

March 10, 2024
4th Sunday of Lent



I AM THE
BREAD OF LIFE



LUTHERAN CHURCH
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✠ Opening Prayer ✠

Hymn: TLH #347:1-2, 6

"Jesus, Priceless Treasure"

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 #237:1

"All Glory Be to God on High"

C ♪ **All glory be to God on high, Who hath our race befriended!
To us no harm shall now come nigh, The strife at last is ended;
God showeth His good will to men, And peace shall reign on
earth again; Oh, thank Him for His goodness!**

The Introit

Ps. 122:1-2, 6, 8; Is. 66:10-11

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

- P** Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her, all you who love her;
- C** **That you may nurse and be satisfied from her consoling breast.**
- P** I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord!"
- C** **Our feet have been standing within your gates, O Jerusalem!**
- P** Pray for the peace of Jerusalem! May they be secure who love you!
- C** **For my brothers and companions' sake I will say, "Peace be within you!"**

Collect 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, give 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.**

Exodus 16:2-21

And the whole congregation of the people of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness, ³ and the people of Israel said to them, "Would that we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the meat pots and ate bread to the full, for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger." ⁴ Then the LORD said to Moses, "Behold, I am about to rain bread from heaven for you, and the people shall go out and gather a day's portion every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in my law or not. ⁵ On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather daily." ⁶ So Moses and Aaron said to all

the people of Israel, "At evening you shall know that it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt, ⁷ and in the morning you shall see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your grumbling against the LORD. For what are we, that you grumble against us?" ⁸ And Moses said, "When the LORD gives you in the evening meat to eat and in the morning bread to the full, because the LORD has heard your grumbling that you grumble against him-- what are we? Your grumbling is not against us but against the LORD." ⁹ Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the people of Israel, 'Come near before the LORD, for he has heard your grumbling.'" ¹⁰ And as soon as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the people of Israel, they looked toward the wilderness, and behold, the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. ¹¹ And the LORD said to Moses, ¹² "I have heard the grumbling of the people of Israel. Say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread. Then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.'" ¹³ In the evening quail came up and covered the camp, and in the morning dew lay around the camp. ¹⁴ And when the dew had gone up, there was on the face of the wilderness a fine, flake-like thing, fine as frost on the ground. ¹⁵ When the people of Israel saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat. ¹⁶ This is what the LORD has commanded: 'Gather of it, each one of you, as much as he can eat. You shall each take an omer, according to the number of the persons that each of you has in his tent.'" ¹⁷ And the people of Israel did so. They gathered, some more, some less. ¹⁸ But when they measured it with an omer, whoever gathered much had nothing left over, and whoever gathered little had no lack. Each of them gathered as much as he could eat. ¹⁹ And Moses said to them, "Let no one leave any of it over till the morning." ²⁰ But they did not listen to Moses. Some left part of it till the morning, and it bred worms and stank. And Moses was angry with them. ²¹ Morning by morning they gathered it, each as much as he could eat; but when the sun grew hot, it melted.

Acts 2:41-47

So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls. ⁴² And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³ And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ And all who believed were together and had all things in common. ⁴⁵ And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

Confession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

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 Ghost, 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 sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the Holy Christian Church, the Communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn: TLH #54

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

John 6:22-35

On the next day the crowd that remained on the other side of the sea saw that there had been only one boat there, and that Jesus had not entered the boat with his disciples, but that his disciples had

gone away alone. ²³ Other boats from Tiberias came near the place where they had eaten the bread after the Lord had given thanks. ²⁴ So when the crowd saw that Jesus was not there, nor his disciples, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum, seeking Jesus. ²⁵ When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" ²⁶ Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you are seeking me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. ²⁷ Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you. For on him God the Father has set his seal." ²⁸ Then they said to him, "What must we do, to be doing the works of God?" ²⁹ Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." ³⁰ So they said to him, "Then what sign do you do, that we may see and believe you? What work do you perform?" ³¹ Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" ³² Jesus then said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³ For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." ³⁴ They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always." ³⁵ Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst."

The Bread of Life: Food that Truly Satisfies

- I. We don't want it
- II. Jesus provides it

The Offertory

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

✪ 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 #316:2-5 “O Living Bread from Heaven”

✠ The General Prayer & The Lord’s Prayer ✠

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.

Hymn: TLH #48 “How Blest Are They Who Hear God’s Word”

An Elders’ Meeting will be held today after church.

ILC Tour Choir – The concert is this next Sunday, March 17, at 10 am (with no Bible Class Hour before). **If you are hosting choir members, please be at church by 7 pm on Saturday (Mar. 16) to pick them up!**

CLC Call News: Pastor Michael Gurath of Holy Cross Ev. Lutheran Church and School, Phoenix, AZ **has returned the call** from Immanuel Lutheran Church and School, Mankato, MN. Immanuel Lutheran **has now called** Pastor Nathanael Mayhew of Grace Ev. Lutheran, Sleepy Eye, MN. <> Teacher Neil Bernthal of Immanuel Lutheran School, Winter Haven, FL, **is still considering** the call from Luther Memorial School, Fond du Lac, WI. <> Teacher Levi Schaller of Grace Lutheran School, Fridley, MN, **is still considering** the call from Messiah Lutheran School, Hales Corners, WI. <> Teacher Matthew Kranz, Immanuel Lutheran in Mankato, MN, **has returned the call** to Messiah Lutheran in Eau Claire, WI to be their 5th- 6th grade teacher and assistant principal. <> Teacher Josh Ohlmann Holy Trinity West Columbia, SC **is still considering the call** to teach at Gethsemane in Saginaw MI.

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions

March 11th – 16th, 2024

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

-Psalm 119:105

Mon John 11:47-52 The Sanhedrin leaders are worried because Jesus is doing many miraculous signs, fearing the loss of their temple and nation. Caiaphas unwittingly prophesies that He is going to die for the people.

Tues John 11:53-57 From that day on the leaders plotted to kill Jesus. It is now only a question of when and how. The order goes out that whoever knows where He is should report to them. But God will cause their evil plans to work for good and bring about our salvation.

Wed Hebrews 10:1-10 The Old Testament animal sacrifices could not take away sins, but fore-shadowed (v1) the coming sacrifice of Christ (v7,9). This would be the one sacrifice for all the people.

Thurs Hebrews 10:11-14 The constant repetition of the animal sacrifices showed that they did not accomplish the atonement for our sins, but the once-for-all-time sacrifice of Jesus indicates that our redemption is complete.

Fri Isaiah 42:1-4 God's chosen and beloved Servant, endowed by the Spirit, will bring good news of gentleness and healing to the nations, even to the gentiles and coastlands.

Sat Isaiah 42:5-8 The Creator of all people on earth will make His righteous Servant both the Fulfiller of the covenant with Israel and a Light to the gentiles (v6). To Him be all praise and glory! (V8)