

SERVICE OF WORD AND PRAYER

Mid-Week Lenten Service

Faith Lutheran Church, ELCA

February 24, 2021, 7:00 PM, Livestream Worship

AT THE NAME OF JESUS

WEEK ONE: CHRIST EMPTIED AND HUMBLED HIMSELF

Prelude

My Faith Looks Up to Thee Dennis Alexander

Gathering Litany

Let us remember Jesus, who, though he was rich, for our sakes became poor and dwelt among us;

Who was content to be the child of a poor family;

Who lived the common life, earning his living with his own hands and declining no humble tasks;

Whom the common people heard gladly, for he understood their ways.

Let us remember Jesus: who was mighty in deed, healing the sick and afflicted, using for others the powers he would not invoke for himself;

Who was master and Lord to his disciples, yet was among them as their companion and as one who served.

Let us remember Jesus: who loved people, yet retired from them to pray, rose a great while before day, watched through the night, stayed in the wilderness, went up into a mountain, sought out a garden;

Who prayed for his tempted disciple, and for the forgiveness of all who rejected him, and for the perfecting of those who received him;

Who observed good customs, but defied conventions that did not serve the purposes of God. Who hated sin because he knew the cost of pride and selfishness, of cruelty and impurity — the cost to humanity and to God.

May this mind be in us which was in Christ Jesus.

Let us remember Jesus: who, when he was reviled, did not retaliate, and when he suffered did not threaten; who emptied himself and carried obedience to the point of death, even death on the cross.

May this mind be in us which was in Christ Jesus.

Let us pray for Christ to dwell within our hearts.

O Christ, our only Savior, so come to dwell in us that we may live with the light of your hope in our eyes, and with your faith and love in our hearts. Amen.

Greeting

The love of God poured into our hearts, the saving grace of Jesus Christ, and the abundant life of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Song

ELW 338 *Beneath the Cross of Jesus*



1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I long to take my stand;
2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus, my eye at times can see
3 I take, O cross, your shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place;



the shad - ow of a might - y rock with - in a wea - ry land,
the ver - y dy - ing form of one who suf - fered there for me.
I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of his face;



a home with-in a wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,
And from my con - trite heart, with tears, two won - ders I con - fess:
con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,



from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat and bur - dens of the day.
the . . . won - der of his glo - rious love and my un - wor - thi - ness.
my . . . sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all, the cross.

First Reading

Isaiah 53:4-9

Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. ⁵But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed. ⁶All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

⁷He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. ⁸By a perversion of justice he was taken away. Who could have imagined his future? For he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people. They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb with the rich, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.

The readings conclude: The word of the Lord *or* Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalmody

Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21

You o - pen wide your hand and sat - is -
fy the de - sire of ev - 'ry liv - ing thing.

- ⁸The LORD is gracious and full | of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.
- ⁹**LORD, you are | good to all,
and your compassion is over | all your works. R**
- ¹⁴The Lord upholds all | those who fall
and lifts up those who | are bowed down.
- ¹⁵**The eyes of all wait upon | you, O LORD,
and you give them their food | in due season.**
- ¹⁶You open | wide your hand
and satisfy the desire of every | living thing.
- ¹⁷**You are righteous in | all your ways
and loving in | all your works. R**
- ¹⁸You are near to all who | call upon you,
to all who call up- | on you faithfully.
- ¹⁹**You fulfill the desire of | those who fear you;
you hear their | cry and save them.**
- ²⁰You watch over all | those who love you,
but all the wicked you | shall destroy.
- ²¹**My mouth shall speak the praise | of the LORD; let all flesh bless God's holy name
forev- | er and ever. R**

Second Reading

Philippians 2:5-11 (NRSV)

⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, ⁷ but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, ⁸ he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Musical Meditation

Beneath the Cross of Jesus Rachel Porter

During the musical offering, you are invited to meditate on these words: *“Let this mind be in you as was in Christ Jesus, who emptied and humbled himself.”*

Prayers of Intercession

In Christ Jesus we meet the God who knows our weakness and bears the wounds of the world. Therefore, let us be bold as we pray, trusting that God draws near to those in any kind of need.

God of our salvation, you humbled and emptied yourself for us. Teach us to have the same mind as yours, that we may faithfully serve your people. God of our salvation, **hear our prayer.**

God of love, hear the cry of those who yearn for love; fractured families, broken homes, neglected, unwanted, alone. God of love, **hear our prayer.**

God of justice, hear the cry of those who yearn for justice; persecuted and oppressed, exploited, ill-treated, broken. God of justice, **hear our prayer.**

God of peace, hear the cry of those who yearn for peace; in battle zones and broken states, frightened, fearful, anxious. God of peace, **hear our prayer.**

God of healing, hear the cry of those who yearn for healing; physical and spiritual, hurting, weakened, depressed. God of healing, **hear our prayer.**

God of mercy, hear the cry of those who yearn for mercy; convicted, in need of your grace, contrite, humble, bowed down. God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of all compassion, gather our prayers in your mercy and grant to us what you know we need, that we may walk in the life and peace of your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our hope and our salvation. **Amen**

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.



Song

ELW 759 *My Faith Looks Up to Thee*

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!

Blessing

Christ Jesus, dwell in our hearts through faith, as we are being rooted and grounded in love, strengthened by the Spirit, and filled with all the fullness of God. **Amen.**

Serving Tonight

Reader	Kevin Lentz
Cantor	Leslie Hughes
Pianist	Kathy Egner
Livestream Operator	Steve Carter

Ministers	All Members of Faith
Parish Administrator	Kathy Egner
Faith Learning Center Director	Charla Heersche
Sexton	Neil McComb

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