

Faith Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod Our Mission: Faith Grows

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Second Weekend in Lent Service of the Word for Healing

February 24 & 25, 2024

AS WE GATHER

Today we hear the apostle Paul proclaim something rather odd: that we can rejoice in our sufferings. Paul says this because – as he tells us – suffering produces endurance, endurance produces character, character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame because our hope is in Jesus who died and is risen for us and our reconciliation and peace. That is something to rejoice in!

- **PRELUDE**
- **ANNOUNCEMENTS**
- CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

(The congregation stands at the ringing of the bell.)



INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

People: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good,

People: And His mercy endures forever.

Pastor: They cried to the Lord in their trouble,

People: And He delivered them from their distress.

Pastor: He sent forth His Word and healed them,

People: And saved them from the grave.

Pastor: The Lord is righteous in all His ways,

People: And loving in all His works.

Pastor: The Lord upholds all who fall.

People: He lifts up those who are bowed down.

Pastor: The Lord sustains them on their sickbed. **People:** And ministers to them in their illness.

Pastor: The Lord is my strength and my song, **People:** And He has become my salvation.

Pastor: Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good,

People: And His mercy endures forever.

Pastor: God has made us His people through our Baptism into Christ. Living

together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

People: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day He rose again; He ascended into heaven, He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Service of the Word

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By

Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the

Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

PSALM Psalm 22:23-31

Pastor: Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good,

People: And His mercy endures forever.

Pastor: You who fear the Lord, praise Him!

People: 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.

Pastor: From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will

perform before those who fear Him.

People: The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek Him shall praise

the Lord! May your hearts live forever!

Pastor: All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, and all the

families of the nations shall worship before you. For kingship belongs to the

Lord, and He rules over the nations.

People: All the prosperous of the earth eat and worship; before Him shall bow

all who go down to the dust, even the one who could not keep himself alive. Posterity shall serve Him; it shall be told of the Lord to the coming

generation; they shall come and proclaim His righteousness to a people

yet unborn, that He has done it.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

When Abram was ninety-nine years old the Lord appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before Me, and be blameless, that I may make My covenant between Me and you, and may multiply you greatly." Then Abram fell on his face. And God said to him, "Behold, My covenant is with you, and you shall be the father of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham, for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make you into nations, and kings shall come from you. And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. And God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover, I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall become nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING

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 have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person – though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die – but God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by His blood, much more shall we be saved by Him from the wrath of God. For if while

we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by His life. More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

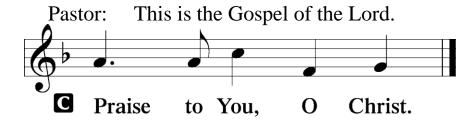
HOLY GOSPEL

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



Luke 5:12-16

While He was in one of the cities, there came a man full of leprosy. And when he saw Jesus, he fell on his face and begged Him, "Lord, if You will, You can make me clean." And Jesus stretched out His hand and touched him, saying, "I will; be clean." And immediately the leprosy left him. And He charged him to tell no one, but "go and show yourself to the priest, and make an offering for your cleansing, as Moses commanded, for a proof to them." But now even more the report about Him went abroad, and great crowds gathered to hear Him and to be healed of their infirmities. But He would withdraw to desolate places and pray.





SERMON

"Touching the Untouchables"
Pastor Donald Treglown
Text: Luke 5:12-16

OUR GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

We give Thee but Thine own, whate'er the gift may be; All that we have is Thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from Thee.

Prayer Requests: Please print prayer requests on the blue "Prayer" card and hand it to an usher during this time.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM "What Wondrous Love is This" arr. by Eugene Oldham

BIDDING PRAYERS

Pastor: Let us pray for all who suffer.

People: Merciful Lord, You sent Your Son to be our peace. Help all who suffer pain or grief to find in Him strength and peace, so that their trust in Your promises may be renewed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pastor: Let us pray for recovery from sickness.

People: O God, the strength of the weak and the comfort of sufferers: Mercifully hear our prayers and grant to Your servants the help of Your power, that their sickness may be turned into health and our sorrow into joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pastor: Let us pray for those in affliction.

People: Almighty and everlasting God, comfort of the sad and strength to those who suffer: Let the prayers of Your children who are in any trouble rise to You. To everyone in distress grant mercy, grant relief, grant refreshment; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pastor: Let us pray for those who minister healing.

People: Almighty God source of human knowledge and skill: Guide physicians and nurses and all those You have called to practice the arts of healing. Strengthen them by Your life-giving Spirit, that, by their ministries, the health of all people may be promoted, and Your creation may be glorified; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pastor: Let us pray for the ministry of family and friends.

People: Loving God, our creator and redeemer: Give strength and gentleness, patience and faithfulness to family members and friends. Let their hope be in You, and by their ministry of love let Your love be known; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pastor: Let us pray for those who desire our prayers.

People: Blessed Lord, we ask Your loving care and protection for those who are sick in body, mind, or spirit and who desire our prayers. Take from them all fears and help them put their trust in You, that they may feel Your strong arms around them. Touch them with Your renewing love, that they may know wholeness in You and glorify Your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pastor: Let us pray for those making decisions.

People: O Lord our God, send Your Holy Spirit to guide us, that we may make our decisions with love, mercy, and reverence for Your gift of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pastor: Praise to You, almighty God and Father. You sent Your Son to live among us and to bring us salvation.

People: Blessed be God.

Pastor: Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ, incomparable Son of the Father. You

humbled Yourself to share in our humanity, and You came to heal all our

illnesses.

People: Blessed be God.

Pastor: Praise to You, Holy Spirit, our defender and consoler. You heal our sickness

with Your might and life-giving power.

People: Blessed be God.

Pastor: Holy and blessed Trinity, sustain Your servants who are gathered here with

Your presence; drive away their sickness of body and spirit; and give them that victory of life and peace which will enable them to serve You now and

evermore.

People: Amen.

- **ANOINTING** (5:00 & 11:00)

Pastor: Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, send Your Holy Spirit upon Your servants,

drive away all sickness of body and spirit; make whole that which is broken; deliver them from the power of evil; and preserve them in true faith, to share in the power of Christ's resurrection and to serve You with all the saints now

and evermore.

People: Amen.

CLOSING RITE

Pastor: The almighty Lord – a strong tower to all who put their trust in Him, to

whom all things in heaven, on earth, and under the earth bow and whom they obey – be now and evermore your defense, and make you know and feel that the only name under heaven given for health and salvation is the name of our

Lord Jesus Christ.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Let us pray. Merciful Lord God, constant source of all healing, we give You

thanks for all Your gifts of strength and life, and above all we thank You for the gift of Your Son, through whom we have health and salvation. As we wait for that day when there will be no more pain, help us by Your Holy Spirit to be assured of Your power in our lives and to trust in Your eternal

love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

People: 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.

BENEDICTION

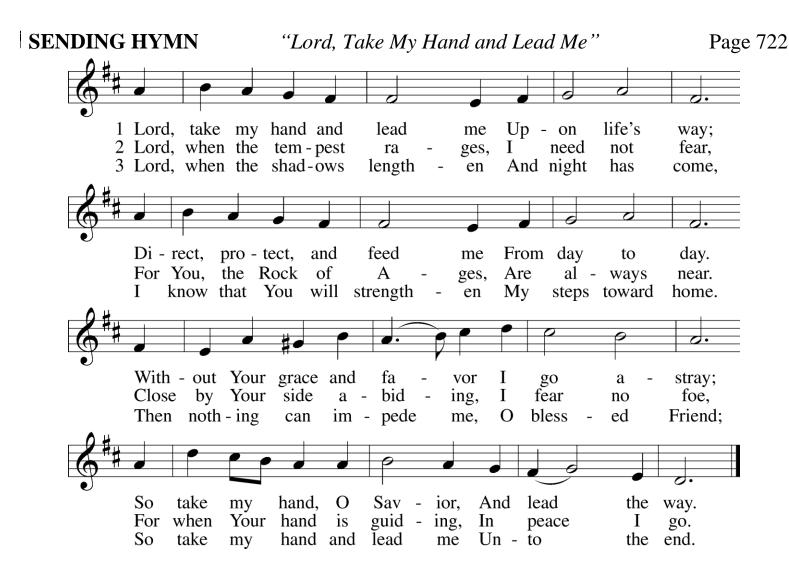
Pastor: The LORD bless You and keep you; the LORD make His face shine on you

and be gracious to you; the LORD look on you in favor and + give you peace.

People: Amen.

WORD OF INSTITUTION / DISTRIBUTION (5:00)

(Please review our statement of faith inserted into the front of the hymnal.)



POSTLUDE



Members of the healing prayer team will be at the altar rail after the service to pray with anyone who wishes, or you can make an appointment with them for a later date.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"What Wondrous Love is This" captures our attention right from the beginning with its simplicity and persistence - "What wondrous love is this" sung three times. This repetition is not the sign of a weak poet who has a narrow range of expression, but a fellow traveler who has experienced profoundly the sacrificial love of Christ and can only express again and again - "What wondrous love is this." It is the kind of repetition that sounds trite when spoken yet gains strength and power through singing. These are not the carefully crafted words of a theologian, but utterances directly from the heart or, even more profoundly, from the soul. This hymn has a long-standing history that is not very well known. It is known, however, that the tune was discovered by composer William Walker on his journey through the Appalachian region of America. Though the tune had been around for many years, it was passed on by rote, and not written down. Walker decided in 1835 that he would change that and added the hymn to his collection Southern Harmony. This hymn is incredibly haunting and beautiful, putting into words the question that most of us Christians have every day, what did I do to deserve such a wonderful love from God and from Christ? What a wonderful opportunity to be able to praise Christ and praise the wonders of God for eternity, and we owe it all to a love that we cannot fully understand.