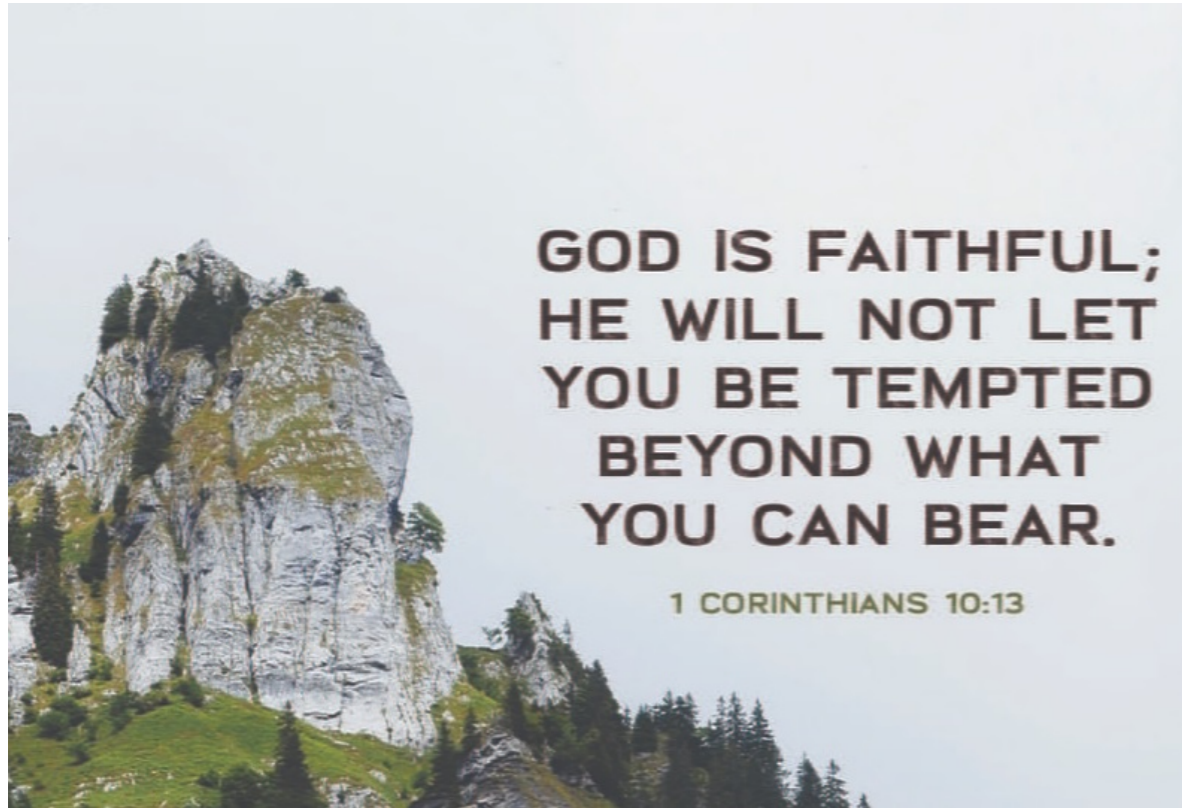


THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

March 22-23, 2025

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

"Persevere With Thanksgiving"



**Music of Preparation,
Welcome, Announcements, Greeting**

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

Welcome! Isaiah announced God's invitation: "Is anyone thirsty? Come and drink ... it's all free!" (55:1, NLT). Are you thirsty for good news, peace, hope, love? Christ is the water of life. Welcome to worship.

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 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 in the main 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 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.

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.

5:00pm - Special Music: "I Want Jesus to Walk With Me" Sanctuary Singers

We're So Glad God Brought You Here Today!

Opening Hymn: "My Song Is Love Unknown" LSB, hymn #430, st 1-4

My song is love unknown, My Savior's love to me,
Love to the loveless shown That they might lovely be.
Oh, who am I That for my sake
My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?

He came from His blest throne Salvation to bestow;
But men made strange, and none The longed-for Christ would know.
But, oh, my friend, My friend indeed,
Who at my need His life did spend!

Sometimes they strew His way And His sweet praises sing;
Resounding all the day Hosannas to their King.
Then "Crucify!" Is all their breath,
And for His death They thirst and cry.

Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and spite?
He made the lame to run, He gave the blind their sight.
Sweet injuries! Yet they at these
Themselves displease And 'gainst Him rise.

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 God, You have made each of us Your own possession by our Baptism into Christ, and You daily feed us with Your mercy and grace by Your Word. Help us, we pray, in the face of all trials and temptations, to grow stronger in our faith in You and our love for one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

(Please be Seated)

Hymn: “My Song Is Love Unknown”

LSB, hymn #430, st 5-7

They rise and needs will have My dear Lord made away;
A murderer they save, The Prince of Life they slay.
Yet cheerful He To suffering goes
That He His foes From thence might free.

In life no house, no home My Lord on earth might have;
In death no friendly tomb But what a stranger gave.
What may I say? Heav’n was His home
But mine the tomb Wherein He lay.

Here might I stay and sing, No story so divine!
Never was love, dear King, Never was grief like Thine.
This is my friend, In whose sweet praise
I all my days Could gladly spend!

THE READING OF THE WORD

Epistle Lesson: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

(Warning and Encouragement)

I want you to know, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness. Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written,

“The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play.” We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

Stand (as you are able)

Verse - Lent

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. Luke, the thirteenth chapter.

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

Gospel Lesson: Luke 13:1-9

(Repent or Perish)

There were some present at that very time who told [Jesus] about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. And he answered them, “Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered in this way? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.” And he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. And he said to the vinedresser, ‘Look, for three years now I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down. Why should it use up the ground?’ And he answered him, ‘Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and put on manure. Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C: **(Sung) Praise to You, O Christ.**

(Please be Seated)

Sermon Hymn: “O God, Our Help in Ages Past” *LSB, hymn #733*

O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home:

Under the shadow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is Thine arm alone, And our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood Or earth received her frame,
From everlasting Thou art God, To endless years the same.

A thousand ages in Thy sight Are like an evening gone,
Short as the watch that ends the night Before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream, Soon bears us all away;
We fly forgotten as a dream Dies at the op'ning day.

O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while troubles last And our eternal home!

Sermon: “Think Again . . .” *1 Corinthians 10:1-13*

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

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, . . . Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for
all people according to their needs. . . . Faithful God, we come with our failed
intentions, disappointments, and broken promises. Restore us by Your grace
and give us confidence in Your faithfulness. O faithful Lord, You seek not to
condemn us but to save us. Give us Your Holy Spirit that we may hear the
voice of Your calling, respond with faith, repent of our sinful ways, and live in
the joy of Your faithfulness and steadfast love. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

P: O faithful Lord, we live in a faithless world filled with doubt and fear. Keep us
from becoming victims of our own doubts and fears and raise us up in a certain
hope because of Your faithfulness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

P: O faithful Lord, when tragedy causes us to question, help us run to the shelter
of Your love to find peace, security, and grace to answer our questions. Give
us confidence in Your faithfulness that we may give answer to those who
question our hope. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

P: O faithful Lord, raise up good and faithful leaders in this nation and over all the
world, that people may live without fear or violence and know the comfort of
peace between all nations. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

P: O faithful Lord, when tragedy, illness, grief, or terror threatens, comfort us with Your steadfast love. Give to the sick and those who suffer the full measure of Your grace for healing, strength, and peace. We pray that you be with those hospitalized this past week (*Epecially, . . .*). 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*). May all who cry to You in their need, know the answer of Your grace in Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: O faithful Lord, forgive our infatuation with things. Help us to trust in You and to serve our neighbors in Your name. 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, Refuge of the Weary”

LSB, hymn #423

Jesus, refuge of the weary, Blest Redeemer, whom we love,
Fountain in life’s desert dreary, Savior from the world above:
Often have Your eyes, offended, Gazed upon the sinner’s fall;
Yet upon the cross extended, You have borne the pain of all.

Do we pass that cross unheeding, Breathing no repentant vow,
Though we see You wounded, bleeding, See Your thorn-encircled brow?
Yet Your sinless death has brought us Life eternal, peace, and rest;
Only what Your grace has taught us Calms the sinner’s deep distress.

Jesus, may our hearts be burning With more fervent love for You;
May our eyes be ever turning To behold Your cross anew
Till in glory, parted never From the blessed Savior’s side,
Graven in our hearts forever, Dwell the cross, the Crucified.

See You In Worship Next Week!

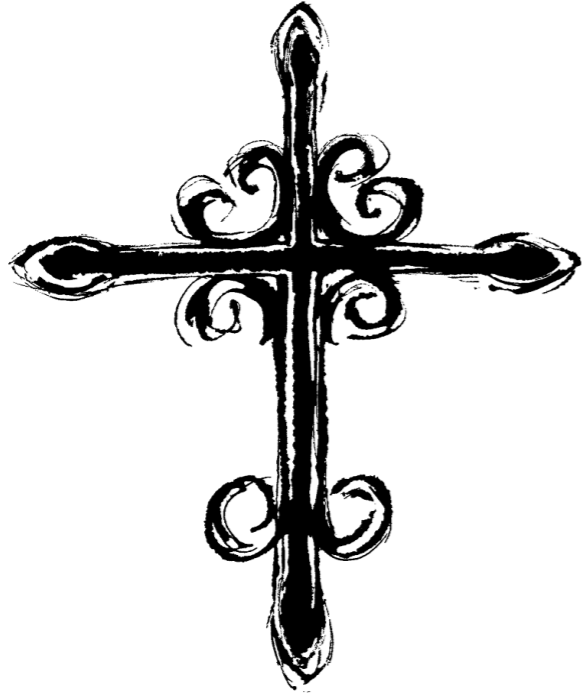
After worship prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, of Your great mercy in Jesus Christ You have granted us forgiveness of sin and all things pertaining to life and godliness. Send us Your Holy Spirit that He may so rule our hearts that we, being ever mindful of Your fatherly mercy, may serve You in holiness and pureness of living and may give You continual thanks for all Your goodness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

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

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 Joseph Hess on his birthday, March 21st, by Betty Hess; also in loving memory of my mom, Lucille, my brother Ralph and sister-in-law Tish, by Nancy Campbell.



ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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