

Lenten Service

March 9, 2022



St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
1764 Meyersville Rd, Meyersville, Texas 77974
361-277-8653
Pastor John Boor
March 9, 2022
Lenten Worship Service 7:00 p.m.

THE PRELUDE
Announcements

HYMN

“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”

LBW #107

**Beneath the cross of Jesus I long to take my stand,
The shadow of a mighty Rock Within a weary land;
A home within the wilderness, A rest upon the way,
From the burning of the noontide heat, And the burden of the day**

**Upon that cross of Jesus My eye at times can see
The very dying form of One, Who suffered there for me;
And from my smitten heart, with tears, Two wonders I confess,
The wonders of His glorious love, And my own worthlessness.**

**I take, O cross, your shadow For my abiding place;
I ask no other sunshine than The sunshine of His face;
Content to let the world go by, To know no gain nor loss,
My sinful self my only shame, My glory all the cross.**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

From the rising of the sun to its setting,
the name of the Lord is to be praised.

Rend your hearts and not your garments.

Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Jesus said, “If any man would come after Me,
let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.”

Christ was wounded for our transgressions.

He was bruised for our iniquities.

From the rising of the sun to its setting,
the name of the Lord is to be praised.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

While we would like to think of ourselves as generous, joyful, and giving, we admit that our lives do not live up to the perfect standard God expects. Still, our heavenly Father invites us to return to Him, confessing our shortcomings and sins.

Heavenly Father, we confess that we have committed sins of greed, jealousy, and selfishness. We have sinned against You in thoughts, words, and actions. Have mercy on us, Lord. Forgive us, renew our generosity, and lead us out of greedy selfishness. Restore to us the joy of Your salvation.

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. . . **Almighty God, You seek not our death or destruction but our life and salvation. Speak Your Word of rescue to our sin-sick hearts and fearful souls. Call us forth from the darkness of our guilt and shame. Bring us into the light of Your presence where Your forgiveness dwells. Restore us to Your people that our wandering ways may end. Direct us to the path Your Son has made that we may walk in it by faith and never depart from its hope. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

Amen.

First Reading: Proverbs 11:24–28

²⁴One gives freely, yet grows all the richer;
another withholds what he should give, and only suffers want.

²⁵Whoever brings blessing will be enriched,
and one who waters will himself be watered.

²⁶The people curse him who holds back grain,
but a blessing is on the head of him who sells it.

²⁷Whoever diligently seeks good seeks favor,
but evil comes to him who searches for it.

²⁸Whoever trusts in his riches will fall,
but the righteous will flourish like a green leaf.

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 9:6-12

⁶The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. ⁷Each one must give as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. ⁹As it is written, “He has distributed freely, He has given to the poor; His righteousness endures forever.” ¹⁰He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. ¹¹You will be enriched in every way for all your generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God. ¹²For the ministry of this service is not only supplying the needs of the saints, but is also overflowing in many thanksgivings to God.

Please stand

HOLY GOSPEL: John 12:1–11

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twelfth chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

¹Six days before the Passover, Jesus therefore came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. ²So they gave a dinner for Him there. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those reclining with Him at the table. ³Mary therefore took a pound of expensive ointment made from pure nard, and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped His feet with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴But Judas Iscariot, one of His disciples (he who was about to betray Him), said, ⁵“Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?” ⁶He said this, not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief, and having charge of the moneybag he used to help himself to what was put into it. ⁷Jesus said, “Leave her alone, so that she may keep it for the day of My burial. ⁸The poor you always have with you, but you do not always have Me.”

⁹When the large crowd of the Jews learned that Jesus was there, they came, not only on account of Him but also to see Lazarus, whom He had raised from the dead. ¹⁰So the chief priests made plans to put Lazarus to death as well, ¹¹because on account of him many of the Jews were going away and believing in Jesus.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

**Lord, whose love in humble service bore the weight of human need,
who upon the cross, forsaken, worked your mercy’s perfect deed:
we, your servants, bring the worship not of voice alone, but heart;
consecrating to your purpose ev’ry gift which you impart.**

**Still your children wander homeless; still the hungry cry for bread;
still the captives long for freedom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
As you, Lord, in deep compassion healed the sick and freed the soul,
by your Spirit send your power to our world to make it whole.**

**As we worship, grant us vision, till your love’s revealing light
in its height and depth and greatness dawns upon our quickened sight,
making known the needs and burdens your compassion bids us bear,
stirring us to ardent service, your abundant life to share.**

APOSTLES’ CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
and born of the Virgin Mary,
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again;
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father,
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers

PRAYER

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your death on the cross, You forgive the sins of all people. Help us to have compassion on others and reflect Your generous love to them, for all people are created in Your image. On our hearts imprint Your image,
blessèd Jesus, King of grace.

Lord, give us the strength to forgive others as You have forgiven us. On our hearts imprint Your image,
blessèd Jesus, King of grace.

Lord, embolden us to be generous with all the good gifts You have given us. Prevent us from any greed or dishonesty that would harm others and be a poor reflection upon You. On our hearts imprint Your image, **blessèd Jesus, King of grace.**

Lord, instill in us a love for the poor that is not rooted in our superiority over them or in some vain hope of making ourselves feel better. Rather, teach us how to love in true humility and service. On our hearts imprint Your image,
blessèd Jesus, King of grace.

Lord, we pray for the leaders of this nation and of all the nations throughout the world, that Your wisdom would be upon them for the health and welfare of all people. On our hearts imprint Your image,
blessèd Jesus, King of grace.

O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; 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 Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, who at this hour gathered with Your disciples, washing their feet and bidding them to serve You and their neighbor, give us the will and desire to serve others in Your name and the courage to serve without fear, that we may learn true humility and godliness by Your example and may so manifest Your saving love to the world; whom with the Father and the Holy Spirit You live and reign, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**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 almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit bless and preserve you.

Amen.

Hymn

“The Old Rugged Cross” (Verse 1 & 2)

**On a hill far away stood an Old Rugged Cross
The emblem of suffering and shame
And I love that old cross where the dearest and best
For a world of lost sinners was slain**

**So I'll cherish the Old Rugged Cross
Till my trophies at last I lay down
And I will cling to the Old Rugged Cross
And exchange it some day for a crown**

**To the Old Rugged Cross, I will ever be true
It's shame and reproach, gladly bear
Then He'll call me some day to my home far away
Where His glory forever I'll share**

**And I'll cherish the Old Rugged Cross
Till my trophies at last I lay down
And I will cling to the Old Rugged Cross
And exchange it some day for a crown**

(The congregation leaves in silence)