

*Good News from the Beginning:
The Gospel in Genesis*

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
Wednesday, March 5, 2025
11:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH – HAMBURG
Thursday, March 6, 2025
6:30 p.m.

Ash Wednesday
*The Good News of a Savior
Who Covers Our Sin*
Genesis 3:1-13, 21

OPENING HYMN

"In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

LSB #427

1 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.

2 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.

3 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.

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

Text: John Bowring, 1792–1872

Text: Public domain

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.

C 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.

Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation.

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

The wearing of ash in both the Old and New Testament was a sign of repentance. Since Lent is a season of repentance we begin these special worship services with Ash Wednesday. If desired, worshipers may approach the altar to receive the imposition of ashes upon the forehead or on the palm of the hand. You are encouraged to approach the altar down the center aisle, and return down the side aisles. [The pastor shall speak the words, "Dust you are and to dust you shall return." (Genesis 3:19) The worship will continue when all have returned to their places.]

Psalmody

Psalm 51:1–13; antiphon: v. 17

- P** ¹Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy
blot out my transgressions.
- C** ²**Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin!**
- P** ³For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.
- C** ⁴**Against you, you only, have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight,
so that you may be justified in your words
and blameless in your judgment.**
- P** ⁵Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,
and in sin did my mother conceive me.
- C** ⁶**Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being,
and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart.**

P ⁷Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

C ⁸**Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones that you have broken rejoice.**

P ⁹Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my iniquities.

C ¹⁰**Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.**

P ¹¹Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

C ¹²**Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and uphold me with a willing spirit.**

P ¹³Then I will teach transgressors your ways,
and sinners will return to you.

P Blessed be God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy
Spirit.

C **O come, let us worship Him.**

RESPONSIVE HYMN

“Create in Me”

LSB #956

1 **Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence;
and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation;
and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.**

Text: Psalm 51:10–12

Text: Public domain

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION OF SINS

P Let Confess our sins unto the Lord. We Observe a
moment for silent and private confessions of our sins
before God Who knows and searches our hearts.

(Silent Confession)

C Forgive my sins, O Lord—Forgive me the sins of my present and the sins of my past, the sins I have done to please myself and the sins I have done to please others. Forgive me my wanton and idle sins; forgive me my serious and deliberate sins forgive me those sins which I know and those sins which I know not; forgive me the sins which I have labored so to hide from others that I have hid them from my own memory. Forgive them, O Lord; forgive them all. Of Your great mercy let me be absolved, and of Your bountiful goodness let me be delivered from the bonds of all that by my frailty I have committed Grant this, O heavenly Father, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our blessed Lord and Savior. Amen

P Beloved in Christ, our Lord Jesus shed His Almighty Blood of each and every sin in our life. I as called and ordain servant of Christ Jesus forgive all your sins, in the Name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

C Amen! I praise You Almighty Father, Son, and Holy Spirit for the Almighty Gift of Your forgiveness and Salvations. Now dear Lord strengthen me anew to live my life in sincere repentance and walking according to Your Holy Word, in Jesus Name. Amen!

RESPONSIVE HYMN

“Lamb of God”

LSB #550

1 Your only Son, no sin to hide,
But You have sent Him from Your side
To walk upon this guilty sod,
And to become the Lamb of God. *Refrain*

Refrain O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God,
I love the holy Lamb of God!
O wash me in His precious blood,
My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

**2 Your Gift of love they crucified,
They laughed and scorned Him as He died:
The humble King they named a fraud,
And sacrificed the Lamb of God. *Refrain***

Refrain **O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God,
I love the holy Lamb of God!
O wash me in His precious blood,
My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.**

**3 I was so lost, I should have died,
But You have brought me to Your side
To be led by Your staff and rod,
And to be called a lamb of God. *Refrain***

Text: Twila Paris, 1958

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READING

Genesis 3:1–13, 21

P A reading from Genesis, chapter 3.

¹Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made.

He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?’” ²And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’” ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. ⁵For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” ⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

⁸And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid

themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” ¹⁰And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.” ¹¹He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” ¹²The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.” ¹³Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

²¹And the LORD God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

READING

Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21

P A reading from Matthew, chapter 6.

¹[Jesus said:] “Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven.

²“Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ³But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

⁵“And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. ⁶But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. . . .

16“And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. 17But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, 18that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

19“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, 20but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

SERMON HYMN

“Lamb of God, Pure and Holy”

LSB #434

- 1 Lamb of God, pure and holy,
Who on the cross didst suffer,
Ever patient and lowly,
Thyself to scorn didst offer.
All sins Thou borest for us,
Else had despair reigned o’er us:
Have mercy on us, O Jesus! O Jesus!

- 2 Lamb of God, pure and holy,
Who on the cross didst suffer,
Ever patient and lowly,
Thyself to scorn didst offer.
All sins Thou borest for us,
Else had despair reigned o’er us:
Have mercy on us, O Jesus! O Jesus!

- 3 Lamb of God, pure and holy,
Who on the cross didst suffer,
Ever patient and lowly,
Thyself to scorn didst offer.

**All sins Thou borest for us,
Else had despair reigned o'er us:
Thy peace be with us, O Jesus! O Jesus!**

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941; Nicolaus Decius, c. 1485–after 1546

Text: Public domain

SERMON

OFFERING

PRAYERS

KYRIE

**☩ Lord, have mercy;
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy.**

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 SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

☐ Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat;

this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

LSB #621

- 1 Let all mortal flesh keep silence
And with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly-minded,
For with blessing in His hand
Christ our God to earth descending
Comes our homage to demand.**

- 2 King of kings yet born of Mary,
As of old on earth He stood,
Lord of lords in human vesture,
In the body and the blood,
He will give to all the faithful
His own self for heav’nly food.**

- 3 Rank on rank the host of heaven
Spreads its vanguard on the way
As the Light of Light, descending
From the realms of endless day,
Comes the pow’rs of hell to vanquish
As the darkness clears away.**

- 4 At His feet the six-winged seraph,
Cherubim with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the presence
As with ceaseless voice they cry:**

**“Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, Lord Most High!”**

Text: Liturgy of St. James, 5th cent.; tr. Gerard Moultrie, 1829–85, alt.
Text: Public domain

BENEDICAMUS

- P** Let us bless the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

- P** The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

“Abide With Me”

LSB #878

- 1 Abide with me, fast falls the eventide.
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

- 2 I need Thy presence ev’ry passing hour;
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter’s
pow’r?
Who like Thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.

- 3 Come not in terrors, as the King of kings,
But kind and good, with healing in Thy wings;
Tears for all woes, a heart for ev’ry plea.
Come, Friend of sinners, thus abide with me.

- 4 Swift to its close ebbs out life’s little day;
Earth’s joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
Change and decay in all around I see;
O Thou who changest not, abide with me.

- 5 I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy
victory?
I triumph still if Thou abide with me!**
- 6 Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the
skies.
Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain
shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.**

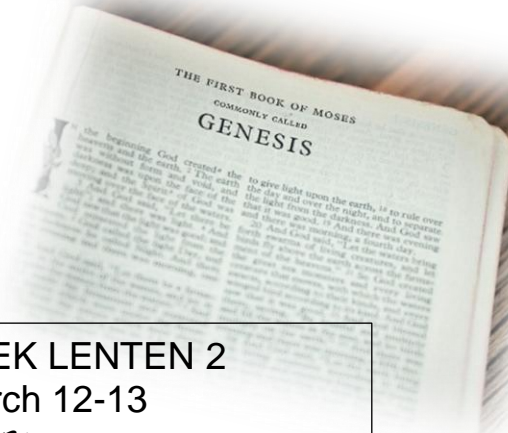
Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847, alt.
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Matins from Lutheran Service Book

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MIDWEEK LENTEN 2

March 12-13

"The Good News of a Savior

Who Conquers Evil

Genesis 3:14-15