

St. Stephen Lutheran Church and School

A member of the Church of the Lutheran Confession (cclutheran.org)

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ASH
WEDNESDAY

Lent 2018

“Powerful Words – Powerful Passion”

† Preparation for Worship: Read Psalm 51:1-13 (Lutheran Service Book or Pew Bible) †

Opening Hymn: 440 *Jesus, I Will Ponder Now*

LSB 440

Invocation

We invoke (“call upon”) the name of the one true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

G Amen.

Confession and Absolution

We come before our Holy God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

P Beloved of God: Let us draw near with a true heart, and confess our sins to God our Father, asking Him, in the Name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

C Almighty God, Merciful Father, we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. But we are sorry for our sins and pray that You would be gracious and merciful unto us. Forgive us for Jesus' sake, renew us by Your Spirit, and lead us in the way everlasting. Amen.

P Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. We are forgiven! With boldness and confidence we may approach the throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord!


P O Lord, open my lips,

C And my mouth will declare Your praise!

P Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

C Make haste, to help me, O Lord!

(tune of "The Doxology")

 ***Lord Jesus Christ, You set us free—
Accept our thanks eternally!
Forgiven through Your precious blood,
We now are reconciled to God. Amen.***

Psalm (Responsive) - Psalm 130

P Out of the depths I have cried to You, O LORD!

C Lord, hear my voice!

P Let Your ears be attentive To the voice of my supplications.

C If You, LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?

P But there is forgiveness with You,

C That You may be feared.

P I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,

C And in His word I do hope.

P My soul waits for the Lord More than those who watch for the morning

C Yes, more than those who watch for the morning.

P O Israel, hope in the LORD;

C For with the LORD there is mercy,

P And with Him is abundant redemption.

A And He shall redeem Israel From all his iniquities.

Prayer of the Day

P We pray:

Almighty and everlasting God, You are full of mercy and grace. We pray that You would create in us new and repentant hearts and lives that acknowledge our guilt, turn away from our sins, and turn to Jesus for full and free forgiveness. We pray this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Scripture Reading

THE PASSION HISTORY OF CHRIST - Part 1

(See booklet, *"The Passion History of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to the Four Gospels"*)

L Here ends our Passion History reading.

C All we like sheep have gone astray,
and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.
By his wounds we are healed.

Confession of Faith: 2nd Article of the Apostle's Creed (Luther's Catechism, Sydow p. 87)

C "I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, Our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, 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 sits on the right hand of God, the Father Almighty;
from there He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity,
and also true man, born of the virgin Mary is my Lord.

He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person,
purchased and won me from all sin, from death,
and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver,
but with His holy, precious blood and His innocent suffering and death.

He did this that I should be His very own, live under Him in His kingdom,
and serve Him in eternal righteousness, innocence, and joy;
just as He is risen from death, lives and reigns in eternity.

This is most certainly true!"

Hymn of the Day: 543 *What Wondrous Love is This*

LSB 543

Sermon: Powerful Words – Powerful Passion – “I Am He!”

Text: John 18:4-8 (NKJV)

⁴ Jesus therefore, knowing all things that would come upon Him, went forward and said to them, "Whom are you seeking?" ⁵ They answered Him, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus said to them, "I am *He*." And Judas, who betrayed Him, also stood with them. ⁶ Now when He said to them, "I am *He*," they drew back and fell to the ground. ⁷ Then He asked them again, "Whom are you seeking?" And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth." ⁸ Jesus answered, "I have told you that I am *He*. Therefore, if you seek Me, let these go their way."

Offertory

LSB 956

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new
a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way
from Thy pres - ence; and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it

from me. Re-store un-to me the joy of Thy sal-va-tion;
and up-hold me with Thy free spir-it. A-men.

Public domain

Offering *We offer our gifts to the Lord, remembering that He has first given to us that we might have to give to Him.*

Prayer of the Church / Prayer Requests *We bring our prayers to God.*

Lord's Prayer

LSB 209

Sermon Hymn: 524 *How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sound*

LSB 524

Salutation ("Greeting") and Prayer for Grace

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lord God, all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works come from You. Give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to live by Your Word. Defend us also from the fear of our enemies that we may live in peace and quietness. We pray this through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Benedicamus *Latin: "We bless." We praise our LORD and Savior.*

LSB 202

P Bless we the Lord!

C **Thanks be to God!**

- ☐ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God the Father and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all!



☐ A-men, a-men, a - men.

Closing Hymn: "O Lord, Throughout These Forty Days"

- 1 ***O Lord, throughout these forty days
You prayed and kept the fast;
Inspire repentance for our sin,
And free us from our past.***

- 2 ***You strove with Satan, and You won;
Your faithfulness endured;
Lend us Your nerve, Your skill and trust
In God's eternal Word.***

- 3 ***Though parched and hungry, yet You prayed
And fixed Your mind above;
So teach us to deny ourselves,
Since we have known God's love.***

- 4 ***Be with us through this season, Lord,
And all our earthly days,
That when the final Easter dawns,
We join in heaven's praise.***

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Acknowledgments

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Week: Thursday – **Choir Practice** (Mt. View) – **6:30pm**

This Sunday: **St. Stephen – West** (Mt. View): **Bible Class – 9am**
2/18/18 **Worship w/ communion – 10am**

St. Stephen – East Bay (Hayward): **Worship – 1pm**
Church Council Meeting – 2pm

<p>February Elder & Usher: Nick Hasulak (Elder) & BJ Lillo (Usher)</p>



May our Savior Jesus richly bless your worship and personal meditations on His Word during this season of Lent. Please continue to join us as we remember Christ's suffering and death for our sins in our Sunday morning services.

Please leave the booklets of the Passion History readings on the table in the church entry. We will be using them during the services throughout the season of Lent.
