

Wednesday, March 13, 2019 + 7:00pm

The 7th Day of Lent

St. Martin's Lutheran Church + Archbold, Ohio

Rev. Paul Reichert

Sunday Worship, 9am + Sunday School, 10:30am

Welcome to Wednesday worship. Our worship themes continue to follow the Daily Bible Readings. If you would like to participate in the daily readings, they are available in the entrance. We will not be receiving an offering in the midst of our Lenten Services. Offering plates will be available in the back of the Sanctuary as you enter and leave worship.

Regular text is spoken by the Worship Leader
Bold text is spoken by the Congregation

PRELUDE

WELCOME

OPENING DIALOGUE

Please Stand

O Lord, I call to you; come to me quickly;

hear my voice when I cry to you.

Let my prayer rise before you as incense,

the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

Set a watch before my mouth, O Lord,

and guard the door of my lips. *(from Psalm 141)*

I lie down and go to sleep;

I wake again, because you sustain me. *(from Psalm 3)*

Hear my prayer, O Lord:

listen to my cry.

Keep me as the apple of your eye;

hide me in the shadow of your wings.

In righteousness I shall see you;

when I awake, your presence will give me joy. *(from Psalm 17)*

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you called light into being, and you set lights in the sky to govern night and day. In a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night you led your people into freedom. Enlighten our darkness by the light of your Christ; may your Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for you are merciful, and you love your whole creation, and with all your creatures we give you glory, through your Son Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

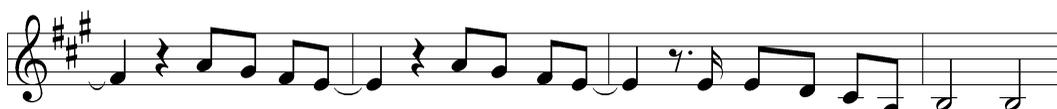
Amen

OPENING HYMN – please sing two times

“SHOUT TO THE LORD”



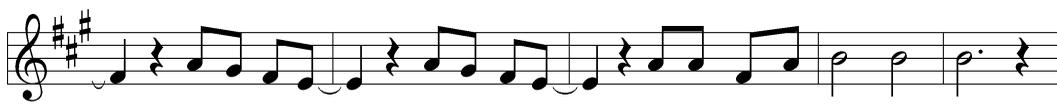
My Je - sus, my Sav - ior, Lord, there is none like you.



All of my days I want to praise the won - ders of your might-y



love. My com - fort, my shel - ter, tow - er of ref - uge and strength;



let ev - 'ry breath, all that I am nev - er cease to wor - ship you.



Shout to the Lord, all the earth; let us sing pow - er and maj - es - ty, praise



to the King. Moun - tains bow down and the seas will roar at the



sound of your name. I sing for joy at the work



of your hands; for - ev - er I'll love you, for - ev - er I'll stand.



Noth - ing com - pares to the prom - ise I have in you.

PRAYER

Gracious and holy God, as we gather for worship this night give us diligence to seek you, wisdom to perceive you, and patience to wait for you. Give us a mind to meditate on you; eyes to behold you; ears to listen for your word; a heart to love you; and a life to proclaim you; all in response to the gift of your Son, our Savior, who died and rose again.

Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

JOSHUA 9

³The people of Gibeon heard what Joshua had done to Jericho and Ai. ⁴So they decided that some of their men should pretend to be messengers to Israel from a faraway country. The men put worn-out bags on their donkeys and found some old wineskins that had cracked. ⁵Their clothes were worn out and they even took along some dry and crumbly bread. ⁶Then they went to the Israelite camp at Gilgal, where they said to Joshua, “We have come from a country that is far from here. Please make a peace treaty with us.”

⁷⁻⁸The Israelites replied, “But maybe you really live near us. We can’t make a peace treaty with you if you live nearby.”

The Gibeonites said, “If you make a peace treaty with us, we will be your servants.”

“Who are you?” Joshua asked. “Where do you come from?”

They answered: ⁹“We are your servants, and we live far from here. We came because the LORD your God is so famous. We heard what the LORD did in Egypt. ¹¹Our leaders and everyone who lives in our country said to ask you to make a peace treaty with our people. ¹²See this dry, crumbly bread of ours? It was hot out of the oven when we packed the food on the day we left our homes. ¹³Our clothes and sandals are worn out because we have traveled so far.”

¹⁴The Israelites tried some of the food, but they did not ask the LORD if he wanted them to make a treaty. ¹⁵So Joshua made a peace treaty with the messengers and promised that Israel would not kill their people. Israel’s leaders swore that Israel would keep this promise.

¹⁶⁻¹⁷A couple of days later, the Israelites found out that these people actually lived in the nearby towns of Gibeon. So, the Israelites left the place where they had camped and arrived at the towns two days later. ¹⁸But they did not attack the towns, because the Israelite leaders had sworn in the name of the LORD that they would let these people live.

The Israelites complained about their leaders' decision not to attack, ¹⁹⁻²¹but the leaders reminded them, “We promised these people in the name of the LORD God of Israel that we would let them live, so we must not harm them. If we break our promise, God will punish us. We’ll let them live, but we’ll make them cut wood and carry water for our people.”

²²Joshua told some of his soldiers, “I want to meet with the Gibeonite leaders. Bring them here.”

When the Gibeonites came, Joshua said, “You live close to us. Why did you lie by claiming you lived far away?”

²⁴The Gibeonites answered, “We were afraid you would kill us, and so we tricked you into making a peace treaty. We agree to be your servants.

²⁶Joshua did not let the Israelites kill the Gibeonites, ²⁷but he did tell the Gibeonites that they would have to be servants of the nation of Israel. They would have to cut firewood and bring it for the priests to use for burning sacrifices on the LORD’s altar, wherever the LORD decided the altar would be. The Gibeonites would also have to carry water for the priests. And that is still the work of the Gibeonites.

In many and various ways God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets.

But in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son. (*Hebrews 1:1*)

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Hebrews 10:19-25

¹⁹Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), ²¹and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²²let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. ²⁴And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

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REFLECTION

“KEEPING PROMISES”

PRAYERS

Beneath the cross of Jesus, we lift up our joys and our concerns to God.

A brief silence to collect our thoughts...

O Lord, amid the shifting sands of this world,

be our rock and our foundation.

In the fears and uncertainties of our lives,

be our home and our resting place.

When we lay our sins before you,

be our comfort and our guide.

As we gaze upon the cross of Christ,

be our hope and our salvation.

Additional prayer petitions may be offered...concluding with...

I give thanks to you, my heavenly Father,

through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have graciously protected me today, and I ask you to forgive me all my sins, where I have done wrong, and graciously to protect me tonight. For into your hands I commend myself: my body, my soul, and all that is mine. Let your holy angel be with me, so that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen *(Martin Luther's Evening Prayer)*

O God our help, our hope, our shelter and our home; hear us as we pray:

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

BENEDICTION - *Based on Galatians 2:19-20*

People of God, you have been crucified with Christ,
and it is no longer you who live, but it is Christ who lives in you.

The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,
keep our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

“Savior Again to Your Dear Name We Raise”

1 Sav - ior, a - gain to your dear name we raise
 2 Grant us your peace up - on our home - ward way;
 3 Grant us your peace, Lord, through the com - ing night;
 4 Grant us your peace through - out our earth - ly life,

with one ac - cord our part - ing hymn of praise;
 with you be - gan, with you shall end the day;
 for us trans - form its dark - ness in - to light.
 our balm in sor - row, and our stay in strife;

once more we bless you ere our wor - ship cease,
 guard all the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
 Keep us from harm and dan - ger till the dawn;
 then, when your voice shall bid our con - flict cease,

then, low - ly bend - ing, wait your word of peace.
 that in this house have called up - on your name.
 your eve - ning pres - ence prom - ise to your own.
 call us, O Lord, to your e - ter - nal peace.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the Good News.

Thanks be to God.

Portions of the various prayers were adapted for local and seasonal use from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* ©2006, Augsburg Fortress Publishers and *Sundays & Seasons* ©2018. Scripture quotations are from the *Contemporary English Version* & *New Revised Standard Version*. *Shout to the Lord* Text and music: Darlene Zschech ©1993 Darlene Zschech/Hillsongs Australia, admin. Integrity Music, Inc.

Wednesday Worship during Lent will continue at 7:00pm through April 17.

Holy Week – as we look ahead to Holy Week, please make plans now to experience the whole of the story by participating in each of the Holy Week services. Evening Prayer will be offered Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday (Apr. 15, 16, 17) at 7pm, Maundy Thursday (Apr. 18) at 7pm and Good Friday (Apr. 19) at 7:30pm. Please note the later time for Good Friday.

Puerto Rico Mission Trip . . . Darren, Jane & Yanira would like to share their mission trip experience with you this Sunday, **March 17th** during “Coffee Hour”. They will have a slide presentation, a time for sharing and answer any questions you may have about the trip.