

# Second Wednesday in Lent

*A Service of Prayer and Preaching*



*"I am not going up to this feast, for my time has not yet fully come."*

*John 7:8*

February 21, 2024

***Immanuel Lutheran Church***

***Fargo, North Dakota***

*Prelude*

## **Opening Verses**

- P** The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** In you, Lord, I have taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness.
- C** **Turn your ear to me, come quickly to my rescue; be my rock of refuge, a strong fortress to save me.**
- P** Since you are my rock and my fortress, for the sake of your name lead and guide me.
- C** **Keep me free from the trap that is set for me, for you are my refuge.**
- P** Into your hands I commit my spirit; deliver me, Lord, my faithful God.
- C** **I hate those who cling to worthless idols; as for me, I trust in the Lord.**
- P** I will be glad and rejoice in your love, for you saw my affliction and knew the anguish of my soul.
- C** **You have not given me into the hands of the enemy but have set my feet in a spacious place.**

- P** Be merciful to me, Lord, for I am in distress; my eyes grow weak with sorrow, my soul and body with grief.
- C** **My life is consumed by anguish and my years by groaning; my strength fails because of my affliction, and my bones grow weak.**
- P** Because of all my enemies, I am the utter contempt of my neighbors and an object of dread to my closest friends—those who see me on the street flee from me.
- C** **I am forgotten as though I were dead; I have become like broken pottery.**
- P** For I hear many whispering, “Terror on every side!”
- C** **They conspire against me and plot to take my life.**
- P** But I trust in you, Lord; I say, “You are my God.”
- C** **My times are in your hands; deliver me from the hands of my enemies, from those who pursue me.**
- P** Let your face shine on your servant; save me in your unfailing love. (*Psalms 31:1-16*)
- C** **Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now and will be forever. Amen.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Let us pray. . . Almighty and everlasting God, keep us from the distractions of this world with all its pleasures and heartbreak that looking to Jesus our brother in the faith, we may walk with him through death to life everlasting; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

### **Hymn**

***“Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus”***

***LSB 685***

### **First Reading**

***Acts 3:13-26***

Peter said, “The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified his servant Jesus, whom you delivered over and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release him. But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And his name—by faith in his name—has made this man strong whom you see and know, and the faith that is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all.

“And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer, he thus fulfilled. Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and

that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets long ago. Moses said, ‘The Lord God will raise up for you a prophet like me from your brothers. You shall listen to him in whatever he tells you. And it shall be that every soul who does not listen to that prophet shall be destroyed from the people.’ And all the prophets who have spoken, from Samuel and those who came after him, also proclaimed these days. You are the sons of the prophets and of the covenant that God made with your fathers, saying to Abraham, ‘And in your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed.’ God, having raised up his servant, sent him to you first, to bless you by turning every one of you from your wickedness.”

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### **Gospel Reading**

*John 7:1-24*

After this Jesus went about in Galilee. He would not go about in Judea, because the Jews were seeking to kill him. Now the Jews’ Feast of Booths was at hand. So, his brothers said to him, “Leave here and go to Judea, that your disciples also may see the works you are doing. For no one works in secret if he seeks to be known openly. If you do these things, show yourself to the world.” For not even his brothers believed in him. Jesus said to them, “My time has not yet come, but your time is always here. The world cannot hate you, but it hates me because I testify about it that its works are evil. You go up to the feast. I am not going up to this feast, for my time has not yet fully come.” After saying this, he remained in Galilee.

But after his brothers had gone up to the feast, then he also went up, not publicly but in private. The Jews were looking for him at the feast, and saying, “Where is he?” And there was much muttering about him among the people. While some said, “He is a good man,” others said, “No, he is leading the people astray.” Yet for fear of the Jews no one spoke openly of him.

About the middle of the feast Jesus went up into the temple and began teaching. The Jews therefore marveled, saying, “How is it that this man has learning, when he has never studied?” So, Jesus answered them, “My teaching is not mine, but his who sent me. If anyone’s will is to do God’s will, he will know whether the teaching is from God or whether I am speaking on my own authority. The one who speaks on his own authority seeks his own glory, but the one who seeks the glory of him who sent him is true, and in him there is no falsehood. Has not Moses given you the law? Yet none of you keeps the law. Why do you seek to kill me?” The crowd answered, “You have a demon! Who is seeking to kill you?” Jesus answered them, “I did one deed, and you all marvel at it. Moses gave you circumcision (not that it is from Moses, but from the fathers), and you circumcise a man on the Sabbath. If on the Sabbath a man receives circumcision, so that the law of Moses may not be broken,

are you angry with me because on the Sabbath I made a man's whole body well? Do not judge by appearances, but judge with right judgment."

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

*"My Time Has Not Yet Fully Come"*

*John 7:8*

**Hymn of Response**

*"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"*

*LSB 426*

**Prayers**

**Offering** *(Please **sign and pass** the green Fellowship book found at the center end of each pew.)*

**Prayer/Benediction**

**Closing Hymn**

*"All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night"*

*LSB 883*

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***Those Assisting in Worship:***

***Officiant:*** *Pastor Bernie Worral*

***Organist:*** *Mrs. Carolyn DeLorme*

***Ushers:*** *Volunteers*

***Videographer:*** *Sammi Hintz*