

Passiontide

MARCH 24, 2024 • SUNDAY, 10:00 A.M.

PALMARUM ~ PALM SUNDAY



FOR THE COMING OF GOD'S KINGDOM TO US HAPPENS IN TWO WAYS: (A) HERE IN TIME THROUGH THE WORD AND FAITH [MATTHEW 13]; AND (B) IN ETERNITY FOREVER THROUGH REVELATION [LUKE 19:11; 1 PETER 1:4-5]. NOW WE PRAY FOR BOTH THESE THINGS. WE PRAY THAT THE KINGDOM MAY COME TO THOSE WHO ARE NOT YET IN IT, AND, BY DAILY GROWTH THAT IT MAY COME TO US WHO HAVE RECEIVED IT, BOTH NOW AND HEREAFTER IN ETERNAL LIFE. ALL THIS IS NOTHING OTHER THAN SAYING, "DEAR FATHER, WE PRAY, GIVE US FIRST YOUR WORD, SO THAT THE GOSPEL MAY BE PREACHED PROPERLY THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. SECOND, MAY THE GOSPEL BE RECEIVED IN FAITH AND WORK AND LIVE IN US, SO THAT THROUGH THE WORD AND THE HOLY SPIRIT'S POWER [ROMANS 15:18-19], YOUR KINGDOM MAY TRIUMPH AMONG US. AND WE PRAY THAT THE DEVIL'S KINGDOM BE PUT DOWN [LUKE 11:17-20], SO THAT HE MAY HAVE NO RIGHT OR POWER OVER US [LUKE 10:17-19; COLOSSIANS 1], UNTIL AT LAST HIS POWER MAY BE UTTERLY DESTROYED. SO SIN, DEATH, AND HELL SHALL BE EXTERMINATED [REVELATION 20:13-14]. THEN WE MAY LIVE FOREVER IN PERFECT RIGHTEOUSNESS AND BLESSEDNESS" [EPHESIANS 4:12-13].

-*LARGE CATECHISM*, PART III. THE LORD'S PRAYER, 53-54

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



All gather in the narthex for the Procession of Palms

PROCESSION OF PALMS

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

P The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. *2 Corinthians 13:14*

C Amen.

P Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. *John 12:13; Psalm 118:26*

C Hosanna to the Son of David. *Matthew 21:9*

P The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*

C And with thy spirit.

C Let us pray.

Most merciful God, as the people of Jerusalem, with palms in their hands, gathered to greet Your dearly beloved Son when He came into His Holy City, grant that we may ever hail Him as our King and, when He comes again, may go forth to meet Him with trusting and steadfast hearts and follow Him in the way that leads to eternal life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P The Holy Gospel, according to St. Luke, the nineteenth chapter.

C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

P At that time: When Jesus drew near to Bethphage and Bethany, at the mountain called Olivet, He sent two of His disciples, saying, "Go into the village opposite you, where as you enter you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat. Loose it and bring it here. And if anyone asks you, 'Why are you loosing it?' thus you shall say to him, 'Because the Lord has need of it.' " So those who were sent went their way and found it just as He had said to them. But as they were loosing the colt, the owners of it said to them, "Why are you loosing the colt?" And they said, "The Lord has need of him." Then they brought him to Jesus. And they threw their own clothes

on the colt, and they set Jesus on him. And as He went, many spread their clothes on the road. Then, as He was now drawing near the descent of the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works they had seen, saying: " 'Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the LORD!' Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" And some of the Pharisees called to Him from the crowd, "Teacher, rebuke Your disciples." But He answered and said to them, "I tell you that if these should keep silent, the stones would immediately cry out."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

P Let us go forth in peace,

C **in the name of the Lord.**

Isaiah 55:12

[Colossians 3:17]

All now enter the sanctuary with singing and waving of palm branches.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Lutheran Service Book 442

"All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

Refrain



All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or To You, Re-deem - er, King,
To whom the lips of chil - dren Made sweet ho - san - nas ring.

1 You are the King of Is - rael And Da - vid's roy - al Son,
2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels Is prais - ing You on high,
3 The mul - ti - tude of pil - grims With palms be - fore You went;
4 To You be - fore Your pas - sion They sang their hymns of praise;
5 As You re - ceived their prais - es, Ac - cept the prayers we bring,

Refrain

Now in the Lord's name com - ing, Our King and Bless - ed One.
And we with all cre - a - tion In cho - rus make re - ply.
Our praise and prayer and an - thems Be - fore You we pre - sent.
To You, now high ex - alt - ed, Our mel - o - dy we raise.
O Source of ev - 'ry bless - ing, Our good and gra - cious King.

P Blessèd is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

John 12:13; Psalm 118:26

C Hosanna in the highest.

Matthew 21:9

After all have taken their places in the sanctuary, please remain standing for the Collect of the Day.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

2 Timothy 4:22

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take upon Himself our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross. Mercifully grant that we may follow the example of His great humility and patience and be made partakers of His resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT Zechariah 2:10–11a; 8:3b, 5, 7–8; 9:9, 10b; 11:12, 13b; 12:10b; 13:6b–7a; 14:6–8a, 9a

A The Old Testament Reading for Palmarum is from Zechariah.

A Thus says the LORD God: “Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion! For behold, I am coming and I will dwell in your midst. Many nations shall be joined to the LORD in that day, and they shall become My people. And I will dwell in your midst. Jerusalem shall be called the City of Truth, the Mountain of the LORD of hosts, the Holy Mountain. The city shall be full of boys and girls playing in its streets. Behold, I will save My people from the land of the east and from the land of the west; I will bring them back, and they shall dwell in the midst of Jerusalem. They shall be My people and I will be their God, in truth and righteousness. Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and having salvation, lowly and riding on a donkey, a colt, the foal of a donkey. He shall speak peace to the nations; His dominion shall be ‘from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth,’” says the LORD. Then I said to them, “If it is agreeable to you, give

me my wages; and if not, refrain.” So they weighed out for my wages thirty pieces of silver—that princely price they set on me. Then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn. And one will say to him, “What are these wounds between your arms?” Then he will answer, “Those with which I was wounded in the house of my friends.” “Awake, O sword, against My Shepherd, against the Man who is My Companion,” says the LORD of hosts. “Strike the Shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.” It shall come to pass in that day that there will be no light; the lights will diminish. It shall be one day which is known to the LORD—neither day nor night. But at evening time it shall happen that it will be light. And in that day it shall be that living waters shall flow from Jerusalem, and the LORD shall be King over all the earth.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL

Psalm 73:23b-24, 1



- L** You hold my | right hand.*
You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will receive me to | glory.
- C** Truly God is good to | Israel,*
to those who are | pure in heart.

EPISTLE

Philippians 2:5–11

- A** The Epistle is from Philipppians, chapter two.
- A** Brethren: Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the
- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

- P** HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 27:11-54

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- Now at the feast the governor was accustomed to release for the crowd any one prisoner whom they wanted. And they had then a notorious prisoner called Barabbas. So when they had

PAGE 8

P Pilate said to them, "Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?" They all said, "Let him be crucified!" And he said, "Why? What evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Let him be crucified!"

So when Pilate saw that he was gaining nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves." And all the people answered, "His blood be on us and on our children!" Then he released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, delivered him to be crucified.

Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole battalion before him. And they stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on his head and put a reed in his right hand. And kneeling before him, they mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" And they spit on him and took the reed and struck him on the head. And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him and led him away to crucify him.

As they went out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name. They compelled this man to carry his cross. And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall, but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his garments among them by casting lots.

Then they sat down and kept watch over him there. And over his head they put the charge against him, which read, "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews." Then two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left. And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads and saying, "You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross." So also the chief priests, with the scribes and elders, mocked him, saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he desires him. For he said, 'I am the Son of God.'" And the robbers who were crucified with him also reviled him in the same way.

Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" And some of the bystanders, hearing it, said, "This man is calling Elijah." And one of them at once ran and took a sponge, filled it with sour wine, and put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink. But the others said, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him." And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit.

And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened.

P And many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised, and coming out of the tombs after his resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many. When the centurion

and those who were with him, keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were filled with awe and said, "Truly this was the Son of God!"

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



APOSTLES' CREED

[Matthew 10:32]

C 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.

Sitting

HYMN OF THE DAY

Lutheran Service Book 430

"My Song Is Love Unknown"

1 My song is love un - known, My Sav - ior's love to
2 He came from His blest throne Sal - va - tion to be -
3 Some-times they strew His way And His sweet prais - es
4 Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and
me, Love to the love - less shown That they might love - ly
stow; But men made strange, and none The longed - for Christ would
sing; Re - sound - ing all the day Ho - san - nas to their
spite? He made the lame to run, He gave the blind their
be. Oh, who am I That for my sake
know. But, oh, my friend, My friend in - deed,
King. Then "Cru - ci - fy!" Is all their breath,
sight. Sweet in - ju - ries! Yet they at these
My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?
Who at my need His life did spend!
And for His death They thirst and cry.
Them - selves dis - please And 'gainst Him rise.

5 They rise and needs will have
My dear Lord made away;
A murderer they save,
The Prince of Life they slay.
Yet cheerful He
To suff'ring goes
That He His foes
From thence might free.

6 In life no house, no home
My Lord on earth might have;
In death no friendly tomb
But what a stranger gave.

What may I say?
Heav'n was His home
But mine the tomb
Wherein He lay.

7 Here might I stay and sing,
No story so divine!
Never was love, dear King,
Never was grief like Thine.
This is my friend,
In whose sweet praise
I all my days
Could gladly spend!

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

Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken

Franz Joseph Haydn

Standing

THE LITANY

L O Lord,
C have mer - cy.
L O Christ,
C have mer - cy.



L O Lord,



C have mer - cy.



L O Christ,



C hear us.



L God the Fa - ther in heaven,



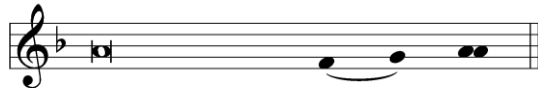
C have mer - cy.



L God the Son, Redeemer of the world,



C have mer - cy.



L God the Holy Spir - it,



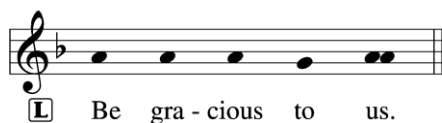
C have mer - cy.



L Be gra - cious to us.



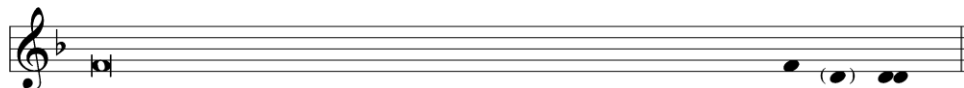
C Spare us, good Lord.



Be gra - cious to us.



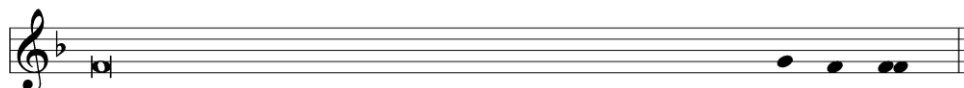
Help us, good Lord.



From all sin, from all error, from all e - vil;
From the crafts and assaults of the devil; from sudden and e - vil death;
From pestilence and famine;
from war and bloodshed; from sedition and from re - bel - lion;
From lightning and tempest;
from all calamity by fire and water; and from ever - last - ing death:



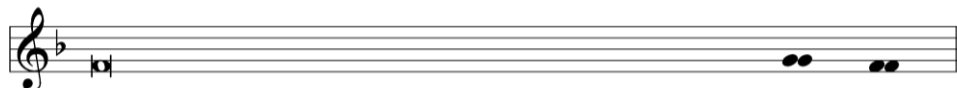
Good Lord, de - liv - er us.



By the mystery of Your holy incarnation; by Your holy na - tiv - i - ty;
By Your baptism, fasting, and temptation;
by Your agony and bloody sweat; by Your
cross and passion; by Your precious death and bur - i - al;
By Your glorious resurrection and ascension;
and by the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Com - fort - er:



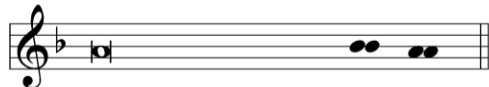
Help us, good Lord.



In all time of our tribulation; in all time
of our prosperity; in the hour of death; and in the day of judg - ment:



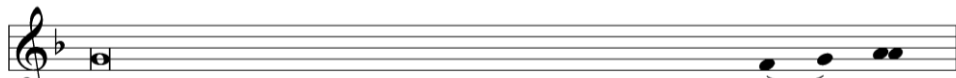
Help us, good Lord.



We poor sinners im - plore You



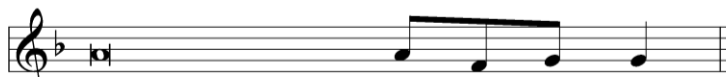
to hear us, O Lord.



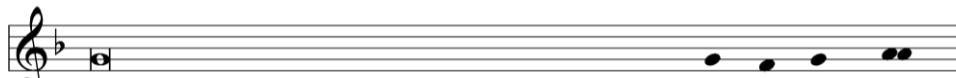
L To rule and govern Your holy Christian Church;
to preserve all pastors and ministers of Your
Church in the true knowledge and understanding
of Your wholesome Word and to sustain them in holy liv - ing;

To put an end to all schisms and causes of offense;
to bring into the way of truth all who have erred and are de - ceived;

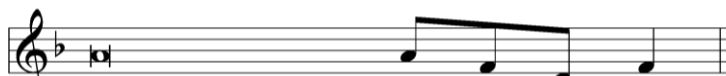
To beat down Satan under our feet;
to send faithful laborers into Your harvest;
and to accompany Your Word with Your grace and Spir - it;



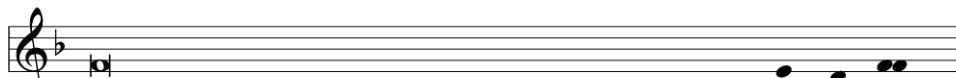
C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.



L To raise those who fall and to strengthen those
who stand; and to comfort and help the weakhearted and the dis - tressed:



C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.



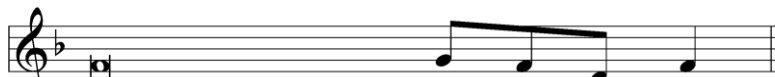
L To give to all peoples concord and peace;
to preserve our land from discord and strife;
to give our country Your protection in every time of need;

To direct and defend our president/queen/king and all in
authority; to bless and protect our magistrates and all our peo - ple;

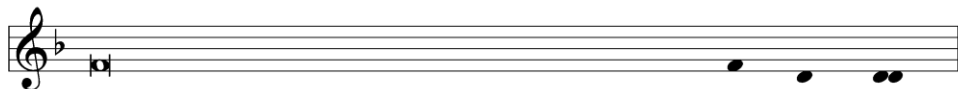
To watch over and help all who are in danger,
necessity, and tribulation; to protect and guide all who trav - el;

To grant all women with child, and all mothers
with infant children, increasing happiness in
their blessings; to defend all orphans and widows and pro-vide for them;

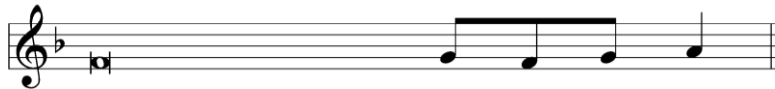
To strengthen and keep all sick persons and
young children; to free those in bondage; and to have mercy on us all:



C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.



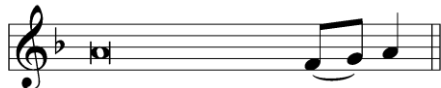
L To forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers
and to turn their hearts; to give and preserve for our
use the kindly fruits of the earth; and graciously to hear our prayers:



C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.



L Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,



C we implore You to hear us.



L Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,



C have mer - cy.



L Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,



C have mer - cy.



L Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,



C grant us Your peace.



L O Christ,



C hear us.

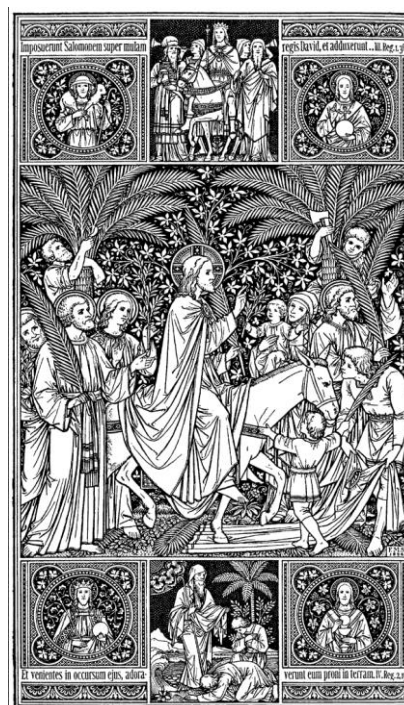
L O Lord,
C have mer - cy.
L O Christ,
C have mer - cy.
L O Lord,
C have mer - cy. A - men.

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.

Please remain standing.



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.

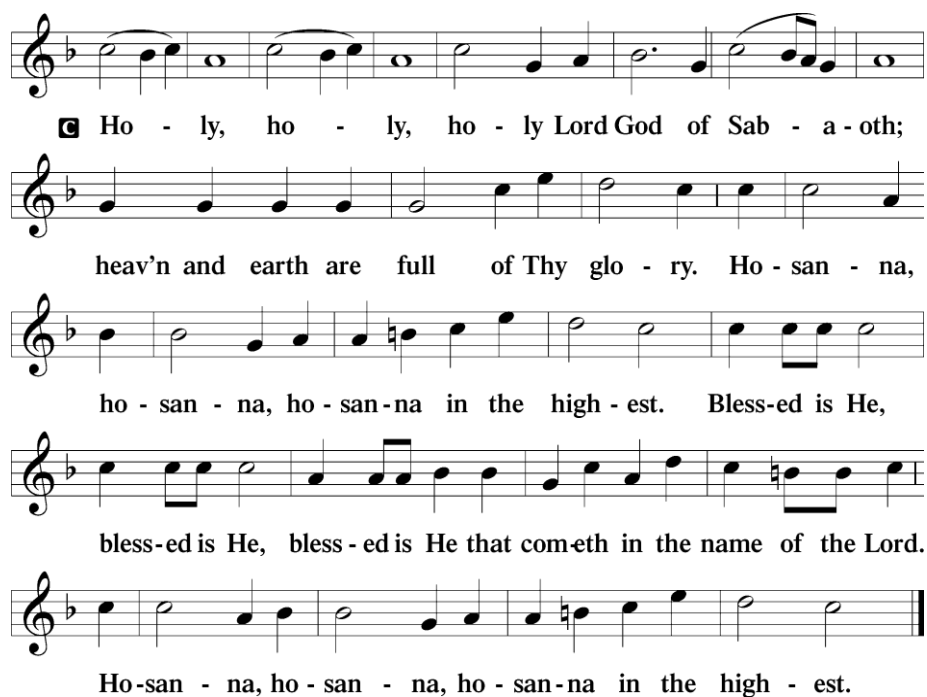
P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.

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 accomplished the salvation of mankind by the tree of the cross that, where death arose, there life also might rise again and that the serpent who overcame by the tree of the garden might likewise by the tree of the cross be overcome. 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



G 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.
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 the Lord's Supper:

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor. [Those coming to the altar for a blessing rather than Holy Communion are asked to cross their arms over their chest.]

For further study, see Matthew 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.

(Above is the "Model Communion Card Statement" from Theology and Practice of the Lord's Supper, a 1983 report by the Commission on Theology and Church Relations (CTCR) of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.)

MUSIC DURING THE DISTRIBUTION

Lutheran Service Book 439

“O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken”



1 O dear - est Je - sus, what law hast Thou bro - ken
2 They crown Thy head with thorns, they smite, they scourge Thee;
3 Whence come these sor - rows, whence this mor - tal an - guish?
4 What pun - ish - ment so strange is suf - fered yon - der!



That such sharp sen - tence should on Thee be spo - ken?
With cru - el mock - ings to the cross they urge Thee;
It is my sins for which Thou, Lord, must lan - guish;
The Shep - herd dies for sheep that loved to wan - der;



Of what great crime hast Thou to make con -
They give Thee gall to drink, they still de -
Yea, all the wrath, the woe, Thou dost in -
The Mas - ter pays the debt His ser - vants



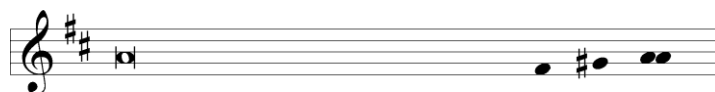
fes - sion, What dark trans - gres - sion?
cry Thee; They cru - ci - fy Thee.
her - it, This I do mer - it.
owe Him, Who would not know Him.

- 5 The sinless Son of God must die in sadness;
The sinful child of man may live in gladness;
Man forfeited his life and is acquitted;
God is committed.
- 6 There was no spot in me by sin untainted;
Sick with sin's poison, all my heart had fainted;
My heavy guilt to hell had well-nigh brought me,
Such woe it wrought me.
- 7 O wondrous love, whose depth no heart hath sounded,
That brought Thee here, by foes and thieves surrounded!
All worldly pleasures, heedless, I was trying
While Thou wert dying.
- 8 O mighty King, no time can dim Thy glory!
How shall I spread abroad Thy wondrous story?
How shall I find some worthy gifts to proffer?
What dare I offer?

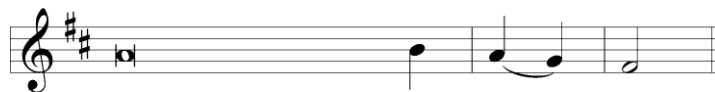
- 9 For vainly doth our human wisdom ponder—
Thy woes, Thy mercy, still transcend our wonder.
Oh, how should I do aught that could delight Thee!
Can I requite Thee?
- 10 Yet unrequited, Lord, I would not leave Thee;
I will renounce whate'er doth vex or grieve Thee
And quench with thoughts of Thee and prayers most lowly
All fires unholy.
- 11 But since my strength will nevermore suffice me
To crucify desires that still entice me,
To all good deeds O let Thy Spirit win me
And reign within me!
- 12 I'll think upon Thy mercy without ceasing,
That earth's vain joys to me no more be pleasing;
To do Thy will shall be my sole endeavor
Henceforth forever.
- 13 Whate'er of earthly good this life may grant me,
I'll risk for Thee; no shame, no cross, shall daunt me.
I shall not fear what foes can do to harm me
Nor death alarm me.
- 14 But worthless is my sacrifice, I own it;
Yet, Lord, for love's sake Thou wilt not disown it;
Thou wilt accept my gift in Thy great meekness
Nor shame my weakness.
- 15 And when, dear Lord, before Thy throne in heaven
To me the crown of joy at last is given,
Where sweetest hymns Thy saints forever raise Thee,
I, too, shall praise Thee.

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.



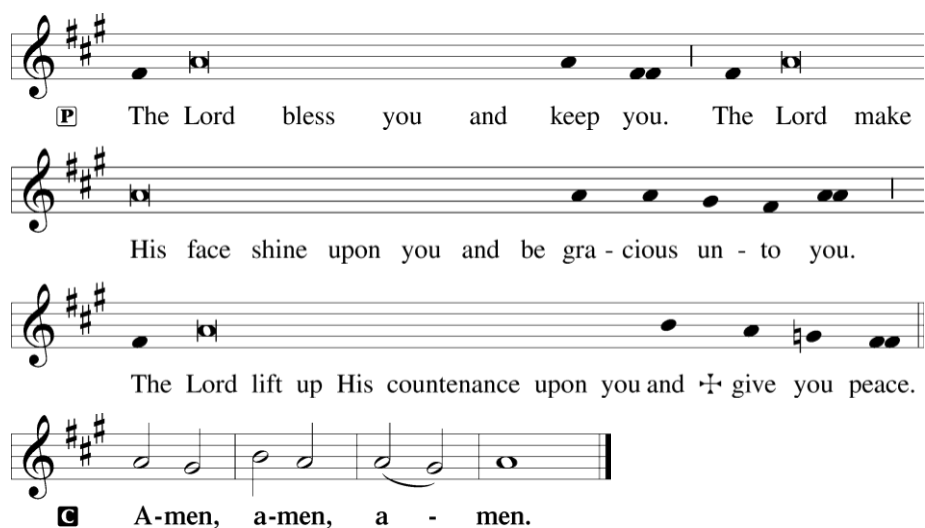
A Bless we the Lord.



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.
G A-men, a-men, a - men.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Lutheran Service Book 443

"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"



1 Ho - san - na, loud ho - san - na, The lit - tle chil - dren sang;
2 From Ol - i - vet they fol - lowed Mid an ex - ul - tant crowd,
3 "Ho - san - na in the high - est!" That an - cient song we sing;
Through pil - lared court and tem - ple The love - ly an - them rang.
The vic - tor palm branch wav - ing And chant - ing clear and loud.
For Christ is our Re - deem - er, The Lord of heav'n our King.
To Je - sus, who had blessed them, Close fold - ed to His breast,
The Lord of earth and heav - en Rode on in low - ly state
Oh, may we ev - er praise Him With heart and life and voice
The chil - dren sang their prais - es, The sim - plest and the best.
Nor scorned that lit - tle chil - dren Should on His bid - ding wait.
And in His bliss - ful pres - ence E - ter - nal - ly re - joice!

Please follow the Processional Cross to the Open Arms playground for a rite of blessing.

POSTLUDE

Lamb of God, Pure and Holy

Nicklaus Decius

BLESSING OF OPEN ARMS PLAYGROUND

P Let the doors of this playground be opened in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Beloved in the Lord, the psalmist declares that the learning of God's Word is to His praise, saying, "I will praise You with an upright heart, when I learn Your just and righteous decrees. Blessed are You, O LORD; teach me Your statutes."
Psalm 119:7, 12 alt.

P Since the Lord has taught us in His holy Word that all things are holy when sanctified by the Word of God and prayer, it is fitting that we bless and sanctify this playground that it may be a place where all may grow in the knowledge and wisdom of the only true and saving God.
1 Timothy 4:5

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

Psalm 124:8

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

2 Timothy 4:22

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, by Your Holy Spirit enlighten those who teach and those who learn that, rejoicing in the knowledge of Your truth, they may worship You and serve You from generation to generation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

P The Lord Almighty, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless this playground to the praise and honor of His name.

C **Amen.**

P Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

[Psalm 103:1]

P The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

2 Corinthians 13:14

C **Amen.**

SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP

Presiding Minister

The Rev. David V. Miller, *Pastor*

Altar Assistant(s)

Jason Schoellen, *Elder*

Katie Schoellen, *Acolyte*

Jude Miller, *Gospel Bearer*

Organist

Laura Darden, *Director of Music*

Cantor

Briana Darden

Musician(s)

Briana Darden, violin

Will Davis, trumpet

Handbell Choir

Will Davis

Trevor Dunkel

Clara Smith

Lucie Woolery

Altar Guild

Mark Saldaña

Usher(s)

Greg Ison/Tracy Woolery

SERVING NEXT WEEK

Presiding Minister

The Rev. David V. Miller, *Pastor*

Altar Assistant(s)

Jason Schoellen, *Elder*

Katie Schoellen, *Acolyte*

Jude Miller, *Gospel Bearer*

Organist

Laura Darden, *Director of Music*

Cantor

Briana Darden

Musician(s)

Briana Darden, violin

Will Davis, trumpet

Altar Guild

Whitney Worthington

Usher(s)

Richard Drachenberg/Tom Lawton

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."

-JESUS CHRIST (MT. 22:37-39)

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sunday 3/24	Palmarum ~ Palm Sunday Nursery available Children's Sunday School Adult Bible Study: <i>The History of the Nation of Israel</i> Holy Mass Blessing of Open Arms Playground Fellowship Hour	9:30 – 11:30 AM 9:00 – 9:45 AM 9:00 – 9:40 AM 10:00 AM Following Mass Following Blessing
Monday 3/25	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Tuesday 3/26	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Wednesday 3/27	Open Arms LCDC Church Office Open Arms LCDC Chapel	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM 10:00 AM
Thursday 3/28	TRIDUUM: Maundy Thursday Open Arms LCDC Church Office Holy Mass Holy Mass	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM Noon 6:15 PM
Friday 3/29	TRIDUUM: Good Friday Open Arms LCDC Church Office Tenebrae Vespers Tenebrae Vespers	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM Noon 6:15 PM
Saturday 3/30	TRIDUUM: Holy Saturday Open Arms LCDC Church Office Vigil of Easter	Closed Closed 6:15 PM
Sunday 3/31	The Resurrection of Our Lord Nursery available Easter Breakfast Holy Mass Easter Egg Hunt	9:30 – 11:30 AM 8:30 – 9:30 AM 10:00 AM Following Mass

LOVING THE LORD

✝ **THIS SUNDAY: Palm Sunday Processional**

Sunday, March 24 at 10:00 A.M.
Church narthex

For Palm Sunday, please do not take a seat in the sanctuary before Divine Service, but please remain in the narthex. We will meet together for the Palm Sunday Processional and enter the sanctuary together during the Processional Hymn, “All Glory, Laud, and Honor.” Palms will be made available for waving during the processional.

✝ **NEXT SUNDAY: No Children’s Sunday School or Adult Bible Study**

✝ **Adult Bible Study: *The History of the Nation of Israel***

Sundays at 9:00 A.M.
Church fellowship hall

A barren woman’s miraculous pregnancy. God passed over for a human king. The wicked sons of a righteous prophet. A king’s crimes of murder and adultery. A son’s coup against his father’s throne. A prophet’s persecution. The Word of God lost and found again. These are just a handful of what you will encounter in this provocative Bible study covering the history of the nation of Israel. Beginning with 1 Samuel then moving on to the Books of Kings, Chronicles, and beyond, we will take a tour of the turbulent history of God’s people, and His faithfulness despite it all, after their establishment as a nation.

✝ **Lententide/Easter Mass Schedule**

Ash Wednesday:	February 14 noon and 6:15 P.M. (no supper)
Midweek:	February 21, 28; March 6, 13, 20 6:15 P.M. (supper at 7:00 P.M.)
Holy Triduum:	March 28 (Maundy Thursday) noon and 6:15 P.M. (no supper)
	March 29 (Good Friday) noon and 6:15 P.M. (no supper)
	March 30 (Easter Vigil) 6:15 P.M. (no supper)
Easter Sunday:	March 31 10:00 A.M. (breakfast at 8:30 A.M.; egg hunt at 11:30 A.M.)

✝ **Lenten Offerings: Lutheran Bible Translators**

All offerings collected during the Lenten midweek services will go to support Lutheran Bible Translators and their effort to translate the Gospel of Mark into the language of the people of Botswana. Thank you for your donations to help put God’s Word into the hands of all peoples.

✝ **Bethany Lutheran College Choir Concert**

Tuesday, May 14 at 7:00 P.M.
Church sanctuary

The student choir of Bethany Lutheran College (ELS) in Mankato, MN has included our congregation as a stop on their choral tour. They have prepared a concert of sacred choral music, and everyone is invited. Please join us in showing good hospitality, as well as to enjoy a wonderful evening of musical praise to the Lord! There is no cost to attend, but an offering will be taken up to help support the choir and defray costs.

✝ **Sermons on YouTube**

Missed a sermon? Had to walk out halfway through? Want to hear it again? No problem! Most sermons are now being recorded and posted to an official YouTube channel for you to watch at your leisure. Simply type in <https://www.youtube.com/@lcaatlanta> and you will be directed to the YouTube page where you have access to Pastor Miller's sermons online. Sermons are posted in the order of the date they were preached.

✝ **1-1-1 Mission Campaign**

1-1-1 is a campaign of the English District to raise \$1/per person/per week. That means that by giving \$4 each month, just \$52 a year, everyone can give toward the district's mission efforts. Just think what could happen if every person in the English District did this! Right now, those missions are focusing on district ministries on college campuses. Please consider playing a part in this special mission! Dollars may be contributed in the designated 1-1-1 Mission box located in the narthex.

LOVING OUR NEIGHBOR

✝ **Easter Lily Orders**

Deadline for orders: Sunday, March 24

Lilies are perennials, which means that they come back every year. This return of such a beautiful flower reminds us of the resurrection and new life of our risen Lord Jesus Christ at Easter. For this reason, lilies have traditionally adorned the Church during Eastertide. If you would like to help beautify the sanctuary, take a wonderful reminder of Easter home with you, and honor or memorialize a loved one, you may fill out an order form. They are the yellow slips of paper in the narthex by the bulletins. The cost for each lily is \$17. Please make your check out to Lutheran Church of the Ascension and be sure to put "Easter Lily" in the memo line. Please put your order in the offering plate.

✝ **Annual Easter Breakfast**

Sunday, March 31 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, March 31 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.

✝ **LWML Zone Rally**

Saturday April 20, beginning at 9:00 A.M.

Ascension will be hosting the next Lutheran Women's Missionary League Zone Rally. It will begin with registration at 9:00 A.M., Mass at 9:30 A.M., then ladies will discuss LWML business, and close with a luncheon. We encourage all congregational members (men and children included) to attend 9:30 Mass. We are also requesting volunteers to please provide and serve lunch to the LWML. Please consider serving this dedicated group of women, which is so selflessly committed to sharing the Gospel with our neighbors and providing mercy work to those in need.

✦ **Book Club: *Gone with the Wind***

Sunday, April 28 at 3:30 P.M.

Pastor Miller's home

Margaret Mitchell's page-turning, sweeping American epic has been a classic for over eighty years. Beloved and thought by many to be the greatest of the American novels, *Gone with the Wind* is a story of love, hope and loss set against the tense historical background of the American Civil War.

The lovers at the novel's centre – the selfish, privileged Scarlett O'Hara and rakish Rhett Butler – are magnetic: pulling readers into the tangled narrative of a struggle to survive that cannot be forgotten.

WINNER OF NATIONAL BOOK AWARD AND PULITZER PRIZE

'For sheer readability I can think of nothing it must give way before' *The New Yorker*

'What makes some people come through catastrophes and others, apparently just as able, strong, and brave, go under?' Margaret Mitchell

LIFTING HOLY HANDS

Celebrations

Birthdays:

- ✝ None this week

Rebirthdays (Baptismal Anniversaries):

- ✝ Fred Durden, 3/30

Wedding Anniversaries:

- ✝ None this week

Membership Anniversaries:

- ✝ Fred Durden, 3/30

Recent Requests

For persecuted Christians:

- ✝ Pakistan

For comfort, health, and recovery:

- ✝ Mick Augustitus (child of Keith Worthington's friend)
- ✝ Barbara Collins-Hopkins (Director of Open Arms LCDC)
- ✝ The Rev. Philip Kuehnert (former pastor of LCA)
- ✝ Kenneth McAusland (father of Christina Hartman)
- ✝ Cameron McClain and family (relatives of the Woolerys)
- ✝ Patrice Merkersen-Moore (Open Arms teacher)
- ✝ Michelle Noel
- ✝ Claire Pak (friend of Laura Darden)
- ✝ Jason Schoellen
- ✝ Bill Vester

For those requesting special prayers:

- ✝ Gainful employment for all those in this congregation who are actively seeking meaningful work and a fair wage.

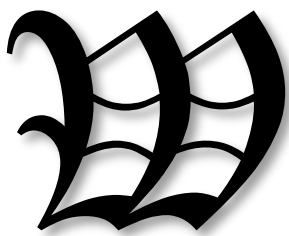
Ongoing Requests

For family and friends of the congregation:

- ✝ David Abee (brother of Nancy Grossberg)
- ✝ Brian Beckman
- ✝ Ruth Henry
- ✝ Jean Meyers
- ✝ Heidi Schnakenberg (niece of Clara Smith)

For the leaders of Church and state:

- ✝ Director Barbara Collins-Hopkins & Open Arms Board
- ✝ English District Bishop Jamison Hardy & 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 Joseph Biden & all U.S. government officials



WE RECEIVE IN THIS LIFE ONLY THE FIRSTFRUITS OF THE SPIRIT [ROMANS 8:23]. THE NEW BIRTH IS NOT COMPLETE, BUT ONLY BEGUN IN US. THE COMBAT AND STRUGGLE OF THE FLESH AGAINST THE SPIRIT REMAINS EVEN IN THE ELECT AND TRULY REGENERATE PEOPLE [GALATIANS 5:17]. FOR A GREAT DIFFERENCE CAN BE SEEN AMONG CHRISTIANS. NOT ONLY IS IT TRUE THAT ONE IS WEAK AND ANOTHER STRONG IN THE SPIRIT, BUT EACH CHRISTIAN ALSO EXPERIENCES DIFFERENCES IN HIMSELF. AT ONE TIME HE IS JOYFUL IN SPIRIT, AND AT ANOTHER FEARFUL AND ALARMED. AT ONE TIME HE IS INTENSE IN LOVE, STRONG IN FAITH AND HOPE, AND AT ANOTHER TIME HE IS COLD AND WEAK.

WHEN THE BAPTIZED ACT AGAINST THEIR CONSCIENCE, ALLOWING SIN TO RULE IN THEM, THEY GRIEVE THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THEM AND LOSE HIM [EPHESIANS 4:30]. THEY DO NOT NEED TO BE REBAPTIZED. BUT THEY MUST BE CONVERTED AGAIN . . . THROUGH PREACHING AND MEDITATION ON HIS WORD GOD KINDLES FAITH AND OTHER GODLY VIRTUES IN US. THEY ARE THE HOLY SPIRIT'S GIFTS AND WORKS ALONE.

-FORMULA, SOLID DECLARATION, ARTICLE II. FREE WILL, 68-69, 71



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