

THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

March 6th, 2022



CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

140 Russell Avenue
St. Catharines, Ontario L2R 1W1
Church: 905-685-8294 Fax 905-685-7661

Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday—9 a.m. – 12 noon
Bulletin Announcements: Please send to secretary@christlutheransc.ca.
Deadline for submission is Thursday at 9 a.m.

Pastor: Pastor Todd Hoeffs (289-362-0113) pastortoddhoeffs@gmail.com
Parish Assistant: Louise Gondosch (905-329-8579) parish.assistant@christlutheransc.ca
Business Manager: Karen McCumber business.manager@christlutheransc.ca
Secretary: Pat Kimpel secretary@christlutheransc.ca
Facebook: Lisa Gall www.facebook.com/ChristLutheranChurchSC
Bulletin by email: Judy Mason chairman.outreach@christlutheransc.ca

Prayer: O Almighty and Eternal God, we implore You to direct, sanctify, and govern our hearts and bodies in the ways of Your laws and the works of Your commandments that through Your mighty protection, both now and ever, we may be preserved in body and in soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR UKRAINE:

Gracious God, Faithful Father, what men create for evil You can bend toward good. Curb the aggression and impulses to control through destruction. Spare lives in body, mind & soul. Comfort children and all the vulnerable through your own presence there in the face of those called upon to help & protect. Support, sustain & give courage to our own soldiers who work with NATO forces. May all pathways remain safe, allow peace, safety & normalcy to be restored, and grant all homecomings be joyful. We pray in the trust & hope that you hear & answer us, through the precious life-saving name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Organist: Louise Gondosch
Readers: 9 a.m. —Don Fretz; 11 a.m. — Howard Bogusat

Children’s Message: **Psalm 91:2** <https://youtu.be/DLXSIujcEqc>

MEMORIZING SCRIPTURE: We know each of us should all be working to memorize God's Word! You are invited to listen to our Children's Messages where we are focusing on understanding and memorizing a Psalm verse each week. This week is Psalm 91: 2.

Organist: Louise Gondosch
Readers: 9 a.m. —Don Fretz; 11 a.m. — Howard Bogusat

DAILY SCRIPTURE MEDITATIONS:

Monday: Jas. 4: 1-10 Wed.: Heb. 4: 14-16 Friday: Matt. 16: 21-28
Tuesday: Jas. 1: 1318 Thurs: Heb. 12: 1-7 Saturday: Matt. 12: 38-42



MID-WEEK LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

begins Wednesday, MARCH 9th and continues every Wednesday from 7-8 pm until Easter.

Led by Pastor Todd in the church sanctuary
Materials will be provided ahead of time.

***"LIFT HIGH THE CROSS -- Jesus' Focus For Our Freedom:
A Lenten Journey Through Matthew's Gospel account of the Passion."***

WHY WE WORSHIP— YouTube Midweek Messages on “Gathering the Scattered”. Gathering the hopes and dreams of all. Pastor Todd explains the parts of our worship services and shares why we worship as we do.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME: Make sure you turn your clocks ahead one hour next Sunday, March 13th!!!

WORSHIP NOTE:

- A recording of Sunday's service will be uploaded to YouTube – "Gathering the Scattered" at: (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3a4p6prdJGEyP5S-q-cNSg>).
- A PDF version of the order of service for each Sunday will also be posted on our church website: christlutheransc.ca.
- Archived videos of Sunday's service will be uploaded to christlutheransc.ca – "Worship" page.

Any questions or concerns, please check out our church website (<http://christlutheransc.ca/>), contact Judy Slingerland (chairman.worship@christlutheransc.ca) or Pastor Todd (pastortoddhoeffs@gmail.com). or phone the church office (905-685-8294). May the peace of the risen Lord be with you all.

UPDATE – COVID 19 PROTOCOL: we ask that everyone remain diligent in monitoring themselves for fever, cold and flu-like symptoms, and if any of the symptoms are present, to please refrain from attending in-person services. Services will continue to be available on-line and in the bulletin.

If you are attending worship services or meetings, please continue to:

- ✓ Wear a mask (*covering both mouth and nose at all times*)
- ✓ Sanitize your hands frequently



NIAGARA ZONE LWML-C LENTEN PRAYER SERVICE

Sunday, March 6th, 3:00 p.m.

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

15 Wexford Street South

HAMILTON, ONTARIO

OFFERING FOR MEDICAL MISSIONS

REMEMBER TO SEND IN YOUR NOMINATIONS FOR EXECUTIVES FOR THE MAY RALLY

All are Welcome to Come!!

LWMLC/MARY MARTHA SOCIETY: Tuesday, March 15, 7 p.m. Please join us for a presentation from Gateway: Residential and Community Support Services. We will also be making Easter Cards to show our care to our shut ins.

LWML-Canada, Ontario District, Niagara Zone, is hosting our District Convention in St. Catharines at Grace Lutheran Church (accommodation at Niagara College) on June 9 to 11th, 2022. More details will follow. If at all possible, please plan to attend. It is a wonderful time to get to know and renew friendships with our sisters in Christ from around the province! It is a time to focus on "**Joy, Patience, Prayer**" which is the theme of the Convention. (Romans 12:12) *Our Seminary Student Eduardo Farias and his wife Daniella will be our wonderful entertainment for Friday evening!*



THE MARY MARTHA is collecting items for Medical Missions that they will take to the Ingathering at the LWML District Convention this coming June, we invite everyone to help by adding items to the container sitting on the Narthex Table. Below is a list of supplies which Medical Missions use on an ongoing basis. Please ensure that you check expire dates to ensure that the dates are well into the future:

- Antibiotic Ointment (Polysporin, etc.)
- Vicks VapoRub
- Tylenol, Advil, Acetaminophen for Adults and Children
- Disposable Gloves
- Vitamins for Adults and Children
- Zinc Oxide/Diaper Rash Cream
- Antihistamines – Benadryl
- Q-Tips
- Voltarin (Arthritic Ointment)
- Band Aids/Adhesive Tape
- ACE Elastic Bandages

Monetary Gifts made out to "LWML Ontario District Medical Missions". Everything appreciated with Thanks!

Women's Bible Study: We hope you will consider joining us in person, **March 25, April 8, April 22 at 7:00 p.m.** or watch this study entitled "**Table Talks**" yourself at rightnowmedia.org. Have you ever thought about the central role the table plays in the lives of Christians? The Bible is full of references about food, drink, eating, and fellowship. Jesus knew the power of the table and used it to teach and embody truth about himself. When we sit down for a meal with others, we get to know them better while we nourish our bodies and souls. In

this seven-session series, complete with simple yet delicious recipes, Bianca Juárez Olthoff leads us through Jesus' interactions around the table, inspiring us to invite people into our homes, open the Word of God, and break bread together.

“Easter Pancake Breakfast”: Please join us Sunday, April 17 9:45 to 10:45 a.m.

LUTHERAN CHURCH - CANADA NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING:

Lutheran Young people from across Canada will be gathering together this **July 15-19, 2022 in Winnipeg, Manitoba**. The theme for the gathering is **"IN NOT OF"** from Philippians 3:20 "But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Saviour, The Lord Jesus Christ." Information packages are available from Louise. Save the date, check out the website at <http://www.lccnyg.ca>, start following the Facebook and Instagram pages and check out this fun announcement from Pastor Glenn Worcester <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=68gXVYofMYY>

<i>Last Sunday Attendance: Feb. 27th, 2022 Attn: 9 A.M. – 57; 11 A.M. – 48; Total: 105</i>					
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Weekly Need</u>	<u>Last Sunday</u>	<u>Year To Date</u>	<u>+ or – (-)</u>
Current:			1,452.00	28,263.11	
LCC Missions			93.00	2,075.00	
Property Improvement:			132.00	925.00	

GREETERS: - What a wonderful way to get to know everyone in the congregation and at the same time enjoy a little fellowship! Greet members at the door, encourage hand sanitizing and provide them with a copy of the Bulletin and Worship Folder. It's as easy as that! A sign-up sheet has been posted on the bulletin board and everyone is encouraged to sign up.

EXTRA HANDS & BODIES NEEDED: With COVID-19 still a concern, and now the Omicron virus, we will continually need extra people assisting in our services. With offering both 9 am and 11 am services, we are finding ourselves short staffed of volunteers. Particularly for the late service, we need your help in the following areas:

- 1) Greeting of Worshippers at entrance and Covid Protocol Preparation of our PowerPoint worship services [editing the Google Doc Slides, can be done at home]
- 2) Operation of the PowerPoint during church services [training with written instruction will be provided]
- 3) Taking a turn preparing the Altar for Communion and seasonal colour cloth changes [Altar Guild]
- 4) Ushering people to pew seats and directing people to line up for communion
- 5) Lighting and extinguishing of altar candles

Recording services using newly installed equipment [training with written instructions will be provided] We pray that you consider helping. We need participation from all ages. Should you wish more information about what is involved, please speak to Judy Slingerland, Tom Kuhl or Pastor Todd.

MEMORIAL DONATIONS have been given in memory of Josie Knoll to Christ Lutheran Church by Debbie & Bill Dolha; and to the Mary Martha by John & Erna Mewhinney.

Victim Services Award of Distinction: Retired Niagara Regional Police Services Deputy Chief **Frank Parkhouse** has been named a 2021/22 recipient of the Ontario Government's 'Victim Services Awards of Distinction'. Given annually by the province's Attorney General, the awards recognize the dedication and creativity of 16 professionals and volunteers from across Ontario who serve people who have experienced victimization due to crime and the courageous efforts of individuals who have been personally impacted by crime and are now working to raise the profile of victims' issues in the province. Parkhouse, a founding and current board member of the Kristen French Child Advocacy Centre in St. Catharines, as well as a long-time board member at Family and Children's Services Niagara, was part of the Green Ribbon Task Force that investigated the murders of Kristen French and Leslie Mahaffy in the early 1990s. *"These awards are an expression of our enduring appreciation of Ontarians' exceptional achievements in service to victims of crime," said Attorney General Doug Downey. "I offer my sincere congratulations to each recipient of the 2021-22 Victim Services Awards of Distinction, as well as the teams, networks of support and the communities they represent."*

LUTHERAN CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

March 6th, 2022 + 9 AM Worship

FIRST SONG:

“On Eagles’ Wings”

LSB # 727



1 You who dwell in the shel-ter of the Lord, Who a -
2 snare of the fowl - er will nev - er cap-ture you, And
3 You need not fear the ter - ror of the night, Nor the
4 For to His an - gels He's giv - en a com-mand To



bide in His shad - ow for life,
fam - ine will bring you no fear;
ar - row that flies by day; Though
guard you in all of your ways; Up -



Say to the Lord: “My ref - uge, My
Un - der His wings your ref - uge, His
thou - sands fall a - bout you,
on their hands they will bear you up, Lest you



rock in whom I trust!”
faith - ful - ness your shield.
Near you it shall not come.
dash your foot a - gainst a stone.

Refrain



And He will raise you up on ea - gles' wings,



Bear you on the breath of dawn, Make you to shine like the



sun, And hold you in the palm of His hand. 2 The

Text: Michael Joncas, b. 1951
Tune: Michael Joncas, b. 1951

— and more © OCP Publications

ON EAGLES' WINGS
Irregular meter

Ps. 91:1-12; 103:5

CONFESSION:

In the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

PRAYER FOR CONFESSION:

Father of mercies and Good of all consolation, come to the aid of Your people,

Turning us from our sin to live for You alone.

Give us the power of Your Holy Spirit,

That we may attend to Your Word, confess our sins, receive Your forgiveness,

And grow into the fullness of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord and Redeemer.

Amen.

CONFESSING WITH THE COMMANDMENTS:

The Ten Commandments reveal to us the severity of our sin, for they call us to love God with our whole being and love our neighbours as ourselves.

You shall have no other gods.

We confess that we put other things above our fear, love, and trust in God.

You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.

We confess that we do not call upon His name in every trouble, nor do we always pray, praise, and give thanks to God for all that we have.

Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.

We confess that we do not always hold it sacred and gladly hear and keep God's Word.

Honour your father and your mother.

We confess that we do not always honour them, serve and obey them, love and cherish them, nor others in authority over us.

You shall not commit adultery.

We confess that we are not pure in all we say and do, and we do not always love and honour our spouses nor avoid desires of the flesh.

You shall not steal.

We confess that we do not always help our neighbours to improve and protect their possessions and income. We also have not shared our possessions and income with all those in need.

You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

We confess that we do not always defend our neighbours, or speak well of them, or explain everything in the kindest way.

You shall not covet.

We confess that we do not always help our neighbours keep their property and family relationships.

For all of our thoughts, words and actions, sinful things known and unknown to us, whereby we have brought offence to You, O Father, and to one another, we are truly sorry and seek mercy, forgiveness and newness of life. Amen.

Almighty God in His Mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake, forgives you all of your sins. Through His Holy Spirit He cleanses you and gives you the power to proclaim the mighty deeds of God who has called all of us out of darkness and into the splendour of His Light. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all of your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

LENTEN CONFESSION SONG: "Change My Heart, O God"

Eddie Esponosa

The musical score is written in 4/4 time and consists of six staves of music. The lyrics are: "Change my heart, Oh God make it ev-er true. Change my heart, Oh God may I be like You. You are the pot-ter I am the clay mold me and make -me, this is what I pray. Change my heart, Oh God make it ev-er true. Change my heart, Oh God may I be like You." The score includes various chords such as Cmaj7, Dm7, G, E7, Am, Am/G, D, and G7. It also features musical notations like slurs, accents, and dynamic markings like 'D.C. al Fine' and 'Fine'.

em.saemoonan.org/mboard/mboard/mboard.asp?exe=view&csno=&board_id=board02&group_name=sem&idx_num=85&page=17&search_category=&search_word=&category=0&order_c=d

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

We pray: O Lord God, You led Your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that following Your Son, we may safely walk through the wilderness of this world toward the life You alone can give. We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

READINGS:

Old Testament: Deuteronomy 26: 1-11

When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, 'Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us.' When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, you shall make this response before the Lord your God: 'A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labour on us, we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The Lord

brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me.' You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house. This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Epistle: *Romans 10:8b-13*

[St. Paul writes:] "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

LENTEN GOSPEL SONG: *"Near The Cross"*

**Jesus, keep me near the cross, there a precious fountain;
Free to all, a healing stream, flows from Calv'ry's mountain.**

***Refrain:* In the cross, in the cross
Be my glory ever, 'till my ransomed soul shall find
Rest beyond the river.**

Fanny Crosby, 1869, public domain

Holy Gospel: *St. Luke 4:1-13*

The Holy Gospel, according to St. Luke, the 4th chapter:

Glory to You, O Lord.

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.' Jesus answered him, 'It is written, "One does not live by bread alone."' Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, 'To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.' Jesus answered him, 'It is written, "Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him."' Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you", and "On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone."' Jesus answered him, 'It is said, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test."' When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time. This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ!

APOSTLES' CREED:

God has made us His people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess the faith.

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.

GOSPEL SONG: **The Way Is Low**

Robin Mann

♩ = 102

G Em C Dsus

1. Low, — the way is low with the Man the an - gels praise.
 2. See — the glo - ry road, He was temp - ted by it too.
 3. When — our time is gone we will see the great new day.

5 G Em C Dsus D

He — who spoke the sky was a ba - by dressed in hay. We are com -
 But — He set HIS course with Je - ru - sa - lem in view.
 Till — that day ap - pears, all we know is Je - sus' way.

9 G^{sus} G E^{2sus} Em C⁶

-pan - ions of — the One whose name is love, — we share His life as we

12 D^{sus} D G^{sus} G E^{sus} Em

grow. We car - ry Je - sus' death — with each and ev - 'ry breath, — our hope is

15 Cm6 Dsus D G Em

high, the way is low.

18 C Dsus C D Cm6 Dsus D G

MESSAGE

PRAYERS:

Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth, thank you for your selfless love expressed in creation, and thank you for your ongoing commitment to our hurting world. Help us use the talents we have to serve you well, as stewards of your good world. Bring to an end all abuse of your world and of the people you have made. Preserve the earth from natural and man-made disaster, and bless it with good seasonable weather.

Let us pray to the Lord; **Lord, have mercy.**

Be with all your people in times of trouble and temptation, and remind us that our real life is with Christ. Give courage and hope to those who want to give up on life or who are afraid of the future. Help us provide for hungry or homeless, for lost and lonely, and all who cry out for help.

Let us pray to the Lord; **Lord, have mercy.**

Relieve all who are coping with sickness, pain, and any who are suffering in mind, body and spirit. Give your peace and patience to those awaiting surgery or to hear the results of medical tests. Support all those we know personally.....

Let us pray to the Lord; **Lord, have mercy.**

Support all science, medicine, academics and places of learning. Protect all who are in places of danger or distress, especially where war or disaster threatens life and property. Instill mercy in the hearts and conversations of all world leaders. Bless our own land and her governing body. Defend all Christians who are persecuted and harassed for the faith. May we in our lives overcome all evil through the gift of Christ Who endured suffering for the life of this world.

Let us pray to the Lord; **Lord, have mercy.**

Watch over us in this Lenten season O God, and draw us closer to our suffering Saviour. Strengthen those who are weak in the faith, who struggle through doubts, and guide those who are preparing for baptism and the public confession of baptismal faith.

Let us pray to the Lord; **Lord, have mercy.**

Finally, humbly voicing our concerns together as one:

O God our Father, by the cross of Your Son You reconciled the world to Yourself, enabling us to live in love and harmony. We thank and praise You for the forgiveness of sins and the precious gift of peace. Help us forgive each other and all others and to establish truth and harmony throughout the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach 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. 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

BLESSING:

Let us praise the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Almighty God, Father, Son + and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

The Lord has made you free! Go in peace!

Thanks be to God!

LAST SONG:

“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light:

Refrain

***Take my hand, precious Lord,
Lead me home.***

When my way grows drear, precious Lord, linger near,
When my life is almost gone,
Hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall:

Refrain

***Take my hand, precious Lord,
Lead me home.***

When the darkness appears and the night draws near,
And the day is past and gone,
At the river I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand:

Refrain

***Take my hand, precious Lord,
Lead me home.***

Thomas Dorsey, 1942

<http://www.hymntime.com/tch/htm/p/l/t/m/pltmhand.htm>

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Lutheran Service Book Setting One

March 6, 2022 + 11 AM Worship

OPENING HYMN:

"Jesus Refuge of the Weary"

LSB # 42



1 Je - sus, ref - uge of the wea - ry, Blest re - deem - er, whom we love,
2 Do we pass that cross un - heed - ing, Breath - ing no re - pen - tant vow,
3 Je - sus, may our hearts be burn - ing With more fer - vent love for you;



Foun - tain in life's des - ert drea - ry, Sav - ior from the world a - bove:
Though we see you wound - ed, bleed - ing, See your thorn - en - cir - cled brow?
May our eyes be ev - er turn - ing To be - hold your cross a - new



Of - ten have your eyes, of - fend - ed, Gazed up - on the sin - ner's fall;
Yet your sin - less death has brought us Life e - ter - nal, peace, and rest;
Till in glo - ry, part - ed nev - er From the bless - ed Sav - ior's side,



Yet up - on the cross ex - tend - ed, You have borne the pain of all.
On - ly what your grace has taught us Calms the sin - ner's deep dis - tress.
Grav - en in our hearts for - ev - er, Dwell the cross, the Cru - ci - fied.

*Text: Girolamo Savonarola, 1452-98; tr. Jane F. Wilde, 1826-96, alt.
Tune: Herrnhut, c. 1735*

O DU LIEBE MEINER LIEBE
87 87 D

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

But if we confess our sins, God, Who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

[Brief silence for reflection]

Let us then confess our sins to God our Father:

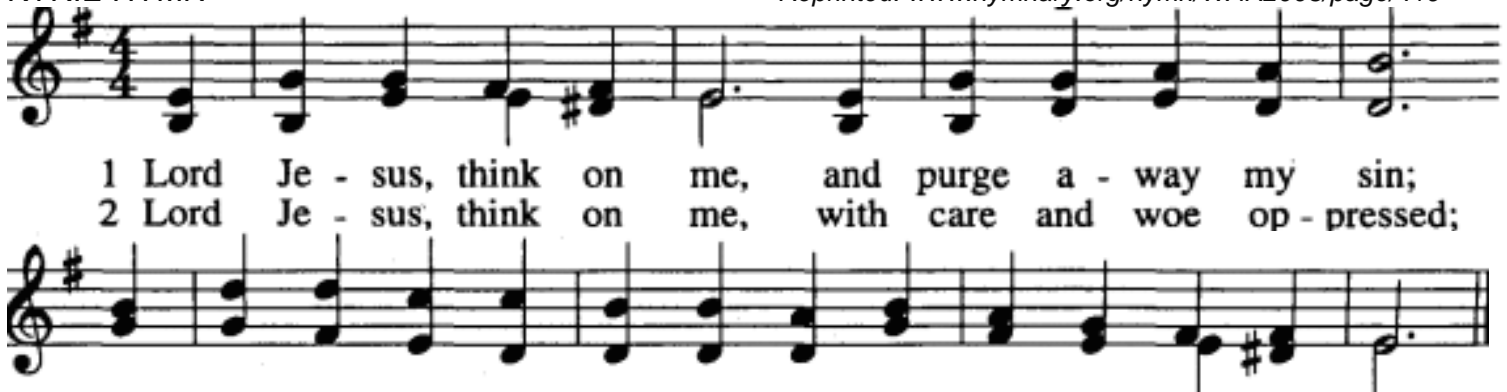
Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present 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.

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake, forgives you all of your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

KYRIE HYMN

Reprinted: www.hymnary.org/hymn/WAR2003/page/419



1 Lord Je - sus, think on me, and purge a - way my sin;
2 Lord Je - sus, think on me, with care and woe op - pressed;

from earth-born 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.

WORDS: Synesius of Cyrene (ca. 375-430); tr. Allen W. Chatfield (1808-1896)
MUSIC: William Damon's Psalms, 1579

SOUTHWELL
S.M.

GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you:

And also with you.

Let us pray: O Lord God, You led Your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that following Your Son, we may safely walk through the wilderness of this world toward the life You alone can give. We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

THE READINGS:

Old Testament: *Deuteronomy 26: 1-11*

When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, 'Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us.' When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God, you shall make this response before the LORD your God: 'A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labour on us, we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me.' You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Epistle: *Romans 10:8b-13*

[St. Paul writes:] "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SUNG LENTEN GOSPEL VERSE:

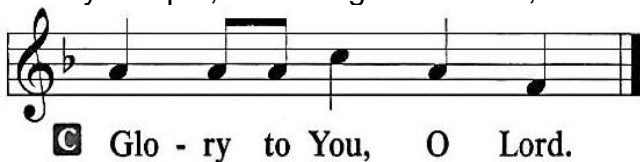
LSB tune # 157



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for He is gra-cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a-bound-ing in
stead-fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

Holy Gospel: *St. Luke 4:1-13*

The Holy Gospel, according to St. Luke, the 4th chapter:



Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.' Jesus answered him, 'It is written, "One does not live by bread alone."' Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, 'To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.' Jesus answered him, 'It is written, "Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him."'

Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you", and "On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone."' Jesus answered him, 'It is said, "Do not put the Lord your God to the test."' When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

THE APOSTLES' CREED:

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. On 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.

HYMN OF THE DAY: "Jesus Still Lead On"

www.hymnary.org/ELW424

1 Je - sus, still lead on, till our rest be won; and, al-though the
 2 If the way be drear, if the foe be near, let no faith-less
 3 When we seek re - lief from a long-felt grief, when temp-ta - tions
 4 Je - sus, still lead on, till our rest be won; heav'n-ly lead - er,

way be cheer - less, we will fol - low, calm and fear - less;
 fears o'er - take us, let not faith and hope for - sake us;
 come al - lur - ing make us pa - tient and en - dur - ing;
 still di - rect us, still sup - port, con - sole, pro - tect us,

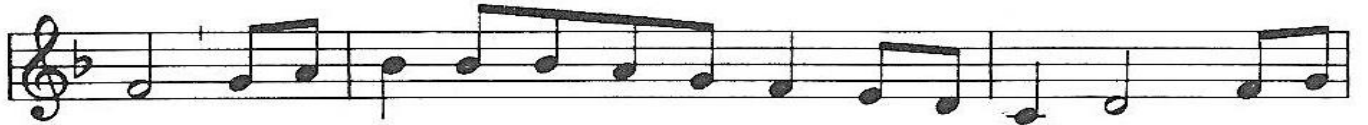
guide us by your hand to the prom - ised land.
 safe - ly past the foe to our home we go.
 show us that bright shore where we weep no more.
 till we safe - ly stand in the prom - ised land.

MESSAGE

LENTEN CANTICLE: *"What Shall I Render?"*



What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all his ben - e - fits to



me? I will of - fer the sac - ri - fice of thanks-giv - ing and will



call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal -



va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my



vows to the Lord now in the pres - ence of all his peo - ple, in the



courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

PRAYERS:

Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth, thank you for your selfless love expressed in creation, and thank you for your ongoing commitment to our hurting world. Help us use the talents we have to serve you well, as stewards of your good world. Bring to an end all abuse of your world and of the people you have made. Preserve the earth from natural and man-made disaster, and bless it with good seasonable weather.

Let us pray to the Lord; **Lord, have mercy.**

Be with all your people in times of trouble and temptation, and remind us that our real life is with Christ. Give courage and hope to those who want to give up on life or who are afraid of the future. Help us provide for hungry or homeless, for lost and lonely, and all who cry out for help.

Let us pray to the Lord; **Lord, have mercy.**

Relieve all who are coping with sickness, pain, and any who are suffering in mind, body and spirit. Give your peace and patience to those awaiting surgery or to hear the results of medical tests. Support all those we know personally.....

Let us pray to the Lord; **Lord, have mercy.**

Support all science, medicine, academics and places of learning. Protect all who are in places of danger or distress, especially where war or disaster threatens life and property. Instill mercy in the hearts and conversations of all world leaders. Bless our own land and her governing body. Defend all Christians who are persecuted and harassed for the faith. May we in our lives overcome all evil through the gift of Christ Who endured suffering for the life of this world.

Let us pray to the Lord; **Lord, have mercy.**

Watch over us in this Lenten season O God, and draw us closer to our suffering Saviour. Strengthen those who are weak in the faith, who struggle through doubts, and guide those who are preparing for baptism and the public confession of baptismal faith.

Let us pray to the Lord; **Lord, have mercy.**

Finally, humbly voicing our concerns together as one:

O God our Father, by the cross of Your Son You reconciled the world to Yourself, enabling us to live in love and harmony. We thank and praise You for the forgiveness of sins and the precious gift of peace. Help us forgive each other and all others and to establish truth and harmony throughout the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach 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. 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: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favour, + and give you peace. **Amen.**



1 You who dwell in the shel-ter of the Lord, Who a -
 2 snare of the fowl - er will nev - er cap-ture you, And
 3 You need not fear the ter - ror of the night, Nor the
 4 For to His an - gels He's giv - en a com-mand To



bide in His shad - ow for life,
 fam - ine will bring you no fear;
 ar - row that flies by day; Though
 guard you in all of your ways; Up -



Say to the Lord: "My ref - uge, My
 Un - der His wings your ref - uge, His
 thou - sands fall a - bout you,
 on their hands they will bear you up, Lest you



rock in whom I trust!"
 faith - ful - ness your shield.
 Near you it shall not come.
 dash your foot a - gainst a stone.

Refrain



And He will raise you up on ea - gles' wings,



Bear you on the breath of dawn, Make you to shine like the



sun, And hold you in the palm of His hand. 2 The

REV. TODD HOEFFS

LENT 1

Scripture: St. Luke 4:2-13

March 6, 2022

“Jesus’ Highs and Lows”

Humanity has an identity crisis. Social media is a constant barometer of identity and how we are perceived by others. There’s a pervasive restlessness, an undercurrent of dissatisfaction, an attitude that we can know everything and at the same time know nothing. What to do, who to be, how to achieve goals What exactly do we see when we look in the mirror? Does this really inform us of who we are? This is an area I have spent a good deal of time discussing with our youth catechism students. Identity. It’s so easy getting lost, even in our own minds. No matter what we do, or where we go, we always belong to God. That blessed baptismal identify is the heart and soul of who we are as Jesus’ Body in the world. And it doesn’t take long before friends or employers or future life partners Question that identity. How critical it is to know oneself [not to perseverate in a selfish way] But in a healthy, careful manner—To trust that God is true when He makes us His own. As true as He is about His own Son’s identity as our Saviour. Jesus is the Beloved. With Whom God is well-pleased. Jesus is the one who will bring salvation to all. He doesn’t have to do anything or refrain from doing anything for this to be true. This is simply Who He is. It’s no accident, then, that the temptations Jesus encounters are aimed at making him question that identity. Jesus has practically just stepped out of the Jordan river water having been baptized by John for humanity’s good. The Holy Spirit leads Jesus into this wilderness place for Satan to tempt. Seeking to crack Jesus’ foundation. IF YOU ARE THE SON OF GOD...It’s not about stones and bread. It’s about who Jesus is. Each time the devil approaches Jesus, the temptations are for him to be less than who he is. He is tempted to demonstrate his power over others, instead of his solidarity with them. He is tempted to go out on a limb and hope for God’s intervention rather than trusting in God’s promises. The choices aren’t between right and wrong, but between what comes naturally and what is holy.

Alone in the wilderness, the devil has a great opportunity to prove God’s all wrong about His BELOVED. That He’s just like all other people. OR WORSE. That somehow He’ll EASILY crumble under the heat and the hunger and the testing. Temptation reminds us of the little red devil with pitchfork in hand sitting on one shoulder, pushing us to cheat or lie or steal; While the little angel with a halo and wings try to coax us into only doing good. But it’s never like that is it?!

Sometimes evil is easily identified, such as when a crazed shooter with endless rounds of ammo murder children in their schools. Or Putin’s selfish and senseless move against Ukraine, devastating life of all ages. But more often than not, evil presents itself in the guise of an angel of light, much like Satan tempting Jesus. You don’t have to starve—just turn the stones to bread. You want the people to believe who you are—Just step off the temple, the angels will catch you, and the people will be dazzled. You want to be lord of creation, I will give it all to you if you worship me. Subtle, crafty, on the surface, quite logical, but the price needed is the human soul. All of humanity would be thrown away if Jesus bit for the devils bargains. Satan challenges to us just as he did Jesus: “If you are a child of God ... Just stop trying so hard. Let go of your desire to love at all costs and in all circumstances.

Take care of #1 for a change. You’ve lived 2 years going without – let yourself go, indulge, its fine, do what feels good. This will allow yourself to be less than who you are called to be.”

Every day the Holy Spirit leads you into the wilderness, where you're pulled in all kinds of directions. Usually, it's anything that you find a trigger. To anger, or fear, isolate, or fall off any wagon you should be on. They could be your hot buttons no one should press. Your weaknesses, vulnerabilities, shortcomings, insecurities, patterns of not so great behavior or thoughts. We may discover that the real problems in life are not 'outside influences' but our own hearts, our own motives, our own ideas.

Will you love your neighbor as yourself? Will you love the Lord, your God, with your heart, soul and mind? Like our Lord, you, too, are hungry. You may not have everything that you need, or at least it may *feel* like you don't have everything that you need.

Rather than trusting that God will provide and care for us, we hoard or overspend or test God by sinning carelessly and making Him pick up the pieces of your own mess.

Identity. To Whom do we REALLY belong? God always makes the first move.

Before we do anything wrong and before we do anything right, God has named and claimed us as His own. But almost immediately other things try to tell us who we are to whom we belong: The future, glamorous images we see on our screens, people we don't even know, our parents, bosses, kids at school—they all have a go at telling us who we are. But only God can do that. Everything else is temptation.. So if God's first move is to give us our identity, then the devil's first move is to throw that identity into question.

Fear not, God knows you, and what's more, knows you better than anyone could.

And loves you in spite of it all. He also knows your neighbor needs you. He knows that every day you have opportunity to love, to show mercy to the loveless and the unloved. You have opportunity time and time again to rejoice in the good the Lord your God has given you. You show mercy to those around you, be they friend or foe, neighbor or enemy. You have opportunity to rejoice and give mercy, because Your God has shown mercy to you. Mercy and grace is all wrapped up in who you are, too. The biggest temptation at the core of all that tests we face is: maybe God WILL ONE Day not help us and leave us all alone and we'll be sitting targets for all kinds of suffering in life.

Do you doubt God's existence, or His love, because He won't show you what you want to see or do what you want Him to do? Do you demand that God prove His love for you? Jesus knows this feeling too! He knows what it's like to be tempted to not believe God when He says that He cares for us and loves us more than anything. Jesus' in the wilderness, of course, recalls the sojourn of the Israelites after being led out of slavery in Egypt. Likewise, Jesus being in the wilderness for 40 days recalls the 40 years of the Israelites' wanderings. Like the Israelites, Jesus will be hungry. Luke pointedly tells us that he did not eat during those 40 days. Jesus is revamping the history of Israel – making SALVATION IN HIM PRIME IMPORTANCE & THE COMPLETION OF GOD'S PLAN TO SAVE THE WORLD.

Satan starts out small. Just one loaf of bread. Jesus is hungry, and He'll soon feed 5,000 in the wilderness with bread and fish. What's one loaf? In this case, Jesus would only be feeding himself.

He doesn't transcend his hunger. He embraces it. He empties Himself that we who are empty will be filled up with His life and presence! Once the bread test fails, Satan chooses worldly power – the past, present, and future—and says that they belong to him to give to whomever he wishes.

(Keep in mind: The devil is a liar. The world does not belong to the devil, but to God.)

Gospel writer Luke gives a Greek word *for the world which specifically means "the inhabited world."*

It's an official term used by Greeks, then Romans, to describe their political kingdom.

They ruled the inhabited world, while the barbarians were left with the dregs. It's like Luke slamming the Romans here. Who made an entire empire on destroying people's lives and identities.

Jesus might have seen all the kingdoms ever, but the current ruler of "all the world" is Caesar Augustus (2:1). Maybe Luke is saying that the current ruler of the *inhabited world is on the devil's side*? Well, Jesus responds by a summarization of Deuteronomy 6: 12-14:

"You will worship the Lord your God and him only will you serve".

Jesus is very dismissive of the devil. He's not there to negotiate. But overcome evil with GOOD.

The final temptation is for religious power. Expecting Jesus to jump off the Temple and have angels take him up. Jesus again fights back with scripture—"You will not tempt the Lord your God" (Dt. 6:12)—

The devil goes and returns at an "opportune time..." Which is not historical time, but GOD'S TIMING.

The devil will return when GOD'S PLAN is in full swing and Satan will fall right into His trap.

Which is Calvary's cross. Satan will prod Judas Iscariot, setting in motion the last days of Jesus' Passion. Satan is there in the Garden of Gethsemane telling Jesus that He shouldn't die.

He's in the crowds before Pilate, encouraging them to release Barabbas and crucify Jesus. And He remains at the foot of the cross speaking through the religious leaders and the soldiers who mockingly cry out, "If you're the Chosen One save yourself!

If you're the Son of God, come down off the cross and then we'll believe in you!"

Jesus could've come down. He could've walked away. He knows Who He is. He didn't need that cross or pain or suffering. And yet even in His death He is so faithful and focused on saving us and this world: As Paul says, "He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross." The bleeding, dying Jesus Lived and breathed the first commandment: putting his whole confidence in nothing and no one other than God.

He is truly GOD'S BELOVED. And we are GOD'S BELOVED in Jesus. It's God's plan, to fully empty the devil of his control and sentence him to eternal hell. The devil loses and Jesus wins! And in Him you all win! We know who we are. Because of Christ we are not the sum of our failures. There are times you've stood your ground and actually resisted 'TEMPTATION' because we know WHO WE ARE in Christ! God doesn't give us a Heavenly pass or fail on our temptations. We learn the truth about how we see ourselves. We learn the truth about the direction our life who we are in Christ. This learning is neither easy nor pain free but it is the necessary learning by which our Lord reshapes and transforms our life. Because we are not left ALONE.

God sends you out led by the same spirit to love Him by loving those around you. *Giving of your bread to those in need, trusting that your Father will provide for you.* Jesus Christ has conquered it all. We are baptized in the same Spirit that led Jesus in the wilderness. We are tried and tested and tempted and given a way out. THE WAY out. In Jesus. Without His aid, without His continual presence and word and Bread and Wine and forgiveness – we'd be lost.

We don't always get an immediate escape, but we do have companionship, when the road gets hard. We pray that our true identity as God's beloved children would echo in our hearts over and over again, that we would know in our deepest core what Jesus has already said, in every way possible: "I'm right here with you, now and forever."

The late German Lutheran pastor, Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote a little book titled, "Temptation."

He says, 'The Bible tells only two temptation stories, the temptation of the Adam and the temptation of Christ...so either the Adam in me is tempted, in which case we are bound to fall. Or the Christ in me is tempted, in which case Satan is bound to fall.'

[BILLY GRAHAM STORY]

Your identity is sealed by the Holy Spirit.

You belong to God

And Christ lives in you.

He is Living Bread and real power and perfect strength you can rely on --

Giving you real purpose --

Shaping and forging your identity

That you can trust in God's plan to keep you in His Son no matter where the Spirit leads you.

Amen.

The Forty Days of Lent Activity and Colouring Page Calendar

40 DAYS OF LENT

1 ASH WEDNESDAY

2

3

4 1ST SUNDAY

5

6

7

8

9

10

11 2ND SUNDAY

12

13

14

15

16 3RD SUNDAY

17

18

19

20

21

22

23 4TH SUNDAY

24

25

26

27

28 5TH SUNDAY

29

30

31

32

33

34

35 PALM SUNDAY

36

37

38 HOLY THURSDAY

39 GOOD FRIDAY

40 HOLY SATURDAY

EASTER SUNDAY !!

© TheCatholicKid.com