

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Lenten Services Every Wednesday night till Passion Week (7 PM)
- The Butter Braids sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. Or, you may sign up online: Go to mybslc.org and look under the "Posts" tab for Butter Braids. Click on the link. At the top of the screen is a button that says: "Change Seller." You are able to make your order go toward any of those listed on the page. The YOUTH appreciate your support!

OPENING HYMN No. 418 "O Lord, throughout These Forty Days (vss. 1 & 4)

**O Lord throughout these forty days You prayed and kept the fast;
Inspire repentance for our sin, And free us from our past.**

**Be with us through this season, Lord, And all our earthly days,
That when the final Easter dawns, We join in heaven's praise.**

INVOCATION

**P: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C: Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES *Mark 14:38; 1 Peter 5:8; 1 Corinthians 10:12–13*

**P: Jesus said, "Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."
C: Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.
P: Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man.
C: God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Romans 6:20, 22–23, adapted; Mark 1:15*

**P: God's Word reminds us that when we were slaves of sin, we were free in regard to righteousness.
C: But now that we have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit we get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life.
P: For the wages of sin is death,
C: but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.
P: Let us confess our sins to God, who has brought us out of slavery and promises to lead us to the promised land of heaven. (*A moment for silent confession.*)**

P: Heavenly Father, we know we are blessed when we remain steadfast under trial, yet we fall prey to the devil's schemes and give in to temptation. We are lured and enticed by our own evil desires—desires that contradict your good and gracious will.

C: For Jesus' sake, forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P: As Jesus began His ministry, He said, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel." As you have repented of your sins, believe these words as if Jesus was standing here speaking them to you: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE

SONG OF PRAISE "On Eagle's Wings" W&M by Michael Joncas
c. 1979 North American Liturgy Resources CCLI # 691913

**You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,
Who abide in His shadow for life
Say to the Lord, "My Refuge, my Rock in whom I trust.**

Refrain: And He will raise you up on eagle's wings
Bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun,
And hold you in the palm of His hand.

**The snare of the fowler will never capture you,
And famine will bring you no fear
Under His wings your refuge,
His faithfulness your shield. (Refrain)**

**You need not fear the terror of the night,
Nor the arrow that flies by day;
Though thousands fall about you,
Near you it shall not come. (Refrain)**

**For to His angels He's given a command
To guard you in all of your ways;
Upon their hands they will bear you up,
Lest you dash your foot upon a stone. (Refrain)**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the Promised Land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Genesis 22:1–18* (God tested Abraham.)

After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.” So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you.” And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. And Isaac said to his father Abraham, “My father!” And he said, “Here I am, my son.” He said, “Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” Abraham said, “God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So they went both of them together.

When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” He said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.” And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called the name of that place, “The LORD will provide”; as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided.”

And the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven and said, “By myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice.” So Abraham returned to his young men, and they arose and went together to Beersheba. And Abraham lived at Beersheba.

L: This is the Word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE*James 1:12–18***(The path temptation treads)**

Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

VERSE*Ephesians 6:10-11*

P: Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might.

C: Put on the whole armor of God,
that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

HOLY GOSPEL*Mark 1:9–15* **(Jesus is baptized and sent to be tempted.)**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. And he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. And he was with the wild animals, and the angels were ministering to him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN No. 424 "O Christ, You Walked the Road"

O Christ, You walked the road
Our wand'ring feet must go.
You faced with us temptation's pow'r
And fought our ancient foe.

No bread of earth alone
Can fill our hung'ring hearts.
Lord, help us seek Your living Word,
The food Your grace imparts.

No blinding sign we ask,
No wonder from above.
Lord, help us place our trust alone
In Your unswerving love.

When lures of easy gain
With promise brightly shine,
Lord, help us seek Your kingdom first;
Our wills with Yours align.

O Christ, You walked the road
Our wand'ring feet must go.
Stay with us through temptation's hour
To fight our ancient foe.

SERMON "Tempting Trials" James 1:12-18

CATECHISM *The Sixth Petition and Explanation*

P: And lead us not into temptation. What does this mean?

C: God tempts no one. We pray in this petition that God would guard and keep us so that the devil, the world, and our sinful nature may not deceive us or mislead us into false belief, despair, and other great shame and vice. Although we are attacked by these things, we pray that we may finally overcome them and win the victory.

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH *Psalm 25:4–6, adapted*

P: Friends in Christ, I urge you to lift up your souls to our God in whom we trust, as Christ, our Lord, promises to hear us.

Lord Jesus, You are the Lord of the Church. Help us to be strong in the face of temptation. Teach us not only to see Satan's traps but teach us to see our own weaknesses in the light of those temptations. Help us to encourage one another and to speak truth in love when we need it most that we may win our small battles confident that You have won for us the ultimate victory over Satan and the our sinful nature.

C: Bless the work of our congregation and all who bear Your name.

P: Remember Your mercy, O LORD,

C: and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

P: Lord Jesus, the government is on Your shoulders.

C: Watch over all in this world. Guide the world's leaders with Your wisdom, as well as our elected officials—our president, our governor, and our local authorities—that we may live peaceful and quiet lives.

P: Remember Your mercy, O LORD,

C: and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

P: Lord Jesus, You are our Teacher.

C: Make us to know Your ways, O LORD; teach us Your paths. Lead us in Your truth and teach us, for You are the God of our salvation; for You we wait all the day long.

P: Remember Your mercy, O LORD,

C: and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

P: Lord Jesus, You are the God of our salvation.

C: Guide us, Lord, in living lives that bear witness to Your truth. Lead us to connect with those who are wandering or who do not know You.

P: Remember Your mercy, O LORD,

C: and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

P: Lord Jesus, because You are the Great Physician, we lift to Your throne of grace all those in need of healing TODAY...

Bind up, O Lord, the despairing, give sight to the blind, make the lame to walk and the deaf to hear.

P: Remember Your mercy, O LORD,

C: and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

P: Lord Jesus, this week we celebrate this week the birthdays of Nancy Schmidt, Reeva Alvarado, Jill Kinsella, Samuel Calzada, Nate Berens, Lorene Lurtz, Margene Jerrolds and

Jackson Husemann and we pray for blessings and joy over each one of them. You knew everything about them even before their birth and You have a plan of prosperity and hope for their lives! Let them feel confident and ready for the year ahead knowing that You have an order to their steps and a purpose for their lives. Help them to find joy in every circumstance in life, knowing that You work all things out for good.

P: Remember Your mercy, O LORD,
C: and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

P: Into Your hands, Lord Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your great mercy to hear and answer us.
C: Amen.

✘ SACRAMENT ✘

PREFACE

P: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.
C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P: Blessed are You, O Lord our God. We thank You for Your faithfulness and the forgiveness You offer us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully receive the fruits of His cross and the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood, given and shed for us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C: Amen.

SANCTUS (pg 161 – LSB)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of power and might
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!**

LORD'S PRAYER

(Matthew 6:9-13)

Remember us in Your kingdom Lord, and teach us to pray, saying:

All: 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.

SELF-REFLECTION

P: What makes us worthy and prepared to receive this life-giving meal from our Lord? If you can answer the 5 following questions affirmatively, be assured that you are truly worthy and prepared.

1. Are you baptized in the name of the Triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit?
2. Do you know you are a sinner in need of God's grace?
3. Do you believe Jesus died to atone for your sins?
4. Do you believe that God offers His forgiveness through the "real" presence of Jesus, in, with, and under the elements of bread and wine?
5. Do you seek to amend your sinful life?

P: Come to the table of the Lord,
you who have much faith and you who would like to have more;
you who have been to this sacrament often
and you who have not been for a long time;
you who have tried to follow Jesus and you who have failed.
Come, it is Christ who invites us to meet him here.

Jesus says to one and all,
'I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will never be hungry,
and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.' *(John 6:35)*

P: Merciful Lord,

C: we do not presume to come to this Your table, trusting in our own righteousness, but in Your manifold and great mercies.
We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under Your table.
But You are the same Lord whose nature is always to have mercy.

Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ and to drink His blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed, through His most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in Him, and He in us. Amen.

AGNUS DEI (*p. 180 in hymnal*)

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world,
Grant us peace, grant us peace.**

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

**P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C: And also with you.**

WORDS OF OUR LORD

P: With the very words of Christ we consecrate and partake of this sacred meal.

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."

P: Let us eat together the body of Christ.

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."

**P: Let us drink together from the cup of salvation,
the blood of Christ shed for our sins.**

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P: Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, we thank You for pouring out Your body and blood and serving it to us in this Meal in bread and wine. In Your mercy, strengthen and lead us as we face temptations and testing in this life on our way to the life to come, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BLESSING OF THE LORD

James 6:12

P: Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love Him.

The almighty and merciful Lord—the Father, the ✕ Son, and the Holy Spirit—bless and preserve you.

C: Amen.

HYMN No. 657 “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

A mighty fortress is our God,
A sword and shield victorious;
He breaks the cruel oppressor’s rod
And wins salvation glorious.
The old satanic foe
Has sworn to work us woe.
With craft and dreadful might
He arms himself to fight.
On earth he has no equal.

No strength of ours can match his might.
We would be lost, rejected.
But now a champion comes to fight,
Whom God Himself elected.
You ask who this may be?
The Lord of hosts is He,
Christ Jesus mighty Lord,
God’s only Son, adored.
He holds the field victorious.

Though hordes of devils fill the land
All threat’ning to devour us,
We tremble not, unmoved we stand;
They cannot overpower us.
Let this world’s tyrant rage;
In battle we’ll engage.
His might is doomed to fail;
God’s judgment must prevail!
One little word subdues him.

**God's Word forever shall abide,
No thanks to foes, who fear it;
For God Himself fights by our side
With weapons of the Spirit.
Were they to take our house,
Goods, honor, child, or spouse,
Though life be wrenched away,
They cannot win the day.
The Kingdom's ours forever!**

SENDING

P: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

C: Thanks be to God!