

March 3, 2024
Third Sunday in Lent



Rethinking Religion

Prepare for Worship

“I rejoiced with those who said to me, ‘Let us go to the house of the Lord.’” Give me joy, dear Jesus, as I prepare to worship you today. Make me understand what my life would be like without you so that I long to hear about your grace and compassion. Help me participate in a way that honors you and builds up all who worship with me, and let their worship strengthen and encourage my faith.

Amen.

Setting Two

912 Open, Lovely Doors



1 O - pen, love - ly doors, and let me come in - to God's
2 With a song I've come to greet you; come to me, dear
3 You de - serve my deep - est rev - 'rence; sanc - ti - fy me



house to - day! This is where great joys be - set me
Lord, I pray. Where you let your peo - ple meet you
through and through. Let my wor - ship in your pres - ence



more than I can sing or say. Here I view God's
heav - en's light is bright as day. Let my heart your
clear - ly show my love for you. Lord of mer - cy,



glo - rious face, see his light, re - ceive his grace.
heav - en be; Sav - ior, make your home in me.
hear my cry: lift my heart to you on high!

Text: tr. Michael D. Schultz, b. 1963; Benjamin Schmolck, 1672–1737, abr. Tune: Joachim Neander, 1650–1680

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Stand

Invocation

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

Amen.

Confession

CW 172

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Absolution

CW 172

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

658 With All My Heart I Praise You, Lord



1 With all my heart I praise you, Lord, that in your
2 When I con - fess my sin and shame, peace and for -



Son you saved me. You saw in me what you de-plored;
give - ness seek - ing, you grant me par - don in your name



my griev - ous sin en - slaved me. Yet, Lord, you paid
be - fore I've fin - ished speak - ing! In love you lis -



the high - est price, Je - sus' a - ton - ing sac - ri - fice,
ten care - ful - ly to all our sighs of mis - er - y,



that you might ev - er own me. Were I to bless
our ev - 'ry need ad - dress - ing. Our guilt should make



you all my days, it would be in - suf - fi - cient praise
you turn a - way; in - stead you turn toward us and say:



for kind - ness you have shown me.
"Re - ceive my gra - cious bless - ing."

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The Word

Salutation

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Grant us, Lord, the spirit to think and do what is right that we, who cannot do anything that is good without you, may by your help be enabled to live according to your will; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Exodus 20:1–17 (EHV)

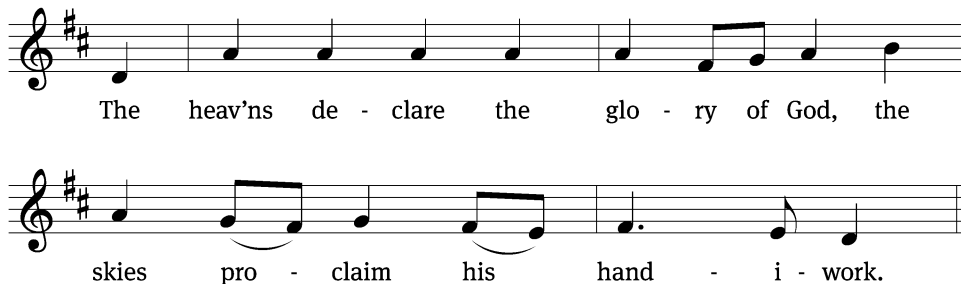
Then God spoke all these words: ²I am the Lord your God, who brought you out from the land of Egypt, where you were slaves. ³You shall have no other gods beside me. ⁴You shall not make any carved image for yourself or a likeness of anything in heaven above, or on the earth below, or in the waters under the earth. ⁵Do not bow down to them or be subservient to them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God. I follow up on the guilt of the fathers with their children, their grandchildren, and their great-grandchildren, if they also hate me. ⁶But I show mercy to thousands who love me and keep my commandments. ⁷You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not permit anyone who misuses his name to escape unpunished. ⁸Remember the Sabbath day by setting it apart as holy. ⁹Six days you are to serve and do all your regular work, ¹⁰but the seventh day shall be a sabbath rest to the Lord your God. Do not do any regular work, neither you, nor your sons or daughters, nor your male or female servants, nor your cattle, nor the alien who is residing inside your gates, ¹¹for in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and everything that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. In this way the Lord blessed the seventh day and made it holy. ¹²Honor your father and your mother so that you may spend many days on the land that the Lord your God is giving to you. ¹³You shall not commit murder. ¹⁴You shall not commit adultery. ¹⁵You shall not steal. ¹⁶You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor. ¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbor's house. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, his male servant, his female servant, his ox, his donkey, or anything else that belongs to your neighbor.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

19A The Heavens Declare the Glory of God

Refrain



Tone



They have no speech, they / use no words;
no sound is / heard from them.
Yet their voice goes out into / all the earth,
their words to the ends / of the world. *Refrain*

The law of the LORD is perfect, refresh- / ing the soul.
The commands of the LORD are radiant, giving light / to the eyes.
They are more precious than gold, than much / pure gold;
they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the / honeycomb.
By them your servant / is warned;
in keeping them there is / great reward. *Refrain*

May these words of my mouth and this meditation / of my heart
be pleasing in your sight, LORD, my rock and my Re- / deemer.
Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,
as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain*

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:18–25 (EHV)

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved, it is the power of God. ¹⁹In fact, it is written:

I will destroy the wisdom of the wise;
the intelligence of the intelligent I will bring to nothing.

²⁰Where is the wise man? Where is the expert in the Jewish law? Where is the probing thinker of the present age? Has God not shown that the wisdom of this world is foolish? ²¹Indeed, since the world through its wisdom did not know God, God in his wisdom decided to save those who believe, through the foolishness of the preached message. ²²Yes, Jews ask for signs, Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we preach Christ crucified—which is offensive to Jews and foolishness to Greeks, ²⁴but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵We preach Christ crucified, because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

CW 179



Refrain



Praise to you, Lord Je - sus Christ, king of end - less glo - ry.

Tone



Refrain

The reason the Son of God ap - peared was to destroy the dev - il's work.

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Gospel

John 2:13–22 (EHV)

The Jewish Passover was near, so Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

¹⁴In the temple courts he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and money changers sitting at tables. ¹⁵He made a whip of cords and drove everyone out of the temple courts, along with the sheep and oxen. He scattered the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶To those selling doves he said, “Get these things out of here! Stop turning my Father’s house into a place of business!”

¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, “Zeal for your house will consume me.”

¹⁸So the Jews responded, “What sign are you going to show us to prove you can do these things?”

¹⁹Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up again.”

²⁰The Jews said, “It took forty-six years to build this temple! And you are going to raise it in three days?” ²¹But Jesus was speaking about the temple of his body. ²²When Jesus was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this. Then they believed the Scripture and what Jesus had said.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

558 Salvation unto Us Has Come (v. 1-5)



1 Sal - va - tion un - to us has come by God's free grace and
 2 What God did in his law de - mand and none to him could
 3 It was a false, mis - lead - ing dream that God his law had
 4 From sin our flesh could not ab - stain, sin held its sway un -
 5 Yet as the law must be ful - filled or we must die de -



fa - vor; good works can - not a - vert our doom, they help and
 ren - der caused wrath and woe on ev - 'ry hand for man, the
 giv - en that sin - ners could them-selves re-deem and by their
 ceas - ing; the task was use - less and in vain, our guilt was
 spair - ing, Christ came and has God's an - ger stilled, our hu - man



save us nev - er. Faith looks to Je - sus Christ a - lone, who
 vile of - fend - er. Our flesh has not those pure de - sires the
 works gain heav - en. The law is but a mir - ror bright to
 e'er in - creas - ing. None can re-move sin's poi - soned dart or
 na - ture shar - ing. He has for us the law o - beyed and



did for all the world a - tone; he is our one Re-deem-er.
 spir - it of the law re - quires, and lost is our con-di - tion.
 bring the in - bred sin to light that lurks with - in our na - ture.
 pu - ri - fy our wick - ed heart, so deep is our cor - rup - tion.
 thus the Fa-ther's venge-ance stayed which o - ver us im - pend - ed.

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Paul Speratus, 1484–1551, abr., alt. Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, Wittenberg, 1524 Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon Rethinking the Worth of Worship John 2:13-22

Stand

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.**

Prayer of the Church

Gracious Lord, according to your will and promise, you sent your Son into our world to atone for sin and restore eternal life. You planned his path to the cross, and he followed it perfectly. Your Spirit led him to endure the temptations of Satan, but he triumphed. Your own people rejected his message, but he persevered. He confronted the blindness of unbelief, the confusion of doubt, and the hurt of death but was not deterred as he proclaimed your kingdom to the least, the last, and the lost.

Guide us to follow Christ by faith as we walk the road of temptation and trial. Spare us from falling into Satan's traps, and steel our resolve as his partners confront us. Teach us to use your Word as a weapon to fight against all devilish lies and deceptions. When we fall—and we surely will—lift us up again with your forgiveness and grace.

As we hear and contemplate the holy record of our Savior's passion and death, use the sharp message of the law to empty us of pride and self-reliance. Humble us as we view the Savior in his humility, remembering and believing that he endured the cross so we might be freed from its horror. In his suffering show us our healing, in his grief show us our joy, and in his death show us our life.

Protect all who are bearing the cross of persecution and disdain. Supply your power to those fighting temptations and addictions. Watch over all who are sick and suffering in body, mind, and heart. We pray especially for children who are abused, forsaken, or ignored. Comfort all your troubled people with the sweet peace that only Jesus can bring.

Give wisdom and resolve to the leaders of our government that their rule may bring prosperity to our land and peace to our people. Supply insights to those who seek cures and invent devices to make our lives on earth better and safer. Inspire creative minds to touch our hearts in ways that reflect your creating love. You desire that we bask in the glory of your redemption; according to your will, may we also enjoy the wonders of your creation.

Hear our prayers, Lord, for the sake of Jesus, whose journey to the cross we remember during the days of Lent. Comfort and strengthen us by his life and death on our behalf, and thrill us as we look forward to celebrating his victory on Easter. Amen.

Be seated

Good News for Kids

Offering

558 Salvation unto Us Has Come (v. 6-10)



6 Since Christ has full a - tone-ment made and brought to us sal -
 7 Let me not doubt, but tru - ly see your Word can - not be
 8 The law re - veals the guilt of sin and makes us con-science-
 9 Faith clings to Je - sus' cross a - lone and rests in him un -
 10 All bless-ing, hon - or, thanks, and praise to Fa - ther, Son, and



va - tion, each Chris-tian there-fore may be glad and build on
 bro - ken; your call rings out, "Come un - to me!" No false-hood
 strick-en; but then the gos - pel en - ters in the sin - ful
 ceas - ing; and by its fruits true faith is known, with love and
 Spir - it, the God who saved us by his grace; all glo - ry



this foun-da - tion. Your grace a - lone, dear Lord, I plead, your
 have you spo - ken. Bap-tized in - to your pre-cious name, my
 soul to quick - en. Come to the cross, trust Christ, and live; the
 hope in - creas - ing. For faith a - lone can jus - ti - fy; works
 to his mer - it! O tri - une God in heav'n a - bove, you



death is now my life in - deed, for you have paid my ran - som.
 faith can - not be put to shame, and I shall nev - er per - ish.
 law no peace can ev - er give, no com - fort and no bless-ing.
 serve our neigh - bor and sup - ply the proof that faith is liv - ing.
 have re-vealed your sav - ing love; your bless-ed name be hal - lowed!

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Paul Speratus, 1484–1551, abr., alt. Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, Wittenberg, 1524 Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.
Amen.

407 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the
3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a



Prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
death of Christ, my God. All the vain things that
love flow min - gled down. Did e'er such love and
trib - ute far too small; love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss and pour con-tempt on all my pride.
charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
sor - row meet or thorns com-pose so rich a crown?
so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, abr., alt. Tune: Lowell Mason, 1792–1872 Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

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THIS WEEK AT LINCOLN HEIGHTS

March 3 - 10, 2024

Sunday	8:00 am	Worship
	8:45 am	Homeless Meal Delivery
	9:15 am	Sunday School
	9:15 am	Bible Class
	10:30 am	Worship
	10:30 am	Kunama Worship
	11:35 am	Handbell Practice
Monday	5:15 pm	Church Council
Tuesday	7:30 pm	Grand View Bible Study
Wednesday	5:15 pm	Catechism and Bible History
	7:00 pm	Lent Worship
Thursday	10:00 am	Women's Fellowship Group
Saturday	3:00 pm	Sunday School Staff Meeting
	4:00 pm	Game Night
Sunday	8:00 am	Worship with Communion
	8:45 am	Homeless Meal Delivery
	9:15 am	Sunday School
	9:15 am	Bible Class
	10:30 am	Worship with Communion
	10:30 am	Kunama Worship
	11:35 am	Handbell Practice

Welcome to Lincoln Heights!

We are glad you are here today to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. Please speak with an usher for any help.

Yellow Cards

Please fill out a yellow card and place it in the offering plate when passed. Thank you.

In Our Prayers

The Lord is eager to hear the prayers of thanks and petitions for help from his people. Please keep these members and families in your prayers. Contact Pastor to add someone to this list:

Ukraine

Ray & Gloria Overson, Sherry Just and Randy Michael- shut-ins

Gary Finch, Pat Oswald, Larry Borchert, Greg Lewis, Makenzie Phippen, and Tom Rea - health

Online Giving

Thank you for your generous and cheerful offerings to the Lord.

www.LHELC.org/giving

Thank You to Today's Helpers

Accompanist: Donna Bakken

Altar Guild: Christine Pfeifer & Paula Twelmeyer

Counters: Greg Lewis

Streaming: Jon Schaeffer

Ushers 8 am: TBA

10:30 am: TBA

Next Sunday's Servants

Accompanist: Buffy Kokke

Altar Guild: Christine Pfeifer & Paula Twelmeyer

Counters: Ashley Covell

Streaming: Jon Schaeffer

Ushers 8 am: TBA

10:30 am: TBA



Prepare for Next Sunday

For a simple devotional reading plan, review the readings for this week on Monday through Wednesday. Then read the Scripture for next Sunday on Thursday through Saturday. The Word for next Sunday:

Numbers 21:4-9,

Ephesians 2:1-10, John 3:14-21

Easter Breakfast

Lincoln Heights will be having the Easter Breakfast between services on March 31. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex for those wanting to contribute to the meal. Casseroles, fruit, pastries and beverages will be needed. All are welcome to gather for this meal.

Thanks to the Lord for 25 Years

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of Indianola recently celebrated 25 years of God's grace. The congregation was formed on Feb. 20, 1999. May the Lord continue to bless the members of Good Shepherd through the Word proclaimed and the Sacraments administered there.

Sign up to Mow

The grass will be growing soon. Sign up to mow and keep our property looking nice. Contact John Hoey at 815-900-0940.

Usher Volunteers Needed

Ushers ensure that the service runs smoothly so worshipers can focus on the Word of God. If you would like to usher, contact Chad Virden at 515-720-5152.

Lent Schedule

Join us on Wednesdays at 7 pm as we prepare our hearts for Holy Week and Easter.

Mar 6 Lenten Worship (Pastor Pfeifer)

God on Trial: Testimony

Mar 13 Lenten Worship (Pastor Neumann)

God on Trial: Restraint

Mar 20 Lenten Worship (Pastor Pfeifer)

God on Trial: Sympathy

Our Mission is to nurture each other in God's
Word and spread the Good News of Christ to all.

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