

The Second Sunday in Lent

Divine Worship Service

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church of Oberlin, Ohio

March 5, 2023

Prelude:

Welcome:

Opening Hymn: "Chief of Sinners Though I Be" (LSB # 611)

1. Chief of sinners though I be, Jesus shed His blood for me.
Died that I might live on high, Lived that I might never die.
As the branch is to the vine, I am His and He is mine.
2. Oh, the height of Jesus' love, Higher than the heav'ns above,
Deeper than the depths of sea, Lasting as eternity!
Love that found me--wondrous thought! Found me when I sought Him not.
3. Only Jesus can impart Balm to heal the wounded heart,
Peace that flows from sin forgiv'n, Joy that lifts the soul to heav'n.
Faith and hope to walk with God In the way that Enoch trod.
4. Chief of sinners though I be, Christ is all in all to me;
All my wants to Him are known, All my sorrows are His own.
He sustains the hidden life Safe with Him from earthly strife.
5. O my Savior, help afford By Your Spirit and Your Word!
When my wayward heart would stray, Keep me in the narrow way;
Grace in time of need supply While I live and when I die.

Invocation:

P: In the Name of the Father and of the Son+ and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution:

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

C: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

(Silence for personal self-examination.)

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen**

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for his sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

Psalm:

Psalm 103:1-3, 8-1

P: Bless the LORD, O my soul,

C: **And all that is within me, bless His holy name!**

P: Bless the LORD, O my soul,

C: **And forget not all His benefits,**

P: Who forgives all your iniquity,

C: **Who heals all your diseases,**

P: The LORD is merciful and gracious,

C: **Slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

P: He will not always chide,

C: **Nor will he keep His anger forever.**

P: He does not deal with us according to our sins,

C: **Nor repay us according to our iniquities.**

P: For as high as the heavens are above the earth,

C: **So great is His steadfast love toward those who fear Him;**

P: As far as the east is from the west,

C: **So far does He remove our transgressions from us.**

Kyrie: (spoken) (LSB p. 152-153)

P: In peace let us prayer to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

Salutation and Collect: (sung) (LSB p. 156)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. [The Collect of the Day is prayed.]

C: Amen.

Old Testament Reading: Genesis 50:15-21

¹⁵ When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him."¹⁶ So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this command before he died:¹⁷ 'Say to Joseph, "Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.'" And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father.'" Joseph wept when they spoke to him.¹⁸ His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, "Behold, we are your servants."¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God?"²⁰ As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today.²¹ So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

R: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Gradual: (Hebrews 12:2)

[O come, let us fix our eyes on] Jesus,

the founder and perfecter of our faith,

who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame,

and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Epistle Reading: Romans 14:1-12

¹As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. ²One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. ³Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

⁵One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. ⁶The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God. ⁷For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. ⁸For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; ¹¹for it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall confess to God." [Isaiah 45:23]

¹²So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

R: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Lenten Verse: (stand and sing) (LSB p. 157)

Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and abounding in steadfast love.

Gospel Reading:

Matthew 18:21-35

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 18th Chapter. (LSB p. 157)

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

²¹ Then Peter came up and said to him, "Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?"²² Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times.

²³ "Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants.²⁴ When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents.²⁵ And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made.²⁶ So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.'²⁷ And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt.²⁸ But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii,^[1] and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, 'Pay what you owe.'²⁹ So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.'³⁰ He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt.³¹ When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place.³² Then his master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me.³³ And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?'³⁴ And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt.³⁵ So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Nicene Creed:

**I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God, begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was
incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man;**

and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered and was buried.

**And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and
ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.**

**And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

**who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.**

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,

I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and

I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

Children's Message:

Sermon Hymn

"Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus"

(LSB # 685 st. 1-3; © Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978)

1. Let us ever walk with Jesus, Follow His example pure,
Through a world that would deceive us And to sin our spirits lure.
Onward in his footsteps treading, Pilgrims here, our home above,
Full of faith and hope and love, Let us do the Father's bidding.
Faithful Lord, with me abide. I shall follow where You guide.
2. Let us suffer here with Jesus, And with patience bear our cross.
Joy will follow all our sadness; Where He is there is no loss.
Though today we sow no laughter, We shall reap celestial joy;
All discomforts that annoy Shall give way to mirth hereafter.
Jesus, here I share Your woe; Help me there Your joy to know.
3. Let us gladly die with Jesus: Since by death He conquered death;
He will free us from destruction, Give to us immortal breath.
Let us mortify all passion That would lead us into sin;
And the grave that shuts us in Shall but prove the gate to heave.
Jesus, here with you I die, There to live with You on high.

First Communion Hymn:

“Alas! And did my Savior Bleed”

(LSB # 437)

1. Alas! and did my Savior bleed, And did my Sov'reign die?
Would He devote that sacred head For such a worm as I?
2. Was it for crimes that I had done He groaned upon the tree?
Amazing pity, grace unknown, And love beyond degree!
3. Well might the sun in darkness hide And shut his glories in
When God, the mighty Maker, died For his own creatures' sin.
4. Thus might I hide my blushing face While His dear cross appears,
Dissolve my heart in thankfulness, And melt mine eyes to tears.
5. But drops of grief can ne'er repay The debt of love I owe;
Here, Lord, I give myself away: 'Tis all that I can do.

Second Communion

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

(LSB # 425)

1. When I survey the wondrous cross On which the Prince of Glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss And pour contempt on all my pride.
2. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast Save in the death of Christ, my God;
All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to His blood.
3. See, from His head, His hands, His feet, Sorrow and love flow mingled down!
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet Or thorns compose so rich a crown?
4. Were the whole realm of nature mine, That were a tribute far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine, Demands my soul, my life, my all!

Third Communion

“Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace”

(LSB # 844; © 1969 Concordia Publishing House)

1. Lord of all nations, grant me grace To love all people, every race;
And in each person may I see My kindred, loved, redeemed by Thee.
2. Break down the wall that would divide Thy children, Lord, on every side.
My neighbor's good let me pursue; Let Christian love bind warm and true.
3. Forgive me, Lord, where I have erred By loveless act and thoughtless word.
Make me to see the wrong I do Will grieve my wounded Lord anew.
4. Give me Thy courage, Lord, to speak Whenever strong oppress the weak.
Should I myself the victim be, Help me forgive, rememb'ring Thee.
5. With Thine own love may I be filled And by Thy Holy Spirit willed,
That all I touch, where'er I be, May be divinely touched by Thee.

Post-Communion Canticle:

“Feed Thy Children” (LSB # 774)

Feed Thy children, God most holy: Comfort sinners poor and lowly.

O Thou Bread of Life from Heaven, Bless the food Thou here hast given!

As these gifts the body nourish, May our souls in graces flourish

Till with saints in heav'nly splendor At Thy feast due thanks we render.

Post-Communion Collect:

(sung)

(LSB p. 166)

P: Let us pray....
...one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Benediction:

(sung)

(LSB p. 166)

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face to shine upon you

and be gracious to you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give+ you peace.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn:

“Where Charity and Love Prevail”

(LSB # 845, st. 1-5; © World Library Publications, 1960)

1. Where charity and love prevail, There God is ever found;
Brought here together by Christ's love, By love we thus are bound.
2. With grateful joy and holy fear, His charity we learn;
Let us with heart and mind and soul Now love Him in return.
3. Forgive we now each other's faults As we our faults confess,
And let us love each other well In Christian holiness.
4. Let strife among us be unknown; Let all contention cease.
Be God's the glory that we seek; Be ours His holy peace.
5. Let us recall that in our midst Dwells Christ, His only Son;
As members of His body joined We are in Him made one.

Postlude:

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Preacher: Josh Moldenhauer
Organist: Oziah Wales
Order of Worship: Divine Service Setting 1 from LSB (CPH, 2006) p. 151-166



Matthew 18:21-35