

LENT MIDWEEK - MARCH 22ND, 2023

WELCOME

Thank you for worshipping with us today. Please sign the guest register in the entry as you leave the church today.

TODAY'S SERVICE

March 22nd, 2023

Speaker:

Pastor David Ude

Pianist:

Lila Brown

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PRE-SERVICE DEVOTION

Psalm 15

LORD, who may abide in Your tabernacle? Who may dwell in Your holy hill? ² He who walks uprightly, And works righteousness, And speaks the truth in his heart; ³ He who does not backbite with his tongue, Nor does evil to his neighbor, Nor does he take up a reproach against his friend; ⁴ In whose eyes a vile person is despised, But he honors those who fear the LORD; He who swears to his own hurt and does not change; ⁵ He who does not put out his money at usury, Nor does he take a bribe against the innocent. He who does these *things* shall never be moved.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

#145 "Jesus, Refuge of the Weary"

by Girolamo Savonarola, 1454-1498

I. Jesus, Refuge of the weary,
Blest Redeemer, whom we love,
Fountain in life's desert dreary,
Savior from the world above,
Oh, how oft Thine eyes, offended,
Gaze upon the sinner's fall!
Yet, upon the cross extended,
Thou didst bear the pain of all.

2. Do we pass that cross unheeding, Breathing no repentant vow, Though we see Thee wounded, bleeding, See Thy thorn-encircled brow? Yet Thy sinless death hath brought us Life eternal, peace, and rest; Only what Thy grace hath taught us Calms the sinner's stormy breast.

3. Jesus, may our hearts be burning
With more fervent love for Thee!
May our eyes be ever turning
To Thy cross of agony
Till in glory, parted never
From the blessed Savior's side,
Graven in our hearts forever
Dwell the cross, the Crucified!

INVOCATION

p In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

CONFESSION OF SINS

- 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.
- all 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

- p Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but 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.
- c Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen

PRAYER

p Let us pray . . . O Lord, spare us from the folly of wickedness and the pursuit of evil. Make us rejoice in your saving acts that we who have been redeemed by your Son may abound in works of faith, hope, and love; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forevermore. Amen.

PASSION READING #5: MATTHEW 27:11-26

Jesus Faces Pilate

¹¹ Now Jesus stood before the governor. And the governor asked Him, saying, "Are You the King of the Jews?"

Jesus said to him, "*It is as* you say." ¹² And while He was being accused by the chief priests and elders, He answered nothing.

¹³ Then Pilate said to Him, "Do You not hear how many things they testify against You?" ¹⁴ But He answered him not one word, so that the governor marveled greatly.

Taking the Place of Barabbas

¹⁵ Now at the feast the governor was accustomed to releasing to the multitude one prisoner whom they wished.

¹⁶ And at that time they had a notorious prisoner called Barabbas. ¹¹ Therefore, when they had gathered together, Pilate said to them, "Whom do you want me to release to you? Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?" ¹⁸ For he knew that they had handed Him over because of envy.

¹⁹ While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent to him, saying, "Have nothing to do with that just Man,

for I have suffered many things today in a dream because of Him."

²⁰ But the chief priests and elders persuaded the multitudes that they should ask for Barabbas and destroy Jesus. ²¹ The governor answered and said to them, "Which of the two do you want me to release to you?"

They said, "Barabbas!"

²² Pilate said to them, "What then shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?"

They all said to him, "Let Him be crucified!"

²³ Then the governor said, "Why, what evil has He done?"
But they cried out all the more, saying, "Let Him be crucified!"

²⁴ When Pilate saw that he could not prevail at all, but rather *that* a tumult was rising, he took water and washed *his* hands before the multitude, saying, "I am innocent of the blood of this just Person.^[m] You see *to it*."

²⁵ And all the people answered and said, "His blood *be* on us and on our children."

²⁶ Then he released Barabbas to them; and when he had scourged Jesus, he delivered *Him* to be crucified.

Psalm of The Day: Psalm 5:1-8

- P Give ear to my words, O LORD,
- C Consider my meditation.
- P Give heed to the voice of my cry, My King and my God,
- C For to You I will pray.
- P My voice You shall hear in the morning, O LORD;
- C In the morning I will direct it to You, And I will look up.
- P For You *are* not a God who takes pleasure in wickedness,
- C Nor shall evil dwell with You.
- P The boastful shall not stand in Your sight;
- C You hate all workers of iniquity.
- P You shall destroy those who speak falsehood;
- C The LORD abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man.
- P But as for me, I will come into Your house in the multitude of Your mercy;

- C In fear of You I will worship toward Your holy temple.
- P Lead me, O LORD, in Your righteousness because of my enemies;
- C Make Your way straight before my face

#402 "O God, Forsake Me Not!"

by Salomo Franck

I. O God, forsake me not!
Thy gracious presence lend me;
Lead Thou Thy helpless child;
Thy Holy Spirit send me
That I my course may run.
Be Thou my Light, my Lot,
My Staff, my Rock, my Shield, -O God, forsake me not!

2. O God, forsake me not!

Take not Thy Spirit from me

And suffer not the might

Of sin to overcome me.

Increase my feeble faith,

Which Thou Thyself hast wrought.

Be Thou my Strength and Power, -
O God, forsake me not!

3. O God, forsake me not!

Lord, hear my supplication!

In every evil hour

Help me o'ercome temptation;

And when the Prince of hell

My conscience seeks to blot,

Be Thou not far from me, -
O God, forsake me not!

4. O God, forsake me not!
Thy mercy I'm addressing;
O Father, God of Love,
Grant me Thy heavenly blessing
To do when duty calls
What'er Thou didst allot,
To do what pleaseth Thee, -O God, forsake me not!

5. O God, forsake me not!

Lord, I am Thine forever.

Grant me true faith in Thee;

Grant that I leave Thee never.

Grant me a blessed end

When my good fight is fought;

Help me in life and death, -
O God, forsake me not!

SERMON

Luke 22:54-62 54 Having arrested Him, they led Him and brought Him into the high priest's house. But Peter followed at a distance. 55 Now when they had kindled a fire in the midst of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. 56 And a certain servant girl, seeing him as he sat by the fire, looked intently at him and said, "This man was also with Him." 57 But he denied Him, saying, "Woman, I do not know Him." 58 And after a little while another saw him and said, "You also are of them." But Peter said, "Man, I am not!" 59 Then after about an hour had passed, another confidently affirmed, saying, "Surely this fellow also was with Him, for he is a Galilean." 60 But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are saying!" Immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed. 61 And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how He had said to him, "Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times." ⁶² So Peter went out and wept bitterly.

THOUGH WE DENY JESUS, HE DOES NOT DENY US

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

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, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins, The resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

all 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.

THE BENEDICTION

p The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

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

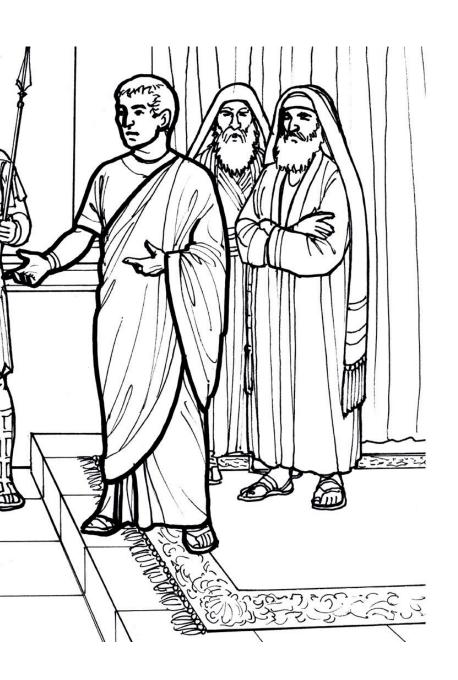
Amen

#390 "Drawn to the Cross"

by Genevieve M. Irons, 1855-?

- I. Drawn to the Cross, which Thou hast blest With healing gifts for souls distrest,To find in Thee my life, my rest,Christ Crucified, I come.
- Thou knowest all my griefs and fears,
 Thy grace abused, my misspent years;
 Yet now to Thee with contrite tears,
 Christ Crucified, I come.
- 3. Wash me and take away each stain;
 Let nothing of my sin remain.
 For cleansing, though it be through pain,
 Christ Crucified, I come.
- 4. And then for work to do for Thee, Which shall so sweet a service be That angels well might envy me, Christ Crucified, I come.







FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Member of the Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC) N1529 State Road 73 Markesan, WI 53946 www.MarkesanLutheran.org

CHURCH & SCHOOL DIRECTORY

PASTOR MATTHEW UDE

pastor@markesanlutheran.com (920) 398-0260

SCHOOL OFFICE

principal@markesanlutheran.com (920) 398-3171

ANN SPRENGELER

Grades K-2 (920) 295-2667

JESSICA KRUEGER

Grades 6-8 (920) 369-8113

REBECCA LILLO

Grades 3-5 (262) 271-6129

ALISON BROWN

Pre-School (920) 229-9854