

ST. JOHN'S AND PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCHES

HOME WORSHIP

5TH SUNDAY IN LENT – MARCH 29, 2020

Due to the precautions involving the spreading of COVID-19, services at our churches have been suspended. In place of these services, you are encouraged to worship at home using this bulletin and the video service for today's date posted on YouTube.com (search "St. John's Lutheran Church Clarkston WA) home.

May the LORD bless your worship at home and our fellowship together.

Prayer: Blessed Redeemer, grant Your blessing to us during this Lenten season. Let us see the pains of body and agony of soul that were Yours, and help us to realize that our sins were also responsible for them. May we always by faith see You as our Substitute, Who bore the burden of our sin and guilt perfectly, so that we now stand pure and sinless in God's holy eyes. Hear us, for the sake of Your love. Amen.

Opening Hymn 156 "Not All the Blood of Beasts"

1. Not all the blood of beasts
On Jewish altars slain
Could give the guilty conscience peace
Or wash away the stain.

2. But Christ, the heavenly Lamb,
Takes all our sins away;
A sacrifice of nobler name
And richer blood than they.

3. My faith would lay her hand
On that dear head, of Thine
While like a penitent I stand
And there confess my sin.

4. My soul looks back to see
The burden Thou didst bear
When hanging on the cursed tree
And knows her guilt was there.

5. Believing, we rejoice
To see the curse remove;
We bless the Lamb with cheerful voice
And sing His bleeding love.

Reader: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Group: Amen.

R: Beloved of God: Let us draw near with a true heart, and confess our sins to God our Father, asking Him, in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

All: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer: we confess that we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have not loved You above all things. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Have mercy on us, and, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive us our sins.

R: Rejoice, dear repentant sinners! Jesus Christ is the Lamb of God who was sacrificed to take away the sin of the world. Because of His atoning sacrifice on the cross of Calvary, we are forgiven.

G: The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed. Amen.

Prayer

R: Almighty God, be merciful as You look upon Your people, that by Your great goodness we may live under Your direction and protection in both body and spirit; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit:

G: One God, forever and ever. Amen.

The Old Testament Reading

R: *The bones in these verses represent Spiritual lifelessness that each of us once were. But God sends His Holy Spirit through His Word to give us genuine Life. That's real security for now and eternity.*

Ezekiel 37:1-3, 11-14 The hand of the LORD came upon me and brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD, and set me down in the midst of the valley; and it was full of bones. 2 Then He caused me to pass by them all around, and behold, there were very many in the open valley; and indeed they were very dry. 3 And He said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" So I answered, "O Lord GOD, You know." 11 Then He said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They indeed say, 'Our bones are dry, our hope is lost, and we ourselves are cut off!' 12 "Therefore prophesy and say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Behold, O My people, I will open your graves and cause you to come up from your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel. 13 "Then you shall know that I am the LORD, when I have opened your graves, O My people, and brought you up from your graves. 14 "I will put My Spirit in you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken it and performed it," says the LORD.

R: Deliver me, O Lord, from my enemies: Teach me to do Your will.

G: He delivers me from my enemies:

R: Yes, You lift me up above those that rise up against me;

G: You have delivered me from the violent man. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

R: Many a time have they afflicted me from my youth; May Israel now say:

G: Many a time have they afflicted me from my youth; yet they have not prevailed against me. Hallelujah!

New Testament Reading

R: *Caiaphas the High Priest was worried about the security of Judah under the rule of Rome. He thought Jesus was nothing more than a political rebel, and that Rome would be pleased with His death. Little did Caiaphas know that Jesus' death would give real security to all people by paying for their sins, taking them out from under the devil's rule, and putting them safely back in God's Family.*

John 11:47-53 Then the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered a council and said, "What shall we do? For this Man works many signs. 48 "If we let Him alone like this, everyone will believe in Him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and nation." 49 And one of them, Caiaphas, being high priest that year, said to them, "You know nothing at all, 50 "nor do you consider that it is expedient for us that one man should die for the people, and not that the whole nation should perish." 51 Now this he did not say on his own authority; but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation, 52 and not for that nation only, but also that He would gather together in one the children of God who were scattered abroad. 53 Then, from that day on, they plotted to put Him to death.

The Apostles' Creed

All: 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 Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary; Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; The Holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; The forgiveness of sins; The resurrection of the body; And the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn "Blest Be The Tie That Binds"

1. Blest be the tie that binds
Our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds
Is like to that above.

2. Before our Father's throne
We pour our ardent prayers;
Our fears, our hopes, our alms, are one,
Our comforts and our cares.

3. We share our mutual woes,
Our mutual burdens bear,
And often for each other flows
The sympathizing tear.

4. When here our pathways part,
We suffer bitter pain;
Yet, one in Christ and one in heart,
We hope to meet again.

5. This glorious hope revives
Our courage by the way,
While each in expectation lives
And longs to see the day.

6. From sorrow, toil, and pain,
And sin we shall be free
And perfect love and friendship reign
Through all eternity.

Sermon

Romans 8:11-19 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you. 12 Therefore, brethren, we are debtors; not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. 13 For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. 14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. 15 For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father." 16 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, then heirs; heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together. 18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. 19 For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God.

Theme: GOD'S FAMILY IS SECURE

- I. We are born into it by the Spirit (11-15a)
- II. We live with our dear Father (15b-16)
- III. We are co-heirs with God's Son (17-19)

PRAYERS

O Lord God, almighty and ever-living King of all creation and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, hear our prayers.

We thank You for the matchless gift of Your Son, for the unsearchable wisdom which planned for our redemption through His death in our place, and for the promise of eternal life through His resurrection from the dead.

Our prayers go up to Your throne of grace and mercy in behalf of our homes, our congregations, our nation, and the world in our current pandemic. We ask, that according to Your will, You would provide healing for those who have contracted the virus and that You would soon bring an end to the pandemic. Especially, O Lord, protect the elderly and those who are in particular danger. Guard and defend all our medical personnel who care for the sick. We pray for all our families and friends, and for our fellow believers throughout the CLC and our sister synods overseas.

In these strange and difficult days, let Your love shine through us that we always show selfless genuine care and concern for our neighbor. Govern the nations of the earth, so that people may live everywhere without fear, and in the light of Your saving Gospel. Give Your grace to our homes and schools, that our youth may be trained for usefulness in this life and for entrance into the life which is to come. Bless all who labor with mind or hand in providing the things we need for daily living. Help us to use our gifts as Your stewards, and for Your glory.

We ask these things in the name of Jesus, who also taught us to pray...

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.

The Blessing

Reader : The LORD bless you and keep you.

The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

Group: Amen.

Closing Hymn 648 "I Am Jesus' Little Lamb"

1. I am Jesus' little lamb,
Ever glad at heart I am;
For my Shepherd gently guides me,
Knows my need, and well provides me,
Loves me every day the same,
Even calls me by my name.

2. Day by day, at home, away,
Jesus is my Staff and Stay.
When I hunger, Jesus feeds me,
Into pleasant pastures leads me;
When I thirst, He bids me go
Where the quiet waters flow.

3. Who so happy as I am,
Even now the Shepherd's lamb?
And when my short life is ended,
By His angel host attended,
He shall fold me to His breast,
There within His arms to rest. Amen.