

St. Stephen Lutheran Church

Member congregation of the Church of the Lutheran Confession (clclutheran.org)

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March 5, 2025 † Ash Wednesday Lenten Service



We Welcome Our Visitors who are with us this morning.

We hope that you are uplifted by the Gospel at our worship service.

We invite you to join us every Sunday.

† Preparation for Worship: Read Psalm 32 (Lutheran Service Book or Pew Bible) †

**Our Worship Service tonight will be Posted to Our Website tomorrow by
midafternoon.**

To Watch our Worship Service Online Please Click This Link:

<https://www.sslcwest.org/worship.html>

Opening Hymn 436 Go to Dark Gethsemane

(LSB 436)



1 Go to dark Geth - sem - a - ne, All who feel the
2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall, View the Lord of
3 Cal - v'ry's mourn - ful moun - tain climb; There, a - dor - ing
4 Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb Where they laid His



tempt - er's pow'r; Your Re - deem - er's con - flict see,
life ar - rained; Oh, the worm - wood and the gall!
at His feet, Mark that mir - a - cle of time,
breath - less clay; All is sol - i - tude and gloom.



Watch with Him one bit - ter hour; Turn not from His
Oh, the pangs His soul sus - tained! Shun not suf - f'ring,
God's own sac - ri - fice com - plete. "It is fin - ished!"
Who has tak - en Him a - way? Christ is ris'n! He



griefs a - way; Learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.
shame, or loss; Learn from Him to bear the cross.
hear Him cry; Learn from Je - sus Christ to die.
meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854

Tune: Richard Redhead, 1820–1901

Text and tune: Public domain

Invocation

We invoke ("call upon") the name of the one true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

P In the name of the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

G Amen.

Responsive Hymnody Reading (CW 126 st.1,3)

- P** Lord Jesus, You are going forth for me Your life to offer;
C **For me, a sinner from my birth, who caused all You suffer.**
P So be it, then, My dearest Friend; I will follow after weeping,
C **Tears flowing free Your pain to see, watch o'er Your sorrows keeping.**
P 'Tis I, Lord Jesus, I confess, who should have borne sin's wages
C **And lost the peace of heavenly bliss through everlasting ages.**
P Instead You go to bear the blow, my punishment to carry.
C: **Your death and blood lead me to God; by grace I there may tarry.**

Lenten Prayer

- P** We pray:
Almighty and everlasting God, Who does not hate anything You have created and forgives the sins of all those who are penitent, create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain from You, the God of all mercy, full forgiveness for all our sins, through Jesus, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit now and forever.
C **Amen.**

Confession of Sins

- C** **Have mercy upon me, O God, According to Your lovingkindness; According to the multitude of Your tender mercies, Blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, And cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions, And my sin is always before me. Against You, You only, have I sinned, And done this evil in Your sight. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, And uphold me by Your generous Spirit.**

Absolution of Sins

- P** As God has given to you the Keys of the Kingdom of Heaven, and as you have called me to administer the same, even so, in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

THE PASSION HISTORY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

According to the Four Gospels (New King James Version)

I - Jesus' Betrayal and Arrest

When Jesus had spoken these words [of His High Priestly Prayer], and when they had sung a hymn, He went to the Mount of Olives as He was accustomed, and His disciples also followed Him. They went over the brook Kidron, and they came to a garden named Gethsemane. Then Jesus said to them, "All of you will be made to stumble because of Me this night, for it is written: 'I will strike the Shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.' But after I have been raised I will go before you to Galilee."

But Peter answered and said to Him, "Even if all are made to stumble because of You, I will never be made to stumble."

Jesus said to him, "Assuredly I say to you that today, even this night, before the rooster crows twice, you will deny Me three times." But Peter spoke more vehemently: "Even if I have to die with You, I will not deny You!" And so said all the disciples.

When He came to the place, Jesus said to His disciples: "Sit here while I go and pray over there. Pray that you may not enter into temptation." And He took with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, James and John, and He was withdrawn from the others about a stone's throw. And He began to be sorrowful, troubled, and deeply distressed. Then He said to them, "My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch with Me."

He went a little farther, and He knelt down. He fell to the ground on His face, and prayed, that if it were possible, the hour might pass from Him. And He said: "Abba, Father, all things are possible for You. O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me. Nevertheless not as I will, but as You will. Not My will, but Yours be done."

Then an angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him. And being in agony He prayed more fervently; and His sweat became like great drops of blood, falling down to the ground.

When He rose up from prayer, He came to His disciples and found them sleeping from sorrow. He said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? What, could you not watch with Me

one hour? He said to them, "Why do you sleep? Rise, watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing and ready, but the flesh is weak."

He went away again a second time and prayed, saying the same words, "O My Father, if this cup cannot pass from Me unless I drink it, Your will be done." And He came and found them asleep again, for their eyes were heavy; and they did not know what to answer Him. So He left them and went away again and prayed the third time, saying the same words once more. Then He came to His disciples the third time, and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? It is enough. Behold, the hour has come; it is at hand. Behold, the Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise up, let us be going. Behold, he who betrays Me is at hand."

Now Judas, one of the twelve, who betrayed Jesus, also knew the place; for Jesus often met there with His disciples. Then Judas, having received a detachment of troops and officers from the chief priests and the scribes and elders of the people, came there with lanterns and torches, and weapons; swords and clubs. And immediately, while Jesus was still speaking, a great multitude came, and the one called Judas went before them. Now he who betrayed Jesus had given them a sign, saying, "Whomever I kiss, He is the one; take Him, and lead Him away safely." Jesus therefore, knowing all things that would come upon Him, went forward and said to them, "Whom are you seeking?" They answered Him, "Jesus of Nazareth."

Jesus said to them, "I am He", and Judas, who betrayed Him, also stood with them. Then, when He said to them, "I am He", they went backward and fell to the ground. Then He asked them again, "Whom are you seeking?" And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus answered, "I told you that I am He; therefore if you seek Me, let these go their way", that the saying might be fulfilled which He spoke, "Of those whom You gave Me I have lost none."

Judas drew near to Jesus to kiss Him. He went up to Him, and said to Him, "Hail, Master!" and kissed Him. And Jesus said to him, "Friend, why have you come? Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?"

When those who were around Jesus saw what was going to happen, they said to Him, "Lord, shall we strike with the sword?" Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and took

Him. And suddenly Simon Peter, one of those who stood by with Jesus, stretched out his hand and drew out his sword, and struck the high priest's servant and cut off his right ear. The servant's name was Malchus. But Jesus answered and said, "Permit even this!" And He touched his ear and healed him. Then Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword into the sheath; for all who take the sword will die by the sword. Or do you think that I cannot now pray to My Father, and He will provide Me with more than twelve legions of angels? But how then could the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must happen thus? Shall I not drink the cup which My Father has given Me?"

In that hour Jesus said to the chief priests and captains of the temple and elders who came to Him, "Have you come out, as against a robber, with swords and clubs to take Me? I sat daily with you in the temple, teaching, and you did not lay hands on Me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness." All this was done that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled. The Scriptures must be fulfilled. Then the disciples forsook Him and fled.

Now a certain young man followed Him, having a linen cloth thrown around his naked body; and the young men laid hold of him. And he left the linen cloth and fled from them naked.

P Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world!

The 2nd Article of the Apostle's Creed *with explanation from Luther's Catechism (Sydow, p. 87)*

C I believe 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, dead, and buried;
He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven and sits on the right hand of God, the Father Almighty;
from there He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God,
begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man,
born of the virgin Mary is my Lord.

He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person,
purchased and won me from all sin, from death, and from the power of the devil,
not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood

and His innocent suffering and death.

He did this that I should be His very own, live under Him in His kingdom,
and serve Him in eternal righteousness, innocence, and joy;
just as He is risen from death, lives and reigns in eternity.

This is most certainly true!

Hymn 440 Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

(LSB 440)



1 Je - sus, I will pon - der now On Your ho - ly pas - sion;
2 Make me see Your great dis - tress, An - guish, and af - flic - tion,
3 Yet, O Lord, not thus a - lone Make me see Your pas - sion,
4 Grant that I Your pas - sion view With re - pen - tant griev - ing.



With Your Spir - it me en - dow For such med - i - ta - tion.
Bonds and stripes and wretch - ed - ness And Your cru - ci - fix - ion;
But its cause to me make known And its ter - mi - na - tion.
Let me not bring shame to You By un - ho - ly liv - ing.



Grant that I in love and faith May the im - age cher - ish
Make me see how scourge and rod, Spear and nails did wound You,
Ah! I al - so and my sin Wrought Your deep af - flic - tion;
How could I re - fuse to shun Ev - 'ry sin - ful plea - sure



Of Your suf - f'ring, pain, and death That I may not per - ish.
How for them You died, O God, Who with thorns had crowned You.
This in - deed the cause has been Of Your cru - ci - fix - ion.
Since for me God's on - ly Son Suf - fered with - out mea - sure?

5 If my sins give me alarm
And my conscience grieve me,
Let Your cross my fear disarm;
Peace of conscience give me.
Help me see forgiveness won

By Your holy passion.
If for me He slays His Son,
God must have compassion!

6 Graciously my faith renew;
Help me bear my crosses,
Learning humbleness from You,
Peace mid pain and losses.
May I give You love for love!
Hear me, O my Savior,
That I may in heav'n above
Sing Your praise forever.

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626–81; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.

Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570–1615

Text and tune: Public domain

Isaiah's Passion History

Sermon Text: Isaiah 52:13-15 ¹³ Behold, My Servant shall deal prudently; He shall be exalted and extolled and be very high. ¹⁴ Just as many were astonished at you, So His visage was marred more than any man, And His form more than the sons of men; ¹⁵ So shall He sprinkle many nations. Kings shall shut their mouths at Him; For what had not been told them they shall see, And what they had not heard they shall consider.

Sermon Theme: Isaiah Reveals Contrasting Views of Christ

- 1. In the depths of His humiliation**
- 2. In His great exaltation**

Offertory

LSB 956

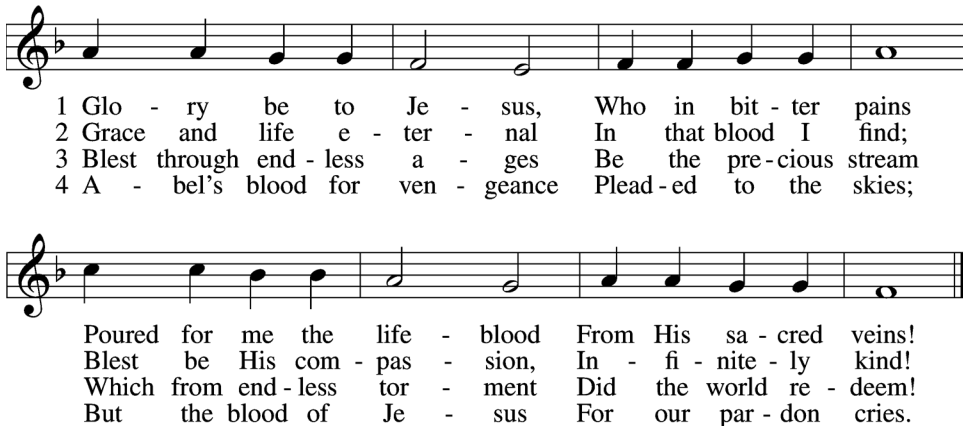


Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new
a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way
from Thy pres - ence; and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va - tion;
and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

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Hymn 433 Glory Be to Jesus

(LSB 433)



1 Glo - ry be to Je - sus, Who in bit - ter pains
2 Grace and life e - ter - nal In that blood I find;
3 Blest through end - less a - ges Be the pre - cious stream
4 A - bel's blood for ven - geance Plead - ed to the skies;

Poured for me the life - blood From His sa - cred veins!
Blest be His com - pas - sion, In - fi - nite - ly kind!
Which from end - less tor - ment Did the world re - deem!
But the blood of Je - sus For our par - don cries.

5 Oft as earth exulting
Wafts its praise on high,

Angel hosts rejoicing
Make their glad reply.

6 Lift we, then, our voices,
Swell the mighty flood;
Louder still and louder
Praise the precious blood!

Text: Italian, c. 18th cent.; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–78, alt.

Tune: Friedrich Filitz, 1804–76

Text and tune: Public domain

Offering *We offer our gifts to the Lord, remembering that He has first given to us that we might have to give to Him.*

Prayer of the Church *We bring our prayers to God.*

Lord's Prayer

LSB 209

**☩ 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.**

Responsive Hymnody Reading (CW 105 st.5-7)

P What language shall I borrow to thank You, dearest Friend,

C For this Your dying sorrow, Your pity without end?

P Oh, make me Yours forever! And keep me strong and true;

C Lord, let me never, never, outlive my love for You.

P My Savior, then be near me when death is at my door;

C And let Your presence cheer me, forsake me never more!

P When soul and body languish, oh, leave me not alone,

C But take away my anguish by virtue of Your own!

P Lord, be my Consolation, my Shield, when I must die;

C Remind me of Your passion when my last hour draws nigh.

P My eyes shall then behold You, upon Your cross will dwell;

C My heart will then enfold You --Who dies in faith dies well!

Benediction *The blessing given by God for the blessing of His people (Numbers 6:24-26).*

P The LORD bless you and keep you.

The LORD make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

C ♪ Amen, Amen, Amen.

Closing Hymn 422 On My Heart Imprint Your Image

(LSB 422)



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-raise;



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!

Text: Thomas Hansen Kingo, 1634–1703; tr. Peer O. Strømme, 1856–1921, alt.

Tune: Johann Balthasar König, 1691–1758

Text and tune: Public domain

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Saturday **Volunteer Work on the Parsonage**
Next Sunday **10:00 a.m. Worship Service**
3/9/25 **11:00 a.m. Choir**
11:00 a.m. Church Council Meeting
Volunteer Work on the Parsonage