

A dramatic, painterly illustration of Moses from behind, wearing a red robe and holding a staff high in his right hand. He stands before a massive, golden mountain peak under a sky filled with swirling white and yellow clouds. The overall tone is majestic and divine.

LET MY PEOPLE GO!

MIDWEEK LENT 4

MARCH 13, 2024

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2024 Lenten Theme: The Book of Exodus: “Let My People Go!”

Tonight’s Theme:

When we don’t conquer coveting,
coveting conquers us. Every time!
Coveting drives a stake into every
relationship we have. But don’t
despair! *There is hope for us
today in God’s Word.*

Prayer Before worship:

*O Lord, my creator, redeemer,
and comforter, as I come to
worship You in spirit and in truth,
I humbly pray that You would
open my heart to the preaching of
Your Word so that I may repent of
my sins, believe in Jesus Christ
as my only Savior, and grow in
grace and holiness. Hear me for
the sake of His name. Amen.*

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELLS

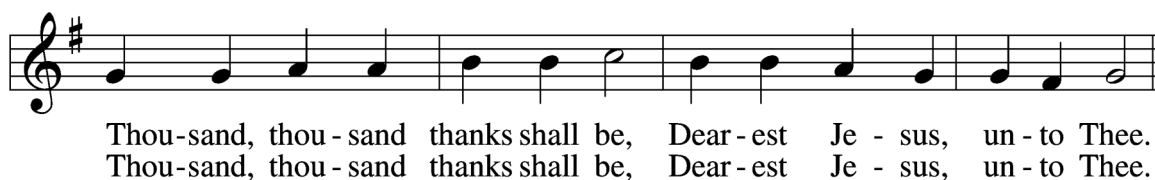
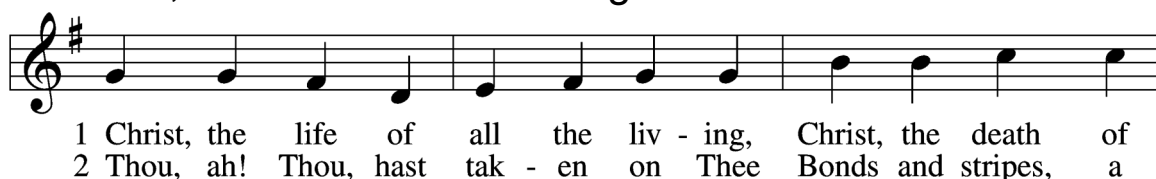
GREETING

P: Peace be with you,

C: **And also with you.**

HYMN “Christ, the Life of All the Living”

LSB 420 v.1&2



Text: Ernst Christoph Homburg, 1605–81; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: Das grosse Cantional, 1687, Darmstadt. Text and tune: Public domain

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the *†* Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES

From selected verses in Psalm 136

P: The LORD brought Israel out of Egypt.

C: **His steadfast love endures forever.**

P: He acted with a strong hand and outstretched arm.

C: **His steadfast love endures forever.**

P: Give thanks to him who parted the Red Sea.

C: **His steadfast love endures forever.**

P: He led Israel safely through.

C: **His steadfast love endures forever!**

P: He hurled Pharaoh and his army into the Red Sea!

C: **His steadfast love endures forever!**

P: Give thanks to him who led his people through the wilderness!

All: **His steadfast love endures forever!**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

From selected verses in Romans 7

P: Hear me, merciful and mighty Father, as I confess my bondage to sin and death.

C: **I know that nothing good lives in me.**

P: That is, in my sinful nature.

C: **I have the desire to do good.**

P: But I cannot carry it out.

C: **What I do is not the good I want to do.**

P: No, the evil I do not want to do, this I keep on doing.

C: **I find this law at work—**

P: When I want to do good, evil is right there with me.

C: **In my inner being I delight in your law.**

P: But I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war and making me a prisoner of the law of sin and death.

All: **Not one among the tribes of Israel stumbled!**

*You are invited to silently reflect on the fact that though our sin is great,
Christ's love is greater.*

P: Hear the good news! The same God who delivered Israel from Egyptian bondage also delivers you from your body of sin and death! Jesus Christ, the Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed and his blood forgives you and sets you free! Give thanks to him who led his people through the wilderness.

All: His faithful love endures forever!

HYMN “Christ, the Life of All the Living”

LSB 420 v.7



7 Then, for all that wrought my par - don, For Thy sor - rows
deep and sore, For Thine an - guish in the Gar - den,
I will thank Thee ev - er - more, Thank Thee for Thy
groan - ing, sigh - ing, For Thy bleed - ing and Thy dy - ing,
For that last tri - um - phant cry, And shall praise Thee, Lord, on high.

Text: Ernst Christoph Homburg, 1605–81; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: Das grosse Cantional, 1687, Darmstadt. Text and tune: Public domain

KYRIE

P: Lord, have mercy.

C: Christ, have mercy.

P: Lord, have mercy.

SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Heavenly Father, send us your Holy Spirit so that we affirm with St. Paul, "I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want." (Philippians 4:12) In Jesus' name we pray,

All: Amen.

sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING Exodus 20:1-17

¹And God spoke all these words, saying,

²"I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

³"You shall have no other gods before me.

⁴"You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷"You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.

⁸"Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, ¹⁰but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

¹²"Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³"You shall not murder.

¹⁴"You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵"You shall not steal.

¹⁶"You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

¹⁷"You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's."

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING Philippians 4:11-13

¹¹Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. ¹²I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. ¹³I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

stand

PASSION READING Mark 14:66-15:15

P: Our Passion Reading this evening is from St. Mark's Gospel, Chapters 14 and 15.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

⁶⁶And as Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant girls of the high priest came, ⁶⁷and seeing Peter warming himself, she looked at him and said, "You also were with the Nazarene, Jesus." ⁶⁸But he denied it, saying, "I neither know nor understand what you mean." And he went out into the gateway and the rooster crowed. ⁶⁹And the servant girl saw him and began again to say to the bystanders, "This man is one of them." ⁷⁰But again he denied it. And after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter, "Certainly you are one of them, for you are a Galilean." ⁷¹But he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear, "I do not know this man of whom you speak." ⁷²And immediately the rooster crowed a second time. And Peter remembered how Jesus had said to him, "Before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times." And he broke down and wept.

¹And as soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole Council. And they bound Jesus and led him away and delivered him over to Pilate. ²And Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" And he answered him, "You have said so." ³And the chief priests accused him of many things. ⁴And Pilate again asked him, "Have you no answer to make? See how many charges they bring against you." ⁵But Jesus made no further answer, so that Pilate was amazed.

⁶Now at the feast he used to release for them one prisoner for whom they asked. ⁷And among the rebels in prison, who had committed murder in the insurrection, there was a man called Barabbas. ⁸And the crowd came up

and began to ask Pilate to do as he usually did for them. ⁹And he answered them, saying, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" ¹⁰For he perceived that it was out of envy that the chief priests had delivered him up. ¹¹But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release for them Barabbas instead. ¹²And Pilate again said to them, "Then what shall I do with the man you call the King of the Jews?" ¹³And they cried out again, "Crucify him." ¹⁴And Pilate said to them, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him." ¹⁵So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ, King who comes to save us.**

APOSTLES CREED

C: **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.

sit

SERMON "Mine!"

Exodus 20:1-17

Toddler Property Laws: "If I like it, it's **M** _____. If it's in my hand, it's _____. If I can take it from you, it's _____. If I had it a little while ago, it's _____."

The _____ and _____ Comm.s are most important because every sin begins with _____. God repeats what is _____.

C _____ is the way we **W** _____ other _____. The

Sequence of Coveting: 1. _____. 2. _____. 3. _____.

4. _____. God chose _____ because God _____.

“God always says, You are my 1st choice! You are my prized, priceless possession! I have redeemed you, I have called you by name, you are always & forevermore lovingly, passionately, eternally mine!”

OFFERING

Silent Prayer: Thank you Jesus for your loving desire to acquire me, now and forevermore! Please lead me through the wilderness of life in this sinful world and satisfy me with every good and perfect gift. For Your steadfast love endures forever! Amen.

OFFERTORY HYMN “What Is the World to Me”

LSB 730



1 What is the world to me With all its vaunt - ed plea - sure
2 The world seeks to be praised And hon - ored by the might - y
3 The world seeks af - ter wealth And all that mam - mon of - fers
4 What is the world to me! My Je - sus is my trea - sure,



When You, and You a - lone, Lord Je - sus, are my trea - sure!
Yet nev - er once re - flects That they are frail and flight - y.
Yet nev - er is con - tent Though gold should fill its cof - fers.
My life, my health, my wealth, My friend, my love, my plea - sure,



You on - ly, dear - est Lord, My soul's de - light shall be;
But what I tru - ly prize A - bove all things is He,
I have a high - er good, Con - tent with it I'll be:
My joy, my crown, my all, My bliss e - ter - nal - ly.



You are my peace, my rest. What is the world to me!
My Je - sus, He a - lone. What is the world to me!
My Je - sus is my wealth. What is the world to me!
Once more, then, I de - clare: What is the world to me!

Text: Georg Michael Pfefferkorn, 1645–1732; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt. Tune: Ahasverus Fritsch, 1629–1701. Text and tune: Public domain

stand

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Following each petition, the pastor will say, "Lord, help us learn," to which the congregation is invited to respond, "the secret of being content." (Bases on Psalm 42:1)

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

COLLECT FOR PEACE

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.

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor *†* and give you peace.

C: Amen.

sit

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLOSING HYMN “Abide With Me” LSB 878



1 A - bid e with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.
2 I need Thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;
3 Come not in ter - rors, as the King of kings,
4 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;



The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bid e.
What but Thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?
But kind and good, with heal - ing in Thy wings;
Earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;



When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
Who like Thy - self my guide and stay can be?
Tears for all woes, a heart for ev - 'ry plea.
Change and de - cay in all a - round I see;



Help of the help - less, O a - bid e with me.
Through cloud and sun - shine, O a - bid e with me.
Come, Friend of sin - ners, thus a - bid e with me.
O Thou who chang - est not, a - bid e with me.

- 5 I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still if Thou abide with me!
- 6 Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.
Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847, alt. Tune: William H. Monk, 1823–89. Text and tune: Public domain

THE SENDING

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE(S)





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.

Are your cell phones turned off? Cell phones are indeed a great convenience in life these days. However, please, out of courtesy, silence cell phones during the worship service. Thank you!

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.



Today we celebrate the Lord's Supper. Holy Communion. Scripture teaches that Holy Communion is a sacred act, established by Christ Himself and is given to His Church. As members of **The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod**, we hold the doctrine of the Real Presence, in with and under; meaning that Jesus gives His Body and Blood with the bread and wine, as He Himself says, *"This is my body... This is my blood... for the forgiveness of sins."* (Matthew 26:26ff)

The Holy Scriptures also teach us to receive this meal in a way that is responsible and healthy. As overseer, St. Paul wrote- *"let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment upon himself"* (1 Cor. 11:28-29). Out of genuine care for God's people we ask that those (1) who have not been baptized and instructed in the faith or (2) who come from another church body, not in altar or pulpit fellowship with us, refrain from receiving Holy Communion.

For those preparing to receive Holy Communion, Luther encourages us to ask ourselves these questions:

Do **I repent** of my sins, desiring to turn away from them, back to the Lord?

Do **I believe** Jesus died and rose for me and gives me His Body and Blood this day "for the forgiveness of sins"?

Do **I intend** to use this means of grace to change my life, following His will and way?

We ask that all who receive the Lord's Supper fill out a "Care Card" and place it in the offering plate. Please note that reduced-alcoholic white wine is available in the center cups of the communion tray.

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

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WORSHIP SERVICES:

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

Website: www.peaceneenah.com

YouTube: Peace Neenah

