



Lutheran Church & Christian School



Midweek V  
"Thirst!"

**March 22, 2023**

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

100 Maple Avenue, Keene, NH 03431  
603.352.4446 | [tlckeene.nh@gmail.com](mailto:tlckeene.nh@gmail.com) | [tlckeene.org](http://tlckeene.org)

## 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: "Thirst!" Truly it is a Word that bestows life – now, for eternity.

## PRELUDE

**O COME AND MOURN WITH ME AWHILE** (*Public Domain words by Frederick Faber, Arr. by Eric Ashley © 1999 Eric Ashley Music*)

1. Solo

2. Sev'n times He spake, sev'n words of love, and all three hours His silence cried  
For mercy on the souls of men; Jesus our Lord is crucified.

*Chorus: O love of God, O sin of man, in this dread act Your strength is tried,  
And victory remains with love; Jesus our Lord is crucified.*

3. O break, O break hard heart of mine! Thy weak self love and guilty pride  
His Pilate and His Judas were: Jesus our Lord is crucified.

*Chorus*

4. A broken heart, a fount of tears, ask, and they will not be denied;  
A broken heart love's cradle is: Jesus our Lord is crucified.

Chorus & Repeat

## 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 Jesus said, “I thirst.”**

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

**C Jesus said, “I thirst.”**

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

**C Jesus said, “I thirst.”**

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 Jesus said, “I thirst.”**

## 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, giving 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 55:1-11* (The compassion of the Lord.)

<sup>1</sup>“Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters;

and he who has no money, come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

<sup>2</sup>Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,  
and your labor for that which does not satisfy?

Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.

<sup>3</sup>Incline your ear, and come to Me; hear, that your soul may live;  
and I will make with you an everlasting covenant, My steadfast, sure love for David.

<sup>4</sup>Behold, I made him a witness to the peoples,  
a leader and commander for the peoples.

<sup>5</sup>Behold, you shall call a nation that you do not know,  
and a nation that did not know you shall run to you,  
because of the LORD your God, and of the Holy One of Israel, for He has glorified you.

<sup>6</sup>“Seek the LORD while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near;

<sup>7</sup>let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts;  
let him return to the LORD, that He may have compassion on him,  
and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.

<sup>8</sup>For my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.

<sup>9</sup>For as the heavens are higher than the earth,  
so are My ways higher than your ways  
and My thoughts than your thoughts.

<sup>10</sup>“For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven  
and do not return there but water the earth,  
making it bring forth and sprout,  
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

<sup>11</sup>so shall My word be that goes out from My mouth;  
it shall not return to Me empty,  
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,  
and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

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

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

**EPISTLE READING** *Revelation 21:5-6; 22:1-2* (The river of life.)

<sup>5</sup> And He who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” Also He said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.” <sup>6</sup> And He said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. ...

<sup>1</sup> Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb <sup>2</sup> through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

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.  
As for the sins of all He died, the Shepherd for the sheep,  
His fifth word of His thirst He spoke to slake the sorrow deep.**

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**GOSPEL READING** *John 4:1-14* (Jesus and the woman of Samaria.)

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

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

<sup>1</sup> Now when Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard that Jesus was making and baptizing more disciples than John <sup>2</sup> (although Jesus Himself did not baptize, but only His disciples), <sup>3</sup> He left Judea and departed again for Galilee. <sup>4</sup> And He had to pass through Samaria. <sup>5</sup> So He came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup> Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as He was from His journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour.

<sup>7</sup> A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.”

<sup>8</sup> (For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) <sup>9</sup> The Samaritan woman said to Him, “How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?” (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) <sup>10</sup> Jesus answered her:

“If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give Me a drink,’ you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water.” <sup>11</sup> The woman said to Him, “Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? <sup>12</sup> Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock.” <sup>13</sup> Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, <sup>14</sup> but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”

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

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

**SERMON HYMN** “Jesus, in Your Dying Woes”

*LSB 447:13-15*

**MEDITATION** “Thirst!”

**HYMN OF RESPONSE** “Water, Blood, and Spirit Crying”

*LSB 597*

**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** Satisfy us with Your overflowing grace, O God.

*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** “How Beautiful” (*Words & Music by Twila Paris ©1990 Ariose Music \ Mountain Spring Music*)

1. How beautiful the hands that served,  
The wine and the bread and the sons of the earth.  
How beautiful the feet that walked  
The long dusty roads and the hill to the cross.

*Chorus: How beautiful, how beautiful, how beautiful is the body of Christ.*

2. How beautiful the heart that bled  
That took all my sin and bore it instead.  
How beautiful the tender eyes  
That chose to forgive and never despise. (*Chorus*)
3. How beautiful the radiant Bride  
Who waits for her Groom with His light in her eyes.  
How beautiful when humble hearts give  
The fruit of pure lives so that others may live. (*Chorus*)
4. How beautiful the feet that bring  
The sound of Good News and the love of the King.  
How beautiful the hands that serve  
The wine and the bread and the sons of the earth. (*Chorus*)

**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.**

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

Obediently He dies; sin’s pow’r has done its worst.  
Now to fulfill God’s Word, He cries a simple word: “I thirst.”

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

**Acknowledgments:**

Portions of the service are adapted from: *“Words that Last Forever!”* by Arden Mead  
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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.)**

**“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.)**