

Mid-Week Lenten Services

First St. John Lutheran Church
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Pastor Jerald K. Rayl, Worship Leader
Dr. Anthony Pattin, Organist

To Seek and To Save: “The Cup That I Drink”

March 25, 2020—11:00 am & 7:00 pm

Lenten Service

In this week’s Lenten worship, we will learn how some of Jesus’ disciples wanted special places of honor in his kingdom. They did not remember that we are to live in humility, putting the needs of others ahead of our own needs, just as Jesus did for us. We often think of ourselves first, before we think of the needs of others. Two of Jesus’ disciples do the same as they make a special request of the Savior. Jesus reminds them his kingdom is a place of humble service. Before glory comes the cross. We will see that on the cross, Jesus drained the cup of God’s judgement against sin, so there is nothing left in it for us to drink.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude *“If You Will Only Let God Guide You”* Neumark

(Please stand for the opening hymn)

Hymn (11 am) *“Lord Jesus, Think on Me”* No. 599

(7 pm) *“All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night”* No. 565

Opening Dialogue

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C: Amen.

P: O Lord, rebuke me not in your anger, nor discipline me in your wrath.

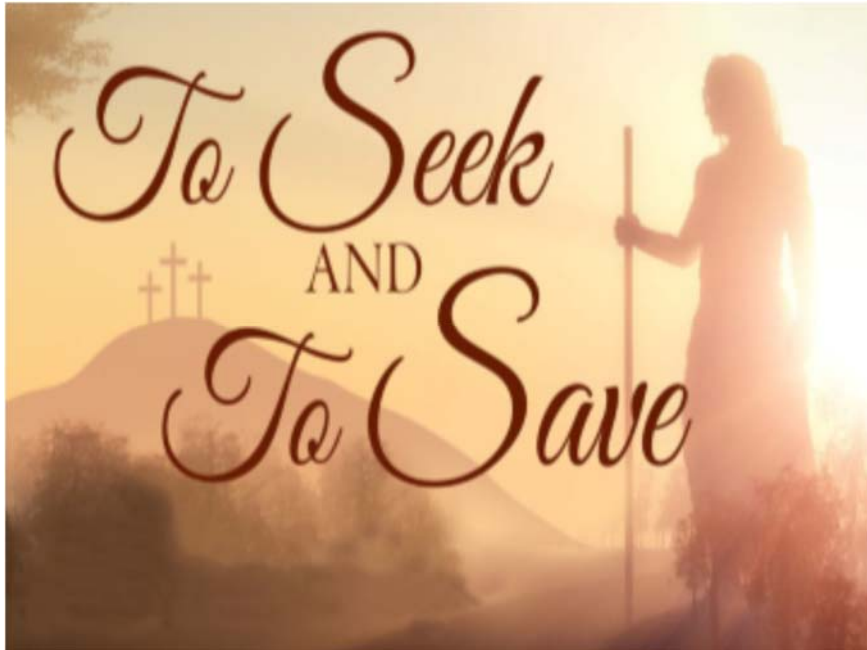
C: **Be gracious to me, O Lord, for I am languishing;**

P: Heal me, O Lord, for my bones are troubled.

C: **My soul also is greatly troubled. But you, O Lord—how long?**

P: Turn, O Lord, deliver my life;

C: **Save me for the sake of your steadfast love.**



*** Please take this time for silent meditation and prayer and silence your cell phones. Thank you. ***

March 25, 2020

P: For in death there is no remembrance of you; in Sheol who will give you praise?

C: The Lord has heard my plea; the Lord accepts my prayer.

The Confession

P: Let us confess our sins to God and ask his forgiveness for the sake of Jesus our Lord.

C: Almighty God, we have sinned against you in our thoughts, words and actions. Instead of serving others in love as Jesus did, we seek to put our own good above the good of others. We do not truly love our neighbors as we love ourselves. Forgive us for Jesus' sake, and help us to live as your humble servants.

P: God sent his Son to be our Savior. On the cross Jesus suffered the penalty of death in our place. Through his suffering, death and resurrection we have forgiveness for our sins and the gift of eternal life. I announce to you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

C: The Lord has heard my plea; the Lord accepts my prayer!

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, Jesus our Lord came not to be served but to serve. He came to give his life as a ransom for us, to bring us into a right relationship with you. Obedient to your holy will, he drank the cup of suffering. To save us he drank the cup of your wrath against sin. If we are mocked or ridiculed for our faith, help us to bear that cross in confident faith. We ask you to be with your saints around the world who are persecuted for their faith. Help them to bear that suffering with patience, knowing that through Christ Jesus, the victory already belongs to them. Hear our prayer and accept our praise in the name of Jesus, who offered up his life for us.

C: Amen.

(Please be seated)

Hymn *"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"* No. 338

Old Testament Reading - Isaiah 51:21-23

Therefore hear this, you who are afflicted, who are drunk, but not with wine: Thus says your Lord, the Lord, your God who pleads the cause of his people:

"Behold, I have taken from your hand the cup of staggering; the bowl of my wrath you shall drink no more; and I will put it into the hand of your tormentors, who have said to you, 'Bow down, that we may pass over'; and you have made your back like the ground and like the street for them to pass over."

The Psalmody - from Psalm 33 (*read responsively*)

P: Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous. Praise befits the upright.

C: For the word of the Lord is upright, and all his work is done in faithfulness.

P: He loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord.

C: By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and all their host by the breath of his mouth.

P: Let all the earth fear the Lord; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him.

C: For God spoke, and it came to be; God commanded, and it stood firm.

P: Our heart is glad in the Lord, because we trust in God's holy name.

C: Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us, even as we hope in you.

Second Reading - 1 Thessalonians 5:8-11

But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

Gospel Verse – (*please stand and sing*)

**Your Word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path. (Repeat)**

The Gospel Reading - Mark 10:35-45

And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came up to him and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." And he said to them, "What do you want me to do for you?" And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking.

Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?" And they said to him, "We are able." And Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized, but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared." And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John. And Jesus called them to him and said to them, "You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

(please be seated)

The Sermon

Pastor Rayl

Hymn

"Christ, the Life of All the Living"

No. 339

(please stand)

Apostles' Creed – *(in unison)*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried;

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen.

Offering

(please be seated)

The Prayers – *(please stand)*

Each petition ends with the following response:

P: Jesus, Servant-King,

C: **hear our prayer.**

The Lord's Prayer - *(prayed by all)*

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 Benediction

P: Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times
in every way. The Lord be with you all.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

(Remain standing for the hymn)

Closing Hymn

"The Old Rugged Cross"

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,

The emblem of suffering and shame.

And I love that old cross where the dearest and best

For a world of lost sinners was slain. *(Refrain)*

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross

Till my trophies at last I lay down;

I will cling to the old rugged cross

And exchange it someday for a crown.

To the old rugged cross I will ever be true;

Its shame and reproach gladly bear;

Then He'll call me someday to my home far away,

Where His glory forever I'll share. *(Refrain)*

Postlude

“Come, Christians, Join to Sing”

Hustad

WELCOME TO WORSHIP! During this Lenten season, we praise God for his righteous Son, who perfectly kept all God’s commandments for us and paid the full price for our disobedience. Let us praise him with hearts filled with Christ’s spirit of obedience. If you are visiting, please sign the guest book in the Narthex.

Worship continues each Wednesday during Lent. We have services on Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m. and at 7:00 p.m., both in the church. Please join us.

ELDERS: Darold Henninger, Kevin Ruedy