



Lutheran Church & Christian School



Midweek IV  
"Forsaken!"

**March 15, 2023**

***Redeemed, Restored, & Rejoicing in Jesus!***

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## AS WE GATHER

Jesus had no epitaph. Buried in a borrowed tomb, no words were emblazoned across His grave. Instead, during the Savior's final hours, He paved a way through suffering with seven Words – seven Words for life, remembered and recited throughout the ages – simple sentences, tiny touchstones along His way of sorrows to see us through our own. To be sure, these Words have a lasting impact, even now, for us, beginning with today's Word: "Forsaken!" Truly it is a Word that bestows life – now, for eternity.

## PRELUDE

**JESUS MESSIAH** (*Words & Music by Daniel Carlson, Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash & Jesse Reeves*  
© 2008 *Vamos Publishing | worshiptogether.com songs | sixsteps Music | Alletrop Music*

### 1. Solo

*Chorus: Jesus, Messiah, Name above all names; blessed Redeemer, Emmanuel.  
The Rescue for sinners, the Ransom from heaven; Jesus, Messiah, Lord of all.*

2. His body the bread, His blood the wine, broken and poured out all for love;  
The whole earth trembled and the veil was torn – love so amazing, love so amazing.

*Chorus*

*Bridge: All our hope is in You, all our hope is in You.  
All the glory to You, God, the Light of the world.*

*Chorus*

Jesus, Messiah, Lord of all. The Lord of all, the Lord of all.

## WELCOME

## OPENING PRAYER

## HYMN OF INVITATION “With Words that Last Forever”

[TUNE: LSB 449]

With words that last forever You speak in richest grace,  
Lord Jesus Christ, my Savior, upon Your cross disgraced.

With open ears I listen, with open mind believe,  
With open heart embrace You: I, Lord, Your words receive.

“Forgiveness” granted sinners, and “Paradise, today!”

“Behold your son, your mother!” to family You say.

The air is split with anguish in Your “Forsaken” cry,  
As “Thirsty,” work “Accomplished,” in “Father’s hands” You die.

Pray, sanctify the silence with which I contemplate  
Your boundless love for sinners, Your sacrifice so great,  
Till at the tomb I waken to Your new Word for me:  
These words, not last, but lasting, shall ring eternally!

## APPROACHING THE WORD

*The sign of the cross may be made in remembrance of your Baptism.*

P The grace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ ✠ the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be and abide with you all.

**C And also with you.**

P Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.

**C “My God, my God, why have You forsaken me?”**

P The word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved, it is the power of God.

**C “My God, my God, why have You forsaken me?”**

P Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

**C “My God, my God, why have You forsaken me?”**

P The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth.

**C “My God, my God, why have You forsaken me?”**

P “The Word that goes forth from My mouth shall not return to Me empty,” says the Lord. “It shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.”

**C “My God, my God, why have You forsaken me?”**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**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, given 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.

## OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 49:13-16* (Israel's fortunes restored.)

<sup>13</sup> Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth; break forth, O mountains, into singing! For the LORD has comforted His people and will have compassion on His afflicted.

<sup>14</sup> But Zion said, "The LORD has forsaken me; my Lord has forgotten me."

<sup>15</sup> "Can a woman forget her nursing child,  
that she should have no compassion on the son of her womb?  
Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you.

<sup>16</sup> Behold, I have engraved you on the palms of My hands;  
your walls are continually before Me.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## EPISTLE READING *2 Corinthians 5:16-21* (Honor for the aged among us.)

<sup>16</sup> From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard Him thus no longer.

<sup>17</sup> Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. <sup>18</sup> All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to Himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup> that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. <sup>20</sup> Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making His appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup> For our sake He made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## OUR SAVIOR SPOKE WITH SEVEN WORDS

[Tune: KINGSFOLD, *LSB 444*]

**Our Savior spoke with seven words as on the cross He died;  
Through pain and sorrow echoed hope when He was crucified.  
The fourth word from Christ's loneliness and desolation came  
As sinking in abandonment He called His Father's name.**

(c) 2004 Gregory Wismar

### **GOSPEL READING** *John 10:14-29 (Your sorrow will turn into joy.)*

**P** The holy Gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter.

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

<sup>14</sup> I am the good shepherd. I know My own and My own know Me, <sup>15</sup> just as the Father knows Me and I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup> And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to My voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. <sup>17</sup> For this reason the Father loves Me, because I lay down My life that I may take it up again. <sup>18</sup> No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of My own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from My Father."

<sup>19</sup> There was again a division among the Jews because of these words. <sup>20</sup> Many of them said, "He has a demon, and is insane; why listen to Him?" <sup>21</sup> Others said, "These are not the words of one who is oppressed by a demon. Can a demon open the eyes of the blind?"

<sup>22</sup> At that time the Feast of Dedication took place at Jerusalem. It was winter, <sup>23</sup> and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the colonnade of Solomon. <sup>24</sup> So the Jews gathered around Him and said to Him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly." <sup>25</sup> Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in My Father's name bear witness about Me, <sup>26</sup> but you do not believe because you are not among My sheep. <sup>27</sup> My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. <sup>28</sup> I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of My hand. <sup>29</sup> My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand.

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

**C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

**HYMN OF RESPONSE** “Jesus, in Your Dying Woes”

*LSB 447:10-12*

**MEDITATION** “Forsaken!”

**NOTES:**

**HYMN OF RESPONSE** “The King of Love, My Shepherd Is”

*LSB 709*

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**P** As we mark the forty days of Lent with repentance and forgiveness, let us pray for the renewal of the Church and the restoration of the world to the life of God in Christ.

*Silence for time of personal reflection.*

*Each petition concludes with the following response:*

**C** **O God, forsake us not!**

*Additional petitions may be offered.*

**P** Gracious Father, listen to the prayers that flow from our lips, and sustain us with the forgiveness won by Your Son’s Passion, death and resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

*Sharing of God’s peace.*

**OFFERTORY** “Our Savior Speaks in Love”

[TUNE: *LSB 424*]

Our Savior speaks in love, from deepest agony.  
Oh, hear the message from above; His great compassion see.

Now hear the awful cry, sin’s dreadful burden see:  
“My God, my God,” the Son shouts “Why have You forsaken Me?”

Our Savior speaks; may we give heed to ev’ry word,  
And grace be given faithfully to trust what we have heard.

## LORD'S PRAYER

*Please see PowerPoint or back of hymnal.*

## **BENEDICTION** *Numbers 6:24–26*

Pastor:                   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.

**Congregation:**       **Amen.**

## **CLOSING HYMN** “In Christ Alone” (*Words & Music by Keith Getty & Stewart Townsend, © 2002 ThankYou Music*)

In Christ alone my hope is found; He is my Light, my strength, my song.  
This Cornerstone, this solid ground, firm through the fiercest draughts and storm.  
What heights of love! What depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when strivings  
    cease.  
My Comforter, my all in all, here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless Babe.  
This gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones He came to save  
Till on that cross as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied,  
For ev’ry sin on Him was laid. Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain.  
Then bursting forth in glorious day, up from the grave He arose again.  
And as He stands in victory, sin’s curse has lost its grip on me.  
For I am His, and He is mine, bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death: this is the power of Christ in me.  
From life’s first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.  
No pow’r of hell, no scheme of man can ever pluck me from His hand  
Till He returns, or calls me home, here in the pow’r of Christ I’ll stand.

## Acknowledgments:

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## **“7 for LIFE”**

### **WEDNESDAYS**

**(Soup, Salad & Sandwiches @ 6:00 p.m.;  
Worship @ 7:00 p.m.)**

### **SUNDAYS**

**(Bible Study @ 9:00 a.m. & Worship @ 10:30 a.m.)**

**“Forsaken!” (March 15 & 19)**

**“Thirst! (March 22 & 26)**

**“Finished!” (March 29 & April 2)**

### **3 Opportunities to Go Deeper:**

**“For You!” (Thursday, April 6, 7:00 p.m.)**

**“Hands!” (Friday, April 7, Noon & 7:00 p.m.)**

**“Alleluia” (Easter Sunday 6 & 10:30 a.m.)**