

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

February 25th, 2024



MARTIN LUTHER
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

St. Louis, MO

Pastor Seth Georgson

314-914-6457

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Cover: “Jacob’s Dream” by Gustave Doré, 1866.

THE COMMON SERVICE

Stand.

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.



CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.



1. In hope-less-ness and near de-spair, I cry to you my
2. I see my heart's con-di-tion now, My heart's di-verse af-



Sav-ior! My guilt is more than I can bear. I have not earned your
fec-tions. Why do I love the things you loath; I'm torn in two di-



fav-or. You know me as I real-ly am: How
rec-tions: Now prod-i-gal, now Phar-i-see. O



much is truth, how much is sham; Why should you heed my plead-ing?
God, be mer-ci-ful to me; Who else but you can help me?

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

The congregation sings CWS 738, stanzas 3 and 4:

3. I tremble as I feel your hand, Expecting retribution,
Yet hear no curse or reprimand, But grace and absolution:
With you there is forgiveness, Lord,
You speak the sweet, consoling Word,
And I am sure you love me!

4. Forgiven, free of guilt and shame, Grant me some time to render
A gift to glorify your name, Love to reflect your splendor:
This world must know what I have learned,
That you bestow what none has earned:
The joy of full forgiveness!

Prayer of the Day

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you see that we have no power to defend ourselves. Guard and keep us both outwardly and inwardly from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Be seated.

THE WORD

First Lesson ----- Genesis 28:10–17

Jacob set out from Beersheba and traveled toward Haran. He came to a certain place and decided to spend the night there, because the sun had set. He took one of the stones from that place, put it under his head, and lay down to sleep in that place. He had a dream in which he saw a stairway set up on the earth with its top reaching

to heaven. There were angels of God ascending and descending on it. There at the top stood the LORD, who said, “I am the LORD, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. The land on which you are lying, I give to you and to your descendants. Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread abroad to the

west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south. In you and in your seed all the families of the earth will be blessed. Now, I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back again into this land. Indeed, I will not leave you, until I have done what I have

promised to you.”

Jacob woke up from his sleep, and he said, “Certainly the LORD is in this place, and I was not aware of it.” He was afraid and he said, “How awe-inspiring is this place! This is nothing other than the house of God, and this is the gate to heaven.”

Psalm of the Day ----- Psalm 73

CW p.94

Refrain

**Surely, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,
and he will be my Savior.**

I am always with you, O LORD;*
you hold me by my right hand.

You guide me with your counsel*,
and afterward you will take me into glory.

Whom have I in heaven but you?*
And earth has nothing I desire besides you.

My flesh and my heart may fail,*
but God is the strength of my heart
and my portion forever.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning*,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Refrain

Second Lesson ----- Romans 5:1–11

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we also have obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand. And we rejoice confidently on the basis of our hope for the glory of God.

Not only this, but we also rejoice confidently in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces patient endurance, and patient endurance produces tested character, and tested character produces hope. And hope will not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, who was given to us.

For at the appointed time, while we were still helpless, Christ died for the ungodly. It is rare

indeed that someone will die for a righteous person. Perhaps someone might actually go so far as to die for a person who has been good to him. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Therefore, since we have now been justified by his blood, it is even more certain that we will be saved from God's wrath through him. For if, while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, it is even more certain that, since we have been reconciled, we will be saved by his life. And not only is this so, but we also go on rejoicing confidently in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received this reconciliation.

Verse of the Day

Philippians 2:8b

Tune: CW 111

C: He be-came a ser-vant for us, Tra-ded glo-ry for our dross,
To our death be - came o - be-dient— E - ven death up - on a cross.

Stand.

Gospel ----- **Mark 8:31-38**

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



C: Glo - ry be to you, O Lord!

Jesus began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things; be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the experts in the law; be killed; and after three days rise again. He was speaking plainly to them. Then Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But after turning around and looking at his disciples, Jesus rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! You do not have your mind set on the things of God, but the things of men."

He called the crowd and his disciples together and said to them, "If anyone wants to fol-

low me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it. But whoever loses his life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. After all, what good is it for a man to gain the whole world and yet forfeit his soul? Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul? In fact, whoever is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will also be ashamed of him when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated.

Hymn of the Day ----- Lord, You I Love with All My Heart

CW 434

1. Lord, you I love with all my heart; I pray you ne'er from me depart;
With tender mercies cheer me.
Earth has no pleasure I would share; Heaven itself were void and bare
If you, Lord, were not near me.
And should my heart for sorrow break,
My trust in you no one could shake.
You are the treasure I have sought;
Your precious blood my soul has bought.

Lord Jesus Christ, My God and Lord, my God and Lord,
Forsake me not! I trust your Word.

2. Lord God, 'twas your rich bounty gave My body, soul, and all I have
In this poor life of labor.

Lord, grant that I in ev'ry place May glorify your lavish grace
And serve and help my neighbor.

Let no false doctrine me beguile; Let Satan not my soul defile.
Give strength and patience unto me To bear my crosses willingly.
Lord Jesus Christ, My God and Lord, my God and Lord,
Forsake me not! I trust your Word.

3. Lord, let at last your angels come; To Abram's bosom bear me home
That I may die unfearing.

And in its narrow chamber keep My body safe in peaceful sleep
Until your reappearing.

And then from death awaken me That my own eyes with joy may see,
O Son of God, your glorious face, My Savior and my Fount of grace.
Lord Jesus Christ, My prayer attend, my prayer attend,
And I will praise you without end.

Sermon ----- Romans 5:1-11

While We Were Still Sinners, Christ Died for Us

Stand.

Creedal Hymn ----- We All Believe In One True God

CW 271

1. We all believe in one true God, Who created earth and heaven,
The Father, who to us in love Has the right of children given.
He in soul and body feeds us; All we need his hand provides us.
He through snares and perils leads us, Watching that no harm betides us.
He cares for us by day and night; All things are governed by his might.

2. We all believe in Jesus Christ, His own Son, our Lord, possessing
An equal Godhead, throne and might, Source of ev'ry grace and blessing,
Born of Mary, virgin mother, By the power of the Spirit,
Made true man, our elder brother, That the lost might life inherit,
Was crucified by sinful men And raised by God to life again.
3. We all confess the Holy Ghost, Who, sweet hope and comfort giving,
Now with the Father and the Son In eternal light is living,
Who the Church, his own creation, Keeps in unity of spirit;
Here forgiveness and salvation Daily come through Jesus' merit.
All flesh shall rise, and we shall be In bliss with God eternally.

Be seated.

Offering

Stand.

Prayer of the Church

*The minister calls for the petitions and the congregation prays with “**Lord, have mercy.**”*

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Offerings support the spread
of the Gospel here and around the world.

M: In peace, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

M: For all Christians, that the Holy Spirit might enable us to deny our selves,
take up our crosses and follow Christ through this troubled life into heaven,
let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

M: For the Church, that all servants of the Church may fulfill the ministries
committed to them, and that we may each boldly confess Christ before the
world, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

M: For faith and perseverance, that we might neither shun our Lord's suffering
nor our own, and that we might be delivered out of the hand of the wicked
and redeemed from the grasp of the ruthless, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord,
have mercy.**

M: For all families, that even as God blessed and multiplied Abraham, all mothers with child might be protected and all fathers equipped to lead and raise their households in the fear and love of God, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

M: That the Lord, to whom belongs all kingship and rule over the nations, would bless Joseph Biden, our president, and those who govern to rule wisely and in accord with His will, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

M: For [_____ and] all in need of healing and restoration, that they may bear their crosses and endure to see the Son of Man coming in His kingdom, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

M: That the Lord would deepen our hunger for His table through our afflictions, that we may eat and drink Christ's body and blood and be satisfied with Christ's saving life, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

M: Heavenly Father, receive our praise this day for St. Peter and his confession that Jesus is the Christ. We rejoice that Your Son builds His Church upon this rock and that the gates of hell cannot prevail against it. Keep us in this faith all our days; 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.**

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 SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.



C: We lift them up un - to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.



C: It is good and right so to do.

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross, so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree would in turn by a tree be overcome.

Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:

heav'n and earth are full of your 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 who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -

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

Words of Institution

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.



C: A - men.

O Christ, Lamb of God



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



grant us your peace. A - men.

Be seated.

DISTRIBUTION

In Holy Communion we believe that Jesus gives us his own body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of our sins. We ask that, in keeping with God's Word, only confirmed members who are in confessional unity with our church (WELS and ELS) would come forward to receive this sacrament. If you have any questions or are interested in communicant membership, please speak with the pastor.

During the distribution, the congregation sings the following hymns:

Hymn ----- Christ, the Life of All the Living

CW 114

1. Christ, the Life of all the living, Christ, the Death of death, our foe,
Who, thyself for me once giving To the darkest depths of woe—
Through thy suff'rings, death, and merit I eternal life inherit.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto thee.
2. Thou, ah, thou hast taken on thee Bonds and stripes, a cruel rod;
Pain and scorn were heaped upon thee, O thou sinless Son of God!
Thus didst thou my soul deliver From the bonds of sin forever.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto thee.
3. Thou hast borne the smiting only That my wounds might all be whole;
Thou hast suffered, sad and lonely, Rest to give my weary soul;
Yea, the curse of God enduring, Blessing unto me securing.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto thee.
4. Heartless scoffers did surround thee, Treating thee with cruel scorn,
And with piercing thorns they crowned thee.
All disgrace thou, Lord, hast borne
That as thine thou mightest own me And with heav'nly glory crown me.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto thee.
5. Thou hast suffered men to bruise thee That from pain I might be free;
Falsely did thy foes accuse thee—Thence I gain security.
Comfortless thy soul did languish Me to comfort in my anguish.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto thee.
6. Thou has suffered great affliction And hast borne it patiently,
Even death by crucifixion, Fully to atone for me.
Thou didst choose to be tormented That my doom should be prevented.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto thee.

7. Then, for all that wrought my pardon, For thy sorrows deep and sore,
For thine anguish in the garden, I will thank thee evermore,
Thank thee for thy groaning, sighing, For thy bleeding and thy dying,
For that last triumphant cry, And shall praise thee, Lord, on high.

Hymn ----- Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain

CW 106

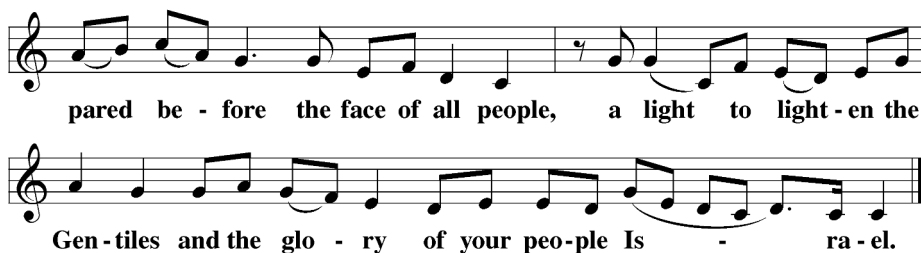
1. Come to Calv'ry's holy mountain, Sinners, ruined by the fall;
Here a pure and healing fountain Flows to you, to me, to all,
In a full, perpetual tide, Opened when our Savior died.
2. Come in poverty and meanness, Come defiled, without, within;
From infection and uncleanness, From the leprosy of sin,
Wash your robes and make them white; You shall walk with God in light.
3. Come in sorrow and contrition, Wounded, paralyzed, and blind;
Here the guilty, free remission, Here the troubled, peace may find.
Health this fountain will restore; He that drinks shall thirst no more.
4. He that drinks shall live forever; 'Tis a soul-renewing flood.
God is faithful; God will never Break his covenant of blood,
Signed when our Redeemer died, Sealed when he was glorified.

After the distribution is finished the congregation stands and sings:

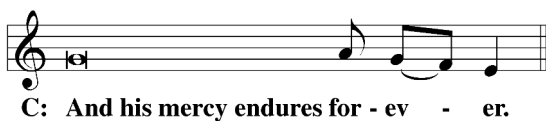
Song of Simeon



C: Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing
to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-



M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.



M: O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.



Be seated.

Hymn ----- Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

CW 129

1. Alas! and did my Savior bleed, And did my Sov'reign die?
Would he devote that sacred head For sinners such as I?
2. Was it for crimes that I had done He groaned upon the tree?
Amazing pity, grace unknown, And love beyond degree!
3. Well might the sun in darkness hide And shut its glories in
When God, the mighty Maker, died For his own creatures' sin.
4. Thus might I hide my blushing face While his dear cross appears,
Dissolve my heart in thankfulness, And melt my eyes to tears.
4. But drops of grief can ne'er repay The debt of love I owe;
Here, Lord, I give myself away—'Tis all that I can do.

