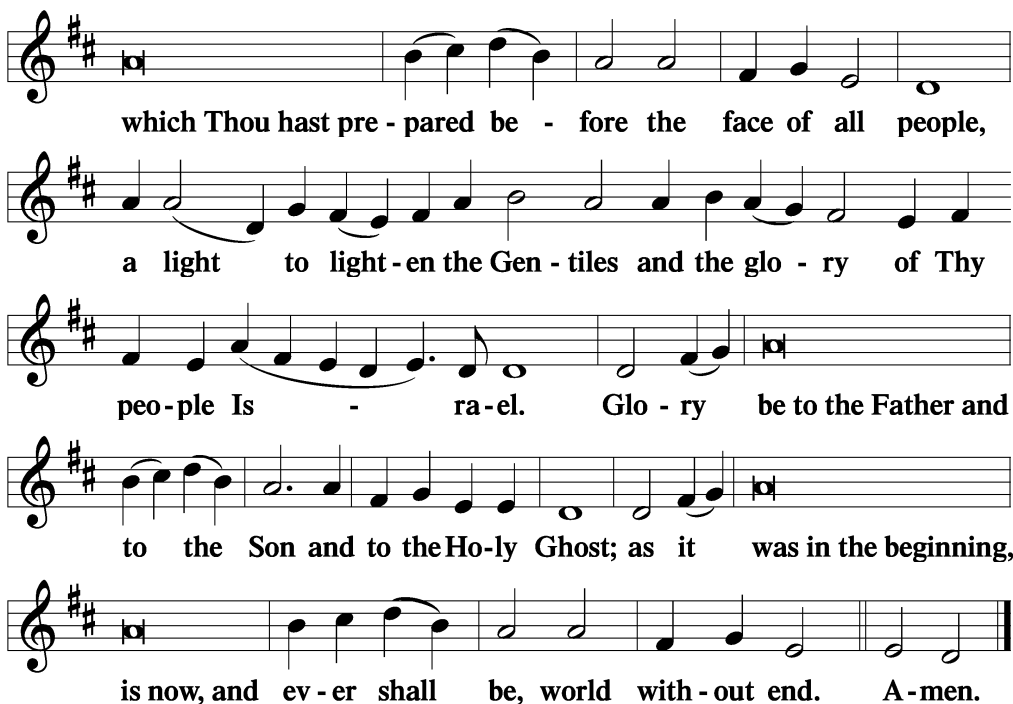
LSB 199



Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -



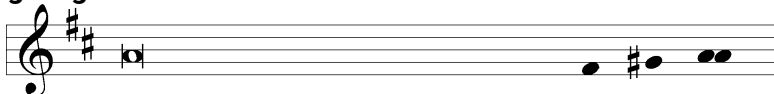
cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,



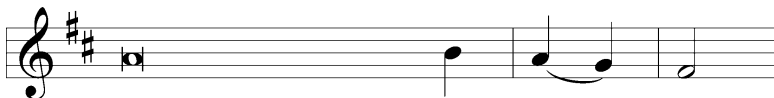
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

Thanksgiving

LSB 200



A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

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 A - men.

Salutation

LSB 201



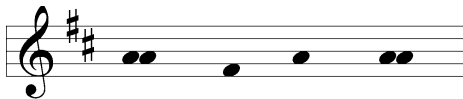
P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

Benedicamus

LSB 202



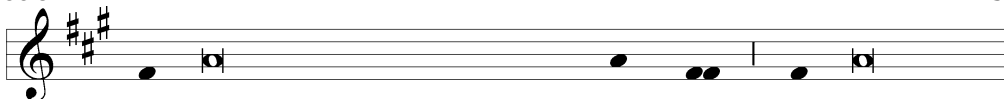
A Bless we the Lord.



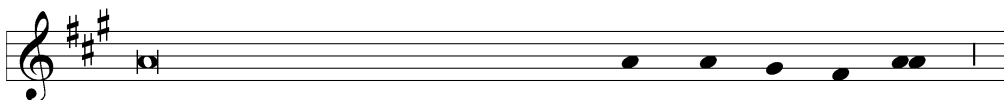
C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

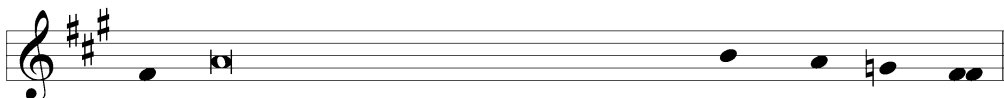
LSB 202



P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

Hymn to Depart

335 O Bride of Christ, Rejoice



1 O bride of Christ, re - joice; Ex - ul - tant raise thy voice
 2 Let shouts of glad - ness rise Tri - um - phant to the skies.
 3 A hum - ble beast He rides, Yet as a King pre - sides;
 4 The weak and tim - id find How meek He is and kind;
 5 Then go thy Lord to meet; Strew palm leaves at His feet;



To hail the day of glo - ry Fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.
 Now comes the King most glo - rious To reign o'er all vic - to - rious.
 Though not ar - rayed in splen - dor, He makes the grave sur - ren - der.
 To them He gives a trea - sure Of bliss be - yond all mea - sure.
 Thy gar - ments spread be - fore Him And hon - or and a - dore Him.

Refrain



Ho - san - na, praise, and glo - ry! Our King, we bow be - fore Thee.

Text: Danish, c. 1600; tr. Victor O. Petersen, 1864–1929, alt.

Tune: Der Bussfertige Sünder, 1679, Nürnberg

Text and tune: Public domain

Jerusalem, Thou City High and Fair

James Engel (1925-1989)

Acknowledgments

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A Note From The Organist:

“Lord, Thuz I Lovz With All My Heart” is one of the most traditional Lutheran Chorales, dating from 1577. Walther intersperses the melody with running passagework. Somewhat unusually for Walther, he calls for the pedal in only one phrase of the melody, allowing the manuals to carry the load for most of the piece.

James Engel was born in Milwaukee and spent the bulk of his life there, teaching at Concordia University. “Jerusalem, Thou City High and Fair,” another traditional chorale, is a partita with five movements in a variety of styles.

✠ THIS WEEK'S NOTES ✠

Announcements

+ **Last Sunday's Attendance: 36**
Midweek Attendance: 21

+ **Altar Guild Set Up:** March 16th Marie
March 23rd Gayle
Cleanup for March: Gayle and Perla

+ **Ushers for March:** Dick Huhn and Leon Tarr

+ **Lenten Devotionals are available for pickup! Each devotional contains Church information and service times if you would like to give one to a friend!**

+ **There will be five weeks of Lenten Suppers. If you would like to contribute a main course, side, salad, or dessert one of the weeks, there are sign-up sheets located in the Narthex. Thank you for your support and participation!**

March Birthdays!

Taylor Hurd 19th
Kannon Wilhitz 22nd
Micah Thomas 31st

We welcome you to join us for Lenten Midweek Services!

Pastor Killian will be leading us through a midweek Lenten Series focusing on the Book of Lamentations.

Second Midweek in Lent – Wednesday, March 19th @ 7pm

Third Midweek in Lent – Wednesday, March 26th @ 7pm

Fourth Midweek in Lent – Wednesday, April 2nd @ 7pm

Fifth Midweek in Lent – Wednesday, April 9th @ 7pm

Lenten Suppers will be provided before service in the Assembly Room at 6pm each week.

Lectionary Summary for the Second Sunday in Lent

Jesus Rescues Us from Death and Brings Us into Heaven

The prophet Jeremiah faithfully preached *“all that the Lord had commanded him to speak to all the people”* (Jer. 26:8). He called the people to repentance, lest the Lord’s judgment come upon them. The violence that Jeremiah suffered for this preaching foreshadowed the cross and Passion of Christ Jesus, who suffered the judgment of God for the redemption of all people. For Jesus *“comes in the name of the Lord”* (Luke 13:35) in order to lay down His life for the sins of the world. Earthly Jerusalem was blind to His gracious visitation, and it put Him to death like the prophets before Him. Yet, His sacrifice upon the cross became the cornerstone of the new Jerusalem, His Church. He visits us today in mercy with His preaching of forgiveness, to gather us to Himself within that holy city, *“as a hen gathers her brood under her wings”* (Luke 13:34), for *“our citizenship is in heaven”* (Phil. 3:20).

Stewardship Bulletin Blurp

Philippians 3:19 – “Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things.” St. Paul does not want us to set our minds on earthly things, for they are passing away. This is similar to what Jesus says about storing up treasures on earth rather than storing them in heaven. Our heart tends to go where we put our treasure. This is why God commands us to live generously: not to spoil our fun, but to help train us in keeping our priorities straight and our minds off earthly things.

Lutheran’s For Life Thoughts

The heart of Christianity is proclaiming Gospel promises courageously. Jeremiah (Jeremiah 26:8) follows the lead of Jesus Himself (Luke 13:31-32) in speaking of God’s truth and Christ’s love even when unpopular. They believe their lives—and everyone else’s—belong in the Heavenly Father’s hands above all. Gospel-motivated voices For Life, take note!

On St. Joseph: “Though Mary’s husband did not beget Jesus from his own body, he did father him in the fashion of a foster, adoptive, or step-parent. For this reason, he has received the title of Guardian of Our Lord. His service to God and family not only figures prominently in the Gospel of Jesus Christ but also exemplifies the holy vocation of fatherhood and testifies to the sanctity of marriage, parenting, adoption, and every human life.” *Pastor Michael Salemink, Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Weekly Memory Verse Challenge

For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised. **2 Corinthians 5:14–15**

A Snippet From 1517
“Just Another Forty Days?”
Repentance is not limited to a season.

Typically, Lent is a season of repentance and renewal, a time for turning away from sin and focusing on Christ. Many take this time to give something up or deny themselves certain comforts. Some even see it as a season of personal suffering, a way to walk alongside Christ on the march to the cross.

But let’s be clear—Lent is *not* a countdown to the return of hope and confidence, certainty and peace, light and joy in Jesus. It is not about longing for a return to chocolate, caffeine, sugar, carbs, or whatever earthly thing has been set aside for these forty days. More importantly, this is not a season of suspended knowledge. We know the ending! And because we do, Lent is *not* our turn to suffer for our guilt. It is our confession that Jesus suffered once for all—period. The end.

Just as Easter is a great celebration of Christ’s victory, and every Sunday is, in many ways, a little Easter, so too, Lent is just another forty days. It is not a high holy season of sacrifice and self-loathing. The entire Christian life is one of repentance and faith, as testified by the prophets, apostles, and reformers. If that is the case, why has Lent so often been marked by somberness and gloom?

Lent is Not About Your Shame—It is About Christ’s

Lent is not about us being shamed. The one who bore shame was Christ. "Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree" ([Gal. 3:13](#)). Crucifixion was such a horrifying punishment that, in Roman times, even the names of the crucified were often erased from memory. Yet the Lord Jesus, in his death, takes your shame and removes it. He was shamed by the Father in your place, bearing sin and death itself.

The Cross Was No Accident

Jesus’ death was not accidental but sacrificial. He died to atone for sin—your sin, all sin, the sin of the whole world. He stood in your place, as though He were guilty of every transgression. Though he knew no sin, he became sin for you so that you might become the righteousness of God ([2 Cor. 5:21](#)). He did this to appease God’s wrath toward sin. And remember, God is not a hothead. His wrath is not irrational intolerance, nor is it overbearing or pietistic zeal. It is holy justice.

God is holy, and nothing unholy can stand before him. Therefore, the Holy One of God became the Holy Offering to God. Jesus took upon himself your unholy words, thoughts, and actions, so that he might grant you his holiness in return.

The Cross Was No Plan B

Jesus' death was not accidental but intentional. He willingly laid down his life. It was the will of the Father, fulfilled by the Son. The cross was not Plan B, nor a contingency in case all else failed. It was his mission from the beginning. His entire life and ministry were oriented toward this purpose. He resolutely set his face toward Jerusalem and Calvary ([Luke 9:51](#)), for there, at the cross, he would draw all people to himself ([John 12:32](#)).

At the cross, death was swallowed up by life. In that sacrificial and intentional moment, the way to heaven was opened. And three days later, when he rose from the dead, life—his life, your life, eternal life—was secured forever.

Repentance is More Than a Season

Jesus' resurrection is not merely a historical fact—it is a personal reality. Because he lives, you live ([John 14:19](#)). Therefore, repentance is not limited to a season. The entire Christian life is one of turning away from sin and turning back to God. Repentance is the recognition that his life was given because of your sin—that by your own doing, you had lost him as the foundation and center of your life. Yet by his mercy, he restores what was lost and makes you new.

Job's Confession: A Lenten Proclamation

This brings us to Job, whose suffering was beyond comprehension. He lost everything—his health, his wealth, and his family. Yet, in the midst of despair, Job made one of the clearest confessions of faith in all of Scripture:

"I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last he will stand upon the earth." ([Job 19:25](#))

This is the heart of Lent. Not our loss, but his life. Not our suffering, but his victory. Even in ashes and dust, Job proclaimed what every Christian confesses: Christ is our Redeemer, and he lives.

Lent, then, is not centered in us but in him. It is just another forty days—but in these days, we are reminded of the truth that shapes all of life:

Jesus lives *for you*.

Jesus lives *in you*.

Jesus lives *through you*.

This is Lent, and this is life—the daily dying and rising, the rhythm of repentance and faith, the certainty that our Redeemer lives.

Seth Moorman, March 4, 2025, 1517.org