

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: “Up to Jerusalem”

March 18, 2020—11:00 am & 7:00 pm

Lenten Service

This week in our Lenten worship we will see how Jesus sets out for Jerusalem, knowing what lies ahead for him during the week we now call Holy Week. According to God’s plan and foreknowledge, Jesus will be delivered into the hands of his enemies, tried and condemned and crucified. But also according to God’s plan, he will rise, and he will one day raise us up from death. Jesus told his disciples what lay ahead for him in Jerusalem and, obedient to his heavenly Father, he took up his final steps to the cross. We follow our Savior through life, into death and into eternal life in his presence.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude *“Meditation in C Major”* Rinck
(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: I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come?
C: **My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.**

P: He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.
C: **Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep ...**

P: The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.
C: **The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore.**



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

March 18, 2020

The Confession

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

C: Almighty God, we have sinned against you in our thoughts, words and actions. We do not love you or share your love with others as we should. We put our needs ahead of the needs of others. We listen to your Word but then turn away to follow our own sinful desires. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins.

P: God, in mercy, sent his Son to be our Savior. Jesus carried our sins in his own body to the cross. He rose from the dead, and through faith in his name we have the hope and promise 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: From where does my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth!

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray. Lord Jesus, for our sake and in obedience to your Father's will, you set your face to go to Jerusalem, knowing that there you would be arrested, condemned and crucified. Yet you also knew that you would rise to life in triumph over sin, death and the devil. As you faithfully followed your Father's will, help us to follow faithfully in your steps during this Lenten season and always.

C: Amen.

(Please be seated)

Hymn *"In the Cross of Christ I Glory"* No. 324

Old Testament Reading - Isaiah 2:1-3

The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be lifted up above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it, and many peoples shall come, and say: "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

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 - Revelation 21:1-5

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away." And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."

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 10:32-34

And they were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking ahead of them. And they were amazed, and those who followed were afraid. And taking the twelve again, he began to tell them what was to happen to him, saying,

“See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death and deliver him over to the Gentiles. And they will mock him and spit on him, and flog him and kill him. And after three days he will rise.”

(please be seated)

The Sermon

Pastor Rayl

Hymn

“*Jesus, Still Lead On*”

No. 624

(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, our Savior,

C: lead us to follow in your footsteps.

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: Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man.

C: He will dwell with them, and they will be his people.

P: Go in peace. Christ will guide your ways in peace.

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

“*Fugue in Bb Major*”

Bach

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: Jeff Ladd, Jeff Smith