



**St. John's Lutheran Church**  
**Lenten Worship**  
**March 19, 2025**  
**7:00 pm**  
**The Joy of Lent**



Ringing of the Bell

Prelude -

Hymn

**Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways** TLH 416

**Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways To keep His statutes still!**  
**Oh, that my God would grant me grace To know and do His will!**  
**Order my footsteps by Thy Word And make my heart sincere;**  
**Let sin have no dominion, Lord, But keep my conscience clear.**  
**Assist my soul, too apt to stray, A stricter watch to keep;**  
**And should I e'er forget Thy way, Restore Thy wand'ring sheep.**  
**Make me to walk in Thy commands--'Tis a delightful road--**  
**Nor let my head or heart or hands Offend against my God. Amen.**

**OPENING RESPONSE**

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit. **People: Amen.**

Pastor: The works of God's hands are faithful and just;

**P: All his precepts are trustworthy;**

Pastor: He sent redemption to his people;

**P: He has commanded his covenant forever.**

Pastor: Holy and awesome is his name!

**P: The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.**

Pastor: For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit.

**People: Therefore we give glory to God who raised him up and gave us the promise of salvation. Amen.**

**God of wisdom and grace, we come to you confessing our brokenness. We often intend to choose the right way, to follow your leading, to make righteous judgments, but we find no power in ourselves to do what you command. We falter and fall; we go our own way; we make judgments; we trample others in our stubbornness. Forgive us, Lord. We know that without you we cannot be what we are called to be or do what we are called to accomplish by your power. Strengthen and equip us to see the right way, follow Jesus' and take up the cross and follow Him.**

Pastor: In his mercy God has promised forgiveness for all of your sins. You can rejoice, your sins are forgiven in Jesus Christ and you are wrapped in his forgiving love forever.

**People: Amen.**

### **Passion Reading**

#### **HYMN RESPONSE-Jesus, Refuge of the Weary TLH 145**

**Jesus, Refuge of the weary, Blest Redeemer, whom we love,  
Fountain in life's desert dreary, Savior from the world above,  
Oh, how oft Thine eyes, offended, Gaze upon the sinner's fall!  
Yet, upon the cross extended, Thou didst bear the pain of all.**

**Do we pass that cross unheeding, Breathing no repentant vow,  
Tho' we see Thee wounded, bleeding, See Thy thorn-encircled brow?  
Yet Thy sinless death hath brought us Life eternal, peace, and rest;  
Only what Thy grace hath taught us Calms the sinner's stormy breast.**

**Jesus, may our hearts be burning With more fervent love for Thee!  
May our eyes be ever turning To thy cross of agony  
Till in glory, parted never From the blessed Savior's side,  
Graven in our hearts forever, Dwell the cross, the Crucified! Amen.**

#### **OLD TESTAMENT READING**

Psalm 22:1-8

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, so far from my cries of anguish? My God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer, by night, but I find no rest. Yet you are enthroned as the Holy One; you are the one Israel praises. In you our ancestors put their trust; they trusted and you delivered them. To you they cried out and were saved; in you they trusted and were not put to shame. But I am a worm and not a man, scorned by everyone, despised by the people. All who see me mock me; they hurl insults, shaking their heads. "He trusts in the Lord," they say, "let the Lord rescue him. Let him deliver him, since he delights in him."

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord. **P: Thanks be to God.**

#### **EPISTLE READING**

Hebrews 13:5-14

.. God has said, "I will never fail you. I will never abandon you." So we can say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper, so I will have no fear. What can mere people do to me?" Remember your leaders who taught you the word of God. Think of all the good that has come from their lives, and follow the example of their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. So do not be attracted by strange, new ideas. Your strength comes from God's grace, not from rules about food, which don't help those who follow them.

We have an altar from which the priests in the Tabernacle have no right to eat. Under the old system, the high priest brought the blood of animals into the Holy Place as a sacrifice for sin, and the bodies of the animals were burned outside the camp. So also Jesus suffered and died outside the city gates to make his people holy by means of his own blood. So let us go out to him, outside the camp, and bear the disgrace he bore. For this world is not our permanent home; we are looking forward to a home yet to come.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord. **P: Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL READING** Luke 18:31-34

Pastor: The Gospel according to St. Luke, the Eighteenth chapter.

**P: Glory to You, O Lord.**

Jesus took the Twelve aside and told them, "We are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written by the prophets about the Son of Man will be fulfilled. He will be delivered over to the Gentiles. They will mock him, insult him and spit on him; they will flog him and kill him. On the third day he will rise again."

The disciples did not understand any of this. Its meaning was hidden from them, and they did not know what he was talking about.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord. **People: Praise to You, O Christ.**

**HYMN - Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah** TLH 54

**Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah, Pilgrim through this barren land.  
I am weak but Thou art mighty; Hold me with Thy pow'rful hand.  
Bread of heaven, Feed me till I want no more.**

**Open now the crystal fountain Whence the healing stream doth flow;  
Let the fire and cloudy pillar Lead me all my journey through.  
Strong Deliv'rer, Be Thou still my Strength and Shield.**

**When I tread the verge of Jordan, Bid my anxious fears subside;  
Death of death, and hell's Destruction, Land me safe on Canaan's side.  
Songs of praises, I will ever give to Thee. Amen.**

**SERMON – That Forsaken Feeling – Hebrews 13:5-6**

**OFFERING & PRAYERS**

**HYMN - O Blessed Day** (stand for last verse) TLH 115

**O blessed day when first was poured The blood of our redeeming Lord!  
O blessed day when Christ began His saving work for sinful man!**

**While from His mother's bosom fed, His precious blood He wills to shed;  
A foretaste of His death He feels, An earnest of His love reveals.**

**Scarce come to earth, His Father's will With prompt obedience to fulfill,  
A victim even now He lies Before the day of sacrifice.**

**In love our guilt He undertakes; Sinless, for sin atonement makes.  
The great Lawgiver for our aid Obedient to the Law is made.**

**Lord, circumcise our heart, we pray, And take what is not Thine away.  
Write Thine own name upon our hearts, Thy Law within our inward parts.**

△ **O Lord, the Virgin-born, to Thee Eternal praise and glory be,  
Whom with the Father we adore And Holy Ghost forevermore. Amen.**

## **Litany of the Lord's Prayer**

Leader: God calls his children through Baptism to speak to him:

**People: Our Father who art in heaven,**

L: You who did say, "I am the Son of God;"

**P: hallowed be Thy name,**

L: You who did say, I am a King;"

**P: Thy kingdom come,**

L: You who prayed, "Not my will but yours be done;:"

**P: Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;**

L: You who called from the cross, "I am thirsty;"

**P: give us this day our daily bread;**

L: You who asked forgiveness for those who put you on the cross;

**P: forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;**

L: You who were tempted in every way as we are;

**P: lead us not into temptation,**

L: You who commended your soul into the hands of your Father;

**P: deliver us from evil.**

L: You who were crowned with thorns;

**P: Thine is the kingdom**

L: You who fell into the arms of death;

**P: Thine is the power**

L: You who redeemed us from sin, death and the power of the devil;

**P: Thine is the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

## **BENEDICTION**

Pastor: May the God of peace dwell in your hearts, strengthen your faith, increase your faithfulness, empower your choices and bring you to everlasting life—in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**HYMN – Abide With Me** (vs. 1 & 8) TLH 552

**Abide with me! Fast falls the eventide;  
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.  
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,  
Help of the helpless, oh, abide with me!**

**Hold Thou thy cross before my closing eyes,  
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies,  
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;  
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me! Amen.**

**Wednesday Evenings in Lent**

Worship Service 7:00 pm

