



# CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

400 Barclay Avenue Forest Hills, PA 15221

412-271-7173      [www.christlutheranfhh.org](http://www.christlutheranfhh.org)

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The Reverend Ronald Breight	Pastor
The Reverend Reholma McCants	Pastor Emeritus
Douglas Skalka	Organist
Cal Eggers	Worship Assistant
Rick Kerns	Lector

Missionaries: The Rev. Dr. Jonathan and Deaconess Cheryl Naumann

Sunday bulletins, news, puzzles, and sermons are available on our website listed above. Video recordings of our weekly services can be viewed on our You Tube channel, *Christ Lutheran Forest Hills Pa*. Services are live-streamed on our Facebook page.

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## The Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 21, 2021

### ORDER OF SERVICE

#### PRELUDE

My Song Is Love Unknown

Robert Hebble

#### RINGING OF THE BELLS/ WELCOME

#### OPENING HYMN (*please rise and sing*)

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Hymnal p. 425

When I survey the wondrous cross  
On which the Prince of Glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss  
And pour contempt on all my pride.

**Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast  
Save in the death of Christ, my God;  
All the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to His blood.**

**See, from His head, His hands, His feet  
Sorrow and love flow mingled down!  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet  
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?**

**Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
That were a tribute far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life, my all!**

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## **INVOCATION**

*The sign of the cross (+) may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism*

**P:** In the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## **CONFESSION<sup>1</sup>**

**P:** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C: who made heaven and earth.**

**P:** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**C: But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

**P:** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

*(We take a moment of silence before the Lord as we call to mind how we have not properly loved Him, ourselves, or other people.)*

**C: Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## **KYRIE**

P: Heavenly Father, Your only begotten Son overcame Satan, sin, and death by His patience and suffering. Help us, we pray, to treasure in our hearts all that our Lord has borne for us that we would be inspired to patiently persevere in true faith unto life everlasting.

**C: *(sung)* Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.**

## **COLLECT**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray.

Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## **FIRST READING**

Jeremiah 31:31–34

L: The first reading for the Fifth Sunday in Lent is from chapter thirty-one of Jeremiah.

*The prophet Jeremiah teaches about God's new covenant.*

*Following the reading...*

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## PSALMODY

### Psalm 119

L: With my whole heart I seek You;

**C: let me not wander from Your commandments!**

L: How can a young man keep his way pure?

**C: By guarding it according to Your Word.**

L: With my whole heart I seek You;

**C: let me not wander from Your commandments!**

L: I have stored up Your Word in my heart,

**C: that I might not sin against You.**

L: Blessèd are you, O Lord;

**C: teach me Your statutes.**

L: With my lips I declare

**C: all the just decrees of Your mouth.**

L: In the way of Your testimonies I delight

**C: as much as in all riches.**

L: I will meditate on Your precepts

**C: and fix my eyes on Your ways.**

L: I will delight in Your statutes;

**C: I will not forget Your Word.**

L: I am a sojourner on the earth;

**C: hide not Your commandments from me!**

**A: 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.**

L: With my whole heart I seek You;

**C: let me not wander from Your commandments!**

## SECOND READING

Hebrews 5:1–10

L: The second reading is from chapter five of Hebrews.

*Jesus is both the priest and the sacrifice.*

*Following the reading...*

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 10:32–45

P: The Holy Gospel is according to St. Mark, chapter ten.

**C: Glory to You, O Lord.**

*In order to be the greatest, we must become the least.*

*Following the reading...*

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

## THE NICENE CREED<sup>2</sup>

**I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and Earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from Heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into Heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.**

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## HYMN OF THE DAY

My Song Is Love Unknown

Hymnal p. 430

My song is love unknown; My Savior's love to me,  
Love to the loveless shown, That they might lovely be.

Oh, who am I, That for my sake  
My Lord should take frail flesh and die?

He came from His blest throne, Salvation to bestow;  
But men made strange, and none The longed-for Christ would know.

But, oh, my friend, my friend indeed,  
Who at my need His life did spend.

Sometimes they strew His way And His sweet praises sing;  
Resounding all the day Hosannas to their King.

Then "Crucify!" is all their breath,  
And for His death they thirst and cry.

Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and spite?  
He made the lame to run, He gave the blind their sight.

Sweet injuries! Yet they at these  
Themselves displease, and 'gainst Him rise.

They rise and needs will have My dear Lord made away;  
A murderer they save, the Prince of Life they slay.

Yet cheerful he to suff'ring goes,  
That He His foes from thence might free.

In life, no house, no home My Lord on earth might have;  
In death, no friendly tomb But what a stranger gave.

What may I say? Heav'n was His home;  
But mine the tomb wherein He lay.

Here might I stay and sing No story so divine!  
Never was love, dear King, Never was grief like Thine.

**This is my friend, in whose sweet praise  
I all my days could gladly spend!**

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**SERMON<sup>3</sup>**

**VERSE**

Hymnal p. 422

**On My Heart Imprint your Image**

**On my heart imprint Your image, Blessed Jesus, King of grace,  
That life's riches, cares, and pleasures Never may Your work erase;  
Let the clear inscription be: Jesus, crucified for me,  
Is my life, my hope's foundation, And my glory and salvation!**

Text and Tune: Public domain

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

P: Let us pray for ourselves, the church, and the world.

*Following each petition:*

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

**C: Amen.**

**THE SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION**

The Lord's Supper (Holy Communion) is being celebrated in today's service. In preparation for that, please be reminded that the bread and wine of the Lord's Supper are not merely representations or symbols of Jesus' body and blood but Jesus' body and blood sacrificed on the cross are present in, with, and under the bread and wine (The Real Presence). How is this possible? This is beyond human understanding, but we remember that with God all things are possible. This truth is a divine mystery instituted by Jesus, taught by his Apostles, fervently held by the Christian church, and one in which we participate through faith. To be properly prepared to receive this sacrament, you must

- 1) Recognize that you have indeed sinned against God and other people and are accountable to God for those sins;
- 2) Be sorry (repentant) for those sins;
- 3) Believe that in this sacrament Jesus bestows forgiveness, life, and salvation; and
- 4) Sincerely desire to live a godly life from this point forward.

If you are not a member of Christ Lutheran Church, please speak with the pastor before receiving communion here for the first time.

**PREFACE**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them up to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

**C: It is meet and right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary....

**SANCTUS** (*sung*)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;  
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.  
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;  
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

P: Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life....

**THE 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.**

**THE WORDS OF OUR LORD****PAX DOMINI**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you in all ways.

**C: Amen.**

## AGNUS DEI(*sung*)

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world away;  
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world away;  
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

## DISTRIBUTION

*Communion will be offered using the "continuous" method. Approach the front using the main isle. Take both your wafer and individual communion cup from the trays in the front. Place the individual cup and liner in the receptacle at the end of the front pew. Return to your pew using the side isle, if possible. Please observe the 6-foot spacing between communicants. You need not have your mask on when you come up for communion.*

## DISTRIBUTION HYMN

**The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord**

Hymnal p. 634

The death of Jesus Christ, our Lord,  
We celebrate with one accord;  
It is our comfort in distress.  
Our heart's sweet joy and happiness.  
He blotted out with His own blood  
The judgment that against us stood;  
For us He full atonement made,  
And all our debt He fully paid.  
That this forever true shall be  
He gives a solemn guarantee:  
In this His holy Supper here

**We taste his blood so sweet, so near.**

**His Word proclaims and we believe**

**That in this Supper we receive**

**His very body as He said,**

**His very blood for sinners shed.**

**We dare not ask how this can be,**

**But simply hold the mystery**

**And trust this word where life begins:**

**“Given and shed for all your sins.”**

**They who this word do not believe**

**This food unworthily receive**

**Salvation here will never find**

**May we this warning keep in mind.**

**But blest is each believing guest**

**Who in these promises finds rest;**

**For Jesus shall in love remain**

**Who all who here His grace obtain.**

**Help us sincerely to believe**

**That we may worthily receive**

**Your Supper and in You find rest**

**Amen! They who believe are blest.**

Text and tune: Public domain

**VOLUNTARY**

**All for Christ I Have Forsaken**

**George Shearing**

**NUNC DIMITTIS**

**Hymnal p. 211**

**O Lord, now let Your servant Depart in heav'nly peace,**

**For I have seen the glory Of Your redeeming grace:**

**A light to lead the Gentiles Unto Your holy hill,**

**The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.**

**All glory to the Father, All glory to the Son,**

**All glory to the Spirit, Forever Three in One;  
For as in the beginning, Is now, shall ever be,  
God's triune name resounding Through all eternity. Amen.**

### **POST-COMMUNION COLLECT**

**P:** Gracious God, our heavenly 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, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### **BENEDICTION**

**P:** Let us bless the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**P:** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and (†) give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

### **CLOSING HYMN**

#### **Sweet the Moments, Rich in Blessing**

**Sweet the moments, rich in blessing, Which before the cross we spend,  
Life and health and peace possessing From the sinners' dying Friend.**

**Here we rest in wonder, viewing All our sins on Jesus laid;  
Here we see redemption flowing From the sacrifice He made.**

**Here we find the dawn of heaven While upon the cross we gaze,  
See our trespasses forgiven, And our songs of triumph raise.**

**Oh, that, near the cross abiding, We may to the Savior cleave,  
Naught with Him our hearts dividing, All for Him content to leave!**

**Lord, in loving contemplation Fix our hearts and eyes on Thee  
Till we taste Thy full salvation And Thine unveiled glory see.**

Text and Tune: Public Domain

**POSTLUDE**

Why Should Cross and Trial Grieve Me

Gilbert M. Martin

<sup>1</sup>*The Lord Jesus breathed on His disciples and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."* John 20:22-23. We take heart that the absolution proclaimed by the pastor is as from the Lord Himself.

<sup>2</sup>*It is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.* Romans 10:10. Our response to the Word of God that has just been read is our confession of faith in the one, true, triune God.

<sup>3</sup>Martin Luther teaches us about hearing the Word: "Know, therefore, that you must be concerned not only about hearing, but also about learning and retaining it in memory, and do not think that it is optional with you or of no great importance, but that it is God's commandment, who will require of you how you have heard, learned, and honored His Word." (Large Catechism) *Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!* Luke 11:28

**OFFERING ANNOUNCEMENT FOR ONLINE VIEWERS**

For those worshipping with us online and those sheltering in place, we encourage you to bring your tithes and offerings to the church office open M-F mornings from 9-12, or mail your check in to church, or for those who bank online, simply instruct your bank to send us a check in the mail.

We all owe God our tithes and offerings and we encourage everyone to continue in the joy that is found in faithful financial stewardship. Thank you.

**HOME COMMUNION:** Christ Lutheran is providing Home Communion Packages with individually wrapped wafers and wine cups. These packages are to be distributed to those who are institutionalized or remain at home on Sundays. Your help getting these packages out is needed. Talk to Pastor if you'd like to help.

*Christ Lutheran Church is a member of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod.*