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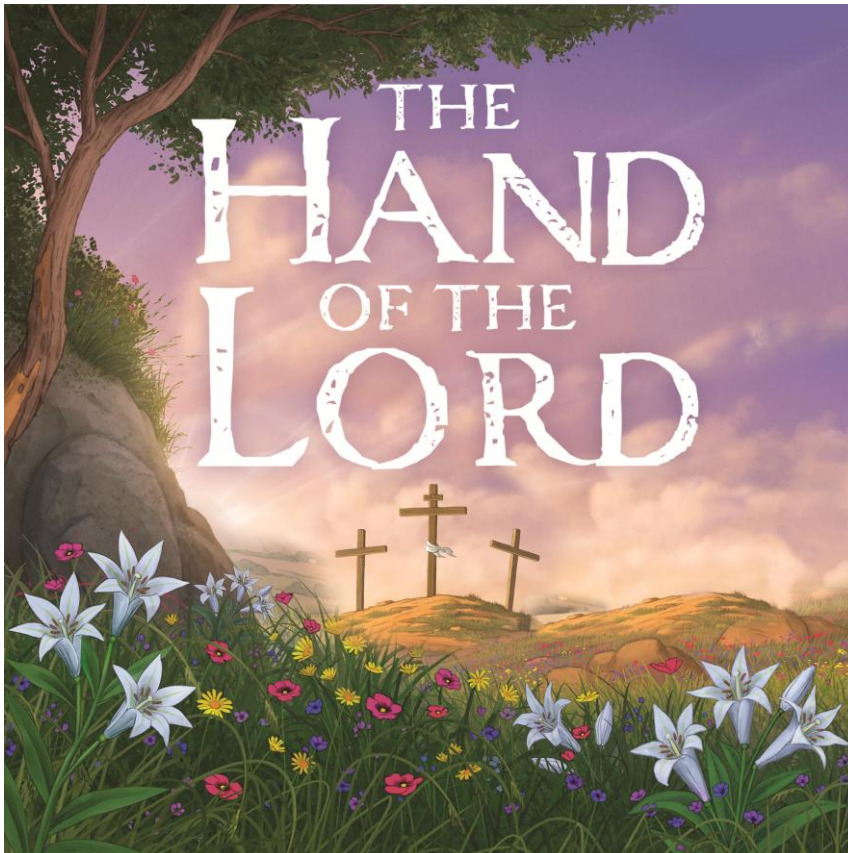
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March 12, 2025

Wednesday Lent #2



✠ Preparation for Worship: Read Psalm 31 (Lutheran Service Book or Pew Bible) ✠

Greeting and prayer: (Pastor)

Opening Hymn: 702 *My Faith Looks Up to Thee*

LSB 702

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Invocation

We invoke ("call upon") the name of the one true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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

C **Amen.**

P Into Your hand I commit my spirit;

C **You have redeemed me, O LORD God of truth.**

P My times are in Your hand;

C **Deliver me from the hand of my enemies, And from those who persecute me.**

P Make Your face shine upon Your servant;

C **Save me for Your mercies' sake.** (Psalm 31:5, 15-16)

Confession and Absolution

We come before our Holy God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

P Let us now confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean.**

**We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved You with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment.

For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will
and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P In His mercy, our Heavenly Father has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. He has opened His hands in the free blessings of the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. As a called servant of Christ, and by His command and 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.

Prayer of the Day

P We pray:

Lord God, You have called Your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but knowing that Your saving hand is leading us and Your love is supporting us. We pray this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Scripture Reading

THE PASSION HISTORY OF CHRIST - Part 2

Then the detachment of troops and the captain and the officers of the Jews arrested Jesus and bound Him. And they led Him away and brought Him into the high priest's house. They led Him to Annas first; for he was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, who was high priest that year. Now it was Caiaphas who gave counsel to the Jews that it was expedient that one man should die for the people.

And Simon Peter followed Jesus at a distance, and so did the other disciple. Now that disciple was known to the high priest, and went with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest. But Peter stood at the door outside. Then the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out and spoke to her who kept the door and brought Peter in, right into the courtyard of the high priest.

And the servants and officers, who had made a fire of coals in the midst of the courtyard, stood there; for it was cold. And they warmed themselves. And Peter stood with them and warmed himself at the fire. And after they had sat down together, Peter sat down with the servants to see the end.

The high priest then asked Jesus about His disciples and His doctrine. Jesus answered him, "I spoke openly to the world; I always taught in synagogues, and in the temple, where the Jews always meet, and in secret I have said nothing. Why do you ask Me? Ask those who have heard Me what I said to them; indeed they know what I said."

And when He had said these things, one of the officers who stood by struck Jesus with the palm of his hand, saying, "Do You answer the high priest like that?"

Jesus answered him, "If I have spoken evil, bear witness of the evil; but if well, why do you strike Me?"

Then Annas sent Jesus bound to Caiaphas the high priest; and with him were assembled all the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes. And the chief priests, the elders, and all the council sought false testimony against Jesus to put Him to death; and found none, even though many false witnesses came forward. For many bore false witness against Him, but their testimonies did not agree.

But at last two false witnesses came forward and bore false witness against Him, saying, "This Fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days.' We heard Him say, 'I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and within three days I will build another made without hands.'" But not even then did their testimony agree.

And the high priest stood up in the midst and asked Jesus, saying, "Do You answer nothing? What is it that these men testify against You?"

But Jesus kept silent and answered nothing.

And the high priest asked Him, saying to Him, "I adjure You by the living God that You tell us if You are the Christ, the Son of God, the Son of the Blessed?"

And Jesus said, "I am. It is as you said. Nevertheless, I say to you, hereafter you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of power and coming on the clouds of heaven."

Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "He has spoken blasphemy! What further need do we have of witnesses? Behold, now you have heard His blasphemy. What do you think?"

And they all condemned Him to be worthy of death. They answered and said, "He is deserving of death!"

Then some began to spit in His face. And the men who held Jesus mocked Him. They blindfolded Him and struck Him in the face and asked Him, "Prophecy to us, Christ; who is the one that struck You?" And many other things they blasphemously spoke against Him. And the officers struck Him with the palms of their hands.

Now Peter was sitting outside, below in the courtyard. And a certain servant-girl, one of the servant-girls of the high priest, the one who kept the door, saw Peter warming himself as he sat by the fire. She came to him and said, "You are not also one of this Man's disciples, are you?"

He said, "I am not."

She said, "You also were with Jesus of Galilee." She looked intently at him and said, "This man was also with Him."

But Peter denied it before them all, saying, "Woman, I do not know Him; I neither know nor understand what you are saying."

And he went out on the porch. And a rooster crowed.

And after a little while, when he had gone out to the gateway, another servant-girl saw him and began to say to those who stood by, "This fellow also was with Jesus of Nazareth. This is one of them."

Now Simon Peter stood and warmed himself. Therefore they said to him, "You are not also one of His disciples, are you?" One saw him and said, "You also are of them."

And again he denied it with an oath. He said, "Man, I am not. I do not know the Man."

Then after about an hour had passed, another confidently affirmed, saying, "Surely this fellow also was with Him; for he is a Galilean." Those who stood by said to Peter: "Surely you are one of them; for you are a Galilean, and your speech shows it." One of the servants of the high priest, a relative of him whose ear Peter cut off, said, "Did I not see you in the garden with him?"

Peter therefore denied it again. He said, "Man, I do not know what you are saying." He began to curse and swear, "I do not know the Man. I do not know this Man of whom you speak."

And immediately, while he was still speaking, a rooster crowed a second time. And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter called to mind the word of the Lord, how He had said to him, "Before the rooster crows twice, you will deny Me three times."

And when Peter thought about it, he went out and wept bitterly.

Immediately in the morning, as soon as it was day, the elders of the people, both chief priests and scribes, came together. They took counsel against Jesus to put Him to death. They held a consultation with the elders and the scribes and the whole council.

They led Jesus into their council, saying, "If You are the Christ, tell us."

But He said to them, "If I tell you, you will by no means believe; and if I also ask you, you will by no means answer Me or let Me go. Hereafter the Son of Man will sit on the right hand of the power of God."

Then they all said, "Are You then the Son of God?"

And He said to them, "You rightly say that I am."

And they said, "What further testimony do we need? For we have heard it ourselves from His own mouth."

📖 Here ends our Passion History reading.

📖 **All we like sheep have gone astray,
and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.
By his wounds we are healed.**

Confession of Faith: 2nd Article of the Apostle's Creed (Luther's Catechism, Sydow p. 87)

📖 **"I believe 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, dead, and buried;
He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven
and sits on the right hand of God, the Father Almighty;
from there He shall come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity,
and also true man, born of the virgin Mary is my Lord.**

**He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person,
purchased and won me from all sin, from death,
and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver,
but with His holy, precious blood and His innocent suffering and death.**

**He did this that I should be His very own, live under Him in His kingdom,
and serve Him in eternal righteousness, innocence, and joy;
just as He is risen from death, lives and reigns in eternity.**

This is most certainly true!"

Hymn of the Day: 420 v. 1-3 *Christ, the Life of All the Living*

LSB 420 v. 1-3

Sermon Text: Matthew 14:22-33 (EHV)

²² Immediately Jesus urged the disciples to get into the boat and to go ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. ²³ After he had dismissed the crowd, he went up onto the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone. ²⁴ By then the boat was quite a distance from shore, being pounded by the waves because the wind was against it. ²⁵ In the fourth watch of the night, ^[a] Jesus came toward them, walking on the sea. ²⁶ When the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified and cried out in fear, "It's a ghost!" ²⁷ But Jesus spoke to them at once, saying, "Take heart! It is I! Do not be afraid."

²⁸ Peter answered him and said, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water."

²⁹ Jesus said, "Come!"

Peter stepped down from the boat, walked on the water, and went toward Jesus. ³⁰ But when he saw the strong wind, he was afraid. As he began to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!"

³¹ Immediately Jesus stretched out his hand, took hold of him, and said to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" ³² When they got into the boat, the wind stopped. ³³ Those who were in the boat worshipped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God!"

Sermon Theme: The Hand of the LORD Who Creates and Saves

✠ Preaching tonight: Pastor Mark Tiefel, Peace Thru Christ, Middleton, WI

Offertory

LSB 956

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.

Text & Tune: Public Domain

Sermon Hymn: 420 v. 6-7 *Christ, the Life of All the Living*

LSB 420 v. 6-7

Offering *We offer our gifts to the Lord, remembering that He has first given to us that we might have to give to Him.*

Prayer of the Church *We bring our prayers to God.*

P Let us pray for all believers in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

For the Holy Christian Church throughout the world and for all who observe this season of Lent in true repentance and faith—that God guard and defend us from the temptations of the devil, the world, and our own sinful flesh; that He would cleanse our hearts; and renew a right spirit within us—let us pray to the Lord.

G **Lord, have mercy.**

P For all who do not know the gracious invitation of God through His Son to return to Him—that all may hear and be drawn to the Lord’s merciful and saving hands—let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For those who have wandered from the faith—that the Holy Spirit bring them to repentance and restore them in faith to the only hope of salvation—let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the government and those placed in positions of authority—that they perform their duties with honor for the good of all people. For peace within our country and throughout the world, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For all who suffer from sickness, injury, or any need—that the Lord’s healing hand rest upon them, giving them His comfort and strength to bear their infirmities with patience and trust in Him—let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Luther’s Evening Prayer

C **I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. 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.**

- P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray,
trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus, Who also taught us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

LSB 209

- 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.

Benediction *The blessing given by God for the blessing of His people (Numbers 6:24-26).*

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

Closing Hymn: 725 Children of the Heavenly Father *(please stand for last verse)* LSB 725

Announcements

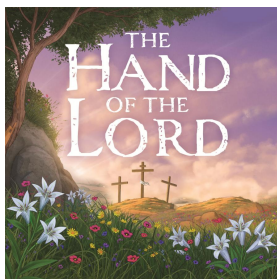


Welcome! We welcome all our visitors this evening.
Please sign our guest book and come worship with us again soon.

This Week: Thursday – **Board of Elders – 8pm**
Friday – **No School at MLS** (Spring Break Begins – School resumes Mon. 3/24)
CLC Grade School Basketball Tournament – ILC, Eau Claire (Fri. & Sat.)
Church Cleaning: Team #8 (3/8-3/14); Team #9 (3/15-3/21)

Sunday: **Choir – 8am**
3/16/24 **Worship – 9am**
Sunday School & Bible Class – 10:15am

Wednesday Lent Worship Services (3/5-4/9) @ 6:30pm



Our Wednesday Lent series for this year is entitled, "The Hand of the Lord." This expression is used throughout the Old Testament. However, it is precisely in the New Testament where the hand of the Lord takes on literal meaning. The One through whom all things were created took on real, literal hands in His incarnation (John 1:1–14). We have several examples throughout Scripture that speak of the way that Christ used His hands alongside His life-giving words to bring forgiveness, life, and salvation. The work of Christ's hands helps us to see the merciful and personal way that He has come down to us. He has given us something to grasp, even as He holds us. Our Lord has hands, real hands. Jesus has accomplished all that we need. Amazingly, He takes our manipulative, distorted, self-serving hands and restores them into useful hands for His purposes, both to literally use them in service and to make our whole lives into His instruments of witness, service, and praise.

Please make plans to join us for these special worship services that focus on our Savior who stretched out His hands on the cross to save us from our sins. Our Wednesday Lent worship services begin this week with our Ash Wednesday communion worship service at 6:30pm. During this Lenten series we will also be having four other area CLC pastors guest preaching here at Messiah during the middle four Wednesdays of the Lenten season. (See display on bulletin board in entryway.) May our Savior bless our Lenten meditations and worship service as we look forward to once again celebrating His triumph over the grave on Easter Sunday.

Preaching at Messiah Next Wednesday:

March 19th – Pastor David Ude

(Living Word, Appleton, WI)

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