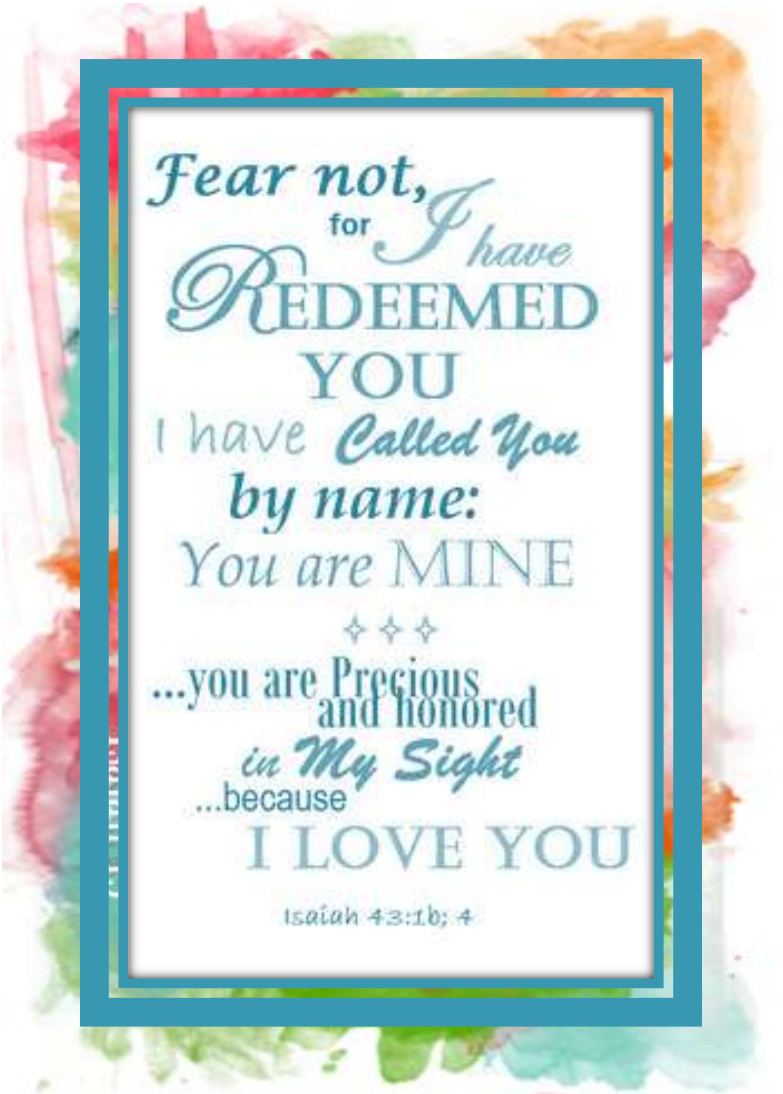


HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

Midweek of Lent 2

February 25, 2015



Fear not,
for *I have*
REDEEMED
YOU
I have Called You
by name:
You are **MINE**
♦ ♦ ♦
...you are Precious
and honored
in My Sight
...because
I LOVE YOU

isaiah 43:1b; 4



Midweek of Lent 2

February 25, 2015

7:15 PM

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

(Missouri Synod)

9770 Foothills Canyon Blvd.

Highlands Ranch, CO 80129

Sunday Worship Services.....8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Bible Classes and Sunday School.....9:15 a.m.

Rev. Bruce Skelton, Pastor, Office.....303-683-1300

Megan Keeling Director, Early Learning Center.....303-683-1311

Fax..... 303-470-0165

Reaching lost souls with the Gospel:

Nourishing and equipping the saints for life and ministry!

MIDWEEK OF LENT 2

Gracious God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ and also our dear Father, we thank You that You have permitted us to see another Lenten season, during which we are privileged to again meditate on the cross of Christ with its many spiritual blessings. Cause the message of the slain Lamb of God to impress upon our hearts and minds the awfulness of our sins so that we are led to the cross of Calvary for pardon and peace. Lead us to see that our sins caused His great agony in the garden; that our sins nailed Him to the cross of Calvary; that He was forsaken by His own that we might not be forsaken by You; and that He died so that we might not die eternally. We ask this in His name, the sinless Lamb of God. Amen.



Midweek of Lent 2

HE ONLY HAS EYES FOR YOU

"God is faithful; God will never Break His covenant of blood, Signed when our Redeemer died, Sealed when he was glorified" (*LSB* 435:4). These priceless promises in the well-known hymn "Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain" summarize Isaiah 43:1–7. Twenty-five times in these verses the prophet employs the word "you." You are redeemed. You belong to God. You are honored. You are valuable. God loves you! The Judean exiles were prisoners in Babylon's vast and ever-growing political machine. But no empire will ever have the last word! On a hill called Calvary, Jesus paid the price for us. We belong to Him! So why wait? "Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain, Sinners, ruined by the fall; Here a pure and healing fountain Flows for *you*, for me, for all" (*LSB* 435:1).

The **Call to Worship/Confession and Absolution** is drawn from the Seven Penitential Psalms, so named by Cassiodorus (c. AD 485–c. AD 585) in the sixth century AD. For centuries, Psalms 6, 32, 38, 51, 102, 130, and 143 have served as a source of prayer and reflection during Lent. Their honest confessions invite us to turn to our Lord with the same spirit of candor and humility.

Invocation

2 Corinthians 13:14

- ☐ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

☐ **Amen.**

700 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling, vs. 1-3

Call to Worship

- P** Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.
- C** **Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.**
- P** For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.
- C** **For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as in the heat of summer.**
- A** **I acknowledged my sin to You, and did not cover my iniquity. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**
- P** God forgives the guilt of your sin. It is my duty and delight to announce to you the full forgiveness of all your sins because of the shed blood of Christ and His empty tomb. He was delivered over for our sins and raised again for our justification. These promises are yours in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **O God, You are my hiding place; You will protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance.**
- P** Many are the woes of the wicked, but the LORD's unfailing love surrounds the one who trusts in Him.
- A** **Rejoice in the LORD and be glad, you righteous; sing, all you who are upright in heart!**

Response

700 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling, vs. 4

Prayer of the day

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Let us pray. O God of mercy and might, although You have an entire universe to govern and uphold, You still call us by name and give us infinite value. Grant us Your Holy Spirit so that we may all the more have the faith to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth of Your love for us

through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Today's Scripture readings have as their theme "Our Value in God's Eyes."

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 43:1-7

But now thus says the LORD,
he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:
"Fear not, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are mine.
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.
For I am the LORD your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.
I give Egypt as your ransom,
Cush and Seba in exchange for you.
Because you are precious in my eyes,
and honored, and I love you,
I give men in return for you,
peoples in exchange for your life.
Fear not, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you.
I will say to the north, Give up,
and to the south, Do not withhold;
bring my sons from afar
and my daughters from the end of the earth,
everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made."



Series hymn

Sing We Exiles (tune: LSB 559)

1. Sing we exiles in our sadness,
Though we wander dispossessed;
Sing for hope of future rest.
Jesus is our Way, our gladness,
Straight'ning crooked paths we roam,
Leading to our Father's home.
2. When our worth we poorly measure,
Guard us from the devil's lies;
Worth is in our Savior's eyes.
Not with gold or earthly treasure,
But with blood, His sacrifice
Paid for us the greatest price.
3. Sing we exiles in our yearning
To be healed from ev'ry wrong;
Sing the distant triumph song.
Father, guide us in returning
With repentance to Your will,
Lead us ever homeward still.

"Sing We Exiles" (© 2014 kelly klages)

Epistle Reading: Hebrews 2:10–18

For it was fitting that [Jesus], for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering. For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one origin. That is why he is not ashamed to call them brothers, saying,

"I will tell of your name to my brothers;
in the midst of the congregation I will sing your praise."

And again,

"I will put my trust in him."

And again,

"Behold, I and the children God has given me."

Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham. Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

Holy Gospel: Matthew 6:25–34

“Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

“Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.



Apostles' Creed

**☩ 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.**

Sermon

“He Only Has Eyes for You”

Sermon hymn:

435 Come to Calvary’s Holy Mountain

Offerings

*(Please add your name to the red fellowship
book and pass it to your fellow worshipers.)*

Prayers of the church

- [P]** Father of mercy and God of all comfort, we thank and praise You that in Holy Baptism You claim us as Your own. We rejoice that You say,
- [C]** **“Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are Mine” (Isaiah 43:1).**
- [P]** You look upon our frailties and faults, yet still say,
- [C]** **“You are precious in My eyes, and honored, and I love you” (Isaiah 43:4).**
- [P]** You not only have eyes for us, Your heart is also full of eternal love for us. Our Savior has said,

C “As the Father has loved Me, so have I loved you” (John 15:9).

P What is more, gracious God, You have ears for us, because Christ our Lord promises,

C “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you” (Matthew 7:7).

P And in the Holy Supper You give us the true body and blood of Christ, for His words of institution are sure and certain.

C “Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of your sins” (Matthew 26:28).

(Insert congregational prayers here)

P Hear us, loving Father, as we pray the prayer our Lord taught us.,

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.**

Benediction

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

C Amen.

422 On My Heart Imprint Your Image

Silent Prayer: Dear Father, the slaughtered Lamb, the empty tomb, and the gift of the Holy Spirit testify to this one indisputable fact—we are valuable in Your eyes! In Christ's name we pray. Amen.



Soli Deo Gloria!

(To God alone be the glory.)

