

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church & Christian Preschool

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March 2, 2022



Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship (P=Pastor, C=Congregation)

P: We are formed of the dust.

C: To dust we shall return.

P: This truth is a gift.

C: It reminds us that we are the created, not the Creator.

P: It invites us to trust the One who made us.

C: It puts things back into perspective and reminds us that our ultimate hope is not in the things of this world.

P: Remember you are dust.

All: And to dust we shall return.

Hymn

“Lord Jesus, Think on Me”

#599

1 Lord Je - sus, think on me, and purge a - way my sin;
2 Lord Je - sus, think on me, by anx - ious thoughts op - pressed;
3 Lord Je - sus, think on me, nor let me go a - stray;
4 Lord Je - sus, think on me, that, when the flood is past,
from self - ish pas - sions set me free and make me pure with - in.
let me your lov - ing ser - vant be and taste your prom - ised rest.
through dark - ness and per - plex - i - ty point out your cho - sen way.
I may the e - ter - nal bright - ness see and share your joy at last.

5⁸Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. ²Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God. ³“Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?” Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers. ⁴Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. ⁵Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord? ⁶Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? ⁷Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? ⁸Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. ⁹Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, ¹⁰if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. ¹¹The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. ¹²Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

6“Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven. ²“So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ³But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

5“And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ⁶But whenever 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.

16 ‘And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ¹⁷But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. ¹⁹ ‘Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; ²⁰but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Our sin separates us from a holy and righteous God. Yet, God longs to wrap us in an embrace of forgiveness and love. Therefore, with confidence, we acknowledge that our relationship with God and with each other is not as it should be. Let's pray...

All: Merciful Savior, our best intentions, our most concentrated willpower, and our greatest efforts are no match for the power of sin. We do the very things we do not want to do and fail to do what is good and right and just. We feel guilty and are often exhausted by continually trying to do better and be better. Into this hopeless state of affairs you came, Lord, to do for us what we could not do for ourselves, making right our relationship with God and each other. In faith and gratitude, we place ourselves in your loving and merciful hands, trusting not only in your forgiveness but also in your power to transform us, renew us and set us free.

All are invited to come forward to receive ashes on their foreheads. We do so as a sign of repentance, a remembrance of baptism, and a reminder that God is our ultimate hope.

P: As we draw near to God, God draws near to us. God's mercy restores us and makes us new. These ashes on our foreheads remind us that we are dust. But we wear them in the shape of a cross because we have a savior who makes beautiful things out of dust and beautiful things out of us. In Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven!

All: Amen.

First Communion Blessing

*The Offering
Hymn*

"Be Thou My Vision"

#793



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



nought be all else to me, save that thou art:
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,
Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,
thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

The Communion

The Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer: **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 Distribution

“As the Grains of Wheat”

#465

Refrain

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.
1 As this cup of bless - ing is shared with - in our midst,
2 Let this be a fore - taste of all that is to come when
may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

Refrain

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

#471

Let us break bread together on our knees;
Let us break bread together on our knees; (**Refrain**)

Let us drink wine together on our knees;
Let us drink wine together on our knees; (**Refrain**)

Let us praise God together on our knees;
Let us praise God together on our knees; (**Refrain**)

Refrain: When I fall on my knees,
With my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me

“Just as I am, Without One Plea”

1 Just as I am, with - out one plea, but that thy blood was
2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y a con - flict,
3 Just as I am, thou wilt re - ceive, wilt wel - come, par - don,
4 Just as I am; thy love un - known has bro - ken ev - 'ry

shed for me, and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
man - y a doubt, fight - ings and fears with - in, with - out,
cleanse, re - lieve; be - cause thy prom - ise I be - lieve,
bar - rier down; now to be thine, yea, thine a - lone,

O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

The musical score is written in G minor (one flat) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are printed below the vocal line. The first system contains the first four lines of the hymn. The second system contains the next four lines. The third system contains the final line of the hymn.

Blessing for the Lenten Journey...

- P: Where Christ walks,
C: **we will follow.**
P: Where Christ stumbles,
C: **we will stop.**
P: Where Christ cries,
C: **we will listen.**
P: Where Christ suffers,
C: **we will hurt.**
P: When Christ dies,
C: **we will bow our heads in sorrow.**
P: When Christ rises again in glory,
C: **we will share his beautiful and endless joy.**
P: May God bless you ☩ on your Lenten journey.

1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.
 2 I need thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;
 3 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;
 4 I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
 5 Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes,

The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.
 what but thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?
 earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;
 ills have no weight, and tears no bit - ter - ness.
 shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;

When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
 Who like thy - self my guide and stay can be?
 change and de - cay in all a - round I see;
 Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?
 heav'n's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee;

help of the help - less, oh, a - bide with me.
 Through cloud and sun - shine, oh, a - bide with me.
 O thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.
 I tri - umph still, if thou a - bide with me!
 in life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.