

BACK TO BASICS

*Midweek Lenten
Services Around
the Catechism*



March 29, 2023
Holy Communion

FAITH . DISCIPLESHIP . COMMUNITY
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
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Bel Air, Maryland 21014
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The Rev. Alejandro Mejia, Interim Pastor
The Rev. William Gohl, Interim Associate Pastor

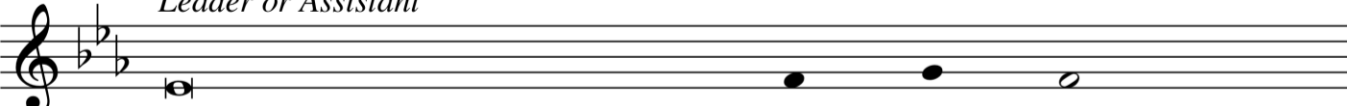
Lent has traditionally been a time of repentance and renewal. In our Lenten observance on these Wednesday evenings, we will concentrate on five great themes of Luther's Small Catechism for our lessons and sermons. Our service order will be centered around the Ten Commandments as our guide and light to a life in loving response to the Gospel of our Lord.

P = Presiding Minister A = Assisting Minister C = Congregation

Prelude

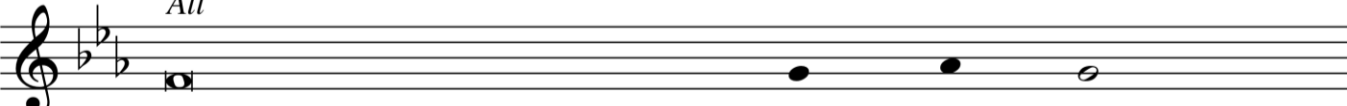
Evening Prayer

Leader or Assistant



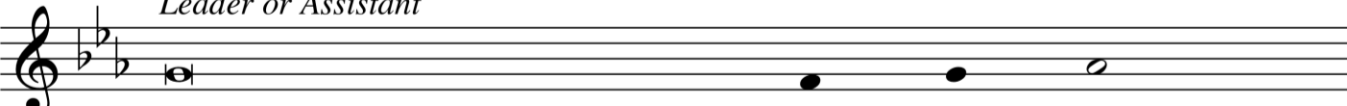
Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world,

All




the light no darkness can o - ver - come.

Leader or Assistant




Stay with us now, for it is evening,

All *Leader or Assistant*



and the day is al - most over. Let your light scat - ter the darkness,

All



and shine within your peo-ple here.

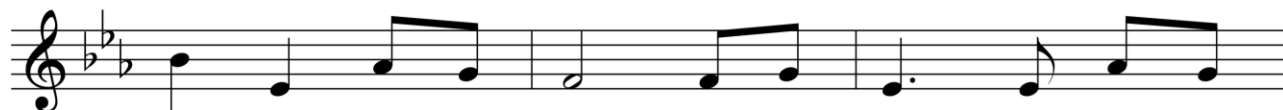
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Hymn of Light

All



1. Joy - ous light of heav'n - ly glo - ry, lov - ing
2. In the stars that grace the dark - ness, in the
3. You who made the heav-en's splen - dor, ev - 'ry



glow of God's own face, you who sing cre - a - tion's
blaz - ing sun of dawn, in the light of peace and
danc - ing star of night, make us shine with gen - tle



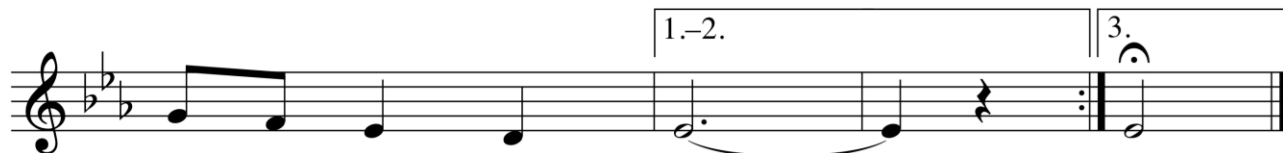
sto - ry, shine on ev - 'ry land and race. Now as
wis - dom, we can hear your qui - et song. Love that
jus - tice, let us each re - flect your light. Might - y



eve - ning falls a - round us, we shall raise our songs to
fills the night with won - der, love that warms the wea - ry
God of all cre - a - tion, gen - tle Christ who lights our



you. God of day - break, God of shad - ows, come and
soul, love that bursts all chains a - sun - der, set us
way, lov - ing Spir - it of sal - va - tion, lead us



light our hearts a - new.
free and make us whole.
on to end - less day.

Prayer

A *Come and let us walk in the light of the Lord! God will teach us of faithful ways,*

C **We will walk in the paths of the Lord!**

A *Show your servants your works, O Lord;*

C **And their children your glory.**

A *Let your merciful kindness be upon us,*

C **As we put our trust in you.**

A *Not to us, O Lord, not to us,*

C **But to your name be the praise.**

A *Lord, hear our prayer,*

C **And let our cry come to you.**

Exhortation

P *Friends in Christ, we are created to experience joy in communion with God, to love one another, and to live in harmony with creation. But our sinful rebellion separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, so that we do not enjoy the life our creator intended. As disciples of the Lord Jesus, we are called to struggle against everything that leads us away from love of God and neighbor. Repentance, fasting, prayer, and works of love --the discipline of Lent -- help us to wage our spiritual warfare. Let us therefore turn to the Word of God this night. For the Word of God contains the Law and the Gospel and is the light before our eyes. The Gospel is God's gracious promise to us as his beloved children. It shows us all that He has done for us, in Israel and in Jesus Christ, for the forgiveness of sins and for newness of life. Christ makes us his own and heirs of his kingdom. The Law, on the other hand, represents what God expects of us in the response of our lives as we live in loving service to his will.*

C **The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart. The commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to our eyes.**

The Decalogue

A *God spoke these words, and said: I am the Lord your God. You shall have no other gods,*

C **Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this commandment.**

P *You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.*

C **Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this commandment.**

A *Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.*

C **Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this commandment.**

P *Honor your father and mother.*

C **Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this commandment.**

A *You shall not kill.*

C **Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this commandment.**

P *You shall not commit adultery.*

C **Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this commandment.**

A *You shall not steal.*

C **Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this commandment.**

P *You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.*

C **Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this commandment.**

A *You shall not covet.*

C **Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this commandment.**

The Law of Love

- P** *Jesus summarized the Decalogue into two great commandments: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And the second is like it; You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets."*
- C** **The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart. The commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to our eyes. Amen.**

Lesson

1 Corinthians 10:16-17

- A** *A reading from first Corinthians. ¹⁶The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a sharing in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a sharing in the body of Christ? ¹⁷Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.*
- A** *The word of the Lord.*
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel

John 6:48-58

- P** *The Holy Gospel according to John the sixth chapter.*
- C** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

⁴⁸I am the bread of life. ⁴⁹Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. ⁵⁰This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. ⁵¹I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

⁵²The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" ⁵³So Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; ⁵⁵for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. ⁵⁶Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever."

P *The Gospel of the Lord.*
C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Meditation

The Rev. Bill Gohl

Please stand, as you are able.



1 What feast of love is of - fered here, what ban-quet come from heav - en?
 2 What light of truth is of - fered here, what cov - e - nant from heav - en?
 3 What wine of love is of - fered here, what crim-son drink from heav - en?



What food of ev - er - last-ing life, what gra - cious gift is giv - en?
 What hope of ev - er - last-ing life, what won-drous word is giv - en?
 What stream of ev - er - last-ing life, what pre - cious blood is giv - en?



This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav - en.
 This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heav - en.
 This, this is Christ the king, the sweet - est wine of heav - en.



Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the man - na giv - en!
 Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is giv - en!
 Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is giv - en!

During the hymn, the offerings will be presented and the Table prepared

A *Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.*

A brief silence.

After each portion of the prayers:

A *Merciful God,*

C **receive our prayer.**

The prayers conclude:

P *We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior.*

C **Amen.**

P *The peace of Christ be with you always.*

C **And also with you.**

After sharing the peace, please remain standing.

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 our thanks and praise.**

P *Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.*

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Send now your Holy Spirit upon these gifts and into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in this holy supper. All honor and glory is yours, almighty God, in the church, forever and ever.

C **Amen.**

P *Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:*
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.**

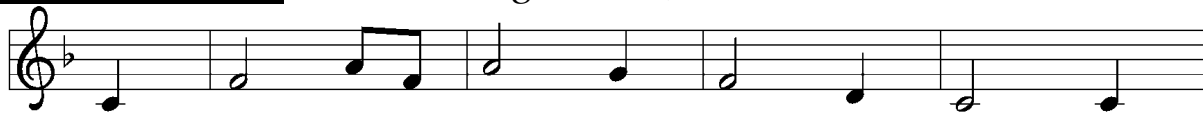
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

P *The Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world.*
C **Thanks be to God.**

Please be seated.

*We welcome to the table all who proclaim Jesus is truly present in the bread and the wine.
 (Note: should you prefer, we also offer gluten free wafers and grape juice.)*

Communion Hymn *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound* No. 779



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found; was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

After all have communed, please stand, as you are able.

P *The body of our Lord Jesus Christ, and his precious blood, strengthen us and keep us together in grace.*

C **Amen.**

A *Let us pray. Lord, we thank you that you have taught us what you would have us believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit, for the sake of Jesus Christ, to keep your Word in pure hearts, that we may be strengthened in faith, perfected in holiness, and comforted in life and in death.*

C **Amen.**

P *Our almighty and merciful God: Father, + the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us now and forever*

C **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

For the Bread Which You Have Broken

No. 494



- 1 For the bread which you have bro - ken, for the wine which you have poured,
- 2 By this prom - ise that you love us, by your gift of peace re - stored,
- 3 With the saints who now a - dore you, seat-ed at the heav'n - ly board,
- 4 In your ser - vice, Lord, de - fend us; in our hearts keep watch and ward;



for the words which you have spo - ken, now we give you thanks, O Lord.
by your call to heav'n a - bove us, hal - low all our lives, O Lord.
may the church still wait - ing for you keep love's tie un - bro - ken, Lord.
in the world to which you send us let your king - dom come, O Lord.

A *Let us bless the Lord.*

C **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

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Livestream

Marcy Starbuck