

Lent is for Sinners...Who Suffer

2nd Sunday of Lent

February 28, 2021





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**SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
FEBRUARY 28, 2021**

WELCOME! At the burning bush, the LORD told Moses, "Take your sandals off your feet, for the place you are standing is holy ground" (Exodus 3:5). In the Divine Service, we too stand on holy ground. At His own gracious invitation, we sinners stand before God's presence as He makes Himself known to us in His holy Word, confident that He will graciously receive us for the sake of His Son's perfect life and atoning death in our place.

We come in holy reverence, humbly confessing our sin, and therefore, our need for God's mercy and forgiveness. We come in holy awe, humbly trusting God's gracious promises to do great and wondrous things for us. Since God is pleased to distribute His mercy and forgiveness through His Word and Sacraments, that is the purpose our for gathering.

If you have no church home, we invite you to give consideration to St. John Lutheran. Please worship with us again! If you have questions about our congregation, or would like more information about membership, please speak with our pastor. If you have questions, or would like more information about our Lutheran Elementary School, please speak with our principal.

THEME: Lent is for Sinners...Who Suffer

Lent has to last a while and come around every year if for no other reason than this, that it is so hard for us to get the points made so strikingly in Lent. Today we see God's seriousness in Lent in this: Salvation and suffering go hand in hand, for Jesus and for us too!

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

Heavenly Father, just as a fish is not aware of the water in which it swims, so we can become insensible to the harm the world can do to our souls. As you teach us in your Word, the world rejoices in the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes, and the boasting of what he has and does (1 Jo 2:16). So that the values of the world will not overtake me, I pray that you would lead me to take up "the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God" (Eph 6:17), to defend myself against these attacks. Amen.

STEWARDSHIP ENCOURAGEMENT

Mark 8:32 – "And he said this plainly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him." Anytime we sin we are acting like Peter: thinking we know better than the Lord. But as Jesus says, such acts stem from Satan. So let us repent: let us trust our Lord Jesus and follow Him. For certainly He has earned our trust with His gracious sacrifice for us.

SERVICE OF THE WORD AND SACRAMENT

OPENING HYMN

CW 120

"What Wondrous Love is This"

- 1 What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this That caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul!
- 2 When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down Beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside his crown For my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul.
- 3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb, Who is the great I Am,
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,
While millions join the theme, I will sing.
- 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on.
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing his love for me,
And through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
And through eternity I'll sing on.

STAND

M: The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. 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.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

LORD, HAVE MERCY

M: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C: Christ, have mercy.

M: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

The minister says the Prayer of the Day.

M: Almighty God, you see that we have no power to defend ourselves. Guard and keep us both outwardly and inwardly from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BE SEATED

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON I

Genesis 28:10-17

¹⁰ Jacob set out from Beersheba and traveled toward Haran. ¹¹ He came to a certain place and decided to spend the night there, because the sun had set. He took one of the stones from that place, put it under his head, and lay down to sleep in that place. ¹² He had a dream in which he saw a stairway set up on the earth with its top reaching to heaven. There were angels of God ascending and descending on it. ¹³ There at the top stood the LORD, who said, "I am the LORD, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. The land on which you are lying, I give to you and to your descendants. ¹⁴ Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south. In you and in your seed all the families of the earth will be blessed. ¹⁵ Now, I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back again into this land. Indeed, I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised to you."

¹⁶ Jacob woke up from his sleep, and he said, "Certainly the LORD is in this place, and I was not aware of it." ¹⁷ He was afraid and he said, "How awe-inspiring is this place! This is nothing other than the house of God, and this is the gate to heaven."

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

PSALM OF THE DAY 73

(Sung in unison.)

Refrain: Surely it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be afraid. For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, and he will be my Savior.

**C: I am always with you, O Lord;*
You hold me by my right hand.**

**You guide me with your counsel,*
And afterward you will take me into glory.**

**Whom have I in heaven but you?*
And earth has nothing I desire besides you.**

**My flesh and my heart may fail,*
But God is the strength of my heart
And my portion forever.**

**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.**

Refrain

SECOND LESSON

Romans 5:1-11

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.² Through him we also have obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand. And we rejoice confidently on the basis of our hope for the glory of God.

³ Not only this, but we also rejoice confidently in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces patient endurance,⁴ and patient endurance produces tested character, and tested character produces hope.⁵ And hope will not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, who was given to us.

⁶ For at the appointed time, while we were still helpless, Christ died for the ungodly.⁷ It is rare indeed that someone will die for a righteous person. Perhaps someone might actually go so far as to die for a person who has been good to him.⁸ But God shows his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

⁹ Therefore, since we have now been justified by his blood, it is even more certain that we will be saved from God's wrath through him.¹⁰ For if, while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, it is even more certain that, since

we have been reconciled, we will be saved by his life. ¹¹ And not only is this so, but we also go on rejoicing confidently in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received this reconciliation.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Jesus humbled himself and became obedient to death, even death on a cross. (Philippians 2:8b cf. NIV)

STAND

GOSPEL

Mark 8:31-38

³¹ Jesus began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things; be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the experts in the law; be killed; and after three days rise again. ³² He was speaking plainly to them. Then Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³ But after turning around and looking at his disciples, Jesus rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! You do not have your mind set on the things of God, but the things of men."

³⁴ He called the crowd and his disciples together and said to them, "If anyone wants to follow me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. ³⁵ For whoever wants to save his life will lose it. But whoever loses his life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶ After all, what good is it for a man to gain the whole world and yet forfeit his soul? ³⁷ Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul? ³⁸ In fact, whoever is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will also be ashamed of him when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

M: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

BE SEATED

HYMN OF THE DAY

CW 434

"Lord, You I Love with All My Heart"

Lord, you I love with all my heart;
I pray you ne'er from me depart;
With tender mercies cheer me.
Earth has no pleasure I would share;
Heaven itself were void and bare
If you, Lord, were not near me.
And should my heart for sorrow break,
My trust in you no one could shake.
You are the treasure I have sought;
Your precious blood my soul has bought.
Lord Jesus Christ, My God and Lord, my God and Lord,
Forsake me not! I trust your Word.

Lord God, 'twas your rich bounty gave
My body, soul, and all I have
In this poor life of labor.
Lord, grant that I in ev'ry place
May glorify your lavish grace
And serve and help my neighbor.
Let no false doctrine me beguile;
Let Satan not my soul defile.
Give strength and patience unto me
To bear my crosses willingly.
Lord Jesus Christ, My God and Lord, my God and Lord,
Forsake me not! I trust your Word.

Lord, let at last your angels come;
To Abram's bosom bear me home
That I may die unfearing.
And in its narrow chamber keep
My body safe in peaceful sleep
Until your reappearing.
And then from death awaken me
That my own eyes with joy may see,
O Son of God, your glorious face,
My Savior and my Fount of grace.
Lord Jesus Christ, My prayer attend, my prayer attend,
And I will praise you without end.

SERMON

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STAND

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**C: 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 SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He made his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever. Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts. The whole earth is full of your glory.

C: You are my God and I will exalt you. I will give you thanks, for you have become my salvation.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

AGNUS DEI (LAMB OF GOD)

M: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

C: Have mercy on us and grant us your peace. Amen.

BE SEATED

DISTRIBUTION

STAND

THANKSGIVING

M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C: And his mercy endures forever.

M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you hear may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

M: 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.

C: Amen.

“Christ is With Me”

**We were buried with him into death,
That as he was raised by God’s glory,
We might walk in life made new by grace.
Having died with Christ, we shall live with him.**

**Refrain: Christ is with me ev’rywhere I go.
Never to leave me, this I know.**

**I have now been grafted to the vine,
Drawing life from roots rich in mercy,
Bearing fruit as I abide in him:
Fruit forever fresh, glorifying God.
Refrain**

**I have now been crucified with Christ.
I no longer live; Christ lives in me.
Now I live by faith in God’s own Son,
One who loved me so—gave himself for me.
Refrain**

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SERVING THE LORD BY SERVING HIS PEOPLE TODAY:

Presiding Minister/Preacher: Pastor Philip Loescher
Organist: Ryan Davidson
Altar Guild: Chris Garno

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Meetings/Events

Sept. 1	6:30 p.m.	Board of Ed. Meeting
Sept. 4-7		No School
Sept. 8	5:30 p.m.	Elders' Meeting
	7:00 p.m.	Church Council Meeting

Pastor Availability

Pastor will usually be in either his church or home office on Tuesday-Friday from 9am - 4pm. If you want to meet with him, the best option is to schedule a visit to make sure you won't miss him. Pastor's contact information is as follows:

Email: pastor.philiploescher@gmail.com

Cell: (262) 305-8769

Church Cleaning Schedule

Please pick up a copy of the quarterly church cleaning schedule on the table in the upper narthex (April through June). The schedule/memo will explain our cleaning schedule process.

<p><u>Today 2/28</u> 9:00a Worship w/ Holy Communion 10:15a Bible Class & Sunday School 11:15a Public School Confirmation</p>	<p><u>Mon. 3/1</u> No School</p>	<p><u>Tues. 3/2</u></p>	<p><u>Wed. 3/3</u></p>
<p><u>Thur. 3/4</u></p>	<p><u>Fri. 3/5</u></p>	<p><u>Sat. 3/6</u> <u>Clean Church</u> David & Krista Scharrer David Jeschke</p>	<p><u>Sun. 3/7</u> 9:00a Worship 10:15a Bible Class & Sunday School 11:15a Public School Confirmation</p>

- **THANK YOU, CLEANERS:** *Chad & Jenny Terry
Matt & Bridget Stob
- **Cleaners for Mar. 7:** David & Krista Scharrer
David Jeschke
- **Cleaners for Mar. 14:** *Sam & Marybeth Penkala
Laura Chadwick
- **Cleaners for Mar. 21:** *Ben & Jody Scharrer
Sam Scharrer

HEARING HIS WORD LAST WEEK IN WORSHIP: NA