



JUDICA ("JUDGE ME")
FIFTH SUNDAY IN HOLY
LENT & THE SUNDAY OF
THE PASSION
FEAST OF THE
ANNUNCIATION OF THE
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
(MARCH 25)

Concordia Evangelical Lutheran Church
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WELCOME IN THE NAME OF OUR BLESSED LORD! We are pleased you are here, gathered around the Gospel in Preaching and the Sacraments! **GUESTS** – If we can assist you in any way with questions about our confession of faith, spiritual struggles, understanding our liturgical service, or any other need, please let us know. It is our prayer that the Gospel of Jesus Christ will strengthen and comfort you.

CONFESSIOINAL STATEMENT: Concordia Lutheran Church confesses all the Holy Scriptures, the Old and New Testaments, to be the inspired word of God without any errors. We also hold, without any reservation, to the teachings of the Evangelical-Lutheran Confessions contained in the 1580 Book of Concord. We confess these teachings to be the correct interpretation of Scripture and a true explanation of the one, holy, catholic (universal) and apostolic faith.

MARCH 26, 2023 † 9:00 A. M.

† In the Name of Jesus †

Prayer before Worship: Almighty and most Merciful God, You have appointed us to endure sufferings and death with our Lord Jesus Christ, before we enter with Him into eternal glory: grant us grace at all times to subject ourselves to Your holy will, and to continue steadfast in the true faith unto the end of our lives, and at all times to find peace and joy in the blessed hope of the resurrection of the dead, and of the glory of the world to come, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.

The Divine Service: Rite Two
Evangelical Lutheran Hymnary: p. 60

The Office of Preparation
(Confession & Declaration of Grace)

Hymn of Invocation: 412, *Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain*

**C: Come to Calv'ry's holy mountain, Sinners, ruined by the fall;
 Here a pure and healing fountain Flows to you, to me, to all,
 In a full, perpetual tide, Opened when our Savior died.**

**Come in poverty and meanness, Come defiled, without, within;
From infection and uncleanness, From the leprosy of sin,
Wash your robes and make them white; Ye shall walk with God in light.**

**Come in sorrow and contrition, Wounded paralyzed and blind;
Here the guilty, free remission, Here the troubled, peace may find.
Health this fountain will restore; He that drinks shall thirst no more.**

**He that drinks shall live forever; 'Tis a soul-renewing flood.
God is faithful; God will never Break His covenant of blood,
Signed when our Redeemer died, Sealed when He was glorified.**

*At the Invocation all **may** make the sign of the †
in remembrance of their Baptism.*

The Invocation: p. 60-61

P: In the Name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

The Confession of Sin (form II): pp. 60-62

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God, our Father, beseech Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C: Who made heaven and earth.

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions to the Lord;

C: And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

P: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Therefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: O most merciful God, You have given Your only-begotten Son to die for us; have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You, and of Your will, and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

P: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only-begotten Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To all who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God, and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptized shall be saved.

C: Grant this unto us, O Lord. Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

Introit

Tone 3



Antiphon (**Pastor**) Judge `me, O *God*:/ And plead my cause against an un`godly nation.
Oh, deliver me from the deceitful `and unjust man:/ For You are the `God of my strength;
Psalm (**All**) Oh, send out Your `light and Your truth:/ Let them lead me; let them bring
me to `Your holy hill.

Then I will go to the `altar of God:/ to God my `exceeding joy.
Why are you cast `down, O my soul?:/ And why are you disquiet`ed within me?
Hope in God; for I `shall yet praise Him:/ the help of my counte`nance and my God.

The Gloria Patri is silent from now until Easter.

Antiphon (**All**) Judge `me, O *God*:/ And plead my cause against an un`godly nation.
Oh, deliver me from the deceitful `and unjust man:/ For You are the `God of my strength;

The Kyrie Eleison (form II): p. 63-64

C: Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.
Christe eleison. Christe eleison. Christe eleison.
Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.

The Salutation: p. 66

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And with your spirit.

Collect for the Day: p. 66

P: We beseech You, Almighty God, mercifully to look upon Your people, that by Your great goodness they may be governed and preserved evermore in both body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Collects for the Feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

P: We beseech You, O Lord, pour forth Your grace into our hearts; that, as we have known the incarnation of Your Son, Jesus Christ, by the message of the angel, so by His cross and Passion we may be brought into the glory of His resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

P: O Almighty God, of Your great mercy You caused Your Son to be conceived by the Holy Spirit, and to become incarnate of the blessed Virgin Mary according to the angel's annunciation: Grant us by Your grace, that our sinful conception may be purified by His holy conception; through the same, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Old Testament: *Genesis 22:1-14*

P: Now it came to pass *in those days* that God tested Abraham, and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." Then He said, "Take now 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 and saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son; and he split the wood for the burnt offering, and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. Then on the third day Abraham lifted his eyes and saw the place afar off. And Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the lad and I will go yonder and worship, and we will come back to you." So Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife, and the two of them went together. But Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." Then he said, "Look, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" And Abraham said, "My son, God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering." So the two of them went together. Then they came to the place of which God had told him. And Abraham built an altar there and placed the wood in order; and he bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, upon the wood. And Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. But the Angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" So he said, "Here I am." And He said, "Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me." Then Abraham lifted his eyes and looked, and there behind him was a ram caught in a thicket by its horns. So Abraham went and took the ram, and offered it up for a burnt offering instead of his son. And Abraham called the name of the place, The-LORD-Will-Provide; as it is said to this day, "In the Mount of The LORD it shall be provided.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gradual (All)

Tone 3



Deliver me, O Lord, from `my enemies:/ teach me `to do Your will.

He delivers me from `my enemies:/ You also lift me up above those who `rise against me;

You have `delivered me:/ from the `violent man.

Hymn: 272, O Sinner, Come, Thy Sin to Mourn

C: O sinner, come thy sin to mourn So vast and vile that it has borne

Christ to this vale of anguish;

Son of a Virgin, sweet and mild In poverty the Holy Child,

Thy Substitute, did languish;

Behold, with faith, God's only Son! Come nigh and see what Love has done

To save thee from damnation;

The Father cast on Him thy guilt, For thee His precious blood was spilt,

To bless thee with salvation.

O meditate, how painfully The lamb of God, on Calvary

Has died for thy transgressions;

How dreary was that awful night Of agony, how great the fight

Of His most wondrous Passion!

O Son of God, eternal Word, Divine Redeemer, dearest Lord,

We marvel at Thy suffering;

For Thy disgrace, and pain, and shame, We'll ever magnify Thy name,

And praise Thy glorious off'ring.

Epistle: Hebrews 9:11-15

P: Brethren: Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation. Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh, how much more shall the

blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Tract replaces the Alleluia Verse until Easter

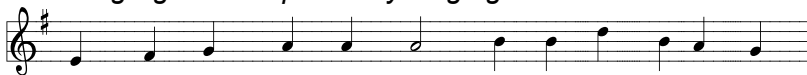
P: “Many a time they have afflicted me from my youth: Let Israel now say:

“Many a time they have afflicted me from my youth: Yet they have not prevailed against me.

The plowers plowed on my back: They made their furrows long.”

The Lord is righteous: He has cut in pieces the cords of the wicked.

The congregation responds by singing:



Christ has hum-bled Him-self, and be-come o-be-dient



un-to death; ev’n the death of the Cross.

Holy Gospel: St. John 8:42-59

P: The Holy Gospel according to † St. John, the 8th chapter:

C: Glory be to You, O Lord.

P: *At that time Jesus said to the Jews:* “If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and came from God; nor have I come of Myself, but He sent Me. Why do you not understand My speech? Because you are not able to listen to My word. You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it. But because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me. Which of you convicts Me of sin? And if I tell the truth, why do you not believe Me? He who is of God hears God's words; therefore you do not hear, because you are not of God.” Then the Jews answered and said to Him, “Do we not say rightly that You are a Samaritan and have a demon?” Jesus answered, “I do not have a demon; but I honor My Father, and you dishonor Me. And I do not seek My own glory; there

is One who seeks and judges. Most assuredly, I say to you, if anyone keeps My word he shall never see death.” Then the Jews said to Him, “Now we know that You have a demon! Abraham is dead, and the prophets; and You say, ‘If anyone keeps My word he shall never taste death.’ Are You greater than our father Abraham, who is dead? And the prophets are dead. Whom do You make Yourself out to be?” Jesus answered, “If I honor Myself, My honor is nothing. It is My Father who honors Me, of whom you say that He is your God. Yet you have not known Him, but I know Him. And if I say, ‘I do not know Him,’ I shall be a liar like you; but I do know Him and keep His word. Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad. Then the Jews said to Him, “You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?” Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.” Then they took up stones to throw at Him; but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by.

P: This is the † Holy Gospel.

C: Praise be to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed: pp. 68-69

P: Let us confess our holy faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed:

C: I believe in God the Father Almighty,

Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ,

His only Son, our Lord;

Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the Virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified,

died and was buried.

He descended into hell;

The third day He rose again from the dead;

He ascended into heavenly

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;

From there He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy Christian Church,

the Communion of Saints,

the Forgiveness of sins,

the Resurrection of the body, and the Life everlasting. Amen.

Chief Hymn: 276, *When O'er My Sins I Sorrow*

**C: When o'er my sins I sorrow, Lord, I will look to Thee
And hence my comfort borrow That Thou wast slain for me;
Yea, Lord, Thy precious blood was spilt
For me, O most unworthy, To take away my guilt.**

**Oh, what a marvelous offering! Behold, the Master spares
His servants, and their suffering And grief for them He bears.
God stoopeth from His throne on high;
For me, His guilty creature, He deigns as man to die.**

**My manifold transgression Henceforth can harm me none
Since Jesus' bloody Passion For me God's grace hath won.
His precious blood my debts hath paid;
Of hell and all its torments I am no more afraid.**

**Therefore I will forever Give glory unto Thee,
Jesus, loving Savior, For what Thou didst for me.
I'll spend my breath in songs of thanks
For Thy sad cry, Thy sufferings, Thy wrongs, Thy guiltless death.**

Sermon

Pulpit Hymn: (throughout Lent): 593, *On My Heart Imprint Thine Image*

**C: On my heart imprint Thine image, Blessed Jesus, King of grace,
That life's riches, cares, and pleasures, Have no pow'r Thee to efface.
This the superscription be: Jesus, crucified for me,
Is my life, my hope's foundation, And my glory and salvation.**

The Intercessions: *each petition concludes:* Lord, in Your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Lord's Prayer

Hymn for the Annunciation: 268, *On Mary, Virgin Undefined*

**C: On Mary, Virgin undefiled, Did God bestow His favor;
She bore a Son, the spotless Child, To Him be praise forever.
He hath us all from sin set free; Our stay be He,
And rest eternal give us!**

**Were all the sages here below All human wisdom showing,
The mystery of Christ to know Were far beyond their knowing;
For full of grace and truth is He; O may He be
Our comfort in our dying!**

**Inspired of God the prophets spake, And faithful proved their saying,
That Christ the bonds of sin doth break, Deliverance conveying
To all by Satan's wiles enslaved; All shall be saved
Who trust in Him, believing.**

**O Root of Jesse, David's Son, And Jacob's Star of heaven!
Thou art the Christ, the blessed One; Thy name all praise be given:
By grace Thou hast redeemed us all From Adam's fall,
And Thou wilt guide and tend us.**

**O could I speak in ev'ry tongue, The Scripture's deep expounding,
Were in my mouth the angels' song That through high heav'n is sounding,
I on my knees would humbly fall, On Jesus call,
And worship Him forever!**

**My sins are countless as the sands, My crimes, O God, are crying,
Deliver me from sin's bread bands And save me, Lord, when dying;
O let me not, for evil past, Be lost at last,
Grant me Thy grace, I pray Thee!**

The Collect (II): p. 86

P: Grant, we beseech You, Almighty God, unto Your Church Your Holy Spirit and the wisdom which comes down from above, that Your Word, as becomes it, may not be bound, but have free course and be preached to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, that in steadfast faith we may serve You and in the confession of Your name abide unto the end; through Jesus

Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The Benediction: p. 84

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.

C: Amen. Amen. Amen.

Dismissal Hymn: 333, *Christ, the Life of All the Living*

C: Christ, the Life of all the living, Christ the Death of death, our foe,
Who, Thyself for me once giving To the darkest depths of woe –
Through Thy suff'rings, death, and merit I eternal life inherit:
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

Thou, ah, Thou hast taken on Thee Bonds and stripes, a cruel rod;
Pain and scorn were heaped upon Thee, O Thou sinless Son of God!
Thus didst Thou my soul deliver From the bonds of sin forever.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

Thou hast borne the smitting only That my wounds might all be whole;
Thou hast suffered, sad and lonely, Rest to give my weary soul;
Yea, the curse of God enduring Blessing unto me securing.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

Hearless scoffers did surround Thee, Treating Thee with shameful scorn,
And with piercing thorns they crowned Thee. All disgrace Thou, Lord, hast born
That as Thine Thou mightest own me And with heav'nly glory crown me.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

Thou hast suffered men to bruise Thee That from pain I might be free;
Falsely did Thy foes accuse Thee – Thence I gain security;
Comfortless Thy soul did languish Me to comfort in my anguish.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

Thou hast suffered great affliction And hast borne it patiently,
Even death by crucifixion, Fully to atone for me;
Thou didst choose to be tormented That my doom should be prevented.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

Then, for all that wrought my pardon, For Thy sorrows deep and sore,
For Thine anguish in the Garden, I will thank Thee evermore,
Thank Thee for Thy groaning, sighing, For Thy bleeding and Thy dying,
For that last triumphant cry, And shall praise Thee, Lord, on high.



Hymns for Judica: Today's HYMN OF INVOCATION *O Sinner, Come Thy Sin to Mourn* (ELH 272) is a Passion hymn of the Lutheran, Sebald Heyden (1499-1561). Originally 23 stanzas, the hymn was written as a reflection on Jesus' Suffering & Death based on the four Gospel accounts. Heyden especially focused on the traditional "Stations of the Cross" and their meaning for our salvation beginning with man's sinful condition and ending with thanksgiving for our

Lord's glorious offering. Only the first and last stanzas appear in any hymnals. The tune that appears in ELH is J.S. Bach's famous choral arrangement that concludes Part 1 of His St. Matthew Passion. We are singing the more rhythmic version of the original tune that Bach's arrangement is based on.

In thanksgiving to our Lord for the gift of forgiveness through His Son, Christians continually give Him glory. The CHIEF HYMN, *When O'er My Sins I Sorrow* (ELH 276) is by Justus Gesenius (1601-1673), an accomplished theologian and famous preacher who edited a number of German hymnals. His hymn voices our thankful praise to our Lord. From His throne on high, He became man to shed His blood and die. The tune for this hymn is one of the originals of the Lutheran Reformation, set here to Bach's four-part choral harmony.

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Judica is Latin and means “Judge Me.” It’s the first word of today’s Latin Introit, taken from Psalm 43: “Judge me, O God.”

Bible Studies: Today after the Service at Bethany we continue the lesson: *The Unreality of the LGBTQ+ Agenda vs. The Reality of Male & Female Made in the Image of God.* The Thursday study will finish up the book of Judges and get into Ruth.



Midweek Lenten Vespers conclude on Wednesday evening at 6:00. As we *Prepare for Easter*, in our final Lenten Service will meditate on the Three Young Men in the Fiery Furnace from Daniel 3 as a foreshadowing of our Lord Jesus Christ suffering in the fires of hell. This week’s theme is *Walking Through the Fire*.

Holy Week & Easter are just a couple of weeks away.

Palm Sunday (April 2)

Palm Procession & Holy Communion: 9:00am

Maundy Thursday Eve (April 6)

Holy Communion: 6:00pm

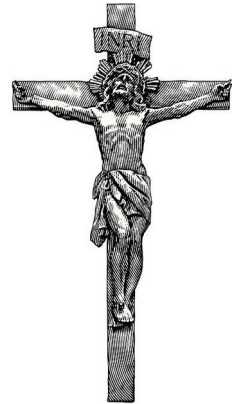
Good Friday (April 7)

Passion Vespers: 4:00pm

Easter Sunday (April 9)

Easter Breakfast, 8:00am

Festival Holy Communion: 9:00am



Lenten Food Drive: Non-perishable food items for those in need may be brought to the church throughout Lent and Holy Week, to be donated after Easter.

You Can Help Advertise for Holy Week & Easter by liking the schedule of Services on the Concordia Facebook page, by commenting on it (this helps with reach) and by sharing it on your own pages. Everyone (including those not on social media) talk about it “out there.” You can invite your family, friends and neighbors to come and share in the solemn joy that is ours in observing these Holy Days.

ELS Center for Apologetics & Worldview has produced a new article entitled: *Should the Church Avoid Addressing Issues that the Church Has Politicized?* The author is Pastor Noah Thompson of East Grand Forks, MN. This is a timely topic. The culture has politicized every issue about which there is dispute – social, moral, economic, religious, etc. The label “political” is often intended to bully religious people into silence under a mythical “separation of church and state” principle. The Bible is God’s Word. God’s Word is truth! Where God’s Word speaks, the Church must speak, even if that means speaking truth to power. Christians are God’s people. We can’t force people to accept God’s word, but God’s people do have a right and duty to speak God’s truth!

Feasts, Commemorations, and Events this Week

Monday: Pastor out of town

Tuesday: Pastor’s monthly study in Hood River

Wednesday: Pastor at Concordia; Concordia Lenten Vespers, 6:00pm

Thursday: Bible Study at Bethany, Bethany Lenten Vespers, 6:00pm

Friday: *Commemoration of Old Testament Patriarch, Joseph*; Pastor at Bethany

Saturday: Pastor’s Day Off

Next Sunday: PALM SUNDAY: FIRST DAY OF HOLY WEEK

Concordia Holy Communion, 9:00am

Bethany Holy Communion, 11:00am

First Sunday Fellowship at Bethany, 12:20pm

Bible study for the Parish at Bethany, 1:00

Lent 5 (Judica): God's gifts do not always make immediate human sense (John 8:48, 53, 57). What remains certain regardless is that God is good and God gives. The Father who eternally gives Himself to the Son (John 8:42) and the Son who offers Himself to the Father in appreciative obedience (John 8:55) are the Holy Trinity who imparts this life-giving Spirit even where only death appears possible (Genesis 22:10). Trusting His Word and work releases from death's threatening grip (John 8:51, Genesis 22:13)

Prayer: *Father, Son, and Spirit, guide us to trust Your Gospel that we may share in Your abundant life.*

Life Thoughts in the Church Year/One Year Lectionary • lutheransforlife.org