

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

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“THE TRUE SHEPHERD HAS COME!”


Lenten Service

March 24, 2021

7:00PM

“THE TRUE SHEPHERD HAS COME!”

Please double-check that your cell phone and personal electronic devices are turned off during the worship service.

PRELUDE  **Rathbun by Robert Powell (b. 1932) and
Ubi caritas by Richard Proulx (1937-2010)**

Please Stand

OPENING HYMN
“In The Cross of Christ I Glory” LSB-427

In the cross of Christ I glory, Tow’ring o’er the wrecks of time. All the light of sacred story Gathers round its head sublime.

When the woes of life o’er take me, Hopes deceive, and fears annoy, Never shall the cross forsake me, Lo, it glows with peace and joy.

When the sun of bliss is beaming Light and love upon my way, From the cross the radiance streaming Adds more luster to the day.

Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure By the cross are sanctified; Peace is there that knows no measure, Joys that through all time abide.

INVOCATION

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

C: Amen.

P: I will go to the altar of God,

C: to God my exceeding joy.

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C: who made heaven and earth.

LITANY OF THE PASSION

L: Lord Jesus, of your own free will you accepted the cross for our salvation:

C: Thank You, Jesus.

L: Friend of humankind, you embraced the tragic agony of the cross for our sake:

C: Thank You, Jesus.

L: You were seen without beauty to restore us to the splendor of God:

C: Thank You, Jesus.

L: Like a seed you were buried in the ground to spring up a hundredfold:

C: Thank You, Jesus.

L: Through your divine death we are delivered from death and decay:

C: Thank You, Jesus.

L: Your holy cross vanquished hell and put dark death to flight:

C: Thank You, Jesus.

L: By your love and compassion you are the Savior of the world:

C: Thank You, Jesus.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

C: O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter suffering and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P: God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith.

C: Amen.

P: Do you believe that the forgiveness I speak is not my forgiveness but God's?

C: Yes.

P: Let it be done for you as you believe. In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive You all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it. Go in peace.

C: Amen.

Please Be Seated

OLD TESTAMENT

PSALM 22:16-24

For dogs encompass me; a company of evildoers encircles me; they have pierced my hands and feet—I can count all my bones—they stare and gloat over me; they divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots. But you, O LORD, do not be far off! O you my help, come quickly to my aid! Deliver my soul from the sword, my precious life from the power of the dog! Save me from the mouth of the lion! You have rescued me from the horns of the wild oxen! I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you: You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him, and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel! For he has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the afflicted, and he has not hidden his face from him, but has heard, when he cried to him.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

NEW TESTAMENT

GALATIANS 3:10-14

For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, “Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them.” Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law, for “The righteous shall live by faith.” But the law is not of faith, rather “The one who does them shall live by them.” Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree”—so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

P: The Holy Gospel according to...JOHN 10:7-18

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

So Jesus again said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to You, O Christ

SERMON HYMN

"Savior, When in Dust to Thee"

LSB-419 (vs 1-3)

Savior, when in dust to Thee Low we bow the adoring knee; When, repentant, to the skies Scare we lift our weeping eyes; O, by all They pains and woe Suffered once for us below, Bending from Thy throne on high, Hear our penitential cry!

By They helpless infant years, By They life of want and tears, By Thy days of deep distress In the savage wilderness, By the dread, mysterious hour Of the insulting tempter's pow'r, Turn, O turn a fav'ring eye; Hear our penitential cry!

By Thine hour of dire despair, By Thine agony of prayer, By the cross, the nail, the thorn, Piercing spear, and torturing scorn, By the gloom that veiled the skies O'er the dreadful sacrifice, Listen to our humble sigh; Hear our penitential cry!

THE HOMILY

"THE TRUE SHEPHERD HAS COME!"

Please Stand

APOSTLES' CREED

C: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life + everlasting. Amen.

Please Be Seated

TITHES AND OFFERING *(Please leave in offering plate at the end of service)*

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

L: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs:

L: Almighty God, grant that we, who have been redeemed from the old life of sin by our Baptism into the death, and the resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, be renewed by Your Holy Spirit to live in righteousness and true holiness;

L: Lord, in your mercy, **C:** Hear our prayer.

L: Dear God of Love, You have commanded us to love one another. By the guidance of Your Son, Our Lord, and the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, deliver us from impenitence and teach us the truth that we might confess our sins, receive Your forgiveness, and be reconciled to one another;

L: Lord, in your mercy, **C:** Hear our prayer.

L: O God, you resist the proud and give grace to the humble. Grant us true humility after the likeness of Your only Son that we may never be arrogant and prideful, but in all humility be made partakers of the gifts of Your grace;

L: Lord, in your mercy, **C:** Hear our prayer.

L: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

Please Stand

THE 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.

BENEDICAMUS

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

“When I Survey the Wonderful Cross”

LSB-426 (vs 1,2,4)

When I survey the wondrous loss And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast Save in the death of Christ, my God; All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to His blood.

cross On which the Prince of Glory died, My richest gain I count but

Were the whole realm of nature mine, That were a tribute far too small; Love so amazing, so divine, Demands my soul, my life, my all!

POSTLUDE  Ich ruf zu dir by J. S. Bach (1685-1750)