

~~Eternal Life~~

## REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod*

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Daniel Bohlken, Interim Pastor

Fifth Sunday in Lent

April 3, 2022

### OUR WORSHIP

*False and True Motives for Following Jesus*

**SERVICE** Is it more dangerous to say outwardly and openly that you have no interest in Jesus, or is it more dangerous to follow Jesus with false motives? Jesus Christ is always teaching us that *non-Christianity* is nowhere near as dangerous as *false Christianity*, because you can remedy unbelief. False Christianity is much more threatening, for it is unbelief under the veneer of belief and it is very difficult to correct that.

**+ Preparing Ourselves to Hear God's Word +**

**RESPONSIVE PSALM READING** Psalm 73:1-5, 13-14, 16-17, 25

Pastor: Surely God is good to Israel,

**People: to those who are pure in heart.**

Pastor: But as for me, my feet had almost slipped;

**People: I had nearly lost my foothold.**

Pastor: For I envied the arrogant

**People: when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.**

Pastor: They have no struggles;

**People: their bodies are healthy and strong.**

Pastor: They are free from common human burdens;

**People: they are not plagued by human ills.**

Pastor: Surely in vain I have kept my heart pure

**People: and have washed my hands in innocence.**

Pastor: All day long I have been afflicted,

**People: and every morning brings new punishments.**

Pastor: When I tried to understand all this,

**People: it troubled me deeply**

Pastor: till I entered the sanctuary of God;

**People: then I understood their final destiny.**

Pastor: Whom have I in heaven but You?

**People: And earth has nothing I desire besides You.**

Pastor: Let us pray to the Father that we may never forsake Him or wander from His Spirit empowered Word which gives us present and eternal LIFE through faith in Jesus' death and resurrection.

**OPENING TRINITARIAN PRAYER** LSB 689 "Let Me Be Thine Forever"

**Let me be Thine forever, My faithful God and Lord;  
Let me forsake Thee never Nor wander from Thy Word.  
Lord, do not let me waver, But give me steadfastness,  
And for such grace forever Thy holy name I'll bless.**

**Lord Jesus, my salvation, My light, my life divine,  
My only consolation, O make me wholly Thine!  
For Thou hast dearly bought me With blood and bitter pain.  
Let me, since Thou hast sought me, Eternal life obtain.**

**And Thou, O Holy Spirit, My comforter and guide,  
Grant that in Jesus' merit I always may confide,  
Him to the end confessing Whom I have known by faith.  
Give me Thy constant blessing And grant a Christian death.**

**CONFESSION** LSB 941 "Kyrie"

Pastor: Too often, we have consigned Christ Jesus to the role of being our personal assistant or an add-on to help us attain the central purpose and pursuit of our lives.

**Ky-ri-e e-lei-son.  
Ky-ri-e e-lei-son.  
Ky-ri-e e—le - - i-son**

**Chris - te e-lei-son.  
Chris - te e-lei-son.  
Chris - te e-le - - i - son.**

**Ky-ri-e e-lei-son.  
Ky-ri-e e-lei-son.  
Ky-ri-e e—le - - i-son**

**ABSOLUTION** All God's People Sing 99 "Glory Be to God on High"

Pastor: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners like me and you. In His death and resurrection we are forgiven, loved, and reconciled to God the Father who gives us the Holy Spirit that all of our lives might be imbued with the same power with which the Father raised Christ from the dead.

**"Glory be to God on high!" – This is now our joyful cry.  
Peace to all who live on earth, – Grace and favor for new birth.  
You we praise and glorify, – Worship You, O Lord most high. –  
Gracious Father, heav'nly King, To Your name alone we sing:  
Praise the glory of Your name, Now and evermore the same!**

**Jesus Christ, the Father's Son, – Sole begotten, holy One,  
Born on earth from realms on high, – Born true man for us to die,  
Lamb of God, You take away – This world's sin: Grant peace we pray. –  
With the Spirit, You alone Are most high, O God the Son,  
And the Father, God above. Praise we now Your gracious love.**

#### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: Father, may we again hear the Message that is central to Your holy Word and, is also central to our lives, that is, that out of Your amazing love, You sent Your dear Son to die on a cross and to be raised to Life again. For in this Message alone do we experience purposeful lives empowered with the Holy Spirit's energy. We ask in the name of Your dear Son, Christ Jesus, the One who died for our sins and was raised again for our justification.

**People: Amen!**

**+ Hearing God's Word +**

#### **OLD TESTAMENT READING** 1 Kings 19:9-12

<sup>9</sup>Elijah went into a cave and spent the night. And the word of the LORD came to him: "What are you doing here, Elijah?" <sup>10</sup>He replied, "I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and put Your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too."

<sup>11</sup>The LORD said, "Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. <sup>12</sup>After the earthquake came a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper.

**EPISTLE READING** Colossians 3:1-4

<sup>1</sup> Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup> Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. <sup>3</sup> For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup> When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

Pastor: These Readings are the Word of our Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL READING** John 6:66-69

Pastor: The holy Gospel, according to John the evangelist, the sixth chapter:

**People: Glory be to You, O Lord.**

<sup>66</sup> From this time many of His disciples turned back and no longer followed Him. <sup>67</sup> "You do not want to leave too, do you?" Jesus asked the Twelve.

<sup>68</sup> Simon Peter answered Him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. <sup>69</sup> We have come to believe and to know that You are the Holy One of God."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise be to You, O Christ.**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE** "Bending Iron"

**SONG OF THE DAY** LSB 714 "Who Trusts in God a Strong Abode"

**Who trusts in God A strong abode In heav'n and earth possesses;  
Who looks in love To Christ above, No fear that heart oppresses.  
In You alone, Dear Lord, we own Sweet hope and consolation,  
Our shield from foes, Our balm for woes, Our great and sure salvation.**

**Though Satan's wrath Beset our path And worldly scorn assail us,  
While You are near, We shall not fear; Your strength will never fail us.  
Your rod and staff Will keep us safe And guide our steps forever;  
Nor shades of death Nor hell beneath Our lives from You will sever.**

**In all the strife Of mortal life Our feet will stand securely;  
Temptation's hour Will lose its pow'r, For You will guard us surely.  
O God, renew With heav'nly dew Our body, soul, and spirit  
Until we stand At Your right hand Through Jesus' saving merit.**

**MESSAGE** “False and True Disciples”

Introduction

Quite frequently, Jesus contrasts false and true Christians.

Defining False Christianity

Something other than Jesus’ death is central to our life.

Some Forms of False Christianity

[1] Following with the crowd

[2] Following for the miracles

[3] Following Jesus for His teaching

[4] Following Jesus for political power

True Disciples

“Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal Life!”

**+ Response to the Word +**

**OFFERING** LSB 956 “Create in Me”

**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from Thy presence; and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation,  
and uphold me with Thy free Spirit. Amen.**

**PRAYER & THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**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 Lord’s Supper – the Visible Word +**

**PREFACE**

Pastor: Here in this Sacrament we are to receive from the lips of Christ forgiveness of sin, which contains and brings with it the grace of God and the Spirit with all His gifts, protection, shelter, and power against death and the devil and all misfortune. [Luther’s *Large Catechism*]

## **JESUS' WORDS**

**SONG OF INVITATION** LSB 618, vv. 1-4 "I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table"

**I come, O Savior, to Thy table, For weak and weary is my soul;  
Thou, Bread of Life, alone art able To satisfy and make me whole:  
Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood Be for my soul the highest good!**

**Thy heart is filled with fervent yearning That sinners may salvation see  
Who, Lord, to Thee in faith are turning; So I a sinner, come to Thee.  
Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood Be for my soul the highest good!**

**Unworthy though I am, O Savior, Because I have a sinful heart,  
Yet Thou Thy lamb wilt banish never, For Thou my faithful shepherd art:  
Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood Be for my soul the highest good!**

**Weary am I and heavy laden: With sin my soul is sore oppressed;  
Receive me graciously and gladden My heart, for I am not Thy guest.  
Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood Be for my soul the highest good!**

**DISTRIBUTION** LSB 550 560 565 566

## **COMMUNION BLESSING**

### **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Pastor: Gracious Father, in this Sacrament, You have given us a foretaste of the heavenly feast to come. Keep us steadfast in the true faith during our earthly pilgrimage that, on the Day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His everlasting kingdom; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen!**

### **BENEDICTION**

Pastor: The Lord is blessing you and He is keeping you;  
The Lord is making His face shine on you  
and He is being gracious to you;  
The Lord is looking upon you with favor and He is + giving you peace.

**People: Amen!**

**SENDING SONG** LSB 701 "Draw Us to Thee"

**Draw us to Thee, For then shall we Walk in Thy steps forever  
And hasten on Where Thou art gone To be with Thee, dear Savior.**

**Draw us to Thee, Lord, lovingly; Let us depart with gladness  
That we may be Forever free From sorrow, grief, and sadness.**

**Draw us to Thee; O grant that we May walk the road to heaven!  
Direct our way Lest we should stray And from Thy paths be driven.**

**Draw us to Thee That also we Thy heav'nly bliss inherit  
And ever dwell Where sin and hell No more can vex our spirit.**

**Draw us to Thee Unceasingly, Into Thy kingdom take us;  
Let us fore'er Thy glory share, Thy saints and joint heirs make us.**

**NEXT SUNDAY – PALM SUNDAY**

**THEME:** The King Comes

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:** Greeting Fit for the King

**MESSAGE:** "Don't Be Afraid!"

**HOLY WEEK – APRIL 10–17**

**MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE:** 6 pm, April 14 – with Holy Communion

**GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE:** 6 pm, April 15

**EASTER SERVICE:** 10:30 am, April 17 – without Holy Communion

**JONI & FRIENDS CAMP UPDATE**

Please let Terry Putnam know if you will be able to volunteer to help with craft projects on Thursday afternoon, June 23. We will be building birdhouses, decorating wooden crosses, and playing picture Bingo.

We need Poker Chips to use as markers on the picture Bingo game. Thanks!