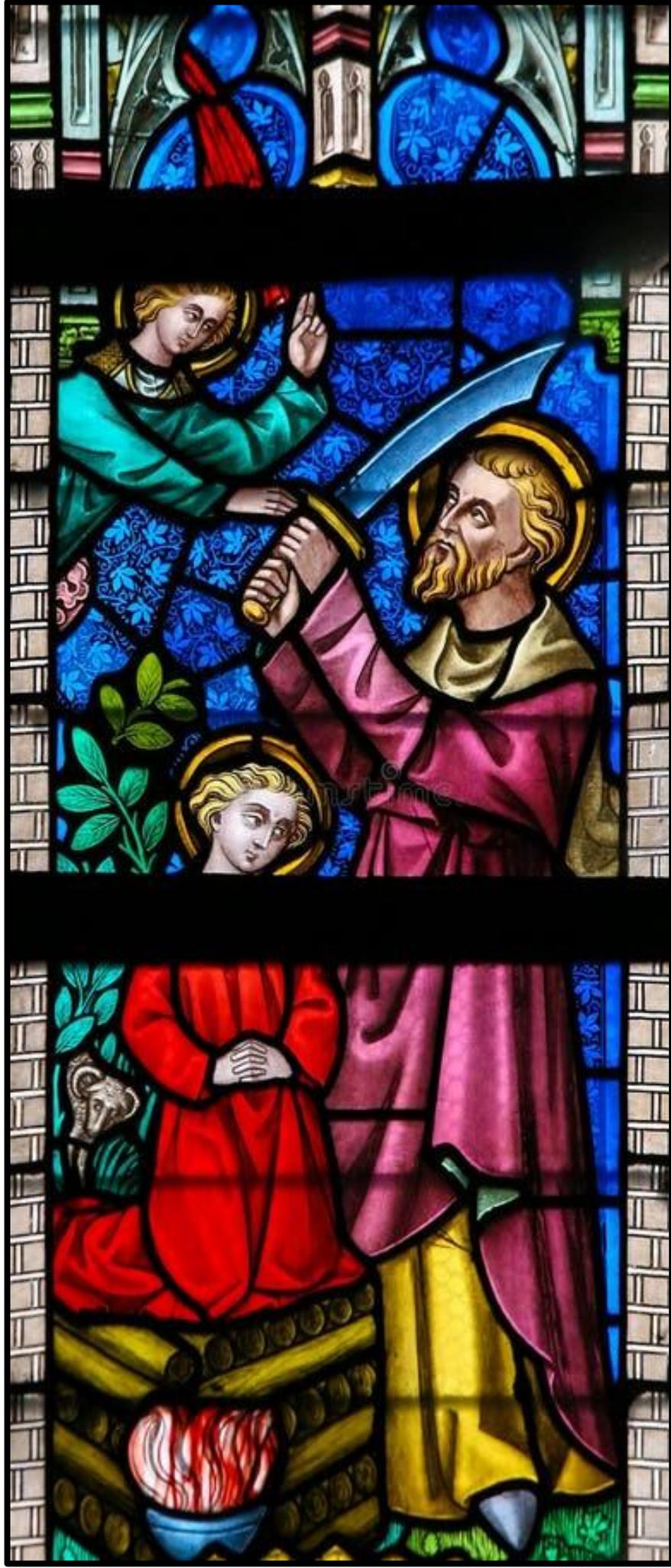


Passiontide

MARCH 22, 2026 • SUNDAY • 10:00 A.M.

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT (JUDICA)



BY FAITH ABRAHAM, WHEN HE WAS TESTED, OFFERED UP ISAAC, AND HE WHO HAD RECEIVED THE PROMISES WAS IN THE ACT OF OFFERING UP HIS ONLY SON, OF WHOM IT WAS SAID, "THROUGH ISAAC SHALL YOUR OFFSPRING BE NAMED." HE CONSIDERED THAT GOD WAS ABLE EVEN TO RAISE HIM FROM THE DEAD, FROM WHICH, FIGURATIVELY SPEAKING, HE DID RECEIVE HIM BACK.

- HEBREWS 11:17-19

DIVINE SERVICE – SETTING THREE

“Our churches are falsely accused of abolishing the Mass. The Mass is held among us and celebrated with the highest reverence. Nearly all the usual ceremonies are also preserved.” - Augsburg Confession. Article XXIV. The Mass. 1-2a.



PRELUDE

Southwell (Not All the Blood of Beasts, LSB 431)

Setting by Edwin T. Childs

Gottlob, Es Geht Nunmehr Zu Ende (The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord, LSB 634) Setting by Carl Schalk

WELCOME

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Please stand and face the processional cross.

Lutheran Service Book 435

“Come to Calvary’s Holy Mountain”



1 Come to Cal - v'ry's ho - ly moun - tain, Sin - ners, ru - ined
2 Come in pov - er - ty and mean - ness, Come de - filed, with -
3 Come in sor - row and con - tri - tion, Wound - ed, im - po -
4 They that drink shall live for - ev - er; 'Tis a soul - re -



by the fall; Here a pure and heal - ing foun - tain
out, with - in; From in - fec - tion and un - clean - ness,
tent, and blind; Here the guilt - y, free re - mis - sion,
new - ing flood. God is faith - ful; God will nev - er



Flows for you, for me, for all, In a full, per -
From the lep - ro - sy of sin, Wash your robes and
Here the trou - bled, peace may find. Health this foun - tain
Break His cov - e - nant of blood, Signed when our Re -



pet - ual tide, O - pened when our Sav - ior died.
make them white; Ye shall walk with God in light.
will re - store; They that drink shall thirst no more.
deem - er died, Sealed when He was glo - ri - fied.

Text and tune: Public domain

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

The sign of the cross ✠ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

[Hebrews 10:22]

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 124:8

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Psalm 32:5

Kneeling or sitting forward.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

The Second Commandment

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

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God so that we do not curse, swear, use satanic arts, lie, or deceive by His name, but call upon it in every trouble, pray, praise and give thanks.

Preparation for Confession and Absolution according to the Second Commandment:

- *Does the Gospel adorn my daily speech and conduct, or do I curse, speak carelessly, or misuse God's name?*
- *Have I kept all the vows I have made in the Lord's name?*
- *Am I diligent and sincere in my prayers, or have I been lazy, bored, or distracted? Do I trust that the Lord God will answer them according to His good and gracious will?*

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P 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.

Standing

SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT

Psalm 43:3-5; antiphon: Psalm 43:1-2a



- L** Vindicate me, | O God,*
and defend my cause against an ungodly | people,
from the deceitful and unjust man de- | liver me!*
For you are the God in whom I take | refuge.
- C** Send out your light and your truth; let them | lead me;*
let them bring me to your holy hill and to your | dwelling!
- L** Then I will go to the altar of God, to God my ex- | ceeding joy,*
and I will praise you with the lyre, O | God, my God.
- C** Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil with- | in me?*
- Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation | and my God.

During Passiontide, the GLORIA PATRI is omitted.

- L** Vindicate me, | O God,*
and defend my cause against an ungodly | people,
from the deceitful and unjust man de- | liver me!*
For you are the God in whom I take | refuge.

KYRIE ~ Lord, Have Mercy

Mark 10:47



C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

During Advent and Lent, the GLORIA IN EXCELSIS is omitted.

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sitting

PROPHECY

Genesis 22:1–19

A The Prophecy for the Fifth Sunday in Lent is from Genesis, chapter 22.

A In those days: God tested Abraham, and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." Then He said, "Take now your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you." So Abraham rose early in the morning and saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son; and he split the wood for the burnt offering, and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. Then on the third day Abraham lifted his eyes and saw the place afar off. And Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the lad and I will go yonder and worship, and we will come back to you." So Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife, and the two of them went together. But Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my

son." Then he said, "Look, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" And Abraham said, "My son, God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering." So the two of them went together. Then they came to the place of which God had told him. And Abraham built an altar there and placed the wood in order; and he bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, upon the wood. And Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. But the Angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" So he said, "Here I am." And He said, "Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me." Then Abraham lifted his eyes and looked, and there behind him was a ram caught in a thicket by its horns. So Abraham went and took the ram, and offered it up for a burnt offering instead of his son.

- A** The Epistle is from Hebrews, chapter nine.
- A** Brethren: Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation. Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of
- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? And for this reason He is the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions under the first covenant, that those who are called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Standing

TRACT

Psalm 129:1-4



- L** “Greatly have they afflicted me | from my youth” —*
let Israel | now say —
- C** “Greatly have they afflicted me | from my youth,*
yet they have not prevailed a- | gainst me.
- L** The plowers plowed up- | on my back;*
they made long their | furrows.”
- C** **The LORD is | righteous;*
he has cut the cords of the | wicked.**

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter.



G Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

P At that time Jesus said to the multitude of the Jews and the chief priests: “Which of you convicts Me of sin? And if I tell the truth, why do you not believe Me? He who is of God hears God’s words; therefore you do not hear, because you are not of God.” Then the Jews answered and said to Him, “Do we not say rightly that You are a Samaritan and have a demon?” Jesus answered, “I do not have a demon; but I honor My Father, and you dishonor Me. And I do not seek My own glory; there is One who seeks and judges. Most assuredly, I say to you, if anyone keeps My word he shall never see death.” Then the Jews said to Him, “Now we know that You have a demon! Abraham is dead, and the prophets; and You say, ‘If anyone keeps My word he shall never taste death.’ Are You greater

than our father Abraham, who is dead? And the prophets are dead. Who do You make Yourself out to be?” Jesus answered, “If I honor Myself, My honor is nothing. It is My Father who honors Me, of whom you say that He is your God. Yet you have not known Him, but I know Him. And if I say, ‘I do not know Him,’ I shall be a liar like you; but I do know Him and keep His word. Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad.” Then the Jews said to Him, “You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?” Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.” Then they took up stones to throw at Him; but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



G Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

C **I believe in one God**, *Exodus 20:3; Deuteronomy 6:4; Ephesians 4:6*
the Father Almighty, *Psalms 89:26; Matthew 6:9; Romans 1:20*
maker of heaven and earth *Genesis 1:1; Nehemiah 9:6; John 1:1*
and of all things visible and invisible. *2 Corinthians 4:18; Colossians 1:16*

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, *1 Corinthians 8:6; Ephesians 4:5; 1 Timothy 2:5*
the only-begotten Son of God, *John 1:14; 3:16, 18; Acts 13:33; 1 John 4:9*
begotten of His Father before all worlds, *John 1:18; 17:24; Ephesians 1:4; Colossians 1:17; 1 Peter 1:20*
God of God, Light of Light, *John 1:4-9; 8:12; 12:46; Hebrews 1:3; Revelation 21:23*
very God of very God, *Philippians 2:6; Colossians 1:19; 2:9; 1 John 5:20*
begotten, not made, *John 1:2*
being of one substance with the Father, *John 10:30; 17:22*
by Whom all things were made; *John 1:3; Colossians 1:16; Hebrews 1:2*
Who for us men and for our salvation *John 14:6; Acts 4:12; 1 Timothy 2:4*
came down from heaven *John 3:13; 6:41; Luke 15:20; Ephesians 4:10*
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary *Matthew 1:18; Luke 1:34-35*
and was made man; *John 1:14; Galatians 4:4*
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. *Matthew 27:35; Mark 15:25; Luke 23:33; John 19:18*
He suffered and was buried. *Acts 1:13; 3:18; Matthew 14:12; Mark 15:46; Luke 23:53; John 19:42*
And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures *Luke 24:46; Acts 10:40; 1 Corinthians 15:4*
and ascended into heaven *Luke 24:51; John 20:17; Acts 1:2, 9, 11, 22; Ephesians 4:8*
and sits at the right hand of the Father. *Mark 16:19; Acts 2:33; 5:31; 7:55-56; Romans 8:34; Ephesians 1:20; Colossians 3:1*
And He will come again with glory *Matthew 26:64; John 14:3; Acts 1:11; 1 Thessalonians 4:16; Revelation 1:7*
to judge both the living and the dead, *Acts 10:42; 17:31; 2 Corinthians 5:10; 2 Timothy 4:1; 1 Peter 4:5; Revelation 20:12*
Whose kingdom will have no end. *Luke 1:33; 2 Peter 1:11; Hebrews 1:8; Revelation 11:15*

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, *John 14:26; 16:13; Acts 2:4*
the Lord and giver of life, *Genesis 1:2; John 3:5-6; 15:26-27; Romans 8:2*
Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, *John 14:26; 16:7; Acts 1:8; 2:33; Romans 5:5*
Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, *Matt. 3:16-17; 28:19; 2 Cor. 13:14*
Who spoke by the prophets. *Luke 1:67; Acts 28:25; Ephesians 3:5; 2 Peter 1:21*
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, *Ephesians 2:19-22; 1 Peter 2:5; Revelation 21:14*
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, *Acts 2:38; Romans 6:3-4; 1 Corinthians 12:13; Ephesians 4:5*
and I look for the resurrection of the dead *John 5:29; 6:39, 40, 44, 54; 11:25-26; 1 Corinthians 6:14; 15:20-22*
and the life ✠ of the world to come. *Mark 10:29-30; Luke 18:30; John 5:24; 6:33; Galatians 6:8; 1 Timothy 4:8; 1 John 5:11*
Amen. *Psalms 106:48; 2 Corinthians 1:20*

P What is the Seventh Commandment?

C You shall not steal.

P What does this mean?

C We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor's money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income.

Sitting

HYMN OF THE DAY

Lutheran Service Book 547

"The Lamb"

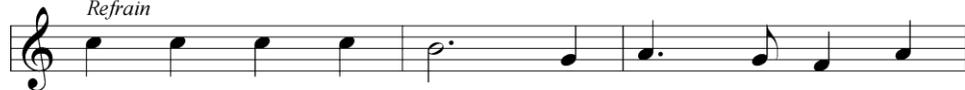


1 The Lamb, the Lamb, O Fa - ther, where's the sac - ri - fice?
 2 The Lamb, the Lamb, One per - fect fi - nal of - fer - ing.
 3 The Lamb, the Lamb, As way - ward sheep their shep - herd kill
 4 He sighs, He dies, He takes my sin and wretch - ed - ness.
 5 He rose, He rose, My heart with thanks now o - ver - flows.



Faith sees, be - lieves God will pro - vide the Lamb of price!
 The Lamb, the Lamb, Let earth join heav'n His praise to sing.
 So still, His will On our be - half the Law to fill.
 He lives, for - gives, He gives me His own righ - teous - ness.
 His song pro - long Till ev - 'ry heart to Him be - long.

Refrain



Wor - thy is the Lamb whose death makes me His



own! The Lamb is reign - ing on His throne!

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SERMON

Standing

OFFERTORY

Psalm 51:10–12

C Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Sitting

OFFERING

In Silent Praise the Eternal Son, LSB 432
Youth Chime Choir

Standing

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

P Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Brief silence

P O God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by His death You have brought us to Your holy hill, and by His resurrection You have justified us in Your sight. Lead us by the light and truth of Your Holy Word, that we may ever be vindicated in Christ and win the victory over all enemies of the Gospel. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Remember the congregations of Your Church, O Lord, which You have purchased with the holy blood of Your Son. Strengthen and defend all pastors and church workers, giving them every good gift as they attend to Your people. Cause us rightly to fear Your anger and rejoice in Your redemption. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord, heavenly Father, give wisdom and strength to all fathers in the home and Church. Make them faithful in teaching Your Word to the children entrusted to their care, that these little ones would come to know You as their heavenly Father and live as true children of God. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P O God of power and might, You hold in Your hand all the might of man. Give us good government and faithful leaders who will heed Your Word and pursue righteousness and justice. Bless and defend us against all destruction, and teach us to be patient and faithful citizens of this land, using ourselves and our resources wisely for the good of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Almighty God, because of our sins we are not worthy to pray to You, yet in Your mercy You receive our prayers through the intercession of Jesus Christ, our great High Priest. Hear our supplications for those in need [*especially* _____]. Answer our petitions on account of the merits and mediation of Your Son, our Savior. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P O Lord, You have freed Your Church from slavery to this world and gathered us around Your holy mountain. Hearing again the proclamation of Your new testament, cleanse us through Christ's body and blood, which was offered for us on Calvary. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word, that we may not be deceived by that liar and murderer the devil, but know Your truth and so come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

Matthew 5:22-24; Ephesians 4:1-3

Following the prayers, please greet one another in the name of the Lord by saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of forgiveness and reconciliation in preparation for worthy reception of the Holy Supper.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]



P The Lord be with you.



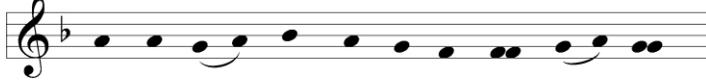
C And with thy spir - it.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.

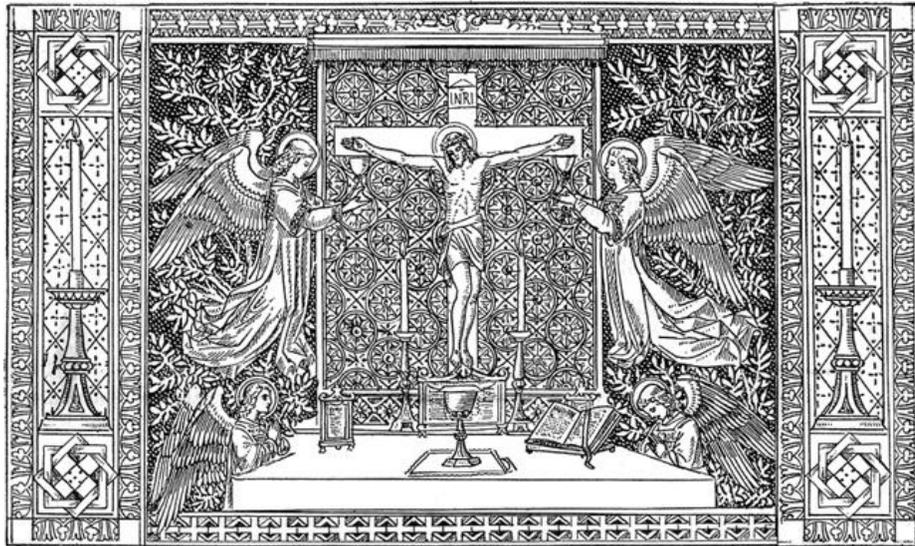


P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



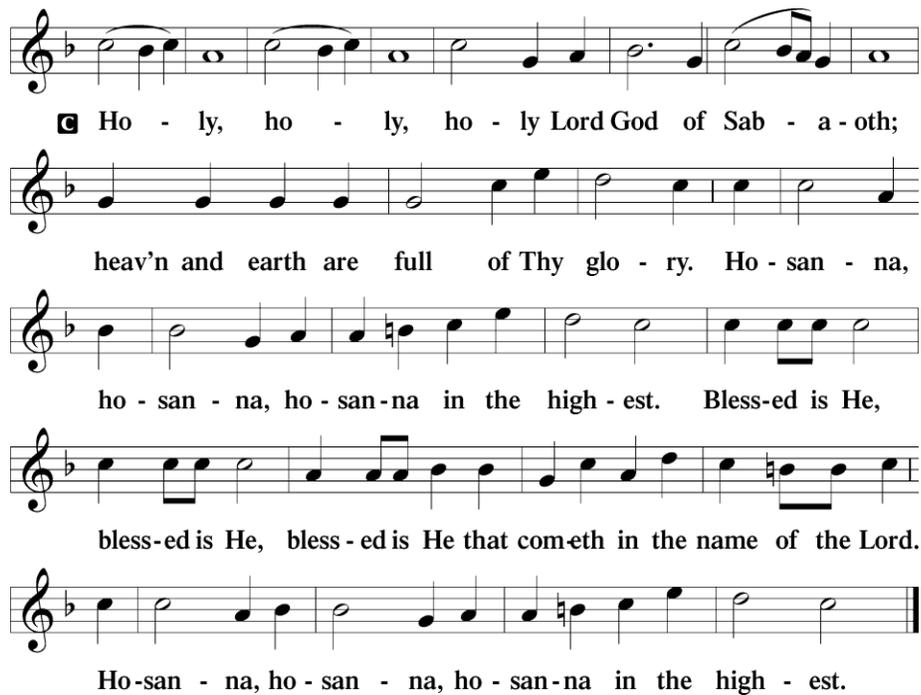
C It is meet and right so to do.

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



SANCTUS ~ *Holy, Holy, Holy*

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,
ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,
bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.
Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Kneeling or sitting forward.

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

- P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach 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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

P Our Lord Je-sus Christ, on the night when He was be-trayed, took bread,
and when He had giv - en thanks, He broke it and gave it to the
dis-ci-ples and said: "Take, eat; this is My [†] bod - y, which is giv-en for you.
This do in re - mem - brance of Me." In the same way al - so
He took the cup after sup - per, and when He had giv-en thanks, He gave it
to them, say - ing: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in
My [†] blood, which is shed for you for the for-give-ness of sins.
This do, as often as you drink it, in re-mem-brance of Me."

PAX DOMINI ~ *The Peace of the Lord*

John 20:19

P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.
C A - men.

AGNUS DEI ~ Lamb of God

John 1:29



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Sitting

About participation in Holy Communion:

All guests and visitors are asked to please speak to Pastor Miller before receiving Holy Communion for the first time.

Those who are not receiving the Sacrament but still request a pastoral blessing are invited to approach the altar with arms crossed in an "X" over their chests to indicate this desire.

We are grateful for your cooperation in honoring our practice. For further explanation, please see below:

Drawn from God's Word, the Lutheran Confessions are a true and binding exposition of Holy Scripture and serve as authoritative texts for all pastors, congregations and other rostered church workers of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. That being the case, we are bound to follow its prescribed practice of Closed Communion:

"The custom has been retained among us of not administering the sacrament to those who have not previously been examined and absolved [1 Corinthians 11:27-28]" (Augsburg Confession XXV:1).

Closed Communion was always the common practice among Christians from the first century and remains the practice of Confessional Lutherans. It originates from the clear biblical teaching that the Sacrament of the Altar "is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christians to eat and to drink" (Small Catechism VI:1). The "words [according to our Lord's institution], "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins," show us that in the Sacrament forgiveness of sins, life and salvation are given us through these words" (SC VI:3).

Because "whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord," it is important that each person "examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body" (1 Corinthians 11:27-29). To ensure worthy reception, pastors are required to be faithful in their stewardship of the sacraments (1 Cor 4:1-2). This assumes pastoral care between Pastor Miller and those intending to receive Holy Communion.

Prayer Before Receiving Holy Communion

Lord Jesus, You invite all who are burdened with sin to come to You for rest. I now come at Your invitation to the heavenly feast, which You have provided for Your children on earth. Preserve me from impenitence and unbelief, cleanse me from my unrighteousness, and clothe me with the righteousness purchased with Your blood. Strengthen my faith, increase my love and hope, and assure me a place at Your heavenly table, where I will eat eternal manna and drink of the river of Your pleasure forever and ever. Hear me, Jesus, for Your own sake. Amen.

MUSIC DURING THE DISTRIBUTION

Lutheran Service Book 572

"In the Shattered Bless of Eden"



1 In the shat - tered bliss of E - den Dawned the
2 Days and months and years un - fold - ing Clear - ly
3 What these sac - ri - fic - es prom - ised From a
4 Lamb of God, once slain for sin - ners, Host, who



day of sac - ri - fic - e, As our pri - mal par - ents
showed what sin had wrought: Fall - en Ad - am's chil - dren
God who sought to bless, Came at last— a sec - ond
spreads this meal di - vine, Here You pledge our sins are



shud - dered— Sin had caused this dread - ful price!
learn - ing Les - sons fall - en par - ents taught.
Ad - am— Priest and King of Righ - teous - ness:
cov - ered, Pledge re - ceived in bread and wine:



Faith em - barked with this dis - cern - ment: On - ly
All these sac - ri - fi - cial of - f'ings Crest - ed
Son of God, in - car - nate Sav - ior, Son of
"Take and eat; this is My bod - y, Giv - en



God can cov - er sin, As He took their leaf - y
as a crim - son flood: Pa - tri - archs and priests a -
Man, both Christ and Lord, Who in na - ked shame would
on the cross for you. Take and drink; this cup of



gar - ments And He clothed their shame with skin.
ton - ing For their sins with cleans - ing blood.
of - fer On the cross His blood out - poured.
bless - ing Is My blood poured out for you."

Continued next page . . .

5 Taste and see the bliss of heaven
 Known by saints around the throne,
 Where the Lamb, in closest union,
 Lives to love and feed His own.
 From His riven side forever
 Flows the purest stream of love,
 Love that robes us with the raiment
 Worn by all who feast above.

6 Gone the bliss of Eden's garden,
 Gone the age of sacrifice;
 Ours the time of grace and favor,
 Ours the call to paradise!
 Ever, Lord, impress upon us:
 Only You can cover sin—
 Take our worthless, self-made garments;
 Clothe our shame and cleanse within.

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Lutheran Service Book 431

"Not All the Blood of Beasts"



1 Not all the blood of beasts On Jew - ish al - tars slain
 2 But Christ, the heav'n - ly Lamb, Takes all our sins a - way;
 3 My faith would lay its hand On that dear head of Thine,
 4 My soul looks back to see The bur - den Thou didst bear
 5 Be - liev - ing, we re - joice To see the curse re - move;



Could give the guilt - y con - science peace Or wash a - way the stain.
 A sac - ri - fice of no - bler name And rich - er blood than they.
 While as a pen - i - tent I stand, And there con - fess my sin.
 When hang - ing on the curs - ed tree; I know my guilt was there.
 We bless the Lamb with cheer - ful voice And sing His bleed - ing love.

Text and tune: Public domain

Prayer After Receiving Holy Communion

Almighty and merciful Lord, I have again worshiped in Your presence and received both forgiveness for my many sins and the assurance of Your love in Jesus Christ. I thank You for this undeserved grace and ask You to keep me in faith until, with all Your saints, I inherit eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

Standing

During Passiontide, the NUNC DIMITTIS is omitted due to its inclusion of the Gloria Patri.

THANKSGIVING

Psalm 107:1



A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward 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.

SALUTATION AND BENEDICAMUS

2 Timothy 4:22, Psalm 103:1



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



A Bless we the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make
His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.
C A - men, a - men, a - men.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Lutheran Service Book 433

“Glory Be to Jesus”

1 Glo - ry be to Je - sus, Who in bit - ter pains
2 Grace and life e - ter - nal, In that blood I find;
3 Blest through end - less a - ges, Be the pre - cious stream
4 A - bel's blood for ven - geance, Plead - ed to the skies;
Poured for me the life - blood, From His sa - cred veins!
Blest be His com - pas - sion, In - fi - nite - ly kind!
Which from end - less tor - ment, Did the world re - deem!
But the blood of Je - sus, For our par - don cries.

- 5 Oft as earth exulting
Wafts its praise on high,
Angel hosts rejoicing
Make their glad reply.
- 6 Lift we, then, our voices,
Swell the mighty flood;
Louder still and louder
Praise the precious blood!

Text and tune: Public domain

POSTLUDE



SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT (JUDICA)

Presiding Minister

The Rev. David V. Miller, *Pastor*

Altar Assistant(s)

Jason Schoellen, *Elder*

Katie Schoellen, *Acolyte*

Jude Miller, *Gospel Bearer*

Organist

Abby Warnke, *Director of Music*

Cantor

Adrian Popescu

Youth Chime Choir

Fred Durden

Jude Miller

Titus Miller

Katie Schoellen

Musician(s)

Will Davis, trumpet

Patty Harmon, trumpet/French horn

Altar Guild

Ryan Licht

Usher(s)

Grayson Beckman/The Rev. Steve Harmon
(Trevor Dunkel)

Fellowship Host(s)

TBD

SERVING NEXT WEEK

PALM SUNDAY (PALMARUM)

Presiding Minister

The Rev. David V. Miller, *Pastor*

Altar Assistant(s)

Jason Schoellen, *Elder*

Katie Schoellen, *Acolyte*

Jude Miller, *Gospel Bearer*

Organist

Abby Warnke, *Director of Music*

Cantor

Adrian Popescu

Musician(s)

Will Davis, trumpet

Patty Harmon, trumpet/French horn

Altar Guild

Jeni Miller/Kati Durden

Usher(s)

Grayson Beckman/The Rev. Steve Harmon
(Trevor Dunkel)

Fellowship Host(s)

TBD

L

OVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, WITH ALL YOUR SOUL,
AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND. THIS IS THE GREATEST AND MOST IMPORTANT
COMMANDMENT. THE SECOND IS LIKE IT: LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS
YOURSELF.”

- MATTHEW 22:37-39

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sunday 3/22	Fifth Sunday in Lent (Judica) Nursery available Adult Choir Practice Children's Sunday School Adult Bible Study: <i>"Follow Me:" Discipleship in Matthew</i> Holy Mass Fellowship Hour	8:30 – 11:30 AM 8:30 – 9:30 AM 9:00 – 9:45 AM 9:00 – 9:45 AM 10:00 AM Following Holy Mass
Monday 3/23	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Tuesday 3/24	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Wednesday 3/25	Wednesday of the Fifth Sunday in Lent (Judica) Open Arms LCDC Church Office Open Arms LCDC Chapel Midweek Prayer Lenten Midweek Mass V: <i>The Fifth Day of Creation</i>	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM 10:15 AM 12:15 PM 7:00 PM
Thursday 3/26	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Friday 3/27	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Saturday 3/28	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	Closed Closed
Sunday 3/29	Palm Sunday (Palmarum) Nursery available Adult Choir Practice Children's Sunday School Adult Bible Study: <i>"Follow Me:" Discipleship in Matthew</i> Holy Mass Fellowship Hour Confirmation: <i>The Second Article of the Creed</i>	8:30 – 11:30 AM 8:30 – 9:30 AM 9:00 – 9:45 AM 9:00 – 9:45 AM 10:00 AM Following Holy Mass 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

LOVING THE LORD

✝ **Passiontide/Easter Mass Schedule**

Maundy Thursday Mass with Corporate Confession April 2 at 7:00 P.M.
Good Friday Tenebrae Vespers April 3 at Noon and 7:00 P.M.
Easter Vigil Mass April 4 at 7:00 P.M.
Easter Sunday Mass April 5 at 10:00 A.M. (breakfast at 8:30 A.M.; egg hunt at 11:30 A.M.)

✝ **Adult Bible Study: “Follow Me”: Discipleship in Matthew**

Sundays at 9:00 A.M. during the season of Lent.
Church fellowship hall

The phrase "follower of Jesus" like the term "Christian" has become so generic that it means nearly anything and sometimes almost nothing. In “Follow Me,” we will dig deeply into the Holy Scriptures to show what it means to be a follower of Jesus. This seven-session Bible study couldn’t be more appropriate for Lent as we heed our Lord’s command to “take up your cross and follow Me.” All are welcome—whether you are new to Bible study or have been reading Scripture for many years. Come deepen your faith, engage in thoughtful discussion, and enjoy fellowship with others.

✝ **Lenten Midweek Mass: *The Seven Days of New Creation***

Wednesday, March 25 at 7:00 P.M.
Church sanctuary

Throughout the season of Lent, you are invited to join us for Midweek Masses over five weeks, offering a sacred rhythm of worship, reflection, and renewal as we journey toward Easter. Lenten midweek services provide an important opportunity to slow down, repent, and refocus our hearts on Christ’s saving work. Gathered around Word and Sacrament, we are strengthened in faith and drawn more deeply into the meaning of Christ’s suffering, death, and resurrection. These services help prepare us spiritually to receive the joy of Easter by walking intentionally through the season of repentance and hope.

This year’s sermon series will explore how Christ fulfills the seven days of creation through His ministry—and especially through the events of Holy Week—working faithfully to inaugurate God’s new creation. As the first creation was formed through God’s purposeful work, so Christ labors in obedience, suffering, and love to bring about restoration, redemption, and new life for all creation. All are encouraged to attend these midweek Masses and enter more fully into the Lenten journey as we prepare our hearts for the victory of Easter.

✝ Easter Lily Orders

Deadline: Sunday, March 29

Dropoff: Church offering plate

Members of the congregation are invited to help beautify the church altar for Easter by placing orders for Easter lilies. The cost is \$18 per lily, and an order form is available by the bulletins in the narthex. Lilies will decorate the altar on Easter Sunday, and those who purchase a lily are encouraged to take theirs home after Mass on the Second Sunday of Easter (April 12). You may also dedicate an Easter lily in honor of or in memory of a loved one; please indicate "in honor of" if the person is living or "in memory of" if they are deceased so the church office knows how to list the dedication in the Easter Sunday bulletin. Payment may be made with cash in an envelope or a personal check, and may be placed in the offering plate on any Sunday through March 29 (Palm Sunday).

✝ Midweek Prayer

Wednesdays at 12:15 P.M.

Church sanctuary

Whether on your lunchbreak or just need a break in your day, we invite you to join us for prayer and meditation on God's Holy Word. Every Wednesday at noon, parents and teachers of Open Arms, as well as anyone from the congregation, are encouraged to come into God's presence. We will hear Him speak through His Word, and we will pray for the world, our nation, and the deeper needs of the church and school communities. This service is simple and brief. But it will allow you to walk away refreshed and ready to finish out the week strong!

LOVING OUR NEIGHBOR

✝ Annual Easter Breakfast

Sunday, April 5 from 8:30 – 9:30 A.M.

Church fellowship hall

Every Easter, the Ascension family comes together to share a breakfast before Divine Service. Please consider contributing, but more importantly, please make a point to join your brothers and sisters in this celebratory meal. Please sign up to bring a dish to share on the signup sheet displayed in the narthex.

✝ **Annual Children's Easter Egg Hunt**

Sunday, April 5 following Mass
Church front lawn

According to Christian tradition, eggs have always been a symbol of rebirth. The picture of a baby bird emerging from its shell reminds us of the risen Christ stepping out of the tomb. To teach our children the truth of the new life they have through their resurrected Lord, Easter egg hunts have become commonplace. We invite all children and their families to participate in an egg hunt following the Divine Service. Donations of pre-filled eggs, preferably filled with food or other items not susceptible to melting, are being accepted through Holy Week. Please leave your donation in the church office. Also, if you would like to volunteer to hide the eggs before 10:00 A.M. Mass, please contact Pastor Miller: pastor@ascension-lcms.com.

✝ **Ascension Family Game Day**

Saturday, TBD from 3:00 – 6:00 P.M.
Church fellowship hall

Everyone is invited – families with children, teens, and adults of all ages – to join us for a fun-filled afternoon of games and fellowship! We'll have a wide variety of games available, with options suited for young children, youth, and adults alike, so everyone can jump in and enjoy time together. Whether you love board games, group games, or just good conversation and laughter, there will be something for you. Our time together will conclude with a fellowship dinner of pizza and salad, giving us the chance to relax, share a meal, and continue building friendships across generations. We hope you'll come and be part of this joyful time together!

✝ **Men's Group: Fellowship at the Biergarten!**

Saturday, May 9 at noon
Gasthaus Tirol
310 Atlanta Road
Cumming, GA 30040

Men of the congregation are warmly invited to join us for a special afternoon of fellowship and good cheer at our upcoming Men's Gathering at a local German restaurant! We'll meet in the biergarten to enjoy hearty German fare, refreshing beverages, and great conversation in a relaxed outdoor setting. This will be a wonderful opportunity to strengthen friendships, welcome new faces, and encourage one another in faith while savoring classic German food and drink. Come hungry, bring a friend, and plan to spend a memorable afternoon together – we look forward to seeing you there!

✦ **Book Club: *The Deerslayer* by James Fenimore Cooper**

Sunday, June 7 at 3:00 P.M.

Pastor Miller's home

Everyone is invited to join our Book Club for fellowship and discussion! We'll gather to talk about our new book, share insights, and encourage one another. No need to be an expert—just come ready to listen and participate. All are welcome!

From the inside dust jacket flap:

The deadly crack of a long rifle and the piercing cries of Indians on the warpath shatter the serenity of beautiful Lake Glimmerglass. Danger has invaded the vast forests of upper New York State as Deerslayer and his loyal Mohican friend Chingachgook attempt the daring rescue of an Indian maiden imprisoned in a Huron camp. Soon they are caught in the cross fire between a cunning enemy and two white bounty hunters who mercilessly kill for profit.

*The last of the Leatherstocking Tales to be written, though first in the chronology of the hero's life, *The Deerslayer* is James Fenimore Cooper's masterpiece. A fine combination of romance, adventure, and morality, this classic novel of the frontier is an eloquent beginning for Cooper's great wilderness saga—and an unforgettable introduction to the famous character who has been said to embody the conscience of America: the noble woodsman Deerslayer.*

LIFTING HOLY HANDS

Celebrations

Birthdays:

- + Maddie Abi, 3/23

Wedding Anniversaries:

- + None this week

Recent Requests

For comfort, health, and recovery:

- + Val Aguilar (friend of Emily Horst, who is currently deployed with the United States Air Force)
- + Rev. Dr. James Clark (friend of the congregation)
- + Molly Hankins (friend of the Miller family)
- + Doug Hawkins (friend of Lauren Morr)
- + Jeremiah Hollins (son of Shannon, a former Open Arms teacher)
- + Bob Husby (father of Whitney Worthington)
- + Gail Kaiser (mother of Jeni Miller)
- + Joshua Schoellen (brother of Jason Schoellen)
- + Mike Warnke (father of Abby Warnke)

Ongoing Requests

For family and friends of the congregation:

- + David Abee (brother of Nancy Grossberg)
- + Ruth Henry
- + James Houchin (friend of Jordan Tomesch)
- + John Kateen
- + Dee Keiger (sister of Eileen Buehl)
- + John Lamb (father of Pastor Miller's friend)
- + Betty Licht
- + Charles Schnell (former member), for his formation as a pastor.
- + Rev. Aaron Sterling (Senior Pastor of Christ the Shepherd, Alpharetta)

For the leaders of Church and state:

- + Director Barbara Collins-Hopkins & Open Arms Board
- + English District Bishop Jeffrey G. Miskus & all district officials
- + LCMS President Matthew Harrison & all synodical officials
- + Pastor David Miller & Church Board of Lutheran Church of the Ascension
- + Rev. Dr. Jonathan & Dcs. Cheryl Naumann, missionaries to Dominican Republic
- + President Donald Trump & all U.S. government officials



O UNBELIEF MADE HIM [ABRAHAM] WAVER CONCERNING THE PROMISE OF GOD, BUT HE GREW STRONG IN HIS FAITH AS HE GAVE GLORY TO GOD, FULLY CONVINCED THAT GOD WAS ABLE TO DO WHAT HE HAD PROMISED. THAT IS WHY HIS FAITH WAS “COUNTED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS.” BUT THE WORDS “IT WAS COUNTED TO HIM” WERE NOT WRITTEN FOR HIS SAKE ALONE, BUT FOR OURS ALSO. IT WILL BE COUNTED TO US WHO BELIEVE IN HIM WHO RAISED FROM THE DEAD JESUS OUR LORD, WHO WAS DELIVERED UP FOR OUR TRESPASSES AND RAISED FOR OUR JUSTIFICATION.

– ROMANS 4:20-25



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