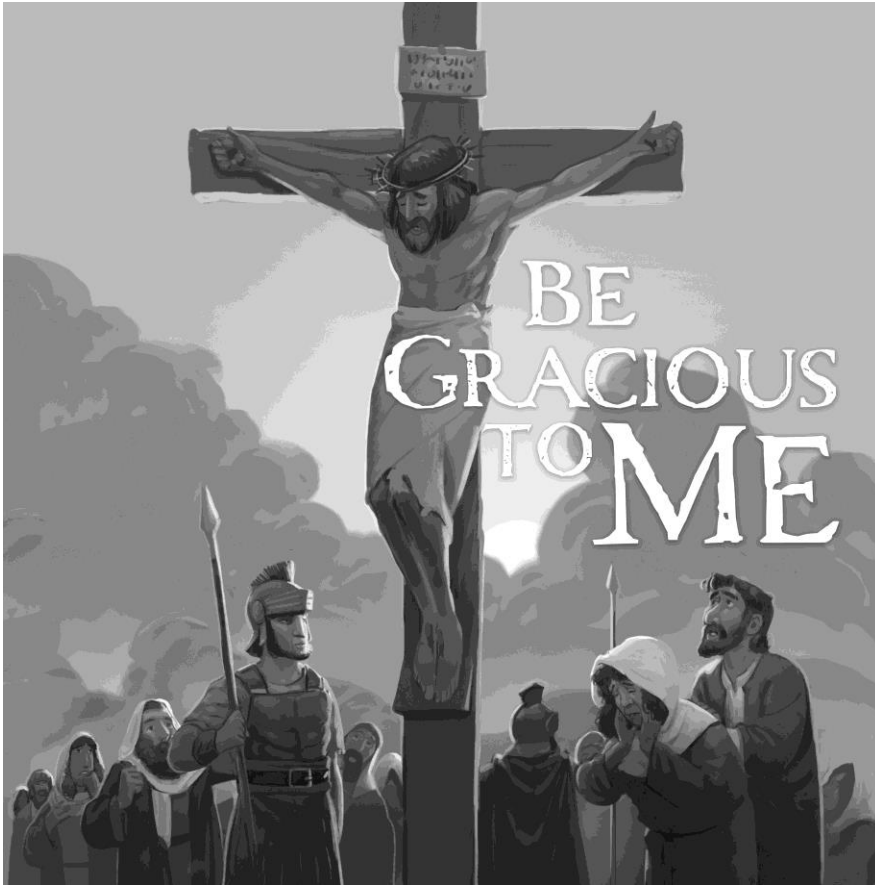


Mt. Pisgah Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod



Empty Words

You are daily assailed by empty words: idle small talk, advertising slogans, and news reports that play on your fears. Political and business leaders spew cant, clichés, and spin. Perhaps even your friends and family get in on the act, betraying you with flattery and falsehoods. King David was only too familiar with such afflictions: “When one comes to see me,” he said, “he utters empty words, while his heart gathers iniquity; when he goes out, he tells it abroad” (Psalm 41:6). Our Lord’s powerful Word was David’s refuge from vain and malicious talk. It is your refuge too. In Baptism, Jesus Christ has lifted you out of the verbal cesspool and placed you firmly on the rock of His Word. That Word is never empty, but it shall accomplish that which He purposes for you.

Mt. Pisgah Lutheran Church & Preschool

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

March 13, 2024

Lent Midweek 4

Serving Today

Pastor Jonathan Christensen

Robert Hamrick, Organist

Craig Escude, Choir Director/Cantor

1 PM

7 PM

Elders

Paul Mincer

David White

Lector

Lyn Heiple

Bill Paris

Ushers

Bill Kruse

Leah Ryel

Greeter

Nona Schmook

Altar Guild

Serving Next Week March 20

Elders

Paul Mincer

David White

Lector

Barbara Volk

Linda Licht

Ushers

Bill Kruse

Leah Ryel

Greeter

Nona Schmook

Altar Guild



We are delighted to have you worship with us today. May this hour of praise and celebration be one of spiritual renewal. Please join us for worship at any time and sign the red Record of Fellowship pad in the pew. **To inquire about membership or other information, please call the Church Office: 692-7027 or email us at mtpisgahlcms@gmail.com.**

Order of Vespers

Prelude

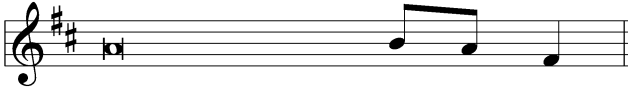
My Song Is Love Unknown

Karl Osterland

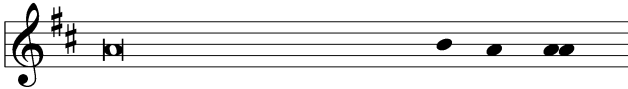
Stand



L O Lord, o - pen my lips,



C and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.



L Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;



C make haste to help me, O Lord.



C Glo - ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.



Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our sal - va - tion.

Hymn Study

Hymn Introduction

- P** In the fifth stanza of “My Song Is Love Unknown,” author Samuel Crossman makes a singular word choice as he poetically writes of Jesus: “Yet cheerful He to suffering goes that He His foes from thence might free.” The use of the word *cheerful* may be surprising, but its derivation comes from the Middle English *chere*, meaning “face” or “demeanor.” Originally, it related to an individual’s bearing. Jesus went through His time of suffering for us with a noble bearing and in a triumphant way, and He was happy to set us free even if it meant suffering. The Prince of Life turned the cross of sorrow and shame into a tree of salvation and beauty!

Hymn**430 My Song Is Love Unknown** *sts. 1, 5*

1 My song is love un - known, My Sav - ior's love to
5 They rise and needs will have My dear Lord made a -



me, Love to the love - less shown That they might love - ly
way; A mur - der - er they save, The Prince of Life they



be. Oh, who am I That for my sake
slay. Yet cheer - ful He To suf - f'ring goes



My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?
That He His foes From thence might free.

Call to Confession

P Let us make our confession to our God, seeking His grace and forgiveness.

Hymn**610 Lord Jesus, Think on Me** *sts. 1, 4*

1 Lord Je - sus, think on me And purge a - way my sin;
4 Lord Je - sus, think on me Nor let me go a - stray;



From world - ly pas - sions set me free And make me pure with - in.
Through dark - ness and per - plex - i - ty Point out Your cho - sen way.

Absolution

P The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins.

C Amen.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Collect of the Day

P Let us pray.

O pitying Lord Jesus, grant us of Your gentleness and forbearance, of Your compassion and love, and of Your tenderheartedness, that filled with Your grace we may always find fitting and salutary words to speak and willingly forgive the wrongs and evils done us. This we ask in Your precious and mighty name.

C Amen.

Psalmody

Psalm

Psalm 145:8–13 Tone D



⁸The LORD is gracious and | merciful,*
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.

⁹The LORD is | good to all,*
and his mercy is over all that | he has made.

¹⁰All your works shall give thanks to you, | O LORD,*
and all your saints shall | bless you!

¹¹They shall speak of the glory of your | kingdom*
and tell | of your power,

¹²to make known to the children of man your | mighty deeds,*
and the glorious splendor of your | kingdom.

¹³Your kingdom is an everlasting | kingdom,*
and your dominion endures throughout all gener- | ations.

The LORD is faithful in | all his words*
and kind in | all his works.

Hymn

438 A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth



1 A Lamb goes un - com - plain - ing forth, The
 2 This Lamb is Christ, the soul's great friend, The
 3 "Yes, Fa - ther, yes, most will - ing - ly I'll
 4 Lord, when Your glo - ry I shall see And



guilt of sin - ners bear - ing And, lad - en with the
 Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, Whom God the Fa - ther
 bear what You com - mand Me. My will con - forms to
 taste Your king - dom's plea - sure, Your blood my roy - al



sins of earth, None else the bur - den shar - ing; Goes
 chose to send To gain for us His fa - vor. "Go
 Your de - cree, I'll do what You have asked Me." O
 robe shall be, My joy be - yond all mea - sure! When



pa - tient on, grows weak and faint, To slaugh - ter led with -
 forth, My Son," the Fa - ther said, "And free My chil - dren
 won - drous Love, what have You done! The Fa - ther of - fers
 I ap - pear be - fore Your throne, Your righ - teous - ness shall



out com - plaint, That spot - less life to of - fer, He bears the
 from their dread Of guilt and con - dem - na - tion. The wrath and
 up His Son, De - sir - ing our sal - va - tion. O Love, how
 be my crown; With these I need not hide me. And there, in



stripes, the wounds, the lies, The mock - er - y, and
 stripes are hard to bear, But by Your pas - sion
 strong You are to save! You lay the One in -
 gar - ments rich - ly wrought, As Your own bride shall



yet re - plies, "All this I glad - ly suf - fer."
 they will share The fruit of Your sal - va - tion."
 to the grave Who built the earth's foun - da - tion.
 we be brought To stand in joy be - side You.

Old Testament Reading

Psalm 52:1–9

P The Old Testament Reading is from Psalms, the fifty-second chapter.

¹Why do you boast of evil, O mighty man? The steadfast love of God endures all the day. ²Your tongue plots destruction, like a sharp razor, you worker of deceit. ³You love evil more than good, and lying more than speaking what is right. ⁴You love all words that devour, O deceitful tongue. ⁵But God will break you down forever; he will snatch and tear you from your tent; he will uproot you from the land of the living. ⁶The righteous shall see and fear, and shall laugh at him, saying, ⁷“See the man who would not make God his refuge, but trusted in the abundance of his riches and sought refuge in his own destruction!” ⁸But I am like a green olive tree in the house of God. I trust in the steadfast love of God forever and ever. ⁹I will thank you forever, because you have done it. I will wait for your name, for it is good, in the presence of the godly.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

James 3:1–10

P The Epistle is from James, the third chapter.

¹Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. ²For we all stumble in many ways, and if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body. ³If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. ⁴Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. ⁵So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things.

How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! ⁶And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. ⁷For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, ⁸but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. ¹⁰From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Hymn

422 On My Heart Imprint Your Image



On my heart im - print Your im - age, Bless - ed Je - sus, King of grace,



That life's rich-es, cares, and plea-sures Nev-er may Your work e-rase;

Let the clear in - scrip-tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,
Is my life, my hope's foun - da - tion, And my glo - ry and sal - va - tion!

Holy Gospel

Matthew 26:57–62

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-sixth chapter.
- C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

⁵⁷Then those who had seized Jesus led him to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders had gathered. ⁵⁸And Peter was following him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest, and going inside he sat with the guards to see the end. ⁵⁹Now the chief priests and the whole Council were seeking false testimony against Jesus that they might put him to death, ⁶⁰but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward ⁶¹and said, “This man said, ‘I am able to destroy the temple of God, and to rebuild it in three days.’” ⁶²And the high priest stood up and said, “Have you no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against you?”

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Responsory (Lent)

LSB 231

Verse *To Refrain*

- L** 1 Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are
the God of my sal - va - tion.
- 2 In You, O Lord, do I put my trust, leave me not, O Lord, my God.
- 3 Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are
the God of my sal - va - tion.

Refrain

- C** Rescue me from my en - e - mies, protect me
from those who rise a - gainst me.

Hymn

432 In Silent Pain the Eternal Son



1 In si - lent pain the e - ter - nal Son Hangs der - e - lict and still;
 2 He died that we might die to sin And live for righ-teous-ness;
 3 For strife He came to bring a sword, The truth to end all lies;



In dark-ened day His work is done, Ful - filled, His Fa - ther's will.
 The earth is stained to make us clean And bring us in - to peace.
 To rule in us, our pa - tient Lord, Un - til all e - vil dies:



Up - lift - ed for the world to see He hangs in strang-est vic - to - ry,
 For peace He came and met its cost; He gave Him - self to save the lost;
 For in His hand He holds the stars, His voice shall speak to end our wars,



For in His bod - y on the tree He car-ries all our ill.
 He loved us to the ut - ter - most And paid for our re - lease.
 And those who love Him see His scars And look in - to His eyes.

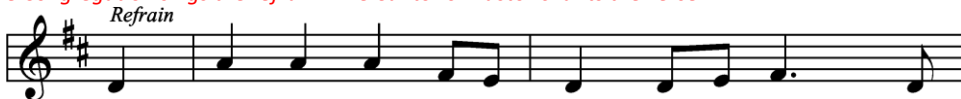
Sermon

Stand

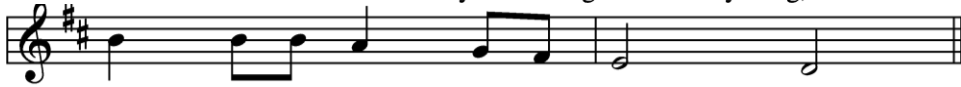
Canticle

927 First Song of Isaiah

The Congregation sings the refrain. The Cantor or Pastor chants the verse.



The LORD GOD is my strength and my song, and



He has be - come my sal - va - tion.



¹I will give thanks to You, | O LORD,*
 for though You were angry | with me,

²Your anger | turned away,*
 that You might | comfort me.
³Behold, God is my sal- | vation;*
 I will trust, and will not | be afraid;
⁴for the LORD GOD is my strength | and my song,*
 and He has become my sal- | vation.

Refrain

⁵With joy you will draw | water*
 from the wells of sal- | vation.
⁶Give thanks | to the LORD,*
 call up- | on His name,
⁷make known His deeds among the | peoples,*
 proclaim that His name is ex- | alted.

Refrain

⁸Sing praises to the LORD, for He has done | gloriously;*
 let this be made known in | all the earth.
⁹Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of | Zion,*
 for great in your midst is the Holy One of | Israel.

Refrain

Sit **Offering** **In the Cross of Christ I Glory** **Lynn L. Petersen**

Prayer

Stand

L Let my prayer rise before You as in - cense,
C and the lifting up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

Kyrie

LSB 233

C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 251

- L** Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:
- 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.**

Collects



L O Lord, hear my prayer.



C And let my cry come to You.

- P** Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.



L Let my prayer rise before You as in - cense,



C and the lifting up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

- L** 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.

Benedicamus

LSB 234



L Let us bless the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 234



P The grace of our Lord † Je - sus Christ and the love of God



and the communion of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.



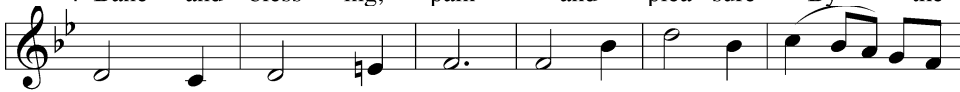
C A - men.

Closing Hymn

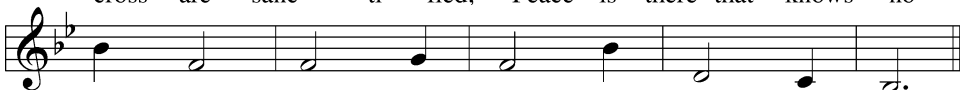
427 In the Cross of Christ I Glory



1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, Tow'r - ing
2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, Hopes de -
3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing Light and
4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure By the



o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of sa - cred
ceive, and fears an - noy, Nev - er shall the cross for -
love up - on my way, From the cross the ra - diance
cross are sanc - ti - fied; Peace is there that knows no



sto - ry Gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
sake me; Lo, it glows with peace and joy.
stream - ing Adds more lus - ter to the day.
mea - sure, Joys that through all time a - bide.