St. John's Lutheran Church & School

The Lamb



"The Substitute Lamb"

Ash Wednesday

14 February 2024



WELCOME - TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER!

For baptized Christians (Matthew 28:19) who have been instructed in the faith (Galatians 6:6), The Lord's Supper is our participation in the body and blood of Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 10:16), as the one body of Christ (1 Corinthians 10:17), to receive forgiveness of sin (Matthew 26:28) and to proclaim the Lord's death until He comes (1 Corinthians 11:26).

So that those who partake of the Lord's Supper do so in a worthy manner (1 Corinthians 11:27) and not to their harm (1 Corinthians 11:29), let us each examine ourselves (1 Corinthians 11:28):

- Do you believe that you are a sinner? That you have sinned in thought, word and deed?
- Are you sorry for your sin?
- Do you trust that Jesus Christ gives forgiveness of sin through His Supper?
- Do you believe that the body and blood of Jesus are present in, with and under the bread and wine?
- Do you seek to lead godly lives by the power of the Holy Spirit?

Please speak to a pastor or usher if you have questions. Gluten-free wafers are provided upon request. Non-alcoholic grape juice is provided in the center of each communion tray. Those who are not communing may come forward for a blessing from the pastor.

Series Theme

"Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" (John 1:29) That was John the Baptist's powerful witness to Jesus at the Jordan River when the Savior came to be baptized by him. The image of a lamb is used frequently in both the Old and New Testaments to describe the Messiah as well as the sinful people He came to save. This Lenten season we gather to examine and to meditate on some of these Biblical pictures of...

"The Lamb"

As We Gather

"The Substitute Lamb"

"A person or thing that takes the place of another"

So reads the dictionary definition of "substitute." In our first part of this series on "The Lamb," we consider the animal that was substituted at the last moment and sacrificed in the place of Abraham's son Isaac. All that foreshadowed in a powerful way the Lamb that became our Substitute. And it was no "last moment" decision. It had been planned by God for a long time!

+ Preparation +

Prelude

Bell

stand

The congregation and the pastors will enter in silence.

The Litany

P Dear brothers and sisters of our Lord Jesus Christ, on this day the church begins a holy season of prayerful and penitential reflection. Our attention is especially directed to the holy sufferings and death of our Lord Jesus Christ. From ancient times the season of Lent has been kept as a time of special devotion, self-denial, and humble repentance born of a faithful heart that dwells confidently on His Word and draws from it life and hope. Let us pray that our dear Father in heaven, for the sake of His beloved Son and in the power of His Holy Spirit, might richly bless this Lententide for us that we may come to Easter with glad hearts and keep the feast in sincerity and truth.

(Silence for reflection)

- P God the Father in heaven,
- C have mercy.
- P God the Son, Redeemer of the world,
- C have mercy.
- P God the Holy Spirit,
- C have mercy.
- P Be gracious to us.
- C Spare us, good Lord.
- P By the mystery of Your holy incarnation; by Your holy nativity; by Your baptism, fasting, and temptation; by Your agony and bloody sweat; by Your cross and Passion; by Your precious death and burial; by Your glorious resurrection and ascension; and by the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter:

C Help us, good Lord.

- P In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death; and in the day of judgment:
- C Help us, good Lord.
- P We poor sinners implore You
- C to hear us, O Lord.
- P To prosper the preaching of Your Word; to bless our prayer and meditation; to strengthen and preserve us in the true faith; to give heart to our sorrow and strength to our repentance:
- C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.
- P To draw all to Yourself; to bless those who are instructed in the faith; to watch over and console the poor, the sick, the distressed, the lonely, the forsaken, the

abandoned, and all who stand in need of our prayers; to give abundant blessing to all works of mercy; and to have mercy on us all:

- C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.
- P To turn our hearts to You; to turn the hearts of our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers; and graciously to hear our prayers:
- C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.
- P Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
- C we implore You to hear us.
- P Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
- C have mercy.
- P Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
- C have mercy.
- P Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
- C grant us Your peace.
- P O God, You desire not the death of sinners but that they turn from their wickedness and live. We implore You to have compassion on the frailty of our mortal nature, for we acknowledge that we are dust and to dust we shall return. Mercifully pardon our sins that we may obtain the promises You have laid up for those who are repentant;
- All through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

sit

Imposition of Ashes

P In the Old Testament ashes were used as a sign of sorrow and repentance. You are invited to receive ashes on your forehead as an act of repentance.



440 Jesus, I Will Ponder Now sus, I pas - sion: 1 Je will pon - der now On Your ho - ly af -2 Make me see Your great dis-tress, An - guish, and flic - tion, 3 Yet. O Lord, not thus a - lone Make me see Your pas - sion, 4 Grant that I Your pas-sion view With re - pen - tant griev - ing. With Your Spir - it en - dow For me such med - i - ta - tion. and stripes and wretch-ed - ness And Bonds Your cru - ci - fix - ion; me make known And ter - mi - na-tion. But its cause to its Let not bring shame to You By un - ho - ly me liv - ing. Ι Grant love and faith May im - age cher - ish that in the Make me see how scourge and rod, Spear and nails did wound You, Ah! al - so and my sin Wrought Your deep af - flic - tion; Ι How could I 'ry re - fuse to shun Ev sin - ful plea - sure -Of Your suf-f'ring, pain, and death That Ι per - ish. may not Who with thorns had crowned You. How for them You died, O God, This in - deed the cause has been Of Your cru - ci - fix - ion. Since for me God's on - ly Suf - fered with - out Son mea - sure? 5 If my sins give me alarm 6 Graciously my faith renew; And my conscience grieve me, Help me bear my crosses, Let Your cross my fear disarm; Learning humbleness from You, Peace of conscience give me. Peace mid pain and losses. Help me see forgiveness won May I give You love for love! By Your holy passion. Hear me, O my Savior, If for me He slays His Son, That I may in heav'n above

God must have compassion!

Text and tune: Public domain

Sing Your praise forever.

+ Word +

First Reading

R The First Reading is from the twenty-second chapter of Genesis.

After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here am I." He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you." So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you." And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. And Isaac said to his father Abraham, "My father!" And he said, "Here am I, my son." He said, "Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" Abraham said, "God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So they went both of them together.

When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here am I." He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called the name of that place, "The LORD will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."

- R This is the Word of the Lord
- C Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

R The Second Reading is from the fifth chapter of Second Corinthians.

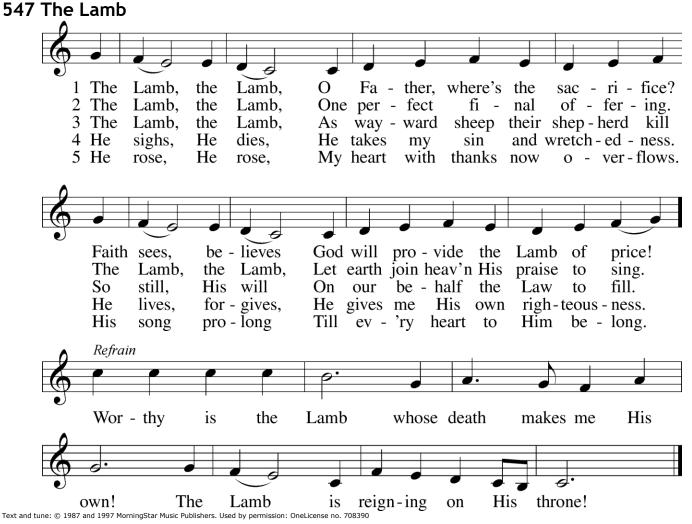
For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.

From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

R This is the Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

Theme Hymn



Children's Message

stand

Prayer of the Church

P Heavenly Father, on this Ash Wednesday, we beg you to send Your Holy Spirit to draw each of our hearts to Christ. Wash away the iniquity of Your baptized people and cleanse us from all our sin, so that we store up for ourselves not treasures on earth but treasures in heaven. Create in us pure hearts and steadfast spirits so that we dedicate ourselves in this holy season to prayer, fasting and almsgiving for our own sake and for all those in need. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Heavenly Father, by Your Word and Spirit, turn to faith in Christ the hearts of those who live without Him. Grant to them also the joy of Your salvation and the peace of knowing that He who had no sin became sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Heavenly Father, govern our nation and every nation so that we and all people live with justice, with peace and with the necessities for life on this earth. Overcome selfish rulers, cruel tyrants and all threats of violence. Give wisdom to all who lead us and send Your angels to protect those who are protecting our welfare. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Heavenly Father, in the way and at the time You know is best, bring healing to all who are sick, injured, preparing for surgery, recovering or in distress, including.... Comfort all who mourn, including ..., provide for those who are seeking jobs and give peace to all who are anxious about the cares of life. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Heavenly Father, grant us repentance that comes at the Table of our Lord this day, recognizing the enormity of our sins and grant us faith through Christ's body and blood to receive Your even greater forgiveness for our sins. Inspire in each of us a life filled with good works that glorify You as others see Your compassion in our actions. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

- P Hear our petitions, heavenly Father, for we pray in Your Holy Spirit through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C Amen.

^{sit} Offering

"Let Thy Merciful Ears, O Lord"

Mudd/Weelkes, arr. Wolff

stand

Offertory Prayer

- P Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your steadfast love;
- C According to Your abundant mercy blot out our transgressions.
- P Bless these gifts we place before You so many others may hear of Your love.
- C And grant them Your Holy Spirit that they may believe our message.
- P Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C Amen.

+ Sacrament +

Preface

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- C We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.
- P It is good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, Holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. You bid Your people cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast. Renew our zeal in faith and life and bring us fullness of grace that belongs to the children of God. Amen

Lord's Prayer

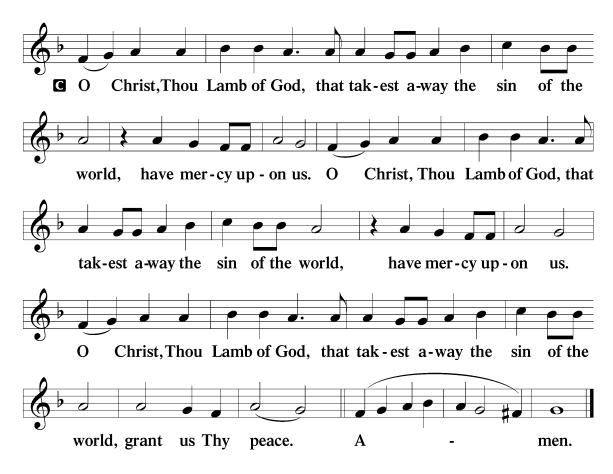
All Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Words of Institution/The New Covenant

Sharing of the Peace

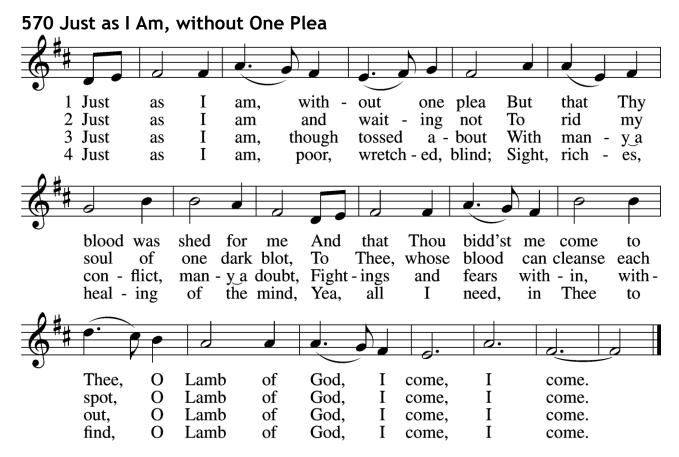
- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C And also with you.

Agnus Dei

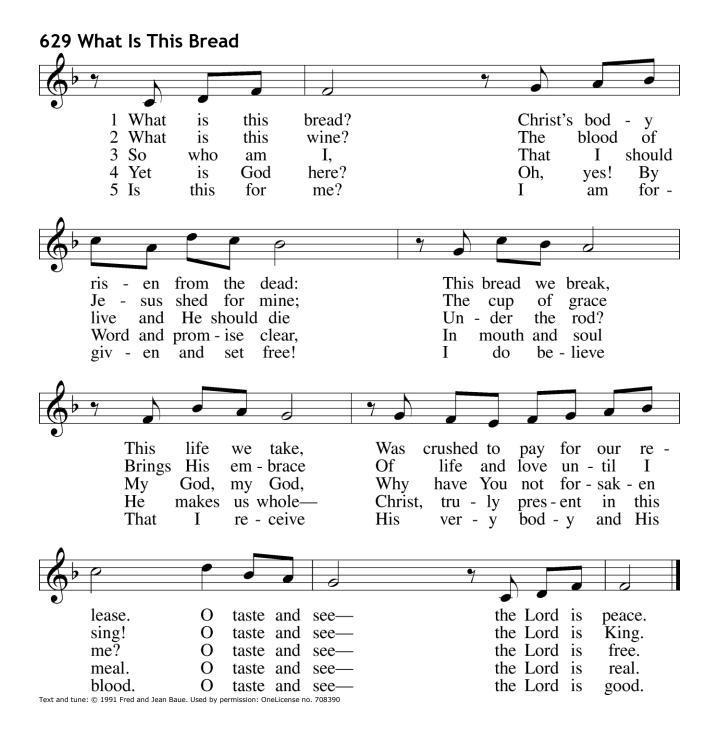


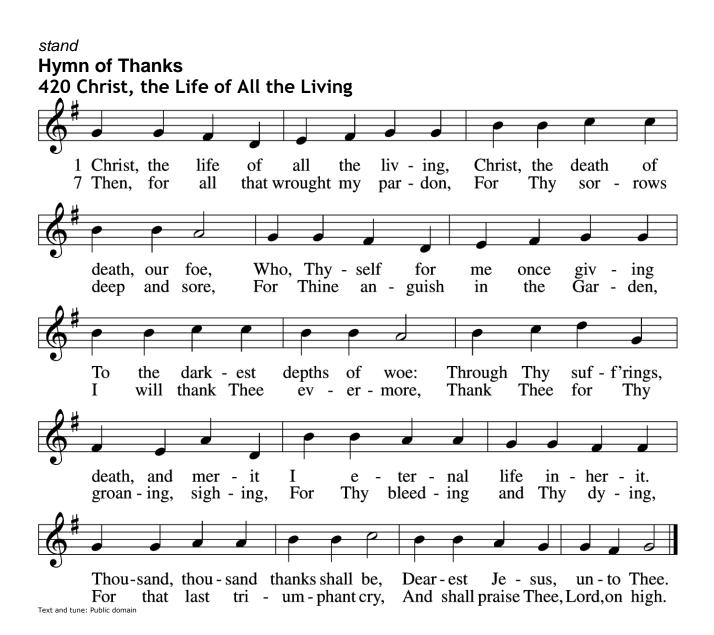
sit

Communion Hymns



- 5 Just as I am, Thou wilt receive, Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve; Because Thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- Just as I am; Thy love unknown Has broken ev'ry barrier down; Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.





Prayer

- P Gracious God, our Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's Body and Blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming again, we may, together with Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end;
- C through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Blessing



Announcements

Next Week

"The Lamb We Have All Killed"

David, the "Shepherd King," was guilty of murder. In Nathan's masterful parable that he told against him, David was accused of rustling and slaughtering a poor man's "little ewe lamb." Blind to his own sin and blind in his self-righteous pride, David condemned himself when he cried, "the man who has done this deserves to die!" To that Nathan replied, "You are the man!" Sadly we must admit the same. We are "the man" who has sinned and deserves to die. In the face of such guilt we are moved to plead, "Lord, have mercy upon me!"

"The Lamb"

February 14	Ash Wednesday	Genesis 22:1-14	The Substitute Lamb
February 2	Midweek II	2 Samuel 12:1-7a	The Lamb We Have All Killed
February 28	3 Midweek III	Jn. 1:29; Lev.16:21-2	2 The Lamb That Takes Away Sin
March 6	Midweek IV	Isaiah 53:6	The Lambs That Are Lost
March 13	Midweek V	Isaiah 53:7	The Lamb Led to Slaughter
March 20	Midweek VI	Deuteronomy 17:1	The Unblemished Lamb
March 28	Maundy Thursday	Exodus 12:21	The Passover Lamb
March 29	Good Friday	Exodus 29:38-39	The Lambs for Daily Sacrifice
March 31	Easter Sunday	Revelation 5:1	-14 The Lamb That Was Slain

MIDWEEK SERVICE SCHEDULE

Ash Wednesday, Feb 14, 12:00PM & 7:00PM Wednesdays, February 14- March 20 Light Supper 6:00PM Worship Service 7:00PM

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Maundy Thursday, March 28, 7:00PM Good Friday, March 29, 12:00 & 7:00PM Easter Sunday, March 31, 8:00 & 10:45 AM

Equipping • Engaging • Encouraging

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