

**St. John**
Lutheran Church

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Wednesday
February 24, 2021

PLACES *of the* PASSION



The Mount of Olives



Mid-Week Service

February 24, 2021



Welcome and thank you to Pastor Skip Nizinski from Good Shepherd for leading us in worship.

PRELUDE

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GREETING

Congregation remains standing

INVOCATION AND CALL TO WORSHIP

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C Amen.

P Let us ever walk with Jesus.

C To see the depths of his love.

P To behold the gift of his forgiveness!

C To gaze upon the heights of his grace.

P To marvel at the magnitude of his mercy.

C We walk with Jesus to the Mount of Olives.

P He sang a hymn overflowing with hope.

C For though the sheep will be scattered—

P After Christ is raised he will go before them into Galilee.

C Faithful Lord, with me abide. I shall follow where you guide!

Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus

#685, vs. 1,3



1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, Fol - low His ex -
3 Let us glad - ly die with Je - sus. Since by death He



am - ple pure, Through a world that would de - ceive us And to
con - quered death, He will free us from de - struc - tion, Give to





sin our spir-its lure. On - ward in His foot-steps tread-ing,
us im - mor-tal breath. Let us mor - ti - fy all pas - sion

Pil - grims here, our home a - bove, Full of faith and
That would lead us in - to sin; And the grave that

hope and love, Let us do the Fa - ther's bid-ding. Faith - ful
shuts us in Shall but prove the gate to heav-en. Je - sus,

Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where You guide.
here with You I die, There to live with You on high.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- P** Let us confess our sin to God, our merciful Father, trusting in his forgiveness and grace in Jesus Christ.
- C** **Heavenly Father, hear us as we confess—**
- P** That we fail to honor you in our worship and songs.
- C** **Instead, we hide in our pride and prejudice.**
- P** We find cover in the darkness of deceit and denial.
- C** **We lurk in the shadows of pettiness and greed,**
- P** Believing that there is finally no grace for us—
- C** **Or anyone else.**
- P** Our hearts and homes have become places filled with bitterness.
- C** **Backbiting.**
- P** And endless blame.
- C** **We have no song to sing. Lord, have mercy! Christ, have mercy! Lord, have mercy!**

(Please silently reflect on the fact that though our sin is great, Christ's love is greater.)



P Hear the good news! Jesus walked to places of rejection, suffering, torment and death—for you. Jesus was determined to go to Gethsemane, Gabbatha and Golgotha—for you. That’s why Jesus forgives you completely and loves you eternally. Faithful Lord, with me abide!

C I shall follow where you guide!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Lord Jesus Christ, in the darkness of that night so long ago on the Mount of Olives, with your disciples you sang songs of hope. Place those same songs into our hearts and mouths, for you have won the battle; for you live and reign with the Father and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Congregation is seated

OLD TESTAMENT READING

2 Chronicles 20:1-2; 14-22

¹After this the Moabites and Ammonites, and with them some of the Meunites, came against Jehoshaphat for battle. ²Some men came and told Jehoshaphat, “A great multitude is coming against you from Edom, from beyond the sea; and, behold, they are in Hazazon-tamar” (that is, Engedi). ¹⁴And the Spirit of the LORD came upon Jahaziel the son of Zechariah, son of Benaiah, son of Jeiel, son of Mattaniah, a Levite of the sons of Asaph, in the midst of the assembly. ¹⁵And he said, “Listen, all Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem and King Jehoshaphat: Thus says the LORD to you, ‘Do not be afraid and do not be dismayed at this great horde, for the battle is not yours but God’s. ¹⁶Tomorrow go down against them. Behold, they will come up by the ascent of Ziz. You will find them at the end of the valley, east of the wilderness of Jeruel. ¹⁷You will not need to fight in this battle. Stand firm, hold your position, and see the salvation of the LORD on your behalf, O Judah and Jerusalem.’ Do not be afraid and do not be dismayed. Tomorrow go out against them, and the LORD will be with you.” ¹⁸Then Jehoshaphat bowed his head with his face to the ground, and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem fell down before the LORD, worshiping the LORD.



¹⁹And the Levites, of the Kohathites and the Korahites, stood up to praise the LORD, the God of Israel, with a very loud voice. ²⁰And they rose early in the morning and went out into the wilderness of Tekoa. And when they went out, Jehoshaphat stood and said, "Hear me, Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem! Believe in the LORD your God, and you will be established; believe his prophets, and you will succeed." ²¹And when he had taken counsel with the people, he appointed those who were to sing to the LORD and praise him in holy attire, as they went before the army, and say, "Give thanks to the LORD, for his steadfast love endures forever." ²²And when they began to sing and praise, the LORD set an ambush against the men of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir, who had come against Judah, so that they were routed.

EPISTLE READING

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

¹⁶Rejoice always, ¹⁷pray without ceasing, ¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰Do not despise prophecies, ²¹but test everything; hold fast what is good. ²²Abstain from every form of evil. ²³Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

Congregation stands

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 26:30-35

³⁰And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. ³¹Then Jesus said to them, "You will all fall away because of me this night. For it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.' ³²But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee." ³³Peter answered him, "Though they all fall away because of you, I will never fall away." ³⁴Jesus said to him, "Truly, I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times." ³⁵Peter said to him, "Even if I must die with you, I will not deny you!" And all the disciples said the same.

Congregation is seated

HYMN OF THE DAY “Holy God, We Praise Thy Name” #940 vs.1-3



1 Ho - ly God, we praise Thy name; Lord of all, we
2 Hark! The glad ce - les - tial hymn An - gel choirs a -
3 Lo, the a - pos - tles' ho - ly train Join Thy sa - cred



bow be - fore Thee. All on earth Thy scep - ter claim,
bove are rais - ing; Cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim,
name to hal - low; Proph - ets swell the glad re - frain,



All in heav'n a - bove a - dore Thee. In - fi - nite Thy
In un - ceas - ing cho - rus prais - ing, Fill the heav'ns with
And the white - robed mar - tyrs fol - low, And from morn to



vast do - main, Ev - er - last - ing is Thy reign.
sweet ac - cord: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!
set of sun Through the Church the song goes on.

SERMON

“The Mount of Olives”

Congregation stands

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Onward in Christ’s footsteps treading, pilgrims here, our home above. Full of faith and hope and love. Let us do the Father’s bidding. And so we pray. Heavenly Father, thank you for the calling, privilege, and importance of singing your praises and celebrating your goodness. That’s why we say, “and from morn to set of sun”—

C **Through the church the song goes on!**

P Heavenly Father, to worship you through Jesus and in the Spirit is our greatest delight and most solemn obligation. That’s why we believe, “and from morn to set of sun”—



C Through the church the song goes on!

P Heavenly Father, forgive us for dismissing worship so easily and taking it so lightly. Because it's you we meet with, may we come expectant and evermore grateful, so we are prepared to sing, "and from morn to set of sun"—

C Through the church the song goes on!

P Heavenly Father, continue to feed our minds with your Word, fill our hearts with your presence and empower our worship by your Spirit. May we not be selfish consumers, looking to be pleased; but be true worshipers, longing to be consumed with your glory and grace. Empower us to believe, "and from morn to set of sun"—

C Through the church the song goes on!

P Heavenly Father, through our corporate songs and praises, we pray that we will be humbled, gladdened and transformed; and that the nations will be drawn to your saving love.

C Jesus, let me faithful be, life eternal grant to me. 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.

BENEDICTION

P Jesus invites us to walk with him to the Mount of Olives, a place of great suffering and a place of great love. We will walk with Jesus all the way to the empty tomb—and resurrection victory.

C Let us ever walk with Jesus!

SENDING HYMN “Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer” #918



1 Guide me, O Thou great Re - deem - er, Pil - grim through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain Whence the heal - ing
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, Bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land. I am weak, but Thou art might - y;
 stream doth flow; Let the fi - ery, cloud - y pil - lar
 fears sub - side; Death of death and hell's de - struc - tion,



Hold me with Thy pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en,
 Lead me all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer,
 Land me safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs of prais - es,



bread of heav - en, Feed me till I want no
 strong de - liv - 'rer, Be Thou still my strength and
 songs of prais - es I will ev - er give to



more; Feed me till I want no more.
 shield; Be Thou still my strength and shield.
 Thee; I will ev - er give to Thee.

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace.

C Rising to faithfully serve Him in the new day.

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Lenten Sermon Series entitled: **Places of the Passion** will continue on Wednesdays at 7pm. During this series we will follow in the footsteps of Jesus, contemplating what happened at each place our Savior stood along the path of His Passion for our sake. Each service will explore the meaning, history and spiritual inspiration associated with the location highlighted. We will learn things we might not have known as we understand the hard road our Lord took to open heaven for us.

March 3rd— Bethany

March 10th—Gethsemane

March 17th—The Courtyard

March 24th—Pilate's Judgement Hall

Upcoming Sunday Sermon Series: When God Doesn't—The Book of Habakkuk

Starting **March 7th**, we will begin a four-week series entitled, **When God Doesn't**. In the latter part of Lent we will take an in-depth look at the book of Habakkuk which begins with his complaining and questioning of God whom seems silent and unconcerned for his people. Yet, as God reveals his divine work, Habakkuk must let go off his own expectations and wait patiently for God to fulfill his divine purposes in his timing and ways. In the end, Habakkuk's complaint gives away to a beautiful trust in God that is not based upon the prophet's circumstances.

Kingdom Kids, a ZOOM gathering for children and their parents will be offered on several Sunday mornings during Lent. We will learn about the season of Lent and focus on the stories of Jesus' journey to the cross for us. The invitation for the ZOOM meeting time will go out in the congregational emails along with the link to the livestream; the session will begin at 10:00am and end by 10:30 or a little earlier. Denise Wright is looking forward to seeing your children again and the opportunity for them to see each other as well!

Mark Your Calendars for Sunday February 28th!

DCE Program Director, Rebecca Duport, from Concordia University Irvine will be visiting with us to give us information concerning a DCE Intern. She will:

- Describe what an Intern is and does
- Describe expectations (of Intern and of Congregation)
- Reveal the goals of having an Intern
- Get to know us so that she can place the best candidate to fit our needs
- She will conduct a meeting between services for questions and present additional information. She would like parents and leaders to be present via Live Stream and/or In Person at that time.

The timeline is as follows:

- **February 28th** – Visit St. John
- **March 26 or April 9** - students notified of internship location & churches notified
- **April 19-20** – Supervisor (Pastor) & Intern meet for Orientation at CUI (could be zoom)
- **July 2021**—Intern begins



Lent: a Season of Prayer

A DAILY BIBLE READING PLAN FOR THE LENTEN SEASON

- DAY 1: MATTHEW 6:5-13
 - DAY 2: LUKE 1:46-55
 - DAY 3: PHILIPPIANS 2:1-11
 - DAY 4: PSALM 46
 - DAY 5: JOHN 15:1-11
 - DAY 6: LUKE 5:29-32
 - DAY 7: 1 JOHN 5:14-15
 - DAY 8: 1 KINGS 3:5-14
 - DAY 9: HEBREWS 4:14-16
 - DAY 10: PSALM 98
 - DAY 11: ROMANS 12:9-21
 - DAY 12: PSALM 51:1-12
 - DAY 13: 2 CHRONICLES 7:12-16
 - DAY 14: EPHESIANS 1:16-23
 - DAY 15: JAMES 1:12-13, 16-17
 - DAY 16: PSALM 27
 - DAY 17: 1 CORINTHIANS 13
 - DAY 18: 1 JOHN 15-10
 - DAY 19: LUKE 18:9-14
 - DAY 20: PHILIPPIANS 1:3-11
 - DAY 21: JEREMIAH 10:12-13
 - DAY 22: PSALM 103:1-14
 - DAY 23: JAMES 1:19-26
 - DAY 24: PSALM 25
 - DAY 25: MATTHEW 7:7-11
 - DAY 26: 2 KINGS 20:1-6
 - DAY 27: EPHESIANS 2:4-7
 - DAY 28: PSALM 1
 - DAY 29: EPHESIANS 6:10-20
 - DAY 30: LUKE 15:11-24
 - DAY 31: JAMES 5:13-18
 - DAY 32: LUKE 22:39-44
 - DAY 33: ISAIAH 40:12-15, 28-31
 - DAY 34: PSALM 36
 - DAY 35: MATTHEW 6:25-34
 - DAY 36: JEREMIAH 31:17-19
 - DAY 37: PHILIPPIANS 4:4-8
 - DAY 38: JOHN 17
 - DAY 39: TITUS 3:4-7
 - DAY 40: PSALM 146
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