

Saint John's Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod
Pinconning, Michigan

The Fifth Sunday of Lent

March 29, 2020

AS WE GATHER ONLINE FOR WORSHIP... Welcome to St. John's first ever online service broadcast! We hope this resource will keep our family ties close. Long before Jesus' death and resurrection, God made clear to His people that death would not have the last word. As Ezekiel was inspired to write of the dry bones of death having life breathed into them, it would foreshadow the future for God's people through the One who conquered death and grave once for all. We see this resurrection theme shown again in our Gospel lesson, with the raising of Lazarus from the dead. In a world of death and decay, we are sustained in our journey now until the resurrection of all flesh through Jesus Christ, our life-giving Lord and Savior.

✠ Special Order of Worship ✠

The Mission before us: to **WORSHIP**, to **SERVE**, to **GROW**

Welcome/Announcements

How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds

(LSB 524 vs 1-4)

How sweet the name of Jesus sounds In a believer's ear!
It soothes our sorrows, heals our wounds, And drives away our fear.
It makes the wounded spirit whole And calms the heart's unrest;
'Tis manna to the hungry soul And to the weary, rest.
Dear name! The rock on which I build, My shield and hiding place;
My never-failing treasury filled With boundless stores of grace.
O Jesus, shepherd, guardian, friend, My Prophet, Priest, and King,
My Lord, my life, my way, my end, Accept the praise I bring.

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Invocation

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

C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

P As we worship the Triune God this day, let us take off the masks that disguise us and admit who we really are. God is the God of truth. Let us open our lives to Him, no matter how much it hurts, for only when the darkness is exposed can it be conquered by the Light. Who, then, are we?

C **We are Adam. Even while surrounded by the abundant blessings of God, we think we're smarter, more clever, and deserving of more. We would rather worship ourselves.**

P Who are we?

C We are Aaron. When pressed by the crowd, we fold under the pressure and join in fashioning idols. We call them "friends," "family," "job," "the good life."

P Who are we?

C We are David. Anointed by God to be His special people through Holy Baptism, we let our eyes wander, and soon our heart convinces us that lust is love - "Thine" is "Mine," and we are miserable.

P Who are we?

C We are Thomas. We question, doubt, resist, and fold our arms while uttering the challenge: **SHOW ME!** In the meantime, our Lord calls us to take up the cross and minister in His Name. But we can't and we won't, because we can't carry a cross when our arms are folded tightly to our sides.

P Who are we? We are all of these. But we are more. We are the objects of God's concern and love. We are the people for whom Jesus Christ died. We are the people to whom Jesus beckons, calling us to die to self and be raised to the new life of the resurrection. Just as surely as Jesus died and rose again, we are forgiven. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit

C Amen.

Service of the Word

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, in whom is life now and forever, through Your Son's suffering and death You have given us victory over all we ever need fear in sin, eternal death, and the power of the devil. Breathe into our bones and our souls Your life-giving Word, that we rejoice in Your forgiveness and serve You and others in love and faithfulness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Old Testament Lesson

A vision of resurrection.

Ezekiel 37:1-14

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Lesson

Resurrection life now by faith.

Romans 8:1-11

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

O Savior, Precious Savior

(LSB 527 vs. 1-3)

O Savior, precious Savior, Whom yet unseen we love;
O name of might and favor, All other names above,
We worship Thee, we bless Thee, To Thee, O Christ, we sing;
We praise Thee and confess Thee, Our holy Lord and King.

O bringer of salvation, Who wondrously hast wrought
Thyself the revelation Of love beyond our thought,
We worship Thee, we bless Thee, To Thee, O Christ, we sing;
We praise Thee and confess Thee, Our gracious Lord and King.

In Thee all fullness dwelleth, All grace and pow'r divine;
The glory that excelleth, O Son of God, is Thine.
We worship Thee, we bless Thee, To Thee, O Christ, we sing;
We praise Thee and confess Thee, Our glorious Lord and King.

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Holy Gospel

John 11:38-53

Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead and the plot to kill Him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Homily

Text: John 11:38-53
Theme: "The Jesus Way of Thinking"

The Apostles Creed

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.

Offertory - We Give You but Your Own

We give You but Your own In any gifts we bring;
All that we have is Yours alone, A trust from You, our King.

May we Your bounties thus, As stewards true receive
And gladly, Lord, as You bless us, To You our first-fruits give.

(That mission and ministry may continue, please remember to mail your offerings to the church)

Prayers of the Church

The 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.

Luther's Morning Prayer

C I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Salutation and Benedicamus

P The Lord be with you.

C And with your spirit.

P Bless we the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

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

C Amen.

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

(LSB 575)

My hope is built on nothing less Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;

No merit of my own I claim But wholly lean on Jesus' name.

On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace;

In ev'ry high and stormy gale My anchor holds within the veil.

On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.

His oath, His covenant and blood Support me in the raging flood;

When ev'ry earthly prop gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.

On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.

When He shall come with trumpet sound, Oh, may I then in Him be found,

Clothed in His righteousness alone, Redeemed to stand before His throne!

On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.

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