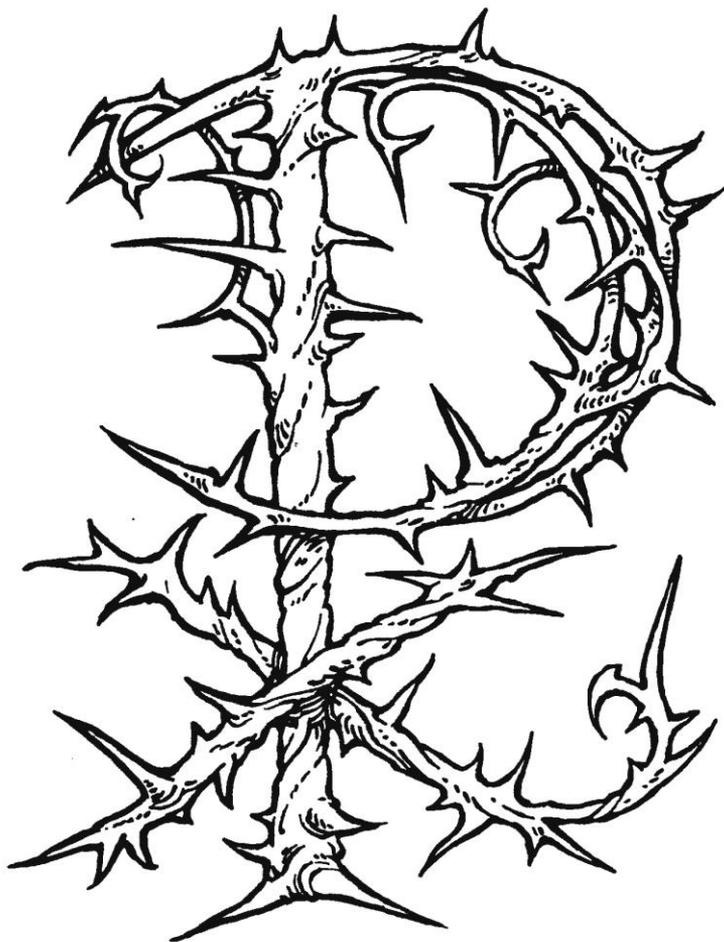


First Wednesday in Lent

February 24, 2021



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

gracelutheranrialto.com

Pastor Bill Maggard

Pastor Daniel A. Holm

First Wednesday in Lent

Vespers

OPENING HYMN *God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It* 594

- 1 God's own child, I gladly say it:
 I am baptized into Christ!
He, because I could not pay it,
 Gave my full redemption price.
Do I need earth's treasures many?
 I have one worth more than any
That brought me salvation free
 Lasting to eternity!

- 2 Sin, disturb my soul no longer:
 I am baptized into Christ!
I have comfort even stronger:
 Jesus' cleansing sacrifice.
Should a guilty conscience seize me
 Since my Baptism did release me
In a dear forgiving flood,
 Sprinkling me with Jesus' blood?

- 3 Satan, hear this proclamation:
 I am baptized into Christ!
Drop your ugly accusation,
 I am not so soon enticed.
Now that to the font I've traveled,
 All your might has come unraveled,
And, against your tyranny,
 God, my Lord, unites with me!

- 4 Death, you cannot end my gladness:
 I am baptized into Christ!

When I die, I leave all sadness
 To inherit paradise!
Though I lie in dust and ashes
 Faith's assurance brightly flashes:
Baptism has the strength divine
 To make life immortal mine.

5 There is nothing worth comparing
 To this lifelong comfort sure!
Open-eyed my grave is staring:
 Even there I'll sleep secure.
Though my flesh awaits its raising,
 Still my soul continues praising:
I am baptized into Christ:
 I'm a child of paradise!

Stand

O Lord, open my lips, Psalm 51:15
And my mouth will declare Your praise.

Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
Make haste to help me, O Lord. Psalm 70:1

**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.
Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation.**

PSALM 23 - *responsively*

- ¹ The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
- ² **He makes me lie down in green pastures.
 He leads me beside still waters.**
- ³ He restores my soul.
 He leads me in paths of righteousness
 for His name's sake.

- 4 **Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil, for You are with me;
Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.**
- 5 You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.
- 6 **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.
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.**

Sit

OFFICE HYMN *Our Father, Who from Heaven Above* 766

- 1 Our Father, who from heav'n above
Bids all of us to live in love
As members of one family
And pray to You in unity,
Teach us no thoughtless words to say
But from our inmost hearts to pray.
- 2 Your name be hallowed, Help us Lord,
In purity to keep Your Word,
That to the glory of Your name
We walk before You free from blame.
Let no false teaching us pervert;
All poor deluded souls convert.

- 3 Your kingdom come. Guard Your domain
And Your eternal righteous reign.
The Holy Ghost enrich our day
With gifts attendant on our way.
Break Satan's pow'r, defeat his rage;
Preserve Your Church from age to age.
- 4 Your gracious will on earth be done
As it is done before Your throne,
That patiently we may obey
Throughout our lives all that You say,
Curb flesh and blood and ev'ry ill
That sets itself against Your will
- 5 Give us this day our daily bread,
And let us all be clothed and fed
Save us from hardship, war, and strife;
In plague and famine, spare our life,
That we in honest peace may live,
To care and greed no entrance give.
- 6 Forgive our sins, Lord, we implore,
That they may trouble us no more;
We, too, will gladly those forgive
Who hurt us by the way they live.
Help us in our community
To serve each other willingly.
- 7 Lead not into temptation Lord,
Where our grim foe and all his horde
Would vex our souls on ev'ry hand.
Help us resist, help us to stand
Firm in the faith, a mighty host,
Through comfort of the Holy Ghost.

8 From evil, Lord, deliver us;
The times and days are perilous.
Redeem us from eternal death,
And, when we yield our dying breath,
Console us, grant us calm release,
And take our souls to You in peace.

9 Amen, that is, so shall it be.
Make strong our faith in You, that we
May doubt not but with trust believe
That what we ask we shall receive.
Thus in Your name and at Your Word
We say, "Amen, O hear us, Lord!"

First Reading

Galatians 4:1-7

¹I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything, ²but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father. ³In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. ⁴But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. ⁶And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

O Lord, have mercy on us.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

[Jesus said]⁵ “And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ⁶ But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

⁷ “And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. ⁸ Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask Him. ⁹ Pray then like this:

“Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.

¹⁰ Your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

¹¹ Give us this day our daily bread,

¹² and forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.

¹³ And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

¹⁴ For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, ¹⁵ but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

⁷ “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. ⁸ For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. ⁹ Or which one of you, if his son asks

him for bread, will give him a stone? ¹⁰Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? ¹¹If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!

O Lord, have mercy on us.

Thanks be to God.

Sit

RESPONSORY - Lent

Psalm 51:14; 59:1; 141:8

Deliver me, O Lord, my god, for You are the God of my salvation.

Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.

In You, O Lord, do I put my trust, leave me not, O Lord, my God.

Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.

Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.

Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.

SERMON

Pastor Maggard

Stand

Let my prayer rise before You as incense,

And the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

MAGNIFICAT – Song of Mary

Luke 1:46-55

My Soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior; for He has regarded the lowliness of His hand-maiden. For behold, from this day all generations will call me blessed. For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His name; and

His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has exalted the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent empty away. He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever.

Glory b the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Kyrie

Mark 10:47

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

**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.

O Lord, hear my prayer.

And let my cry come to You.

COLLECTS

O Lord, my God, I owe You praise, honor, and thanksgiving. You ordained to make known to us Your fatherly good pleasure and council concerning our salvation through the preaching of the Word. By nature, we are darkness (Ephesians 5:8). We sit in darkness and in the shadow of death (Luke 1:79). You dispel that darkness by the bright light of the Gospel. In Your light, we

see light (Psalm 39:10). That is, in the light of Your Word, we see that true Light coming into the world that illumines all people (John 1:9). What good is a treasure concealed or a light hidden under a bushel (Matthew 5:15)? With a grateful soul, therefore, I proclaim Your vast kindness, that through the word of the Gospel You have revealed to us the treasure of the benefits of Your Son. How beautiful are the feet of those who proclaim Good News of good things and preach salvation (Isaiah 52:7; Nahum 1:15; Romans 10:15).

Today, You continue to announce this peace of conscience and salvation of the soul to us through the word of the Gospel. You call us to the kingdom of Your Son. Like a pitiful, weak sheep, I was led astray, led into the way of error. You called me back to the right path through the Word. I was condemned and lost, but in the word of the Gospel, You brought to me the favor of Christ. In the favor of Christ, You brought me Your grace. In Your grace, You brought me the remission of sins. In the remission of sins, You brought me righteousness. In righteousness, You brought me eternal life and salvation. Who can proclaim the depth of Your mercy with words that are worthy enough? Who can even conceive of the magnitude and riches of Your kindness?

You have revealed to us through the manifestation of the Gospel the mystery of our salvation, which has been kept secret from eternity (Romans 16:25–26). Through the preaching of the Word, You reveal to us Your thoughts of peace concerning us, which You have had since before the foundation of the world (Jeremiah 29:11). This Word is a light to the feet of those who are striving through this dark vale for the eternal light (Psalm 119:105). What good would it have been for us to be born if You would not have freed us through Christ from the captivity of sin? What good would it have been to be redeemed if You would not have announced to us through the Word the immeasurable benefit of redemption? You stretch out Your hands to us all day (Isaiah 65:2). You knock at the door of our

heart every day (Revelation 3:20), and through Your Word, You call all of us to Yourself, most gracious Lord.

Thousands and thousands live in the blindness of paganism and error. On them never falls as much of the light of the heavenly Word that You have granted to us, by Your goodness, though we are incredibly ungrateful. How often we deserve that You take from us the candle of the Word because of our ingratitude and contempt (Revelation 2:5). But You are patient and ignore our sin (Wisdom of Solomon 11:23). Because of unspeakable mercy, You preserve for us the holy deposit of the Word, the most valuable treasure. We give eternal thanks to You for this treasure. We humbly pray that You would continue to preserve this treasure among us. *(from "Meditations on Divine Mercy" by Johann Gerhard)*

Amen.

O God, from whom come all holy desires, all god counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

BENEDICAMUS

Psalm 103:1

Let us bless the Lord

Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

2 Corinthians 13:14

The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

Amen.



All the following evening services will meet online and at church at 7:00p.m.

March 3rd – Wednesday Midweek
10th – Wednesday Midweek
17th – Wednesday Midweek
24th – Wednesday Midweek

April 1st - Maundy Thursday
2nd - Good Friday
3rd - Easter Vigil Service

EASTER SERVICES – Sunday Morning

4th – Sunrise Service – 7 a.m.
Pancake Breakfast – 8 a.m.
Divine Service – 9 a.m.