

January 28, 2024
Septuagesima

A central image showing a pair of hands clasped in prayer. A large, semi-transparent grey arrow points downwards from the top, and a large, semi-transparent yellow arrow points upwards from the bottom. The text is overlaid on this image.

HUMBLE YOURSELVES UNDER THE
MIGHTY HAND OF GOD,
THAT
HE MAY EXALT YOU IN DUE TIME.



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✠ Opening Prayer ✠

Hymn: WS #742

"Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven"

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Pastor

C Congregation

Confession of Our Sins

We come before God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

P God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

C **If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

P Let us pray.

C **Almighty God, merciful Father, we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. But we are sorry for our transgressions and pray You, of Your bountiful mercy, to be gracious and merciful unto us. Forgive us for Jesus' sake, renew us by Your Spirit, and lead us in the way everlasting. Amen.**

Absolution from Our God

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9)

P Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. We are forgiven. With boldness and confidence we may approach the throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

Response: TLH #377:10

"Salvation Unto Us Has Come"

C **♫ All blessing, honor, thanks, and praise To Father, Son, and Spirit, The God that saved us by His grace, - All glory to His merit! O Triune God in heaven above, Who hast revealed Thy saving love, Thy blessed name be hallowed.**

The Introit

Ps. 18:1-2, 5-6, 27, 32, 49

A collection of passages that set the tone for the service.

- P** The cords of Sheol entangled me; the snares of death confronted me.
- G** **In my distress I called upon the Lord. From his temple he heard my voice.**
- P** I love you, O Lord, my strength. The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer.
- G** **For you save a humble people, but the haughty eyes you bring down.**
- P** [You have] equipped me with strength and made my way blameless.
- G** **For this I will praise you, O Lord, among the nations, and sing to your name.**
- P** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
- G** **As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Collect Prayer of the Day

- P** O Lord, graciously hear the prayers of Your people that we who justly suffer the consequence of our sin may be mercifully delivered by Your goodness to the glory of Your name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- G** **Amen.**

1 Corinthians 9:24-10:5

²⁴ Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. ²⁵

Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. ²⁶ So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. ²⁷ But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified. ¹ For I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ² and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³ and all ate the

same spiritual food, ⁴ and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. ⁵ Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

Jeremiah 9:23-24

Thus says the LORD: "Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his might, let not the rich man boast in his riches, ²⁴ but let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the LORD who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth. For in these things I delight, declares the LORD."

Confession of Faith

Justification by Faith

We boldly confess what we believe using the following words from the Formula of Concord — on Justification by Faith.

"We unanimously believe, teach, and confess the following about the righteousness of faith before God:

A poor sinful person is justified before God, that is, absolved and declared free and exempt from all his sins and from the sentence of well-deserved condemnation, and is adopted into sonship and inheritance of eternal life, without any merit or worth of his own.

This happens without any preceding, present, or subsequent works, out of pure grace, because of the sole merit, complete obedience, bitter suffering, death, and resurrection of our Lord Christ alone. His obedience is credited to us for righteousness. These treasures are brought to us by the Holy Spirit in the promise of the holy Gospel.

Faith alone is the only means through which we lay hold on, accept, apply, and take them for ourselves. This faith is God's gift, by which we truly learn to know Christ, our Redeemer, in the Word of the Gospel and trust in Him. We trust that for the sake of His obedience alone we have the forgiveness of sins by grace, are regarded as godly and righteous by God the Father, and are eternally saved."

Matthew 20:1-16

1 "For the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. 2 After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. 3 And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, 4 and to them he said, 'You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.' 5 So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. 6 And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?' 7 They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You go into the vineyard too.' 8 And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.' 9 And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. 10 Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. 11 And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, 12 saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' 13 But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? 14 Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. 15 Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?' 16 So the last will be first, and the first last."

At the End of the Day, God's Grace Has Final Say



The Offertory

In this prayer we offer our hearts, asking God for the best gift, the Holy Spirit.

- C** ♪ **Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a right spirit within me Cast me not away from Thy presence; And take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; And uphold me with thy free spirit. Amen.**

✠ The Offering of Thankful Hearts ✠

Sermon Hymn: TLH #373:1-5

"By Grace I'm Saved"

✠ The General Prayer ✠

The Lord's Prayer *Sung to the Tune of "How Firm a Foundation"*

- C** ♪ **Our Father in heaven, All praise to Your name!
Your kingdom among us, Your will done the same
By mortals and angels. Come, Lord, reign alone:
Oh, hear us and bless us From heaven's high throne.**

**The bread that we yearn for Provide us each day;
As we forgive others, Our sins take away;
In times of temptation, to lead us be near;
From evil deliver Your children most dear,**

**For yours is the kingdom; O'er all things You reign.
And Yours is the power; All things You maintain.
To You be the glory, Resounding again
From all of creation, Forever! Amen.**

The Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

The blessing given by God for His people.

- P** The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn: TLH #492

"Lord of the Living Harvest"

Kansas City Area Worship will be held today at 5:30 pm at:

Staybridge Suites
19400 East 39th Place,
Independence, MO 64057

The next two services are planned for Feb. 25 and March 24.

Missionary Ohlmann and Pastor Andrew Schaller will be headed to the Philippines tomorrow. Please pray that their trip bears fruit and that they return home safely!

CLC Call News: Pastor David Baker **has been called** by Resurrection Lutheran in Corpus Christi, TX. <> Pastor Tim Daub of Prince of Peace Lutheran in Hecla, South Dakota **has been called** by Immanuel Lutheran in Mankato, MN to be their second pastor. <> Mr. Ross Kok of Holy Cross Lutheran School in Phoenix, AZ **has been called** by Gethsemane Lutheran in Saginaw, MI. <> Mr. Dan Roehl **is still considering** the call to be the new professor at Immanuel Lutheran College, Eau Claire, WI, replacing retiring Professor Mark Kranz. <> Pastor Thomas Schuetze of St. Paul Lutheran of Lakewood, CO **has returned** the calls from Calvary Lutheran of Marquette, MI and St. Peter's Lutheran of Iron River, MI.

ILC Tour Choir - But this year CLC President Michael Wilke is authorizing this synod-wide announcement to allow others to share in their support of the Tour Choir. This offering would help offset the extra expense needed for the bus. Therefore, if members of CLC congregations wish to support this, please designate your offering to "ILC Tour Choir."

The Tour Choir is **scheduled to visit** our congregation on Sunday, March 17th, during our regular 10 am worship time. They will be arriving to stay overnight on Saturday, March 16th.

Luther's Large Catechism will be our upcoming Sunday Bible Study. If you would like to purchase the book on Amazon, it is currently \$11.99 and titled, "**Luther's Large Catechism With Study Questions.**"

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions

January 29th – February 3rd, 2024

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

-Psalm 119:105

Mon John 8:12-16 Jesus is the Light of the World, dispelling the darkness that sin brought into it and revealing the loving Father from whom He came.

Tues 1 John 1:5-10 If we claimed to follow Jesus, but continued to walk in darkness, we would be denying that He is light or that God is light. But coming to Him confessing our sins, we find forgiveness and light!

Wed Isaiah 51:1-6 To His believers, who suffer the judgments which the wicked bring down upon a people, God speaks comfort. From the earliest times He has cared for His people, and His salvation will remain forever (v6).

Thurs Isaiah 51:7-12 Again the Lord repeats His comfort to His people. Even the insults and abuse of the wicked will not prevent God from blessing His people. He who saved them from the raging sea monster [Egypt (v9)] and brought them through the Red Sea will surely crown their heads with joy!

Fri John 7:14-17 When the people were amazed at Jesus' teaching, He answered that He was not speaking on His own, but that His teaching came from the One who sent Him. To a follower of God will be revealed the glory of God in His Christ.

Sat Luke 7:1-10 In Jesus' healing of the centurion's servant His creator-glory shines forth. He can preserve the life of the servant without even coming under the same roof or laying eyes on the man!