THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 25-26, 2023

"Changing Lives through Worship, Compassion, and Christian Education."



The same power that raised Christ from the dead is living in you.

Romans 8:11

Our Ministry: We are a people of God who are: "Changing Lives through Worship, Compassion, and Christian Education."

Welcome! "Hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love" (Psalm 130:7, ESV). Welcome to worship, one and all.

Devotions & Publications Available are found in the main entryway. Please leave donation envelopes in the offering plate.

..... WORSHIP NOTES

Note About Attendance Cards...Remember that the only way we may know you are worshiping with us is by seeing your name on an attendance card. These cards may be completed as you enter for worship and will be collected after the offering. Use one card for each family that is gathered. *Please list the name of each person in worship.* (Parents, please take responsibility for signing in your children) There is a "Member" side as well as a "Guest" side. Please fill out the appropriate side and pass them to the center aisle during the gathering of the offerings. The cards are gathered after the offering has been collected.

To Our Visitors...Our church and school has a few nooks and crannies, so don't be afraid to ask an usher where things are. Our pastor and any member here today would also be glad to meet and assist you. A guest information packet is available near the guest register in the main (west) entryway.

For All Who Worship...If you are arriving after the service has started, please allow our ushers to assist you with seating. We ask that you avoid entering during the confession, prayers, or Bible readings as these are quiet and meditative moments.

For Parents with Small Children...We love and want children in our services as a part of God's family, to spend time with Jesus, and to learn how to worship. We also know that kids can be kids. We want you and your children to experience our Lord's love and to have a great opportunity to worship the Lord along with all who are gathered here to praise our Savior's name.

Music of Preparation, Welcome, Announcements, Greeting

DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING ONE

(The music for the liturgy may be found on page 151 in the Hymnal)

Notes for Worship: As you prepare for worship this day, we invite you to turn to the prayer section of the Hymnal (page 305). In addition to prayers for before and after worship, there are prayers for all aspects of the Christian Life (some of the prayers are also located on the inside front cover of the hymnal). May these prayers be useful in your worship.

Before worship prayer

Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells. In the multitude of Your tender mercies prepare my heart that I may enter Your house to worship and confess Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, my God and Lord. AMEN.

8:30am - Preservice Music: "God So Loved the World"

Piano/Organ Duet Marilyn Bottorff & Nadine Engel

We're So Glad God Brought You Here Today!

Opening Hymn: "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" LSB, hymn #686

Come, Thou Fount of ev'ry blessing, Streams of mercy, never ceasing, While the hope of endless glory Teach me ever to adore Thee; Tune my heart to sing Thy grace; Call for songs of loudest praise. Fills my heart with joy and love, May I still Thy goodness prove.

Here I raise my Ebenezer, Hither by Thy help I've come; And I hope, by Thy good pleasure, Safely to arrive at home. Jesus sought me when a stranger, Wand'ring from the fold of God; He, to rescue me from danger, Interposed His precious blood.

Oh, to grace how great a debtor Daily I'm constrained to be; Let that grace now like a fetter Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee: Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it; Prone to leave the God I love. Here's my heart, O take and seal it, Seal it for Thy courts above. Oh, that day when freed from sinning, I shall see Thy lovely face; Clothed then in the blood-washed linen, How I'll sing Thy wondrous grace! Come, my Lord, no longer tarry; Take my ransom'd soul away; Send Thine angels soon to carry Me to realms of endless day.

INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

- P: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen. Matthew 28:19b
- P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

 1 John 1:8-9
- P: Dear Friends in Christ, let us humble our hearts before our Holy God and silently reflect upon our sins.

(Moment of silent reflection)

- P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen
- P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and 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.

 John 20:19-23
- C: Amen.
- P: The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

C: (Sung) And also with you.

P: Let us pray O Holy Spirit, You are a gift and a blessing. You call us from death and despair to faith and faithfulness and assure of resurrection and life in Christ, who has brought about our atonement. Enlighten our hearts that we may rejoice in the power and blessing of Your presence in and among us. This we ask through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who with You and the Father are one God, world without end.

C: Amen

(Please be Seated)

THE READING OF THE WORD

Epistle Lesson: Romans 8:1-11 (Life In Christ)

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

Stand (as you are able)

<u>Verse - Lent</u> Joel 2:13

C: (Sung) Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and abounding in steadfast love.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eleventh chapter.

C: (Sung) Glory to You, O Lord.

Gospel Lesson: John 11:17-27, 38-53 (Lazarus Restored To Life)

When Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world." . . . Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out." The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go." Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him, but some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done. So the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered the Council and said, "What are we to do? For this man performs many signs. If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation." But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, "You know nothing at all. Nor do you understand that it is better for you that one man should die for the people, not that the whole nation should perish." He did not say this of his own accord, but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation, and not for the nation only, but also to gather into one the children of God who are scattered abroad. So from that day on they made plans to put him to death.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: (Sung) Praise to You, O Christ.

(Please be Seated)

Children's Sermon

Sermon Hymn: "Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won" LSB, hymn #490

Jesus lives! The vict'ry's won! Death no longer can appall me; Jesus lives! Death's reign is done! From the grave will Christ recall me. Brighter scenes will then commence; This shall be my confidence.

Jesus lives! To Him the throne High above all things is given. I shall go where He is gone, Live and reign with Him in heaven. God is faithful; doubtings, hence! This shall be my confidence.

Jesus lives! For me He died, Pure in heart and act abide, All I need God will dispense; Hence will I, to Jesus living, Praise to Him and glory giving. This shall be my confidence.

Jesus lives! I know full well Neither death nor pow'rs of hell God will be my sure defense;

Nothing me from Him shall sever.
Part me now from Christ forever.
This shall be my confidence.

Jesus lives! And now is death
This shall calm my trembling breath
Faith shall cry, as fails each sense:

But the gate of life immortal;
When I pass its gloomy portal.

Jesus is my confidence!

Sermon: "The Lord and Giver of Life"

Romans 8:1-11

Stand (as you are able)

P: Let us confess our faith, using the words of the 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 Offerings/Attendance Cards

8:30am - Special Music: "Jesus the Very Thought"

Piano Duet - Marilyn Bottorff & Nadine Engel

OFFERTORY - Create In Me

LSB, Divine Service 3, pg 192-193

C: (Sung) 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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

1 Timothy 2:1-4

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

We pray for all Christians around the world that, as people united in faith, we may witness to the Good News that is ours in Christ Jesus, our Redeemer. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We pray for all nations of the earth, that in all places on earth there may be times of peace. We pray for people in lands where there has been upset and strife. And we pray for our own nation that it may know safety and the people may be joyful in their daily lives. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We pray for all those whose labor serves us, especially those in the military, our police personnel, medical workers, and all those whose efforts support the common good. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We pray for the special concerns on our hearts today, including health and family needs, bringing to You our joys, our sorrows, and our hopes. We pray that you be with those hospitalized this past week (*Especially*, . . .). Also be with those who continue treatment and healing at home. We pray for them and all those that we name in our hearts . . . (*Silence*). O Lord, we pray that their prayers may be soon answered and that they be supported by God's people as they experience His good and gracious will for their lives. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: In this time of prayer, we remember all those who have completed their earthly journeys in faith and now rest from their labors. Lord, inspire us by the witness of the faithful from all generations that we may complete our earthly journeys with confidence in Your gracious promises as they did in their lifetimes. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

(Additional prayers of the congregation. Each petition concludes with. . .) P: . . . Lord, In Your Mercy,

C: Hear Our Prayer.

- P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who has taught us to pray:
- 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

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: (Sung) Amen

Closing Hymn: "Jesus, I Will Ponder Now"

Jesus, I will ponder now On Your holy passion;
With Your Spirit me endow
Grant that I in love and faith May the image cherish
Of Your suff'ring, pain, and death That I may not perish.

Make me see Your great distress, Anguish, and affliction, Bonds and stripes and wretchedness And Your crucifixion; Make me see how scourge and rod, Spear and nails did wound You, How for them You died, O God, Who with thorns had crowned You.

Yet, O Lord, not thus alone Make me see Your passion, But its cause to me make known And its termination.

Ah! I also and my sin Wrought Your deep affliction; This indeed the cause has been Of Your crucifixion.

Grant that I Your passion view With repentant grieving.

Let me not bring shame to You By unholy living.

How could I refuse to shun Ev'ry sinful pleasure

Since for me God's only Son Suffered without measure?

If my sins give me alarm And my conscience grieve me,
Let Your cross my fear disarm; Peace of conscience give me.
Help me see forgiveness won By Your holy passion.
If for me He slays His Son, God must have compassion!

Graciously my faith renew; Learning humbleness from You, May I give You love for love! That I may in heav'n above Help me bear my crosses,
Peace mid pain and losses.
Hear me, O my Savior,
Sing Your praise forever.

LSB. hymn #440

See You In Worship Next Week!

After worship prayer

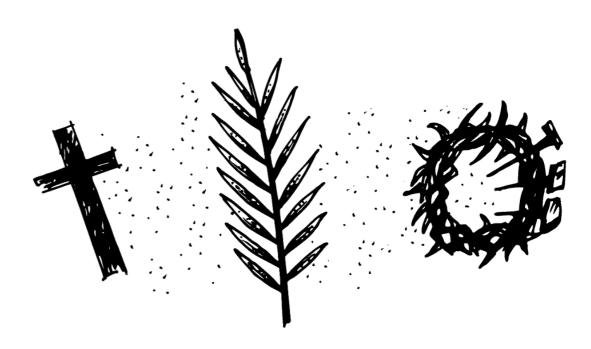
Almighty and merciful God, we have again worshiped in Your presence and received both forgiveness for our many sins and the assurance of Your love in Jesus Christ. We thank You for this undeserved grace and ask You to keep us in faith until we inherit eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

There is a Prayer Ministry Member(s) in each service that is wearing a prayer ministry tag around their neck. Please look for them if you want a prayer for someone else, a concern or situation you may have, or yourself.

Please join us for coffee and donut holes in the cafeteria after Sunday services.

Altar Flowers Altar flowers this weekend are given in loving memory of my mom, Lucille, my brother Ralph and sister-in-law Tish, by Nancy Campbell; and also in loving memory of our grandmothers, by Jim & Jenny Mossman.

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St. Paul's Lutheran Church

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