



February 21, 2024

The Second Wednesday in Lent

Rev. Ken Bersche

*Janis Lapham, Organist
Maggie Kent, Secretary*

Processional Hymn *Please Stand*

“Renew Me, O Eternal Light”

- ♪ Renew me, O eternal Light, And let my heart and soul be bright,
Illumined with the light of grace That issues from Your holy face.
- ♪ Remove the pow’r of sin from me And cleanse all my impurity
That I may have the strength and will Temptations of the flesh to still.
- ♪ Create in me a new heart, Lord, That gladly I obey Your Word.
Let what You will be my desire, And with new life my soul inspire.
- ♪ Grant that I only You may love And seek those things which are above
Till I behold You face to face, O Light eternal, through Your grace.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 704 -Text: Johann Friedrich Ruopp 1672-1708; tr. August Crull 1845-1923.
Tune: As hymnodus sacer, Leipzig, 1625; Setting: The Lutheran Hymnal 1941; Public Domain.

Opening Sentences *Please Be Seated*

O Lord, open my lips.

And my mouth shall declare Your praise.

Psalm 51:15

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.

Give glory to God, our light and our life.

O come, let us worship Him.

Venite

Psalm 95:1–7

O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.

Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with shouts of praise.

For the Lord is a great God and a great king above all gods.

In His hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are His also.

The sea is His, for He made it; and His hand formed the dry land.

O come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our maker.

For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.

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.

Give glory to God, our light and our life.

O come, let us worship Him.

Office Hymn

“Jesus, Refuge of the Weary”

- ♪ Jesus, refuge of the weary, Blest Redeemer, whom we love,
Fountain in life’s desert dreary, Savior from the world above:
Often have Your eyes, offended, Gazed upon the sinner’s fall;
Yet upon the cross extended, You have borne the pain of all.

♪ Do we pass that cross unheeding, Breathing no repentant vow,
Though we see You wounded, bleeding, See Your thorn-encircled brow?
Yet Your sinless death has brought us Life eternal, peace, and rest;
Only what Your grace has taught us Calms the sinner's deep distress.

♪ Jesus, may our hearts be burning With more fervent love for You;
May our eyes be ever turning To behold Your cross anew
Till in glory, parted never From the blessed Savior's side,
Graven in our hearts forever, Dwell the cross, the Crucified.

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 423 -Text: Girolamo Savonarola 1452-98; tr. James F. Wilde 1826-96;
Tune: Erbaulicher Musicalischer Christen Schatz, Basel 1745; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.*

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 12:1–6

¹²You will say in that day:

“I will give thanks to you, O LORD, for though you were angry with me,
your anger turned away, that you might comfort me.

²“Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid;
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation.”

³With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. ⁴And you will say in that day:

“Give thanks to the LORD, call upon his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples, proclaim that his name is exalted.

⁵“Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be made known in all the earth.

⁶Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion,
for great in your^[e] midst is the Holy One of Israel.”

O Lord,

Have mercy upon us.

The Epistle

Hebrews 2:1–9

¹Therefore we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. ²For since the message declared by angels proved to be reliable, and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, ³how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard, ⁴while God also bore witness by signs and wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.

⁵For it was not to angels that God subjected the world to come, of which we are speaking. ⁶It has been testified somewhere,

“What is man, that you are mindful of him, or the son of man, that you care for him?”

⁷You made him for a little while lower than the angels;
you have crowned him with glory and honor,

⁸putting everything in subjection under his feet.”

Now in putting everything in subjection to him, he left nothing outside his control. At present, we do not yet see everything in subjection to him. ⁹But we see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

O Lord,

Have mercy upon us.

Gradual Hymn

“Jesus, Grant that Balm and Healing” v. 1

♪ Jesus, grant that balm and healing In Your holy wounds I find,
Ev’ry hour that I am feeling Pains of body and of mind.
Should some evil thought within Tempt my treach’rous heart to sin,
Show the peril, and from sinning Keep me from its first beginning.

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 421 -Text: Johann Heermann 1585-1647; Tune Johann Balthasar König 1691-1758;
Setting: The Lutheran Hymnal 1941; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.*

Holy Gospel *Please Stand*

John 18:12–27

¹²So the band of soldiers and their captain and the officers of the Jews arrested Jesus and bound him. ¹³First they led him to Annas, for he was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, who was high priest that year. ¹⁴It was Caiaphas who had advised the Jews that it would be expedient that one man should die for the people.

¹⁵Simon Peter followed Jesus, and so did another disciple. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he entered with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest, ¹⁶but Peter stood outside at the door. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out and spoke to the servant girl who kept watch at the door, and brought Peter in. ¹⁷The servant girl at the door said to Peter, “You also are not one of this man's disciples, are you?” He said, “I am not.” ¹⁸Now the servants and officers had made a charcoal fire, because it was cold, and they were standing and warming themselves. Peter also was with them, standing and warming himself.

¹⁹The high priest then questioned Jesus about his disciples and his teaching. ²⁰Jesus answered him, “I have spoken openly to the world. I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. ²¹Why do you ask me? Ask those who have heard me what I said to them; they know what I said.” ²²When he had said these things, one of the officers standing by struck Jesus with his hand, saying, “Is that how you answer the high priest?” ²³Jesus answered him, “If what I said is wrong, bear witness about the wrong; but if what I said is right, why do you strike me?” ²⁴Annas then sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.

²⁵Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. So they said to him, “You also are not one of his disciples, are you?” He denied it and said, “I am not.” ²⁶One of the servants of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, “Did I not see you in the garden with him?” ²⁷Peter again denied it, and at once a rooster crowed.

O Lord,

Have mercy upon us.

The Hymn *Please Be Seated*

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

♪ 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!

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 425-Text: Isaac Wats 1674-1748;
Tune: Lowell Mason 1792-1872; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.*

Proclamation of the Word

“Two Interrogations”

John 18:12–27

Apostles' Creed *Please Stand*

Prayer

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, You have given to all who believe exceedingly great and precious promises. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may without all doubt trust in Your Son, Jesus Christ, so that our faith in Your sight may never be found wanting; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your Holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord who has taught us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

Benediction

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord lift up His countenance on You and + give You peace.

Numbers 6:24–26

Amen.

Recessional Hymn *Please Be Seated*

“In the Cross of Christ I Glory”

♪ In the cross of Christ I glory, Tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time.

All the light of sacred story Gathers round its head sublime.

♪ When the woes of life o'ertake me, Hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
Never shall the cross forsake me; Lo, it glows with peace and joy.

♪ When the sun of bliss is beaming Light and love upon my way,
From the cross the radiance streaming Adds more luster to the day.

♪ Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure By the cross are sanctified;
Peace is there that knows no measure, Joys that through all time abide.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 427-Text: John Bowring 1792-1872; Tune: Ithamar Conkey 1815-67;
Setting: Service Book and Hymnal 1958; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.

Postlude

Door Offering