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Westminster, MA 01473

Our Savior Lutheran Church

March 24, 2021

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Lent Noon Responsive Prayer.....Hope for Those Humbled

Note: The liturgy is spoken. The offering of tithes and gifts will take place as you come forward for Holy Communion.

THE OPENING VERSICLE

Holy God, holy and most gracious Father,
have mercy and hear us.

THE PSALMODY: PSALM 31:1-10, 14-17a (ANTIPHON v. 19)

Into Your hand I commit my spirit; You have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God.

In you, O LORD, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame; in Your righteousness deliver me!

Incline Your ear to me; rescue me speedily!

Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me!

For You are my rock and my fortress; and for Your name's sake You lead me and guide me;

You take me out of the net they have hidden for me, for You are my refuge.

Into Your hand I commit my spirit; You have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God.

I hate those who pay regard to worthless idols, but I trust in the LORD.

I will rejoice and be glad in Your steadfast love, because You have seen my affliction;

You have known the distress of my soul,

and You have not delivered me into the hand of the enemy;

You have set my feet in a broad place.

Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am in distress; my eye is wasted from grief;

my soul and my body also.

For my life is spent with sorrow, and my years with sighing;

my strength fails because of my iniquity, and my bones waste away.

But I trust in You, O LORD; I say, "You are my God."

My times are in Your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies

and from my persecutors!

Make Your face shine on Your servant; save me in Your steadfast love!

O LORD, let me not be put to shame, for I call upon You.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Into Your hand I commit my spirit; You have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God.

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 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 Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life † everlasting. Amen.

The Reading of God's Word: 1 Peter 4:12–5:14

Response after the reading:

O Lord, have mercy on us.

Thanks be to God.

The Sermon

HYMN – TUNE & TEXT: LSB 731

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| <p>1 O God, forsake me not! Your gracious presence lend me; Lord, lead Your helpless child; Your Holy Spirit send me That I my course may run. O be my light, my lot, My staff, my rock, my shield— O God, forsake me not!</p> | <p>3 O God, forsake me not! Lord, hear my supplication! In ev'ry evil hour Help me resist temptation; And when the prince of hell My conscience seeks to blot, Be then not far from me— O God, forsake me not!</p> |
| <p>2 O God, forsake me not! Take not Your Spirit from me; Do not permit the might Of sin to overcome me. Increase my feeble faith, Which You alone have wrought. O be my strength and pow'r— O God, forsake me not!</p> | <p>4 O God, forsake me not! Lord, I am Yours forever. O keep me strong in faith That I may leave You never. Grant me a blessed end When my good fight is fought; Help me in life and death— O God, forsake me not!</p> |

The Consecration

Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. Amen.

The Holy Communion

> All who receive Holy Communion here must first be instructed. Our pastor will be very glad to instruct you. Please contact the office for an appointment. Those who have not been instructed may come forward with their arms crossed to receive a blessing.

During the distribution, silently pray for your brothers and sisters in Christ present and absent, for those in need, for your own family and friends, and for yourselves. <

THE AFTERNOON LITANY

*Show us Your steadfast love, O Lord,
and grant us Your salvation.*

*Let Your priests be clothed with righteousness;
and let Your saints shout for joy.*

*Lord, keep this nation under Your care,
and guide us in the way of justice and truth.*

*Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for You judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon the earth.*

*Let the peoples praise You, O God;
let all the peoples praise You!*

*For the needy shall not always be forgotten,
and the hope of the poor shall not perish forever.*

*Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.*

*Hear my prayer, O Lord;
let my cry come to You.*

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY AND AFTERNOON COLLECT

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, our Lord. Amen.

Gracious Jesus, our Lord and our God, at this hour You bore our sins in Your own body on the tree so that we, being dead to sin, might live unto righteousness. Have mercy upon us now and at the hour of our death, and grant to us, Your servants, with all others who devoutly remember Your blessed passion, a holy and peaceful life in this world and through Your grace eternal glory in the life to come, where, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, You live and reign, one God, now and forever. Amen.

THE BENEDICAMUS AND BLESSING

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Lord bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

Amen.

Preacher & Celebrant: Rev. Peter Gregory

Organist: Judy Greenlees

Wednesdays in Lent

February 24: 1 Peter 1:1–16 • March 3: 1 Peter 1:13–2:10 • March 10: 1 Peter 2:11–3:7

March 17: 1 Peter 3:8–4:11 • March 24: 1 Peter 4:12–5:14

Midday Service at 12:00 noon and Vespers Services at 7:00 pm, both with Holy Communion.

Bible study begins an hour before service, at 11:00 am and 6:00 pm.