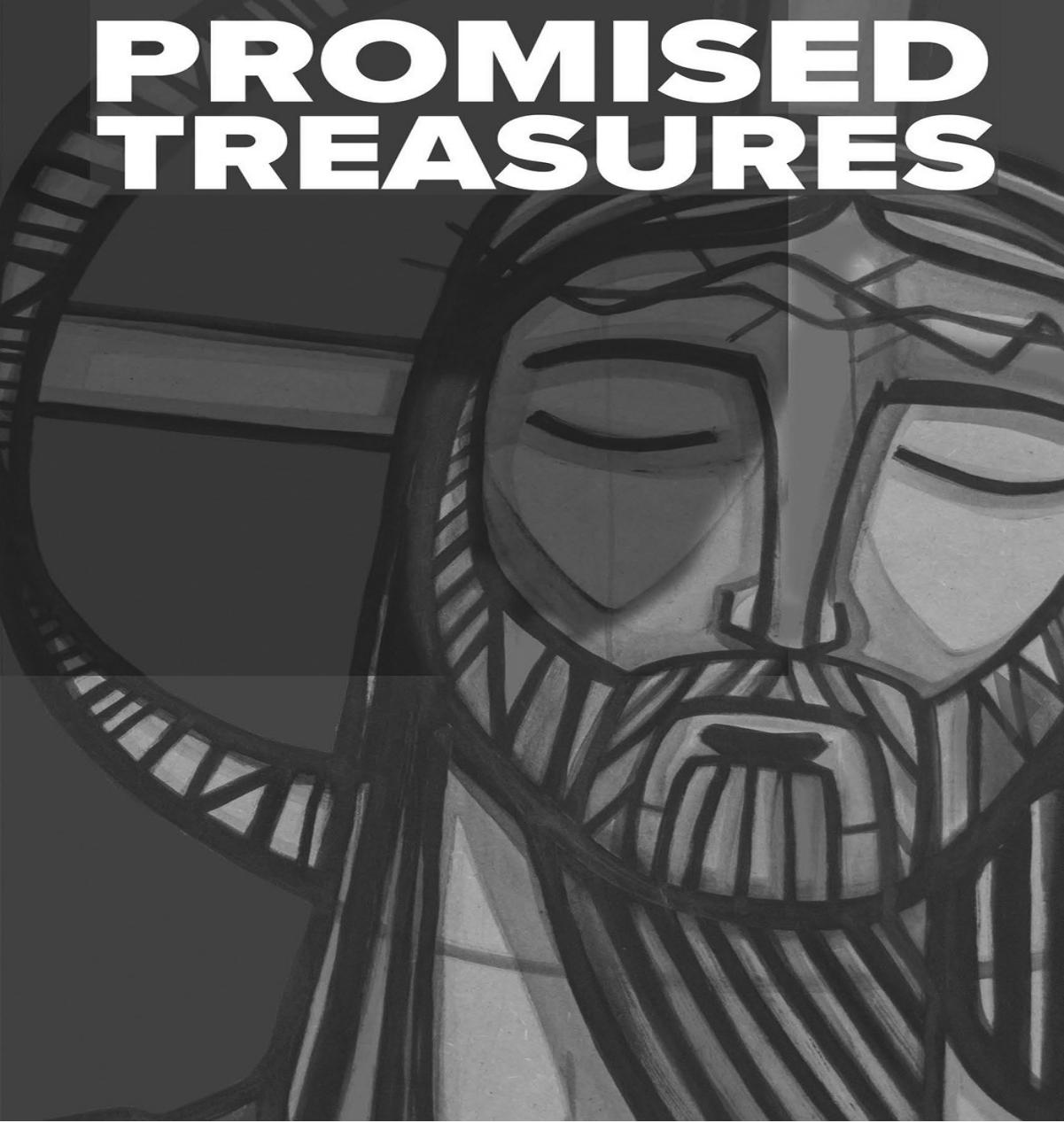


PROMISED TREASURES



Mid Week Lent

March 15, 2023

MIDWEEK OF LENT 3
LIGHT SHINING IN THE DARKNESS
MARCH 15, 2023

AS WE GATHER

"Let there be light," God said (Genesis 1:3). And there was light. Through the promised treasure of His Word, God keeps speaking to us. And because He does, there is light. Light from above! Light never-ending! Light that enlightens our way to life everlasting! Jesus Christ is this "light of the world" (John 8:12), the light no darkness can overcome. By His Word and Spirit, this light breaks through again today, enters our lives, and enables us to shine brightly for Him.

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELLS

GREETING

P: Peace be with you,

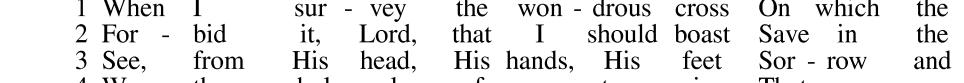
C: And also with you.

OPENING HYMN "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

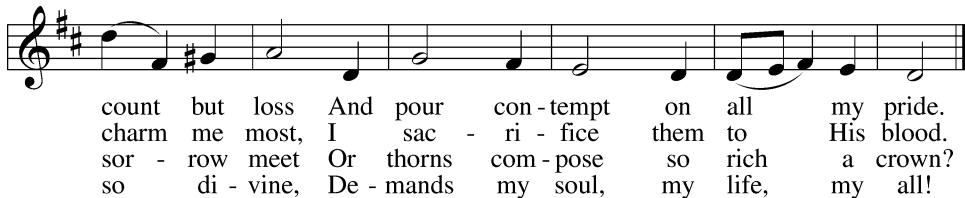
LSB 426



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross On which the
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast Save in the
3 See, from His head, His hands, His feet Sor - row and
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, That were a



Prince of Glo - ry died, My rich - est gain I
death of Christ, my God; All the vain things that
love flow min - gled down! Did e'er such love and
trib - ute far too small; Love so a - maz - ing,



Text and tune: Public domain

stand

OPENING SENTENCES

- P O Lord, open my lips,
C and my mouth will declare Your praise.
- P Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
C make haste to help me, O Lord.
- 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.
 Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation.**

+ PSALMODY +

PSALM *Psalm 27:1–4, 13–14*

- P The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?
C The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?
- P When evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh, my adversaries and foes, it is they who stumble and fall.
C Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war arise against me, yet I will be confident.
- P One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life,
C to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in His temple.

- P I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living!
- C **Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD! 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.**

+ READINGS +

READING OF THE PASSION OF OUR LORD PART 3

MATTHEW 26:57-75

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?” ⁶³But Jesus remained silent. And the high priest said to him, “I adjure you by the living God, tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God.”

⁶⁴Jesus said to him, “You have said so. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.” ⁶⁵Then the high priest tore his robes and said, “He has uttered blasphemy. What further witnesses do we need? You have now heard his blasphemy. ⁶⁶What is your judgment?” They answered, “He deserves death.” ⁶⁷Then they spit in his face and struck him. And some slapped him, ⁶⁸saying, “Prophesy to us, you Christ! Who is it that struck you?”

⁶⁹Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. And a servant girl came up to him and said, “You also were with Jesus the Galilean.”

⁷⁰But he denied it before them all, saying, “I do not know what you mean.” ⁷¹And when he went out to the entrance, another servant girl

saw him, and she said to the bystanders, “This man was with Jesus of Nazareth.”⁷² And again he denied it with an oath: “I do not know the man.”⁷³ After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, “Certainly you too are one of them, for your accent betrays you.”⁷⁴ Then he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear, “I do not know the man.” And immediately the rooster crowed.⁷⁵ And Peter remembered the saying of Jesus, “Before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times.” And he went out and wept bitterly.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL READING

John 8:12-18

P A reading from St. John, the eighth chapter.

¹² Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”¹³ So the Pharisees said to him, “You are bearing witness about yourself; your testimony is not true.”¹⁴ Jesus answered, “Even if I do bear witness about myself, my testimony is true, for I know where I came from and where I am going, but you do not know where I come from or where I am going.¹⁵ You judge according to the flesh; I judge no one.¹⁶ Yet even if I do judge, my judgment is true, for it is not I alone who judge, but I and the Father who sent me.¹⁷ In your Law it is written that the testimony of two men is true.¹⁸ I am the one who bears witness about myself, and the Father who sent me bears witness about me.”

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

LENT RESPONSORY

- P Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.
- C **Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.**
- P In You, O Lord, do I put my trust, leave me not, O Lord, my God.
- C **Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.**
- P Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.
- C **Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.**

SERIES HYMN “One House Abides Unending” (See *insert*)

SERMON – “Light Shining in the Darkness”

+ CANTICLE +

ANTIPHON

- P Let my prayer rise before You as incense,
- C **and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.**

MAGNIFICAT

All: **My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior; for He has regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden. For behold, from this day all generations will call me blessed. For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His name; and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation.**

He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has exalted the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent empty away.

He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever.

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.

PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING

+ PRAYER +

KYRIE

All: Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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

P O Lord, hear my prayer.

C And let my cry come to You.

P Lord Jesus Christ, You are the light of the world, and no amount of darkness in our world can overcome Your presence shining in our lives. Renew our hearts and minds during this Lenten season as we receive the promised treasures of Your Word; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

- P Gracious God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we thank You for blessing us with the opportunity to meditate again on the cross of Christ and receive Your promised treasures.
- C **Grant that the message of the Lamb of God slain for our salvation bring us the riches of Your pardon and peace.**
- P Lead us to see that our sins caused Jesus' great agony in the garden, that our sins nailed Him to the cross of Calvary,
- C **that He was forsaken by His Father so that we might never be forsaken, and that He died so that we may live.**
- P Lord Jesus, grant that especially during this sacred season the treasured story of Your wondrous love for us would draw us closer to You.
- C **Enable us to walk in the light of Your grace, knowing that You are truly the light of the world that darkness can never overcome.**
- P Holy Spirit, lift up troubled souls everywhere. Grant wholeness to those hurting in heart, body, and mind. Work Your healing power in the lives of those in need, [especially . . .], and in the lives of all we name before You in our hearts.
- C **All glory, honor, and praise be to You, with the Father and the Son, one God, now and forever. Amen.**
- 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.**

BENEDICAMUS

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

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.

sit

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLOSING HYMN "Abide With Me"

LSB 878 st. 1, 2 & 6



1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.
2 I need Thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;
6 Hold Thou Thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes;



The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.
What but Thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.



When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
Who like Thy - self my guide and stay can be?
Heav'n's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee;



Help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.
Through cloud and sun - shine, O a - bide with me.
In life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

Text and tune: Public domain

THE SENDING

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE(S)

MIDWEEK LENTEN, HOLY WEEK, AND EASTER SERVICES 2023

OVERALL THEME: "PROMISED TREASURES"

Fellowship Suppers at 6:00 P.M.

MIDWEEK LENT 4: Wednesday, March 22 at 7:00 P.M. THEME: "Bread of Life"

MIDWEEK LENT 5: Wednesday, March 29 at 7:00 P.M.

THEME: "Palms and Victory"

MAUNDY THURSDAY: Thursday, April 6 at 7:00 P.M. **

THEME: "Water and Blood"

GOOD FRIDAY: Friday, April 7 at 7:30 P.M.

THEME: "The Old, Rugged, Wooden Cross"

EASTER SATURDAY – NO WORSHIP SERVICE

EASTER SUNDAY – SUNRISE: Sunday, April 9 at 6:30 A.M. **

THEME: "The Oil of Joy and Gladness"

EASTER SUNDAY – FESTIVAL: Sunday, April 9 at 9:00 A.M. **

THEME: "Welcome to the Promised Land of Milk and Honey"

Note: Holy Communion is being offered **

Welcome to Peace in the name of the Risen Savior!

We request that visitors register by using the Communication cards found in the pew card holders. We ask that you share your name and address so that we can recognize your visit with us. All members are requested to register by using the Communication cards found in the pew card holders. Members, please indicate all family members present and those who took communion, so that the Pastor and Elders can be spiritually accountable for you and your family.

Hearing assist devices and large print bulletins are available for those who may need them.

Please see an Usher or the Elder who will be happy to assist you.

A Mother's Room is available for parents of young children if the need arises. The Mother's Room in the west hallway. The worship service is able to be heard in the Mother's Room.

**Peace Lutheran Church
The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod**

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Josiah Fitch, Associate Pastor
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WORSHIP SERVICES:

Holy Communion Celebrated at all Services
Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 9:00 a.m.
Sunday Bible Study 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School (Sept. -May) 10:30 a.m.

Website: www.peaceneenah.com
You tube: Peace Neenah

