



First Sunday in Lent

February 21, 2021

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

Prospect Heights, IL

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The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

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PRELUDE TEMPTED OR TESTED?

AS WE GATHER

As the disciples follow Jesus from the upper room to the Mount of Olives, he has a hard word for them, and they find themselves unable to accept it. It is a hard word also for us to accept, but it is ultimately a powerfully saving and transforming word. The Things That Matter Are NOT About You!

Opening Hymn 418 O LORD, THROUGHOUT THESE FORTY DAYS

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 O Lord, throughout these forty days
You prayed and kept the fast;
Inspire repentance for our sin,
And free us from our past. | 3 Though parched and hungry, yet You prayed
And fixed Your mind above;
So teach us to deny ourselves,
Since we have known God's love. |
| 2 You strove with Satan, and You won;
Your faithfulness endured;
Lend us Your nerve, Your skill and trust
In God's eternal Word. | 4 Be with us through this season, Lord,
And all our earthly days,
That when the final Easter dawns,
We join in heaven's praise. |

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INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Mark 14:38; 1 Peter 5:8; 1 Corinthians 10:12-13

- P** Jesus said, "Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."
C Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.
- P** Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man.
C God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Romans 6:20, 22-23, adapted; Mark 1:15

- P** God's Word reminds us that when we were slaves of sin, we were free in regard to righteousness.
C But now that we have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit we get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life.
- P** For the wages of sin is death,
C but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.
- P** Let us confess our sins to God, who has brought us out of slavery and promises to lead us to the promised land of heaven.

A moment for silent confession.

P Heavenly Father, we know we are blessed when we remain steadfast under trial, yet we fall prey to the devil's schemes and give in to temptation. We are lured and enticed by our own evil desires—desires that contradict your good and gracious will.

C For Jesus' sake, forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P As Jesus began His ministry, He said, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel." As you have repented of your sins, believe these words as if Jesus was standing here speaking them to you: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

INTROIT

Psalm 91:9-13; antiphon: vv. 15-16

P When he calls to Me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him. With long life I will satisfy him and show him My salvation.

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

P For He will command His angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.

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

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

C When he calls to Me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him. With long life I will satisfy him and show him My salvation.

KYRIE

James 1:18; Psalm 102:1, adapted

P Lord, have mercy.

C Christ, have mercy.

P Lord, have mercy.

C Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures.

P O LORD, hear our prayer.

C And let our cry come to You!

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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 Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Genesis 22:1-18

¹After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here am I." ²He said, "Take 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." ³So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. ⁴On the third day Abraham lifted

up his eyes and saw the place from afar. ⁵Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you.” ⁶And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. ⁷And Isaac said to his father Abraham, “My father!” And he said, “Here am I, my son.” He said, “Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” ⁸Abraham said, “God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So they went both of them together.

⁹When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. ¹⁰Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. ¹¹But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here am I.” ¹²He said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.” ¹³And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴So Abraham called the name of that place, “The LORD will provide”; as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided.”

¹⁵And the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven ¹⁶and said, “By myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, ¹⁸and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

James 1:12-18

¹²Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. ¹³Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am being tempted by God,” for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. ¹⁴But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. ¹⁵Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

¹⁶Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. ¹⁷Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 14:26-31

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the fourteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²⁶And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. ²⁷And Jesus said to them, “You will all fall away, for it is written, ‘I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.’ ²⁸But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee.” ²⁹Peter said to him, “Even though they all fall away, I will not.” ³⁰And Jesus said to him, “Truly, I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times.” ³¹But he said emphatically, “If I must die with you, I will not deny you.” And they all said the same.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day 716 I Walk in Danger All the Way

- 1 I walk in danger all the way.
The thought shall never leave me
That Satan, who has marked his prey,
Is plotting to deceive me.
This foe with hidden snares
May seize me unawares
If I should fail to watch and pray.
I walk in danger all the way.
- 2 I pass through trials all the way,
With sin and ills contending;
In patience I must bear each day
The cross of God's own sending.
When in adversity
I know not where to flee,
When storms of woe my soul dismay,
I pass through trials all the way.
- 3 And death pursues me all the way,
Nowhere I rest securely;
He comes by night, he comes by day,
He takes his prey most surely.
A failing breath, and I
In death's strong grasp may lie
To face eternity today
As death pursues me all the way.
- 4 I walk with angels all the way,
They shield me and befriend me;
All Satan's pow'r is held at bay
When heav'nly hosts attend me;
They are my sure defense,
All fear and sorrow, hence!
Unharm'd by foes, do what they may,
I walk with angels all the way.
- 5 I walk with Jesus all the way,
His guidance never fails me;
Within His wounds I find a stay
When Satan's pow'r assails me;
And by His footsteps led,
My path I safely tread.
No evil leads my soul astray;
I walk with Jesus all the way.
- 6 My walk is heav'nward all the way;
Await, my soul, the morrow,
When God's good healing shall allay
All suff'ring, sin, and sorrow.
Then, worldly pomp, begone!
To heav'n I now press on.
For all the world I would not stay;
My walk is heav'nward all the way.

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SERMON

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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Psalm 25:4-6, adapted

P Friends in Christ, I urge you to lift up your souls to our God in whom we trust, as Christ, our Lord,
promises to hear us.

Lord Jesus, You are the Lord of the Church.

C Bless the work of our congregation and all who bear Your name.

P Remember Your mercy, O Lord,

C and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

P Lord Jesus, the government is on Your shoulders.

C Watch over all in this world. Guide the world's leaders with Your wisdom, as well as our elected
officials—our president, our governor, and our local authorities—that we may live peaceful and
quiet lives.

P Remember Your mercy, O Lord,

C and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

P Lord Jesus, You are our Teacher.

C Make us to know Your ways, O Lord; teach us Your paths. Lead us in Your truth and teach us, for
You are the God of our salvation; for You we wait all the day long.

P Remember Your mercy, O Lord,

C and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

P Lord Jesus, You are the God of our salvation.

C Guide us, Lord, in living lives that bear witness to Your truth. Lead us to connect with those who
are wandering or who do not know You.

P Remember Your mercy, O Lord,

C and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

P Lord Jesus, You are the Great Physician.

C Bind up the brokenhearted, give sight to the blind, make the lame to walk and the deaf to hear.

P We name before You those who are struggling in body, mind, and spirit and ask You to heal them: Hedy
Beer, Kathleen, Alicia, Sallyann, Sheila, Lou, Jean Staffa, Dana, Kaylee, Leah, Terri, Rory, Jean, Ray
Wirsing, Rod Isaacson, Sharlene, Fran, Doug, Paula, Wally Olson, and Pastor Barber and his family.
Remember Your mercy, O Lord,

C and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

- P** Into Your hands, Lord Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your great mercy to hear and answer us.
- C** Amen.

PREFACE

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

- P** It is truly good, 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 (spoken)

LSB 961

- C** Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;
heav'n and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessèd, blessèd, blessèd is He
who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

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PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

- P** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given your only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your great wisdom, You tested Abraham and provided a ram as a substitute sacrifice. In Your great mercy, You allowed Your Son to be tempted in every way that we are, and as He did not sin, You provided Him as the substitute sacrifice for our sins, including the temptations we so easily fall prey to.

We thank You for the forgiveness You freely offer us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** Amen.

WORDS OF OUR LORD

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

- P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- C** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

PAX DOMINI

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

We receive the true body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, we thank You for pouring out Your body and blood and serving it to us in this Meal in bread and wine. In Your mercy, strengthen and lead us as we face temptations and testing in this life on our way to the life to come, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Blessing

P The Almighty Father, the Christ, ✠ the Son of the Blessed One, and the Holy Spirit strengthen you in believing and guard you in peace.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn 758 The Will of God Is Always Best

1 The will of God is always best
And shall be done forever;
And they who trust in Him are blest;
He will forsake them never.
He helps indeed
In time of need;
He chastens with forbearing.
They who depend
On God, their friend,
Shall not be left despairing.

- 2 God is my comfort and my trust,
My hope and life abiding;
And to His counsel, wise and just,
I yield, in Him confiding.
The very hairs,
His Word declares,
Upon my head He numbers.
By night and day
God is my stay;
He never sleeps nor slumbers.
- 3 Lord, this I ask, O hear my plea,
Deny me not this favor:
When Satan sorely troubles me,
Then do not let me waver.
O guard me well,
My fear dispel,
Fulfill Your faithful saying:
All who believe
By grace receive
An answer to their praying.
- 4 When life's brief course on earth is run
And I this world am leaving,
Grant me to say, "Your will be done,"
Your faithful Word believing.
My dearest Friend,
I now commend
My soul into Your keeping;
From sin and hell,
And death as well,
By You the vict'ry reaping.

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DISMISSAL

- P** Go in peace as you serve the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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