

St. Mark

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

February 21, 2021

- Prelude *Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart* arr. L. Larson
Softly and Tenderly arr. Joel Raney
- *The Processional Hymn *Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death* (ELW) No. 452
- *The Confession and Forgiveness (ELW) page 94
- P: In the name of the Father, and of the †Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
C: Amen.
- P: God of all mercy.....of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
C: Amen.
- P: Most merciful God,
C: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.
- P: In the mercy of almighty God,.....in the name of the Father, and of the †Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
C: Amen.
- *The Apostolic Greeting (ELW) page 138
- P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
C: And also with you.
- *The Kyrie (*sung response*) (ELW) page 138
- P:, let us pray to the Lord.
C: Lord, have mercy.
- P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
C: Amen.
- *The Hymn of Praise *In the Cross of Christ I Glory* (ELW) NO. 324

*Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray,

C: O Lord God, You would have us put no trust in anything we do. Mercifully grant that by Your power we may be defended against all adversity; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading

Genesis 22:1-18

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Psalmody for the Day *(read responsively)*

Psalms 25:1-10

¹To You, O Lord, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in You;
let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me.

**²Let none who look to You be put to shame;
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.**

³Show me Your ways, O Lord,
and teach me Your paths.

**⁴Lead me in Your truth and teach me,
for You are the God of my salvation; in You have I trusted all the day long.**

⁵Remember, O Lord, Your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.

**⁶Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;
remember me according to Your love and for the sake of Your goodness, O Lord.**

⁷Gracious and upright is the Lord;
therefore He teaches sinners in His way.

⁸He guides the humble in doing right and teaches His way to the lowly.

⁹All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness
to those who keep His covenant and His testimonies.

¹⁰For Your name's sake, O Lord, forgive my sin, for it is great.

Second Reading

James 1:12-18

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*The Lenten Gospel Acclamation (*sung*)

(ELW) page 142

C: Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and abounding in steadfast love.

* The Gospel

Mark 1:9-15

C: Glory to You, O Lord. (sung after announcement of the Gospel)

C: Praise to You, O Christ. (sung after conclusion of the Gospel)

Sermon

Rev. Robert B. Grewe

*The Hymn of the Day

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

(ELW) No. 759

*The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy Christian Church, the Communion of Saints; the forgiveness of sins; the Resurrection of the body, and the Life everlasting.
Amen.**

*The Prayers of the Church (response)

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

*Sharing of the Peace

The Musical Offering

Special Music

Kimberly Grewe, soloist

*The Offertory

Create in Me a Clean Heart

(ELW) No. 188

*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.

Announcements

*The Benediction (*sung response*)

C: Amen, Amen, Amen.

*The Recessional Hymn

Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me

(ELW) No. 767

*FLC Sending Hymn

Be The Love of Christ

arr. Michael Showalter

Roger Thornhill

*The Dismissal (*response*)

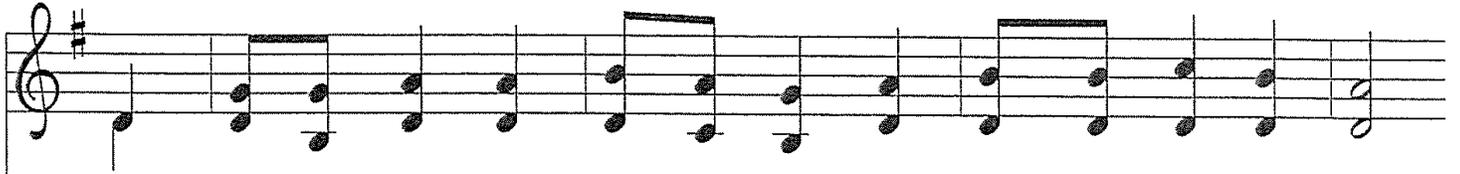
C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

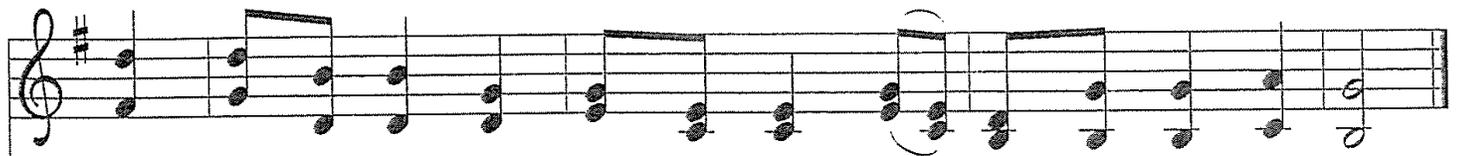
Depart with Joy

by B. Wagner

Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death



1 A - wake, O sleep - er, rise from death, and Christ shall give you light;
 2 To us on earth he came to bring from sin and fear re - lease,
 3 There is one bod - y and one hope, one Spir - it and one call,
 4 Then walk in love as Christ has loved, who died that he might save;
 5 For us Christ lived, for us he died, and con - quered in the strife.

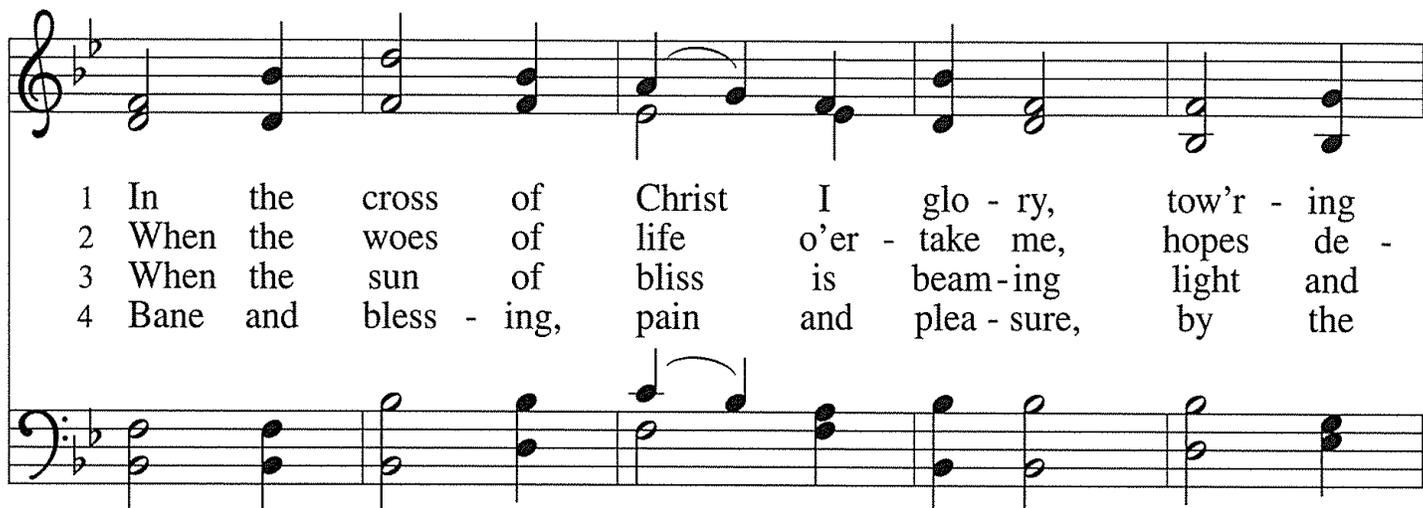


so learn his love, its length and breadth, its full - ness, depth, and height.
 to give the Spir - it's u - ni - ty, the ver - y bond of peace.
 one Lord, one faith, and one bap - tism, one God who made us all.
 with kind and gen - tle hearts for - give as God in Christ for - gave.
 A - wake, a - rise, go forth in faith, and Christ shall give you life.

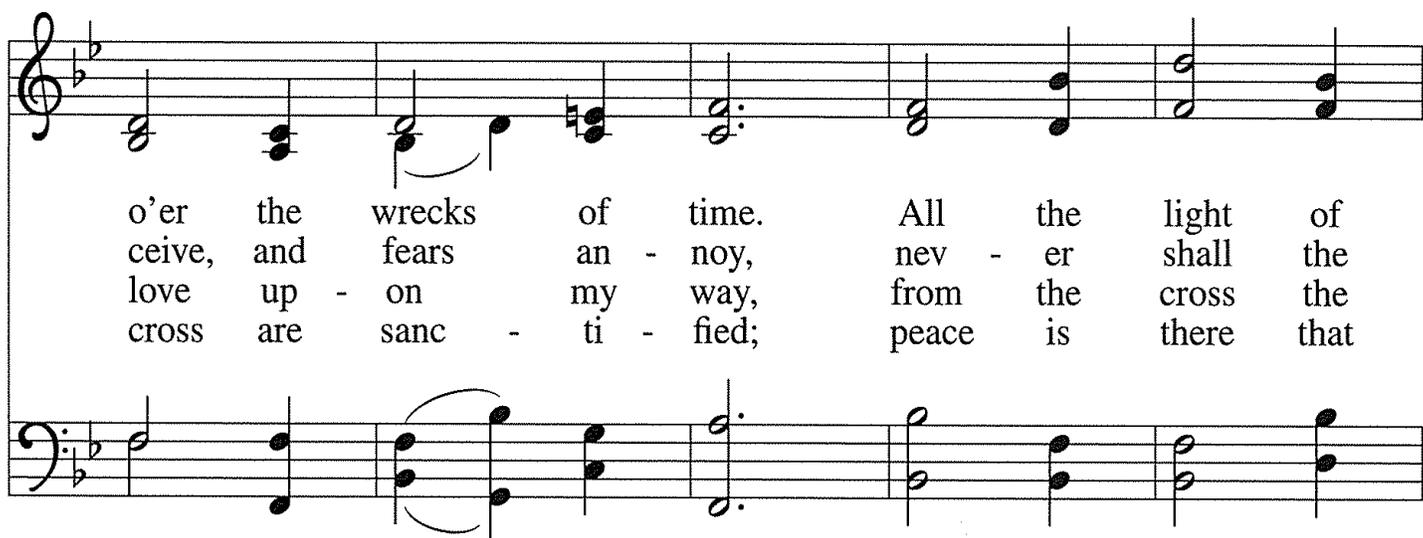


In the Cross of Christ I Glory

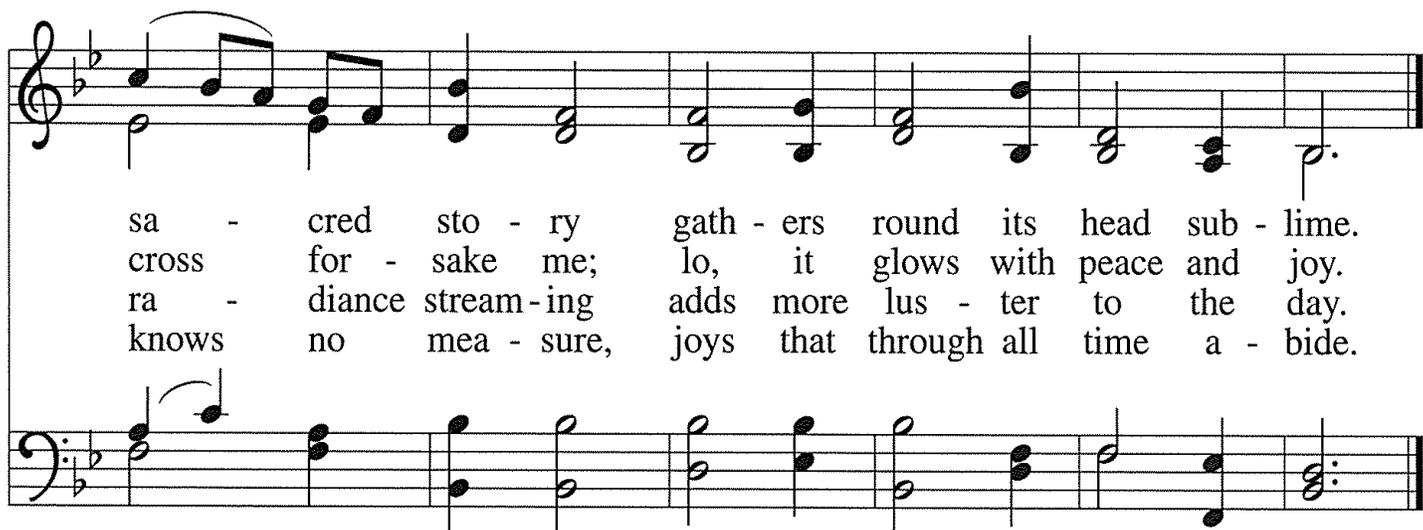
324



1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r - ing
2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -
3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and
4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the



o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of
ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the
love up - on my way, from the cross the
cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that



sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
cross for - sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.
ra - diance stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.
knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

759



1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,
3 While life's dark maze I tread and griefs a - round me spread,
4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, when death's cold, sul - len stream



Sav - ior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, oh, may my
be thou my guide; bid dark-ness turn to day, wipe sor-row's
shall o'er me roll; blest Sav - ior, then, in love fear and dis -



guilt a - way, oh, let me from this day be whol - ly thine!
love to thee pure, warm, and change-less be, a liv - ing fire!
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.
trust re-move; oh, bear me safe a - bove, a ran - somed soul!



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

The first system of music consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a common time signature. The melody is written in a simple, hymn-like style with quarter and eighth notes. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff features a melodic line with some rests and ties. The bass staff continues with a steady accompaniment.

pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -

The third system shows the continuation of the hymn. The treble staff has a melodic line with some ties and rests. The bass staff provides a consistent accompaniment.

store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,

The fourth system continues the musical setting. The treble staff has a melodic line with some ties and rests. The bass staff provides a consistent accompaniment.

and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

The fifth and final system on the page concludes the hymn. The treble staff has a melodic line with some ties and rests. The bass staff provides a consistent accompaniment.

Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me

1 Lord, take my hand and lead me up - on life's way;
 2 Lord, when the tem - pest ra - ges, I need not fear;
 3 Lord, when the shad - ows length - en and night has come,

di - rect, pro - tect, and feed me from day to day.
 for you, the Rock of A - ges, are al - ways near.
 I know that you will strength - en my steps toward home,

With - out your grace and fa - vor I go a - stray;
 Close by your side a - bid - ing, I fear no foe,
 then noth - ing can im - pede me, O bless - ed Friend!

so take my hand, O Sav - ior, and lead the way.
 for when your hand is guid - ing, in peace I go.
 So, take my hand and lead me un - to the end.

First Lutheran Church

92 W. Walnut St., Washington, PA

724-225-4040

e-mail: secretary@flcwash.church

website: www.flcwash.church

The Rev. Robert B. Grewe

724-705-4050

revrob@flcwash.church

Dennis Schmidt, Lutheran Lay Worship Leader

J. Judson Lacko, Lutheran Lay Worship Leader

Organist and Music Director: Bobbi Heastings

barbara_heastings@comast.net

The Flowers on the Chancel are given to the glory of God by Sonie Rea in thankfulness for all the blessings to her family. A donation is made to the roof fund.

The Lay Reader is Kimberly Grewe.

Counters/Greeters today are C. Group and V. Group.

Welcome to our Visitors! The people of this congregation welcome you as you join us in worship this morning. Please sign the register, located in the narthex. If you have questions, please see the pastor or contact the church office.

Do you wish to become a member of First Lutheran Church? Please contact Pastor Grewe.

Nursery: We welcome all children to be a part of worship, but we realize that sometimes the service can be too long for the little ones. We have a nursery for those attending to the needs for infants and small children. There is a speaker in the nursery so that parents can still hear the service. You are welcome to use the nursery for the entire service, or just a small part.

Bell Choir Practice on Sunday from 1-2 & Thursday from 7-8 PM.

The Flower Chart for 2021 is posted in the narthex. If you wish to place flowers, (real or artificial) near the altar, sign your name opposite the date of your choice. You will be reminded of your date and asked for the wording you want in the bulletin two weeks before the due date.

Sign-up sheets are posted to host a coffee hour in 2021. Please write your names under the month you would like to host. The coffee hours have been a wonderful time of fellowship and the hosts have been awesome! Thank you!!

Sign-up sheets are posted for Lay Readers in 2021. Please sign up.

Please remember to continue contributing donations to our girls in Ethiopia.
Please consider this as a call to help others in need.

Please pray for those in need of healing:

Betty Johnson, Janet Burke, Maureen Curry, Eveline Reihner, Rocky and Carol, Leah, Shari Kienzle, Joanne Reck, Chiquita, Patricia Zablotny, Stacy Carroll, Byron Christian, Tillie Shawin, Billie Sue Serbak, Susan Westott, Fred Dupas, little Karson, Pastor Bruce and Marie Kreutzer, Melissa McCabe, baby Isaac Christian, Barbara Mounts, Sandy Hebrank, Rachel Rogers, Lynn Hudak, Sonie Rea, Allan Zimmerman, Donna O., the Pollana family, Iva Romano, Frank Kubichar, Ashley McCartney, Amy Verderber, Sylvia Sunstrum, David & Theresa Lacko, Linda Lacko, Kevin Ryan, Diane & Megan, Patty, Loretta & Paul, Alice & Delores, Deb & Norma Price, Cpt. Allen, Aaron Rogers, Owen Miller, Cameron, and Kathryn Rush.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY

PA Mental health support and referral line

1-855-284-2494

WASHINGTON, PA BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS LINE

1-877-225-3567

WASHINGTON COUNTY BHDS LINE

724-228-6832

SCOTT BERRY DIRECT LINE

724-250-4079 (FOR CHURCH MEMBERS ONLY)

FOR OTHER NEEDS, CONTACT 211 OR THE CHURCH.

Church Offering Change: In order to keep everyone safe we have changed how we collect the Sunday Offering. We do not have our ushers pass the plates around. Instead, we have one offering plate located by the last pew and one by the choir loft. Please place your offering in one of those plates. Feel free to place your offering in the plates during our Offertory if you did not do so on the way in.

Listening for the Promise

Weekly Devotional

First Sunday in Lent—February 21, 2021

“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 that I shall show you.” - Genesis: 22:2

This text for today is disturbing, especially this awful command from God to Abraham. “Take your son,” seems like an unbelievable command for any God of love to give. Even Martin Luther's wife, Katie, once said to her husband regarding this passage, “Martin, I don't believe God would ask anyone to sacrifice his only son.”

We heard earlier how Isaac had been a gift from God to Abraham and Sarah in their old age. We heard how God had given them a promise of many descendants, and through those descendants all of the families of the earth will be blessed.” Isaac had been born to start the line of those descendants, and now God is saying kill him. WHY? Sometimes God accomplishes his works through human faith. The question is, does Abraham have that faith? Having been given Isaac, which does Abraham trust more? The GIFT or the GIVER?

In each of the Gospels, we also have the picture of a Father and Son, going to a place where the Son will be sacrificed. Jesus trusts his Father with his life, just as Isaac trusted Abraham. No words are exchanged on this journey, only a brief conversation in Gethsemane, “My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me. Yet not my will, but yours be done.” And the answer Jesus received was the same one Abraham implied to Isaac. The sacrifice must be carried out. So, Jesus, too, must choose between disobedience and this obedience. This obedience...in which Jesus also carries the wood up the hill to the place of offering. This obedience...in which Jesus also is laid upon the wood. This obedience...in which hammers are raised over the nails of Jesus' cross just as the knife was raised above Isaac's chest.

THIS is where the stories become very different, because there is no substitute ram to rescue Jesus from this terrible fate. But it's not the end of the story, because God didn't forsake Jesus any more than He forsook Abraham and Isaac. In this obedience, there is provision. In this obedience, we share Christ's victory over the grave. This obedience...in which the broken are made whole, and in which all curses are swallowed up in blessing. This obedience is God's loving gift for you and for all people. Amen.