



The First Midweek Service in Lent  
March 1, 2023



**OUR SAVIOR**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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## Opening Hymn: “The Tree of Life”

LSB 561

- 1 The tree of life with ev’ry good  
In Eden’s holy orchard stood,  
And of its fruit so pure and sweet  
God let the man and woman eat.  
Yet in this garden also grew  
Another tree, of which they knew;  
Its lovely limbs with fruit adorned  
Against whose eating God had warned.
  
- 2 The stillness of that sacred grove  
Was broken, as the serpent strove  
With tempting voice Eve to beguile  
And Adam too by sin defile.  
O day of sadness when the breath  
Of fear and darkness, doubt and death,  
Its awful poison first displayed  
Within the world so newly made.
  
- 3 What mercy God showed to our race,  
A plan of rescue by His grace:  
In sending One from woman’s seed,  
The One to fill our greatest need—  
For on a tree uplifted high  
His only Son for sin would die,  
Would drink the cup of scorn and dread  
To crush the ancient serpent’s head!
  
- 4 Now from that tree of Jesus’ shame  
Flows life eternal in His name;  
For all who trust and will believe,  
Salvation’s living fruit receive.  
And of this fruit so pure and sweet  
The Lord invites the world to eat,  
To find within this cross of wood  
The tree of life with ev’ry good.

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955

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## Opening Versicles

- L** This is the day which the Lord has made;  
**C** let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**L** From the rising of the sun to its setting,  
**C** **the name of the Lord is to be praised.**

**L** Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful,  
**C** **slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and repents of evil.**

**L** Jesus said: If any man would come after Me,

**C** **let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.**

**L** Christ was wounded for our transgressions.

**C** **He was bruised for our iniquities.**

**L** From the rising of the sun to its setting,

**C** **the name of the Lord is to be praised.**

**C** **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.**

## Readings From Holy Scripture

### Reading

*Romans 5:12–19*

**L** A reading from Romans, the fifth chapter.

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned— <sup>13</sup>for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. <sup>14</sup>Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come.

<sup>15</sup>But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man's trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many. <sup>16</sup>And the free gift is not like the result of that one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brought justification. <sup>17</sup>If, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.

<sup>18</sup>Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. <sup>19</sup>For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

Responsory

- L** We have an advocate with the Father: Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.
- C** **He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.**
- L** Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.
- C** **He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.**
- L** We have an advocate with the Father; Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.
- C** **He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.**

Ten Commandments

- C** **You shall have no other gods.**  
**You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.**  
**Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.**  
**Honor your father and your mother.**  
**You shall not murder.**  
**You shall not commit adultery.**  
**You shall not steal.**  
**You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.**  
**You shall not covet your neighbor's house.**  
**You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.**

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.**

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.**

## Catechetical Instruction

### Hymn: “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

LSB 621

- 1 Let all mortal flesh keep silence  
And with fear and trembling stand;  
Ponder nothing earthly-minded,  
For with blessing in His hand  
Christ our God to earth descending  
Comes our homage to demand.
- 2 King of kings yet born of Mary,  
As of old on earth He stood,  
Lord of lords in human vesture,  
In the body and the blood,  
He will give to all the faithful  
His own self for heav’nly food.
- 3 Rank on rank the host of heaven  
Spreads its vanguard on the way  
As the Light of Light, descending  
From the realms of endless day,  
Comes the pow’rs of hell to vanquish  
As the darkness clears away.
- 4 At His feet the six-winged seraph,  
Cherubim with sleepless eye,  
Veil their faces to the presence  
As with ceaseless voice they cry:  
“Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia, Lord Most High!”

Text: Liturgy of St. James, 5th cent.; tr. Gerard Moultrie, 1829–85, alt.  
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### Prayer

- L** In peace let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**

- L** For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For . . . *[additional bids for prayer may be inserted here]* . . . let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

### Collect of the Day

- L** O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

### Collect for the Word

- L** Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

### Evening Prayer

- C** **I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.**

## Blessing

**L** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**L** The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.

**C** **Amen.**

## Closing Hymn: “O Christ, You Walked the Road”

LSB 424

- 1 O Christ, You walked the road  
Our wand’ring feet must go.  
You faced with us temptation’s pow’r  
And fought our ancient foe.
- 2 No bread of earth alone  
Can fill our hung’ring hearts.  
Lord, help us seek Your living Word,  
The food Your grace imparts.
- 3 No blinding sign we ask,  
No wonder from above.  
Lord, help us place our trust alone  
In Your unswerving love.
- 4 When lures of easy gain  
With promise brightly shine,  
Lord, help us seek Your kingdom first;  
Our wills with Yours align.
- 5 O Christ, You walked the road  
Our wand’ring feet must go.  
Stay with us through temptation’s hour  
To fight our ancient foe.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007

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**Serving Today:**

Liturgist and Preacher ..... Rev. Adam M. Matheny  
Organist ..... [1:30] Kathy Wessel; [6:30] Barb Anderson  
Special Music ..... [6:30] Introductory Bells