

GOD'S GRACE

REVERSES

OUR PLACE



Sunday Series in Lent

**FROM LOSING A CHILD
TO COUNTLESS IN THE FAMILY**

First Sunday in Lent

9:00 & 11:15am February 21, 2021



ROCK OF AGES

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Reaching Out in Rim Country with Rock-Solid Hope in Jesus

Welcome! May the message you hear today will fill your heart with the peace and joy we have in knowing that Jesus Christ is our Savior from sin.

Our Mission is to share the rock-solid hope of Jesus with today's world through timeless truths found in the Holy Scriptures.

Our Message centers around the forgiveness, freedom, and fellowship we have in Jesus.

Large Print service folders and **hearing assistance** devices are available.

Social Distancing is encouraged out of respect for all worshipping today. Volunteers are sanitizing touch points between services.

Restrooms are located at the far ends of the entry area.

Children's activity bags, quiet toys, and a changing table are available from the nursery in entry area.

We Support the world-wide gospel ministry of the WELS. We'd love to share more with you. Contact our pastor today. You can also visit wels.net



WELS

Christ's Love, Our Calling.



Morning Praise

Morning Praise is based on the historic service called "Matins." Joined to Christ, our risen Lord, we glorify God as we rise to the activities of this new day.

Greeting

Responses

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

Mercy, peace and love be yours in abundance.

"Peace, peace, to those far and near," says the LORD. "Peace to this house."

Peace to all of you who are in Christ.

The LORD gives strength to his people;
the LORD blesses his people with peace.

Hymn

How Great Thou Art
Christian Worship 256

♪ **O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed.**

Refrain:

**Then sings my soul, my Savior-God, to thee,
"How great thou art! How great thou art!"
Then sings my soul, my Savior-God to thee,
"How great thou art! How great thou art!"**

**2. When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze, [Refrain]**

**3. And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,
Sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin. [Refrain]**

**4. When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim: "My God, how great thou art!" [Refrain]**

Confession & Absolution

Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven,
whose sins are covered

Blessed is the one whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty and merciful Father,

we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed what we devised and desired in our hearts.

We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.

We have done those things that we should not have done,

and we have not done those things that we should have done.

Have mercy on us, Lord!

Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,

According to your promises in Jesus Christ.

Silence for meditation and reflection.

God our merciful Father, has forgiven all your sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

Amen.

Response of Praise

O Lord, open my lips.

And my mouth shall declare your praise.

Hasten to save me, O God.

O Lord, come quickly to help me.

The glory of Christ is revealed: let us worship him.

Psalm 95

Come, Let Us Worship And Bow Down - Venite



Come, let us wor-ship and— bow down, let us



kneel before the Lord, our God, our Mak - er.



Come, let us wor-ship and— bow down, let us



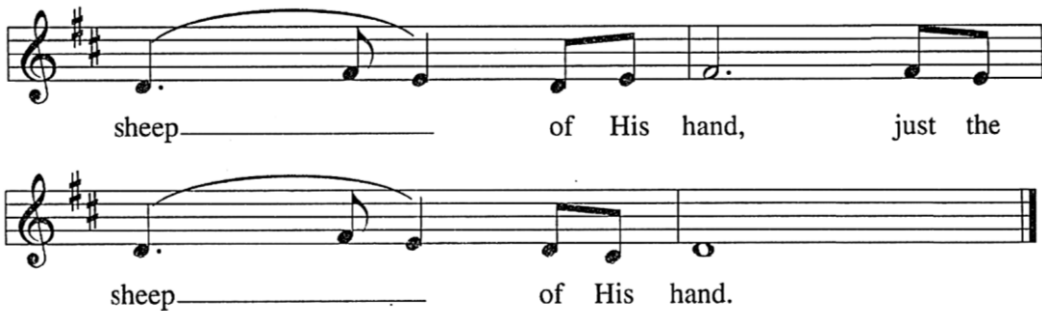
kneel before the Lord, our God, our Mak - er. For



He _____ is our God, and



we are the peo - ple of His pas - ture, and the



First Lesson

Genesis 22:1-18

Abraham, when tested, trusted that the Lord would provide.

Some time later God tested Abraham. He called to him, "Abraham!" Abraham answered, "I am here."

²God said, "Now take your son, your only son, whom you love, Isaac, and go to the land of Moriah. Offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains there, the one to which I direct you."

³Abraham got up early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, along with Isaac his son. Abraham split the wood for the burnt offering. Then he set out to go to the place that God had told him about.

⁴On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance.

⁵Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey. The boy and I will go on over there. We will worship, and then we will come back to you." ⁶Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and loaded it on Isaac his son. He took the firepot and the knife in his hand. The two of them went on together.

⁷Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said, "My father?"

He said, "I am here, my son."

He said, "Here are the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?"

⁸Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So the two of them went on together. ⁹They came to the place that God had told him about. Abraham built the altar there. He arranged the wood, tied up Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar on top of the wood. ¹⁰Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son.

¹¹The Angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, "Abraham, Abraham!"

Abraham said, "I am here."

¹²He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy. Do not do anything to him. For now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me."

¹³Abraham looked around and saw that behind him there was a ram caught in the thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴Abraham called the name of that place "The Lord Will Provide." So it is said to this day, "On the mountain of the Lord it will be provided."

¹⁵The Angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven ¹⁶and said, "I have sworn by myself, declares the Lord, because you have done this thing and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷I will bless you greatly, and I will multiply your descendants greatly, like the stars of the sky and like the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the city gates of their enemies.

¹⁸In your seed all the nations of the earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice."

Psalm of the Day

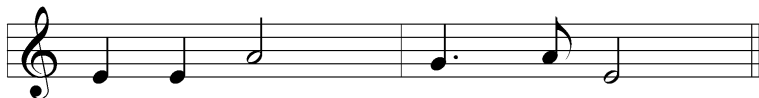
Psalm 3

Christian Worship Supplement

Refrain



From the Lord comes de - liv - er - ance,



there - fore we will not fear.

Psalm Tone



O LORD, how many are my foes!
How many rise up against me!
Many are saying of me,
"God will not deliver him."

But you are a shield around me, O LORD;
you bestow glory on me and lift up my head.
To the LORD I cry aloud,
and he answers me from his holy hill. **Refrain**

I lie down and sleep;
I wake again, because the LORD sustains me.
I will not fear the tens of thousands
drawn up against me on ev'ry side.

Arise, O LORD!
Deliver me, O my God!
From the LORD comes deliverance.
May your blessing be on your people.

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 8:31-39

Nothing can separate us from the love of God which is ours in Jesus.

What then will we say about these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

³²Indeed, he who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also graciously give us all things along with him?

³³Who will bring an accusation against God's elect? God is the one who justifies!

³⁴Who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus, who died and, more than that, was raised to life, is the one who is at God's right hand and who is also interceding for us! ³⁵What will separate us from the love of Christ? Will trouble or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶Just as it is written:

For your sake we are being put to death all day long. We are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

³⁸For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor rulers, neither things present nor things to come, nor powerful forces, ³⁹neither height nor depth, nor anything else in creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Children's Message

*All children 5th grade and under are invited to come to the front area.
Helpers or parents are welcome to join them.*

Gospel

Mark 1:12-15

Jesus was tempted in every way, just as we are, but was without sin.

The next day, ¹²The Spirit immediately sent Jesus out into the wilderness. ¹³He was in the wilderness for forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels were serving him.

¹⁴After John was put in prison, Jesus went to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God. ¹⁵"The time is fulfilled," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near! Repent, and believe in the gospel."

Seasonal Response

We all like sheep have gone astray, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

By his wounds we are healed.

Hymn of the Day

Be Still My Soul

Christian Worship 415

♪ **Be still, my soul; the Lord is on your side;
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
Leave to your God to order and provide;
In ev'ry change he faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul; your best, your heav'nly friend
Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.**

**2. Be still, my soul; your God will undertake
To guide the future as he has the past.
Your hope, your confidence, let nothing shake;**

**All now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul; the waves and winds still know
His voice who ruled them while he lived below.**

**3. Be still, my soul, though dearest friends depart
And all is darkened in the vale of tears;
Then you will better know his love, his heart,
Who comes to soothe your sorrows and your fears.
Be still, my soul; your Jesus can repay
From his own fullness all he takes away.**

**4. Be still, my soul; the hour is hast'ning on
When we shall be forever with the Lord,
When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,
Sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul; when change and tears are past,
All safe and blessed we shall meet at last.**

Sermon

Genesis 22:1-18



God's Grace Reverses Our Place

Feb. 21	From Losing a Child to Countless In the Family	<i>(Ge 22:1-18)</i>
Feb. 28	From Possessing Nothing to Possessing Everything	<i>(Ge 28:10-17)</i>
Mar. 7	From the House of Slaves to Serving the Lord	<i>(Ex 20:1-7)</i>
Mar. 14	From Grumbling & the Grave to Grateful & Saved	<i>(Nu 21:4-9)</i>
Mar. 21	From Scattered & Scorched to Gathered & Adored	<i>(Is 43:1-7)</i>
Mar. 28	From Suffering in Prison to Shining in Paradise	<i>(Zec 9:9-17)</i>

Hymn of Response

Create in Me

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cre Cast me not a -
way from your pres - ence, O Lord, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from
me. Re - store un - to me the joy of your sal -
va - tion, and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of five staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are placed below the notes. The second staff includes first and second endings. The third staff continues the melody. The fourth staff has a longer note value for the word 'me'. The fifth staff concludes the piece with a double bar line.

Confession of Faith

We Praise You, O God

Te Deum Laudamus

We praise you, O God, we acclaim you as Lord;
all creation worships you, Father everlasting.

To you all angels, all the powers of heaven, cherubim and seraphim, sing in
endless praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of heavenly hosts, heaven and earth are full
of your glory.**

The glorious company of apostles praise you.

The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.

The white robed army of martyrs praise you. Throughout the world the holy Church acclaim you:

Father of majesty unbounded, your glorious, true, and only Son, and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.

You, Christ, are the King of glory, the eternal Son of the Father.

When you became man to set us free, you humbled yourself to be born of a virgin.

You overcame the sting of death

and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

You sit at the right hand of God in the glory of the Father.

We believe that you will come to be our judge.

Come then, Lord, and help your people, bought with the price of your own blood,

and bring us with your saints to glory everlasting. Amen.

Offerings Gathered

Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him. Our offerings go to support the gospel ministry of our congregation and our church body, the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. You are invited to place your offering on the table by the entryway on your way in or as you exit.

Lord, Have Mercy *Kyrie*



M: In the morning, O Lord, I call to you; be merciful to me and hear my prayer.



C: Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

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.

Prayer of the Day

Lord our strength, the battle of good and evil rages within and around us, and our ancient foe tempts us with his deceits and empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your Word, and when we fall, raise us up again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Lent

Christian Worship page 125

Heavenly Father, you loved the world and gave your Son to liberate us from sin and death by his obedient death on the cross.

We confess that without your love we are lost.

Lord of the Church, we thank you for the treasure of the gospel. By your Spirit, keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.

Strengthen our determination to do what pleases you, no matter what the danger or the cost.

Let us pray for those who carry a cross in the name of Christ and face ridicule and persecution for the sake of the kingdom: missionaries and chaplains, young people who stand up for what is right in the face of pressure to do what is wrong, and all who pay a high price for their faith and their values as Christians.

By your Spirit, O Lord, grant them patience and endurance.

Let us pray for those who carry heavy burdens in life: the sick and the chronically ill, the depressed and the lonely, those torn by conflict in personal relationships, those victimized by war and injustice, and all who face the terrors of life with a heavy heart.

Grant them peace, O Lord, and in your mercy, be their guardian and friend, their comfort and hope.

Let us pray for those who care for others: pastors and counselors; physicians and nurses; social workers and caring friends; all who feed the hungry, comfort the hurting, and stand beside the dying.

Strengthen them in their work, O Lord, and do not let them become weary in doing good.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions. *Silent prayer.*
Help us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Keep us faithful even to the point to death, that we may receive the crown of life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

Prayer for Grace

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with your mighty power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger; and in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

Amen.

Let us praise the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Blessing

2 Cor. 13:14

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

Amen.

Hymn

Rock of Ages

Christian Worship 389

Stanzas 1-2 by duet or group

♪ Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in thee;
Let the water and the blood From thy riven side which flowed
Be of sin the double cure: Cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.

2. Not the labors of my hands Can fulfill thy law's demands.
Could my zeal no respite know, Could my tears forever flow,
All for sin could not atone; Thou must save and thou alone.

**3. Nothing in my hand I bring, Simply to thy cross I cling;
Naked, come to thee for dress, Helpless, look to thee for grace.
Foul, I to the fountain fly --Wash me, Savior, or I die!**

**4. While I draw this fleeting breath, When mine eyelids close in death,
When I soar to worlds unknown, See thee on thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in thee!**

Acknowledgments

Order of Service "Morning Praise" text revised from "The Lutheran Hymnal 1941"

"Midday opening responses and closing responses" from Christian Worship Supplement © Northwestern Pub. House.

"Confession" & "Lord, Have Mercy" are from a preview of the 2021 Christian Worship Hymnal © NPH
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"Psalm 3" melody: Dale Witte © 2005

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Remember with Prayer

- All who grieve the loss of Barbara Miller who was called to her eternal home with Christ on February 13th; Thanks to God for delivering her from all her troubles; that God comforts all who grieve with the sure hope of the resurrection and eternal life. *Service date TBD.*
- *Share your prayer requests.*

Attendance

02/03 Confirmation Class: 2
02/04 Midweek Bible Class: 7
02/04 Starting Point Class: 4
02/07 Sunday Worship: 44
02/07 Sunday Bible Class: 14
02/10 Confirmation Class: 2
02/11 Midweek Bible Class: 7
02/11 Starting Point Class: 2
02/14 Sunday Worship: 45
02/14 Sunday Bible Class: 12

Received in January \$14,007.82

Received in February \$7,627.32 *(to date)*

Sunday Bible Study (10:05am)

Join us in February for a study on "The Millennium" This study will not be posted online, but booklets are available for anyone interested.

Midweek Bible Study

Join us in-person Thursdays at 9am. We are currently going through "Lessons from the Kings." Livestreamed on our Facebook page. The videos are also posted on our website.

Midweek Lent

6pm Services "Six Parts of the Catechism"

- Ash Wed. (Feb 17) – Ministry of the Keys
- Midweek 1 (Feb 24)- Ten Commandments
- Midweek 2 (March 3) – The Creed
- Midweek 3 (March 10) – The Lord's Prayer
- Midweek 4 (March 17) – Holy Baptism
- Midweek 5 (March 24) –Holy Communion

CALENDAR

rockofages-payson.com/calendar

Sunday, February 21 Lent 1

9:00am Service
10:05am Bible Study
11:15am Service
12:30pm Youth Confirmation Class

Wednesday, February 24

6:00pm Midweek Lent Service

Thursday, February 25

9:00am Midweek Bible Class
10:00am Starting Point Class

Sunday, February 28 Lent 2

9:00am Service with Lord's Supper
10:05am Bible Study
11:15am Service with Lord's Supper
12:30pm Youth Confirmation Class

Wednesday, March 3

9:00am Elders Meeting
6:00pm Branches Band Visiting for Midweek Lent
6:00pm Midweek Lent Service

Serving This Week

Flowers, Communion Setup: Pat Solomon
Music: Keyboard, Jeni Strickland; 4 For Christ;
Presiding Minister: Tom Barthel
Ushers: Creig Solomon, Jerry Zuvich



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