



1st Sunday in Lent

Jesus Battles in Our Place

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH | Lodi, California

February 21, 2021

Worship Theme

Each of us battles with temptation every day, and the results are too obvious to mention. Christ was no stranger to temptation, either. He battled, yet was without sin...for us and for our eternal righteousness. This message of victory gives us confidence as we journey through the wilderness of sin in true repentance.

Jesus Defeats the Devil – In Lent we see Jesus go to the cross to suffer and die for us. Today's lessons show that when God tests us and the devil tempts us (every day!), Jesus is our holiness before God. He is also our strength, and our example. We do not live on bread alone, Jesus says. We live on God's promises. They come to us in holy baptism, in holy communion, and straight from the Bible, the book in which every word is from the mouth of God.

The Service of the Word and Sacrament

The high and holy worship of God is faith in Jesus Christ. Such faith is created and sustained by God's service to us (the German, "Gottesdienst," "God/Divine Service). In the Divine Service, the Lord comes to us in His Word and Sacrament to bless and enliven us with His gifts. The Service is not something we do for God, but His service to us received in faith. The liturgy is God's work. He gives, we receive.



HYMN

Jesus, Refuge of the Weary | CW 108



1 Je - sus, Ref - uge of the wea - ry, Blest Re - deem - er,
 2 Dare we pass that cross un - heed - ing, Breath - ing no re -
 3 Je - sus, may our hearts be burn - ing With more fer - vent

whom we love, Foun - tain in life's des - ert drea - ry,
 pent - ant vow, As we see you wound - ed, bleed - ing,
 love for you! May our eyes be ev - er turn - ing

Sav - ior from the world a - bove, Oh, how oft your
 See your thorn - en - cir - cled brow? Since your sin - less
 To be - hold your cross a - new, Till in glo - ry,

eyes, of - fend - ed, Gaze up - on a sin - ner's fall! Yet, up -
 death has brought us Life e - ter - nal, peace, and rest, On - ly
 part - ed nev - er From the bless - ed Sav - ior's side, Grav - en

on the cross ex - tend - ed, You en - dured the pain of all.
 what your grace has taught us Calms the sin - ner's deep dis - tress.
 in our hearts for - ev - er, Dwell the cross, the Cru - ci - fied!

Text: Girolamo Savonarola, 1452–98; tr. Jane F. Wilde, 1826–96, alt.

Tune: O DU LIEBE MEINER LIEBE (87 87 D) *Erbaulicher Musicalischer Christen-Schatz*, Basel, 1745, alt.

INVOCATION

M: The grace of our Lord ☩ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

From God's Word we know that wherever God puts His name, there He is to bless. In the Old Testament the temple was the place where God graciously caused His name to be present (1 Kings 8:27-30).

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

ABSOLUTION

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ☩ and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

LORD, HAVE MERCY - *Kyrie*

M: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.



C: Lord, have mer - cy.

M: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.

God has put His name —Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—on us in Holy Baptism. The Divine Service begins with the Invocation, the words spoken over us at our baptisms. Every Divine Service is for the hallowing of the Lord's name, which the Small Catechism reminds us is done "when the Word of God is taught in its truth and purity, and we, as the children of God, also lead holy lives according to it" (Matthew 28:18-20).



C: Christ, have mer - cy.

M: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.



C: Lord, have mer - cy.

M: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:



C: A - men.

M: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

O LORD, OUR LORD



C: O Lord, our Lord, how glo - rious is your name in





all the earth. Al - might - y God, mer - ci - ful Fa - ther,



you crown our life with your love. You take a - way our sin;


you com - fort our spir - it; you make us pure and



ho - ly in your sight. You did not spare your on - ly Son,


but gave him up for us all. O Lord, our Lord,


how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.


O Son of God, e - ter - nal Word of the Fa - ther,

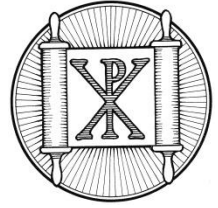

you came to live with us; you made your Fa - ther known;


you washed us from our sins in your own blood. You are the


King of glo - ry; you are the Lord! O Lord, our Lord,


how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.

The Service of the Word



Having just received absolution for their sins, believers now gather around the Word of God to find encouragement and peace for their lives on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: Give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 22:1-18

Just as the ram took Isaac's place, so God the Father offered up his Son in our place. Through him the Lord's blessing has come to all who believe.

22 After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, “Abraham!”

“Here I am,” he answered.

²“Take your son,” he said, “your only son Isaac, whom you love, go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains I will tell you about.”

³So Abraham got up early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took with him two of his young men and his son Isaac. He split wood for a burnt offering and set out to go to the place God had told him about. ⁴On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. ⁵Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey. The boy and I will go over there to worship; then we’ll come back to you.” ⁶Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac. In his hand he took the fire and the knife, and the two of them walked on together.

⁷Then Isaac spoke to his father Abraham and said, “My father.”

And he replied, “Here I am, my son.”

Isaac said, “The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?”

⁸Abraham answered, “God himself will provide^[a] the lamb for the burnt offering, my son.” Then the two of them walked on together.

⁹When they arrived at the place that God had told him about, Abraham built the altar there and arranged the wood. He bound his son Isaac^[b] and placed him on the altar on top of the wood. ¹⁰Then Abraham reached out and took the knife to slaughter his son.

¹¹But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, “Abraham, Abraham!”

He replied, “Here I am.”

¹²Then he said, “Do not lay a hand on the boy or do anything to him. For now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your only son from me.” ¹³Abraham looked up and saw a ram^[c] caught in the thicket by its horns. So Abraham went and took the ram and offered it as a burnt offering in place of his son. ¹⁴And Abraham named that place The LORD Will Provide,^[d] so today it is said, “It will be provided^[d] on the LORD’s mountain.”

¹⁵Then the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven ¹⁶and said, “By myself I have sworn,” this is the LORD’s declaration: “Because you have done this thing and have not withheld your only son, ¹⁷I will indeed bless you and make your offspring as numerous as the stars of the sky and the sand on the seashore. Your offspring will possess the city gates of their^[e] enemies. ¹⁸And all the nations of the earth will be blessed^[d] by your offspring because you have obeyed my command.”

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalms 6

Refrain



Psalms tone



O LORD, do not rebuke me in your anger
or discipline me in your wrath.

Be merciful to me, LORD, for I am faint;

O LORD, heal me, for my souls is in anguish.

Turn, O LORD, and deliver me;
save me because of your unfailing love.

Refrain

I am worn out from groaning.
My eyes grow weak with sorrow.
Away from me, all you who do evil,
for the LORD has heard my weeping.
The LORD has heard my cry for mercy;
the LORD accepts my prayer.

**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.**

Refrain

SECOND LESSON

James 1:12-18

*Trials and temptations are blessings from God? God can use every evil intention of the Devil for our good.
God is the bringer of every good and perfect gift.*

¹² Blessed is the one who endures trials, because when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life that God^[a] has promised to those who love him.

¹³ No one undergoing a trial should say, "I am being tempted by God," since God is not tempted by evil, and he himself doesn't tempt anyone. ¹⁴ But each person is tempted when he is drawn away and enticed by his own evil desire. ¹⁵ Then after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin, and when sin is fully grown, it gives birth to death.

¹⁶ Don't be deceived, my dear brothers and sisters. ¹⁷ Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. ¹⁸ By his own choice, he gave us birth by the word of truth so that we would be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Matthew 4:10b

It is written: “Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.”

THE GOSPEL

Mark 1:9-15

Our King triumphs over Satan's temptations and begins his ministry proclaiming the Good News of the kingdom.

⁹ In those days Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized in the Jordan by John. ¹⁰ As soon as he came up out of the water, he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹ And a voice came from heaven: “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well-pleased.”

¹² Immediately the Spirit drove him into the wilderness. ¹³ He was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and the angels were serving him.

¹⁴ After John was arrested, Jesus went to Galilee, proclaiming the good news^{[a][b]} of God: ¹⁵ “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!”

M This is the Gospel of the Lord.



HYMN OF THE DAY

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God | CW 200



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, A trust - y shield
2 With might of ours can naught be done; Soon were our loss
3 Though dev - ils all the world should fill, All ea - ger to
4 The Word they still shall let re - main, Nor an - y thanks



and weap - on; He helps us free from ev - 'ry need
ef - fect - ed. But for us fights the val - iant one
de - vour us, We trem - ble not, we fear no ill;
have for it; He's by our side up - on the plain



That has us now o'er-tak - en. The old
Whom God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask,
They shall not o - ver - pow'r us. This world's
With his good gifts and Spir - it. And do



e - vil foe Now means dead - ly woe;
"Who is this?" Je - sus Christ it is,
prince may still Scowl fierce as he will,
what they will— Hate, steal, hurt, or kill—



Deep guile and great might Are his dread arms in fight;
The al - might - y Lord. And there's no oth - er God;
He can harm us none. He's judged; the deed is done!
Though all may be gone, Our vic - to - ry is won;



On earth is not his e - qual.
He holds the field for - ev - er.
One lit - tle word can fell him.
The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. composite.
Tune: EIN FESTE BURG (87 87 55 56 7) Martin Luther, 1483–1546.

Having heard the Word of God, we confess our faith in His name. The creed is our saying back to God what He has first said to us. In the Creed we acclaim the truth of the triune God and His work of salvation accomplished for us in His incarnate Son, Jesus Christ.

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,

the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation,

he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and became fully human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance
with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory

to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,

Dt. 6:4

2 Cor. 6:18

Is. 51:13

Col. 1:16

1 Cor 8:6

Jn. 3:16

Heb. 1:2,5

Jn. 1

Jn. 10:30

Jn. 1:3

1 Th. 5:9

Jn. 6:38

Lk. 1:35

Gal. 4:4

Mk. 15:15

1 Cor. 15:3-4a

1 Cor. 15:4b

Ac. 2:33-34

Heb. 1:13

Mt. 25:31

2 Tim. 4:1

Lk. 1:33

Job 33:4

Jn. 15:26

Jn. 4:24

*The Nicene Creed
is the great
Confession of the
Christian faith
professed by
all Christians.
The Creed
originated at the
First Council of
Nicaea (c. AD.
325)*

*The Creed itself
was crafted as a
confession of
Scripture in
opposition to the
Arian heresy,
which denied
that the Lord
Jesus and the
Holy Spirit are
God.*

who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy Christian
and apostolic Church.

2 Pet. 1:25
Mt. 16:18; Eph. 2:19-20

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. Eph. 4:5; Ac. 2:38
We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

1 Cor. 15:21-22
Rev. 22

OFFERING

In response to God's love and forgiveness, we give back a portion of what he has given us. The members of Christ Lutheran Church have joined to proclaim the gospel to this community. These offerings support that work. While our guests are welcome to participate, they should not feel obligated to do so.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Gracious God and Father, we praise you for the countless blessings, which we receive from your hand: the beauties of creation and the bounties of the earth, the joy of life and the pleasure of friendship, the good of work and the gift of rest, the privilege to share happiness and sorrow with one another. Above all we praise and thank you for your saving Word and for your Son's body and blood, which you give us to eat and to drink in the sacrament. Through these means of grace, you send the Holy Spirit into our hearts and unite us to Jesus and to the whole Christian Church on earth.

C: Strengthen us through this heavenly food; increase our trust in Christ and our love for one another.

M: Great God and Lord, without your continuing help we easily waver in our faith, lose courage, and grow careless in our watchfulness. The times and days are perilous. Give us strength to face the evils of each day with fresh confidence. Open our lips to speak of your grace, and move us to use the gifts that you give us to share your Word of salvation with all people. Protect and prosper the family, the school, the government, and all good institutions that you have established for the benefit of society. Remember in mercy those who are sick and suffering, and bring your healing to troubled homes and lives.

C: Move us to pray for those in need and to help them with deeds of kindness.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: Now, eternal God and Father, keep us in the saving faith and so enable us to overcome all things through our Lord Jesus Christ.

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:2-4

**C: 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 Service of the Sacrament

This greeting marks a new service, so to speak. These ancient introductory words & phrases help to highlight, celebrate and bring attention to the Sacrament.

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. *He made his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world. 1 John 2:2.* Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever:



HOLY, HOLY, HOLY – *Sanctus*

C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.

The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

You are my God, and I will ex - alt you.

I will give you thanks, for you have be - come my sal -

va - tion. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.

The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Matthew 26, Mark 14, Luke 22

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat. This is my ☩ body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it all of you; this is my ☩ blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The Words of institution both proclaim the words of Jesus to the congregation and sets apart the bread and wine for the Lord's Supper.

PEACE OF THE LORD – *Pax Domini*

John 20:19

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD – *Agnus Dei*

John 1:29



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



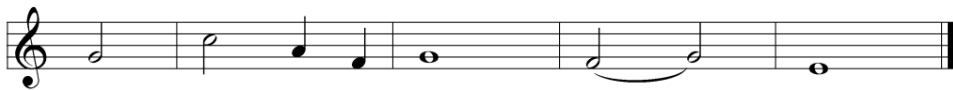
world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; grant us your peace. A - men.

DISTRIBUTION

Those who will be receiving Holy Communion today may wish to read **Personal Preparation for Holy Communion**, found on page 156 in the front section of the hymnal.

This page helps us put into practice what the Bible encourages: “*Everyone ought to examine themselves before they eat of the bread and drink from the cup.*” (1 Corinthians 11:28)

*Christ Lutheran Church confesses and practices the Biblical teaching of a **Close Communion**. We ask that only members of the Wisconsin Synod [WELS] or the Evangelical Lutheran Synod [ELS] join us at the Lord’s Table. If you have questions concerning our communion practice, or would like to inquire about how you, too, can commune with us, please speak with the Pastor following the service.*

Hymn

O Lord, We Praise You | CW 317 (vs. 1)

1 O Lord, we praise you, bless you, and a - dore you, In thanks-
 2 Your ho - ly bod - y in - to death was giv - en, Life to
 3 May God be - stow on us his grace and fa - vor To please

giv - ing bow be - fore you. Here with your bod - y
 win for us in heav - en. No great - er love than
 him with our be - hav - ior And live to - geth - er

and your blood you nour - ish Our weak souls that they may
 this to you could bind us; May this feast of that re -
 here in love and u - nion, Cher - ish - ing our blest com -

flour - ish. O Lord, have mer - cy! May your bod - y,
 mind us! O Lord, have mer - cy! Lord, your love and
 mu - nion. O Lord, have mer - cy! Let not your good

Lord, born of Mar - y, That our sins and sor - rows
 kind - ness did move you; Let your sup - per move us
 Spir - it for - sake us; Grant that heav'n - ly - mind - ed

did car - ry, And your blood for us plead In all
 to love you. All our debt you have paid; Peace with
 he make us. Give your Church, Lord, to see Days of

tri - al, fear, and need: O Lord, have mer - cy!
 God once more is made. O Lord, have mer - cy!
 peace and u - ni - ty. O Lord, have mer - cy!

Text: German folk hymn, 15th century, st. 1; Martin Luther, 1483–1546, st. 2-3; tr. *The Lutheran Hymnal*, St. Louis, 1941, alt.

Tune: GOTT SEI GELOBET UND GEBENEDEIET (PM) *Geistliche gesangk Buchleyn*, Wittenberg, 1524, alt.

M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look on you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

My Faith Looks Up to Thee | **CW 402**



1 My faith looks up to thee, Thou Lamb of
2 May thy rich grace im - part Strength to my
3 While life's dark maze I tread And griefs a -
4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, When death's cold,



Cal - va - ry, Sav - ior di - vine. Now hear me
faint - ing heart; My zeal in - spire! As thou hast
round me spread, Be thou my guide. Bid dark - ness
sul - len stream Shall o'er me roll, Blest Sav - ior,



while I pray; Take all my guilt a - way;
died for me, Oh, may my love to thee
turn to day, Wipe sor - row's tears a - way;
then, in love, Fear and dis - trust re - move;



Oh, let me from this day Be whol - ly thine!
Pure, warm, and change - less be, A liv - ing fire!
Nor let me ev - er stray From thee a - side.
Oh, bear me safe a - bove, A ran - somed soul!

Text: Ray Palmer, 1808–87.

Tune: OLIVET (664 6664) Lowell Mason, 1792–1872, alt.



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