



Invocavit

Grace Lutheran Church
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

Be gone, Satan! For it is written
**“You shall worship the Lord your God
And Him only shall you serve.”**

Matthew 4:10

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

gordongrace.org & facebook.com/gracelutherangordon

Rev. Travis Sherman
office@gordongrace.org
Bible Classes: 9:00 A.M.
Worship 10:00 A.M.



Date: Feb. 21st, 2021
Office: 308-282-0584
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Cell: 970-381-1670

WELCOME! We welcome our guests and visitors this morning and pray that your worship with us will be meaningful, blessed, and especially Christ-centered. We hope that you will worship with us again soon! If you do not have a church home, we invite you to consider making Grace Lutheran your church home.

IN THE INTEREST of good pastoral care, Grace Lutheran Church practices close communion. We believe, teach and confess that the one Holy Apostolic Christian Church throughout history and Holy Scripture teach that those who commune together should be one in faith and doctrine. For this reason, we reserve Holy Communion for those who are confirmed members of Grace Lutheran Church, and for confirmed members in good standing of sister LC-MS congregations. We respectfully ask those who are members of other church bodies to commune at the altar of their church, in accordance with their public confessions and under the care of their pastor.

THOSE who serve us:

Elder.....
Altar..... Piano/Organ...Sherry Rhoadarmer
Flowers Courtesy.....
Greeters.....
Ushers
Church CleanerLisa Johnson
Church Secretary.....Leah Sherman
Little Lambs Preschool TeacherDeb Evans

REMEMBER in your prayers: Jan Flueckinger, DeOnna Anderson, Bob Mills, Jim Kamerzell, Edna Schaer, Kristy Winter, Wynn Coon, Bonnie and Leonard Harris, Korbin Sommerville, Karen Prussia, Marilyn Truax, Nancy Russell

Lenten Midweek Service—Wednesday 6PM



Hymn of Invocation: 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!

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Please stand, as you are able

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 28:19]*

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*

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

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. **C** Amen. *[John 20:19-23]*

Introit *Psalm 91:1–2, 9–10, 13; antiphon: vv. 15a, c, 16*



When he calls to me, I will | answer him;*

I will rescue him and | honor him.

With long life I will sat- | isfy him*
and show him my sal- | vation.

He who dwells in the shelter of the | Most High*
will abide in the shadow of the Al- | mighty.

I will say to the LORD, “My refuge and my | fortress,*
my God, in | whom I trust.”

Because you have made the LORD your | dwelling place—*
the Most High, who is my | refuge—
no evil shall be allowed to be- | fall you,*
no plague come | near your tent.

You will tread on the lion and the | adder;*
the young lion and the serpent you will trample | underfoot.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

When he calls to me, I will | answer him;*

I will rescue him and | honor him.

With long life I will sat- | isfy him*
and show him my sal- | vation.

Kyrie

Mark 10:47



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



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

Gloria in Excelsis

Luke 2:14; John 1:29



Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward



men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.



O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;



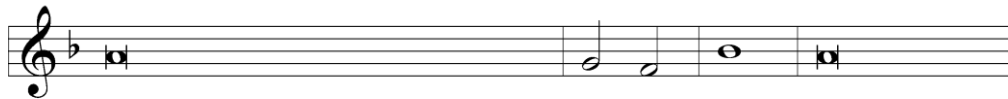
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.



Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.



Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-



on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

C And with thy spir - it.

P Let us pray. O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C A - men.

Old Testament Reading The Fall

Genesis 3:1–21

¹Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made.

He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?’” ²And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’”

⁴But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. ⁵For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God,

knowing good and evil.” ⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

⁸And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” ¹⁰And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.”

¹¹He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” ¹²The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.” ¹³Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

¹⁴The LORD God said to the serpent,

“Because you have done this,
cursed are you above all
livestock
and above all beasts of the
field;
on your belly you shall go,
and dust you shall eat
all the days of your life.

¹⁵I will put enmity between you
and the woman,
and between your offspring
and her offspring;
he shall bruise your head,
and you shall bruise his heel.”

¹⁶To the woman he said,

“I will surely multiply your pain
in childbearing;
in pain you shall bring forth
children.
Your desire shall be for your
husband,
and he shall rule over you.”

¹⁷And to Adam he said,

“Because you have listened to
the voice of your wife
and have eaten of the tree
of which I commanded you,
‘You shall not eat of it,’
cursed is the ground because of
you;

in pain you shall eat of it all
the days of your life;
¹⁸thorns and thistles it shall bring
forth for you;
and you shall eat the plants of
the field.

¹⁹By the sweat of your face
you shall eat bread,
till you return to the ground,
for out of it you were taken;
for you are dust,
and to dust you shall return.”

²⁰The man called his wife’s name Eve, because she was the mother of all
living. ²¹And the LORD God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins
and clothed them.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual *Psalm 91:11–12*



He will command his angels con- | cerning you*
to guard you in | all your ways.

On their hands they will | bear you up,*
lest you strike your foot a- | gainst a stone.

Epistle

Hebrews 4:14–16

Jesus the Great High Priest

¹⁴Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens,
Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. ¹⁵For we do not have a
high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in
every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶Let us then with
confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and
find grace to help in time of need.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Tract

Psalm 91:1, 4a, 15a, 16



He who dwells in the shelter of the | Most High*
will abide in the shadow of the Al- | mighty.
He will cover you with his | pinions,*
and under his wings you will find | refuge.
When he calls to me, I will | answer him,*
I will be with him in | trouble.
With long life I will sat- | isfy him*
and show him my sal- | vation.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:1–11

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourth chapter.

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

The Temptation of Jesus

¹Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ²And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. ³And the tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” ⁴But he answered, “It is written,

“Man shall not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.”

⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple ⁶and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written,

“He will command his angels concerning you,”

and

“On their hands they will bear you up,
lest you strike your foot against a stone.”

⁷Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’” ⁸Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹And he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” ¹⁰Then Jesus said to him, “Be gone, Satan! For it is written,

“You shall worship the Lord your God
and him only shall you serve.”

¹¹Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

PThis is the Gospel of the Lord. **C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and
invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all
worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the
Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our
salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy
Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;

and was crucified also for us
under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again
according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the
Father.
And He will come again with
glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no
end.
And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father
and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.

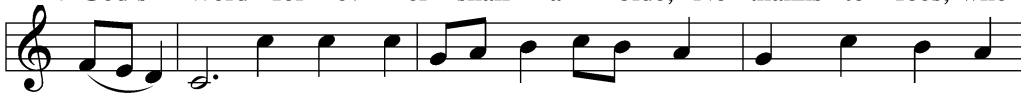
And I believe in one holy
Christian and apostolic
Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for
the remission of sins,

and I look for the resurrection of
the dead
and the life ✠ of the world to
come. Amen.

Hymn of the Day: 657 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



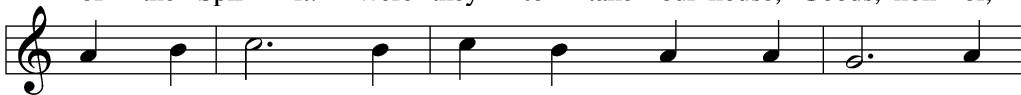
1 A might - y for - tress is our God, A sword and shield vic -
2 No strength of ours can match his might. We would be lost, re -
3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land All threat'ning to de -
4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, No thanks to foes, who



to - rious; He breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod And wins sal -
ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, Whom God Him -
your us, We trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; They can - not
fear it; For God Him - self fights by our side With weap - ons



va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe Has sworn to
self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be? The Lord of
o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage; In bat - tle
of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house, Goods, hon - or,



work us woe. With craft and dread - ful might He
hosts is He, Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord, God's
we'll en - gage. His might is doomed to fail; God's
child, or spouse, Though life be wrenched a - way, They



arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
can - not win the day. The King - dom's ours for - ev - er!

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Sermon

P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. **C** Amen.

Philippians 4:7

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.

[Offering at the back of church] *[1 Cor. 9:14; Gal. 6:6-7; 1 Tim. 5:17-18]*

Prayer of the Church

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord: **C** Lord, have mercy.

P For the Lord's guidance, that as God led His ancient people through the desert and brought them to the Promised Land, we may follow our Savior through the wilderness of this world and toward the glory of the world to come, let us pray to the Lord: **C** Lord, have mercy.

P For new and contrite hearts, that we may receive God's absolution lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, yet in the confidence that He disdains nothing He has made and forgives the sins of those who are penitent, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the Church, her ministers and her people, that God would stretch forth the right hand of His majesty to defend us from those who rise up against her, let us pray to the Lord: **C** **Lord, have mercy.**

P For all catechumens and their teachers, all children and their parents, and every Christian home, that God would preserve them from the assaults of the evil one and, as Christ overcame Satan in the desert by the Word of God, also give us the victory through Him and His Word, let us pray to the Lord: **C** **Lord, have mercy.**

P For peace, that as we sojourn in the wilderness of this earth, God would by His might defend us and our nation against all enemies, let us pray to the Lord: **C** **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the needy, the sick and the troubled [especially]; and that God would send His holy angels to protect and keep us in His ways, that no evil may befall us, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For all who commune this day, that as God once covered the sin of our first parents with animal skin, foreshadowing Christ's perfect sacrifice by which we are cleansed and clothed, He would give us the garments of repentance and faith to receive Christ's body and blood for the forgiveness of all our sins, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P Lord God, heavenly Father, inasmuch as the adversary continually afflicts us and as a roaring lion walks about, seeking to devour us: We

implore You for the sake of the suffering and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, to help us by the grace of the Holy Spirit and to strengthen our hearts by Your Word, that our enemy may not prevail over us, but that we may evermore abide in Your grace and be preserved unto everlasting life; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

P The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

C And with thy spirit.

P Lift up your hearts.

[Colossians 3:1]

C We lift them up unto the Lord.

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

[Psalm 136]

C It is meet and right so to do.

[Meet means 'fitting, proper.']

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

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.

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13

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 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20;
1 Corinthians 11:23-25*

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."
- P** In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

John 20:19

P The peace of the Lord be with you always. **C** Amen.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29

C O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
grant us Thy peace. Amen.

Sit

Distribution

The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first and then distribute them to those who come to receive, saying:

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins. **Amen.**

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins. **Amen.**

We ask all who desire to receive communion to please read the communion statement at the front of the bulletin. For those approaching the Lord's Table this day, we ask you to come individually or by family group.

Following Communion, the following is said:

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

C Amen.

Distribution Hymn: 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!

Distribution Hymn: 423 Jesus, Refuge of the Weary



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



whom we love, Foun - tain in life's des - ert drea - ry, Sav - ior
pen - tant vow, Though we see You wound - ed, bleed - ing, See Your
love for You; May our eyes be ev - er turn - ing To be -



from the world a - bove; Of - ten have Your eyes, of - fend - ed,
thorn - en - cir - cled brow? Yet Your sin - less death has brought us
hold Your cross a - new Till in glo - ry, part - ed nev - er



Gazed up - on the sin - ner's fall; Yet up - on the
Life e - ter - nal, peace, and rest; On - ly what Your
From the bless - ed Sav - ior's side, Grav - en in our



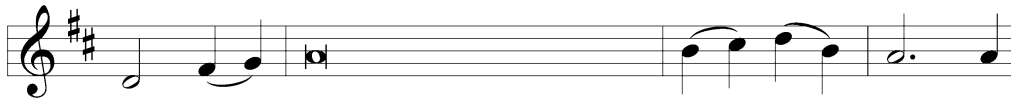
cross ex - tend - ed, You have borne the pain of all.
grace has taught us Calms the sin - ner's deep dis - tress.
hearts for - ev - er, Dwell the cross, the Cru - ci - fied.

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Stand

Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29-32



Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -



cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,

which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

Thanksgiving

Psalm 107:1

- A** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C and His mercy endureth forever.
A 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.

- P** The Lord be with you. **C** And with thy spirit. *2 Timothy 4:22*

Benedicamus

[Psalm 103:1]

- 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 gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.
C Amen, amen, amen.

Hymn to Depart: TLH157 There Is a Fountain Filled with Blood



1 There is a foun - tain filled with blood Drawn
 2 The dy - ing thief re - joiced to see That
 3 Dear dy - ing Lamb, Thy pre - cious blood Shall
 4 E'er since by faith I saw the stream Thy



from Im - man - uel's veins, And sin - ners plunged be -
 foun - tain in his day; And there have I, as
 nev - er lose its power Till all the ran - somed
 flow - ing wounds sup - ply, Re - deem - ing love has



- neath that flood Lose all their guilt - y stains.
 vile as he, Washed all my sins a - way.
 Church of God Be saved to sin no more.
 been my theme And shall be till I die.

5 When this poor lisp - ing, stamm'ring tongue
 Lies silent in the grave,
 Then in a nobler, sweeter song
 I'll sing Thy pow'r to save.

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Acknowledgments

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To make your offering online, you can scan this code with your smartphone, or go to bit.ly/ThriventOffering.

STEWARDSHIP:

Matthew 4:4 – “But he answered, ‘It is written,’ “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.” ” What good are all the things of this world (food, drink, house, home, wealth, etc.) if we lose the things of God? What’s more important? How should our priorities be arranged?

Budget for 2021: \$124,440
As of Feb. 3rd we have received: \$8,661.28

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

We rejoice to be back in the house of the LORD! What a blessing to be able to gather under the same roof, hear God’s Word, receive His gifts, pray and sing His praises together.

At the same time, we will still take a few common sense precautions in an attempt to keep one another and our community healthy. Here at church, those precautions include the following things: 1) there will be no passing of the offering plate; 2) distribution of the Sacrament will be done individually; 3) when lining up for communion, we ask you to line up one family group at a time; 4) the communion vessels have been prepared in a sanitized environment, and arranged in a way that seeks to avoid cross-contamination.

This is something we are dealing with in our community and our congregation. We need to watch out for each other, help one another to care for our bodies and lives, encourage one another with the hope we have in Jesus’ victory over death, and pray for ourselves and others that God would continue to lead and guide us.

February Missions Project: Community Needs

"If you help a poor person in the name of the Lord, you are making a gift and at the same time granting a loan. You are making a gift because you have no expectation of being reimbursed by that poor person. You are granting a loan because the Lord will settle the account. It is not much that the Lord receives by means of the poor, but He will pay a great deal on their behalf. "They who are kind to the poor lend to the Lord" [Prov. 19:17]" (Basil the Great 330-379 AD)

This month we are collecting for the needs of the less fortunate in our own community. Along with monetary donations that are used for things like lodging and helping with heating bills in times of cold, these items are especially useful:

Foods that require little prep and cooking utensils—chunky soup, granola bars, canned meats (spam, Vienna sausages, tuna, etc). Also, many people needing help do not have can-openers, so either look for pop-tops or consider donating a couple of can openers. A gift-certificate to the grocery store also helps people to get things we can't keep on hand, such as milk, eggs, bread, and meat. Other items like wool socks, baby diapers, feminine hygiene products

From the Catechism:

228. What do *tempt* and *temptation* mean in the Scriptures?

In the Scriptures these words have two meanings:

A. The testing of our faith, which God uses to bring us closer to Himself.

John 6:5-6 When Jesus looked up and saw a great crowd coming toward Him, He said to Philip, “Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?” He asked this only to test him, for He already had in mind what He was going to do.

James 1:2-3 Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance.

Bible Narratives: The Sacrifice of Isaac (Gen 22:1-19); Jesus tested the faith of the Canaanite woman (Matt 15:21-28)

B. The attempts of our Spiritual enemies to lure us away from God and His ways.

Mark 14:38 Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak.

James 1:13-14 When tempted, no one should say, “God is tempting me.” For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He tempt anyone; but each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed.

229. Into what kinds of evil do our spiritual enemies try to mislead us?

The devil, the world and our sinful nature try to mislead us into false belief, despair, and other great sins.

1 Peter 5:8-9 Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

Proverbs 1:10 My son, if sinners entice you, do not give in to them.

Matt. 18:7 Woe to the world because of the things that cause people to sin! Such things must come, but woe to the man through whom they come.

Gal 5:17 The sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature.

2 Cor. 4:8 We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed, perplexed but not in despair.

Bible Narratives: The devil tempted Eve to doubt and disobey God (Gen. 3). The devil tempted Judas to betray Christ (John 13:2) and to despair (Matt. 27:4-5). Among enemies of Christ, Peter denied his savior (Luke 22:54-60). King David’s sinful nature tempted him to commit adultery and murder (2 Sam. 12:9).

230. What do we ask for when we pray *lead us not into temptation*?

We ask our Father in heaven to give us strength to resist and overcome temptations.

Luke 22:31-32 Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift you as wheat. But I have prayed for you Simon, that your faith may not fail.

Rom. 13:14 Clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature.

1 Cor. 10:12-13 If you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall! No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.

Eph. 6:11, 17 Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes....Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God.

Bible Narratives: Joseph withstood the temptations of Potiphar's wife (Gen. 39:1-20). Jesus was tempted by Satan and won the victory for us (Matt. 4:1-11).

Instructions for the Lenten Bible Journaling Page on the next page:

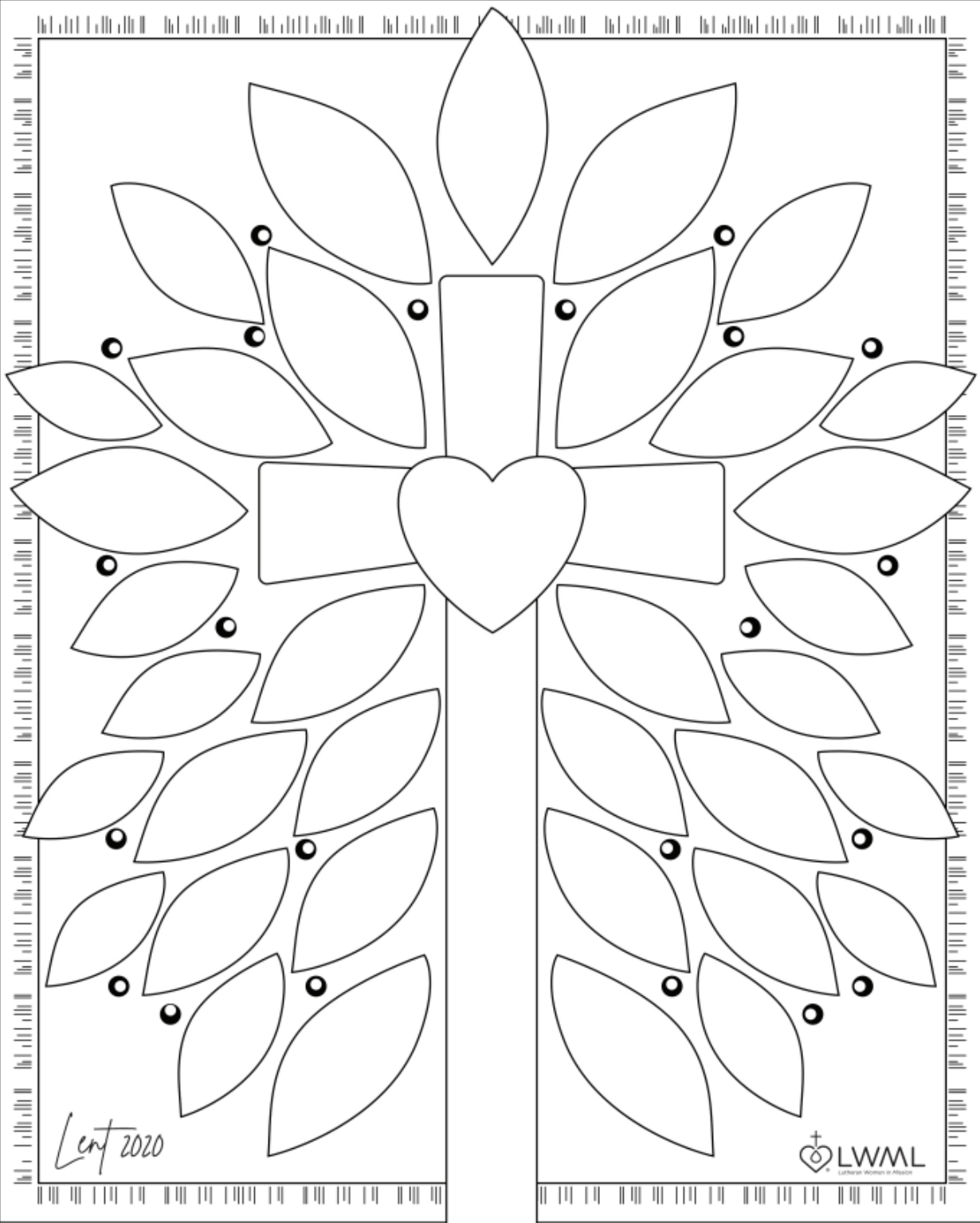
In the margins or on a piece of paper, summarize the devotion or Scripture reading in one-two sentences.

Next, narrow it even further, using just a few words (like a tag line) to summarize what it says to you. Write those words inside a space on the template.

If there are any word pictures or images that come to mind, you can incorporate them with, or instead of, words. (This may be done with illustrations or a color choice.)

Each day, as you reflect and respond to the reading, you can also look back and review previous days' responses. What is God revealing on your Lenten journey?

The 40 spaces are for the 40 days of Lent. Sundays are not included. You may choose to skip journaling on Sundays or finish the template on Palm Sunday if you include Sunday devotions.



Lent 2020

