

+DIVINE SERVICE III+
OF THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST
+FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT + 06 APRIL 2025+



The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

A member congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

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tgsicms.org

The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

“A Church where God gives and we receive.”

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 - ❖ 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

731 O God, Forsake Me Not



1 O God, for-sake me not! Your gra-cious pres-ence lend me;
 2 O God, for-sake me not! Take not Your Spir - it from me;
 3 O God, for-sake me not! Lord, hear my sup - pli - ca - tion!
 4 O God, for-sake me not! Lord, I am Yours for - ev - er.



Lord, lead Your help-less child; Your Ho - ly Spir - it send me
 Do not per - mit the might Of sin to o - ver-come me.
 In ev - 'ry e - vil hour Help me re - sist temp - ta - tion;
 O keep me strong in faith That I may leave You nev - er.



That I my course may run. O be my light, my lot,
 In - crease my fee - ble faith, Which You a - lone have wrought.
 And when the prince of hell My con-sci-ence seeks to blot,
 Grant me a bless - ed end When my good fight is fought;



My staff, my rock, my shield— O God, for-sake me not!
 O be my strength and pow'r— O God, for-sake me not!
 Be then not far from me— O God, for-sake me not!
 Help me in life and death— O God, for-sake me not!

Text: Salomo Franck, 1659–1725; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.
 Tune: Neu-vermehrtes . . . Gesangbuch, 1693, 3rd ed., Meiningen
 Text and tune: Public domain

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 3:3-6; antiphon: v. 8

Salvation belongs | to the LORD,*
your blessing be on your | people!
But you, O LORD, are a shield a- | bout me,*
my glory, and the lifter | of my head.

I cried aloud | to the LORD,*
 and he answered me from his | holy hill.
 I lay | down and slept;*
 I woke again, for the LORD sus- | tained me.
 I will not be afraid of many thousands of | people*
 who have set themselves against me | all around.

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 Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and 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.

Sit

Old Testament

Isaiah 43:16-21

¹⁶Thus says the LORD,
who makes a way in the sea,
a path in the mighty waters,
¹⁷who brings forth chariot and horse,
army and warrior;
they lie down, they cannot rise,
they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:
¹⁸“Remember not the former things,
nor consider the things of old.
¹⁹Behold, I am doing a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.
²⁰The wild beasts will honor me,
the jackals and the ostriches,
for I give water in the wilderness,
rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people,
²¹the people whom I formed for myself
that they might declare my praise.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Restore Our Fortunes, O LORD

¹When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who dream.

**²Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy;
then they said among the nations,
“The LORD has done great things for them.”**

³The LORD has done great things for us; we are glad.

**⁴Restore our fortunes, O LORD,
like streams in the Negeb!**

⁵Those who sow in tears
shall reap with shouts of joy!

**⁶He who goes out weeping,
bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy,
bringing his sheaves with him.**

Epistle

Philippians 3:8–14

⁸Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— ¹⁰that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Straining Toward the Goal

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Tract

Hebrews 12:2

[O come, let us fix our eyes on] | Jesus,*
the founder and perfecter | of our faith,
who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despis- | ing the
shame,*
and is seated at the right hand of the | throne of God.

Holy Gospel

Luke 20:9–20

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



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

The Parable of the Wicked Tenants

⁹[Jesus] began to tell the people this parable: “A man planted a vineyard and let it out to tenants and went into another country for a long while. ¹⁰When the time came, he sent a servant to the tenants, so that they would give him some of the fruit of the vineyard. But the tenants beat him and sent him away empty-handed. ¹¹And he sent another servant. But they also beat and treated him shamefully, and sent him away empty-handed. ¹²And he sent yet a third. This one also they wounded and cast out. ¹³Then the owner of the vineyard said, ‘What shall I do? I will send my beloved son; perhaps they will respect him.’ ¹⁴But when the tenants saw him, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir. Let us kill him, so that the inheritance may be ours.’ ¹⁵And they threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. What then will the owner of the vineyard do to them? ¹⁶He will come and destroy those tenants and give the vineyard to others.” When they heard this, they said, “Surely not!” ¹⁷But he looked directly at them and said, “What then is this that is written:

‘The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone?’

¹⁸Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces, and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him.”

¹⁹The scribes and the chief priests sought to lay hands on him at that very hour, for they perceived that he had told this parable against them, but they feared the people. ²⁰So they watched him and sent spies, who pretended to be sincere, that they might catch him in something he said, so as to deliver him up to the authority and jurisdiction of the governor.

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.

Hymn of the Day

430 My Song Is Love Unknown



1 My song is love un - known, My Sav - ior's love to
 2 He came from His blest throne Sal - va - tion to be -
 3 Some - times they strew His way And His sweet prais - es
 4 Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and



me, Love to the love - less shown That they might love - ly
 stow; But men made strange, and none The longed - for Christ would
 sing; Re - sound - ing all the day Ho - san - nas to their
 spite? He made the lame to run, He gave the blind their



be. Oh, who am I That for my sake
 know. But, oh, my friend, My friend in - deed,
 King. Then "Cru - ci - fy!" Is all their breath,
 sight. Sweet in - ju - ries! Yet they at these



My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?
 Who at my need His life did spend!
 And for His death They thirst and cry.
 Them - selves dis - please And 'gainst Him rise.

5 They rise and needs will have
 My dear Lord made away;
 A murderer they save,
 The Prince of Life they slay.
 Yet cheerful He
 To suff'ring goes
 That He His foes
 From thence might free.

6 In life no house, no home
 My Lord on earth might have;
 In death no friendly tomb
 But what a stranger gave.

What may I say?
Heav'n was His home
But mine the tomb
Wherein He lay.

- 7 Here might I stay and sing,
No story so divine!
Never was love, dear King,
Never was grief like Thine.
This is my friend,
In whose sweet praise
I all my days
Could gladly spend!

Text: Samuel Crossman, c. 1624–1683

Tune: John N. Ireland, 1879–1962

Text: Public domain

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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.

O Lord, Your Son spoke the truth before His enemies even as they sought to trap Him in His words and deliver Him up to death. Rescue Your people from fear, and grant them courage to confess the truth, assuring them of deliverance in time of trouble. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P O Lord, You gave Your Son to be rejected by sinners, that we may be welcomed into Your kingdom. Preserve Your Church in this life won by Christ, crucified and risen. Give faithfulness to the preaching of Your Word and the administration of Your Sacraments, and let Your people receive these gifts with penitence and faith. Lord, in Your mercy,

P O Lord, salvation belongs to You. Your blessing be on Your people. Endow parents with every good gift to teach their children Your ways, that they may live in the confidence of Your grace and salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,

P O Lord, You shield us and lift our heads. Provide for us civil authorities who discourage evil and encourage good, but keep us ever mindful that our hope is in You. Lord, in Your mercy,

P O Lord, show Your compassion to *especially Alice, Allison, Annie, Betty, Bev, Diane, Eric, Jason, Johnathan, Lynette, Marion and her family, Ron, Timothy, and* all who suffer in our midst. Remind them continually of Your benefits, forgive all their iniquities, heal all their diseases and crown them with steadfast love. Lord, in Your mercy,

P O Lord, St. Paul counted all things as rubbish in order that he might gain Christ. Give us repentant hearts, that we would abandon all confidence in our flesh and so receive Your Son's body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins. Lord, in Your mercy,

P O Lord, help us to count all things as loss except Jesus and Him crucified. Draw us to Him through Word and Sacrament, that rejoicing in the righteousness that comes through faith in Jesus, we may forget what lies behind us and press on toward the goal. Lord, in Your mercy,

P O Lord, in Baptism You have shared Christ's suffering, death and resurrection with us, that we might be raised from the dead. Preserve us from taking His sacrifice for granted. Encourage us to forget what lies behind and strain forward to what lies ahead, until we attain the resurrection from the dead;

through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and 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,



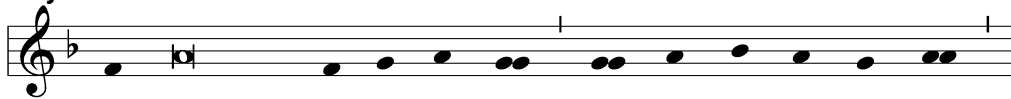
bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.



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.

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

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.



C 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.

Please refer to the Communion Policy on page 2 before approaching the altar.

Distribution

Distribution Hymn

606 I Lay My Sins on Jesus



1 I lay my sins on Je - sus, The spot - less Lamb of God;
2 I lay my wants on Je - sus; All full - ness dwells in Him;
3 I rest my soul on Je - sus, This wea - ry soul of mine;



He bears them all and frees us From the ac - curs - ed load.
He heals all my dis - eas - es; My soul He does re - deem.
His right hand me em - brac - es; I on His breast re - cline.



I bring my guilt to Je - sus To wash my crim - son stains
I lay my griefs on Je - sus, My bur - dens and my cares;
I love the name of Je - sus, Im - man - uel, Christ, the Lord;



Clean in His blood most pre - cious Till not a spot re - mains.
He from them all re - leas - es; He all my sor - rows shares.
Like fra - grance on the breez - es His name a - broad is poured.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–89
Tune: Neu-vermehrtes . . . Gesangbuch, 1693, 3rd ed., Meiningen
Text and tune: Public domain

Distribution Hymn

632 O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee



1 O Je - sus, bless - ed Lord, to Thee My heart - felt
2 Break forth, my soul, for joy and say: What wealth is



thanks for - ev - er be, Who hast so lov - ing -
come to me this day! My Sav - ior dwells with -



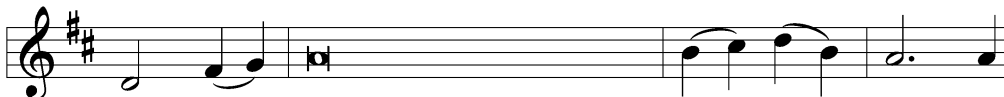
ly be - stowed On me Thy bod - y and Thy blood.
in my heart: How blessed am I! How good Thou art!

Text: Thomas Hansen Kingo, 1634–1703; tr. Arthur J. Mason, 1851–1928
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



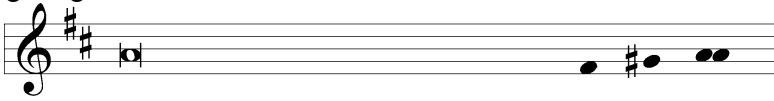
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,



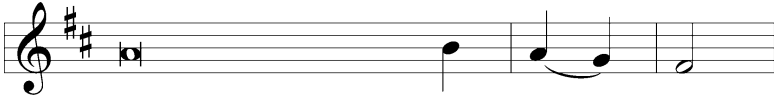
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

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



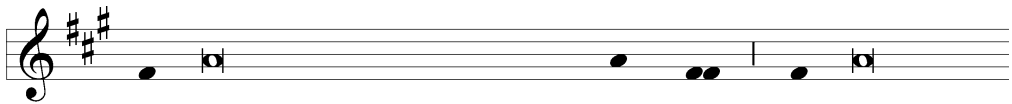
A Bless we the Lord.



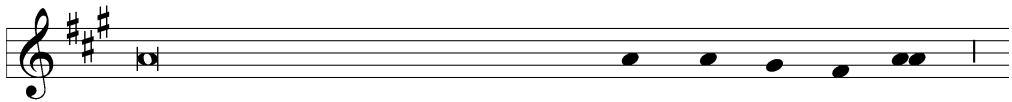
C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

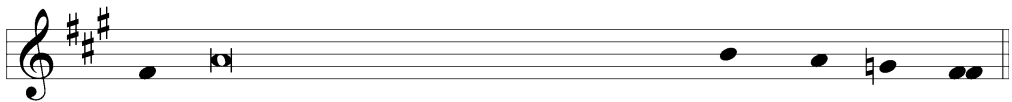
LSB 202



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

738 Lord of All Hopefulness



1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,
2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,
3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,
4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,



Whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy:
Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
Your hands swift to wel - come, Your arms to em - brace:
Whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm:



Be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,
Be there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray,
Be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,
Be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray,



Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Text: Jan Struther, 1901–53
Tune: Irish

Not Unto Us

William Braun (living)

Acknowledgments

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A Note From The Organist:

John Eggert has done a two-movement setting of John Ireland's beautiful melody. The first features a "sighing" motive in the accompanying voices. The second movement uses the pedal in an interesting way. While the left foot holds a single note throughout, the right foot fills in the middle voice of the left hand coupled to the choir manual.

"Not Unto Us" (LSB 558) was written by Kurt J. Eggert (no relation to John) (1925-95) who was a WELS Pastor. He was the Project Director for the new WELS Hymnal, Christian Worship, which was originally published in 1993. Pastor Eggert passed away only a few days after the hymnal was published. William Braun has done a variation setting of the melody, using various colors of the organ.

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.

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

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

Holy Week Schedule

Maundy Thursday – Thursday, April 17th @7pm

Good Friday – Friday, April 18th @7pm

Resurrection of Our Lord – Sunday, April 20th @10am

✠ THIS WEEK'S NOTES ✠

Announcements

+ **Last Sunday's Attendance: 36**
Midweek Attendance: 20

+ **Altar Guild Set Up:** April 6th Jill
April 13th Marie
Cleanup for April: Maurine and Nannette

+ **Ushers for April:** Clinton Galloway and Jose Lopez

+ **Easter Lilies are available to order and dedicate! There are 18 available. Next Sunday, April 13th is the last day to turn in the dedication sheets.**

+ **There will be one more week 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!

+ **Sunday, April 20th Easter Sunday – LWML will be hosting the annual Easter Brunch after service. If you would like to contribute to the brunch, there is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex!**

April Birthdays!

Autumn Teitell 6th

Susie Fritts 25th

Lectionary Summary for the Fifth Sunday of Lent

God's Beloved Son Has Redeemed Us

Our life and works apart from Christ, no matter how they may glitter to the eyes of the world, are ultimately rubbish and have no righteousness. Rather, in the scandalous cross of Jesus, we find our righteousness alone *"through faith in Christ"* (Phil. 3:9). By such faith, we *"know him and the power of his resurrection"* (Phil. 3:10). For the same God who brought Israel out of Egypt has done a *"new thing"* for us in Christ Jesus (Is. 43:19). He has sent His beloved Son into His vineyard to be killed by sinful men and to become *"the stone that the builders rejected."* Yet, the One rejected by men *"has become the cornerstone"* of His Church (Luke 20:17). Through the waters of Holy Baptism, He provides us daily refreshment in our earthly pilgrimage, *"a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert"* (Is. 43:19).

Lutheran's For Life Thoughts

The Lord our God forms persons and peoples for Himself (Isaiah 43:21). Our lives and every neighbor's body belong to the Almighty Maker. He intends each one not only for survival but for salvation in the resurrection from the dead (Philippians 3:10). This means we get to receive all humankind's members as gifts and privileges and treat them as inestimably precious.

"Friend, you have a good word to speak to your neighbor. You have God's Word of life to share—with your spouse, your children or grandchildren, your co-worker or friend. You can tell them that their life is sacred, a gift of God, and that their life matters to you." *Rev. Robert Mohns, Lutheran Church—Canada – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Martin Luther Quotes on Faith

Faith Is a Mighty Power – or Nothing at All

Faith is not the human notion and dream which some regard as faith. And when they see that it is not followed by an improvement in life and by good works and yet still can hear and talk much about faith, they fall into error of saying: Faith is not enough; we must do good works if we are to become godly and be saved. The reason for this lies in the fact that when they hear the Gospel, they go to work and by their own powers form in their hearts an idea which says: I believe. This they then consider a true faith. But, being a human figment and idea which never reaches the depths of the heart, it is inoperative, and no betterment follows.

Faith, however, is a divine work within us. It transforms us and gives us a new birth wrought by God (John 1:13). It slays the old Adam, makes us entirely different people in heart, spirit, mind, and all powers, and brings with it the Holy Spirit. Oh, a living, energetic, active, mighty thing is this faith. It is impossible for it not to do good incessantly. Nor does it ask whether good works are to be done; but before the question is put, it has already done them and is forever doing them. He, however, is who does not perform such works is a man without faith, who gropes and looks about for faith and good works and knows neither what faith is nor what good works are, although he prates and prattles much about faith and good works.

Faith is a living, daring confidence in the grace of God. It is so certain that a man would die for it a thousand times over. This confidence and knowledge of divine grace makes a person happy, bold, and of high spirits in his relation to God and all His creatures. The Holy Spirit creates this attitude in faith. Hence a person, without constraint, becomes willing and eager to do good to everybody, serve everybody, to suffer all sorts of things for the love of God and to the praise of Him who has shown him such grace. So it is impossible to separate works from faith, indeed just as impossible as it is to separate heat and light from fire. (W-DB 7, 9 ff – E 63, 124 f – SL 14, 99 f)

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