March 22, 2020

As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God.

My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. Where can I go and meet with God?



Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod Pastor Steven Tews

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Parents of Young Children: There are busy bags available for your children to use during church. They are hanging under the mailboxes in the fellowship hall. Feel free to use them during church and please return them after so we can use them again! There are also children's bulletins and crayons on the table by the mailboxes.

Lent 4

Divine Service I

Jesus calls us from sinful selfishness to selfless service.

"Oh, that I Had a Thousand Voices" **HYMN 194** Oh. Ι 1 that had a thou sand voic - es 2 Dear Fa ther, end less praise Ι ren - der com - pas - sion 3 I praise Sav _ whose you, ior. 4 Glo reach - ing, praise, still on ward ry and -5 Shall Í with then be filled glad - ness? not То praise God with thou sand tongues! my For soul bod and bly joined; у, no Has brought down you to ran som me. Be Spir yours, 0 it of all grace, Shall Ι not praise you more ev er _ My heart, which in the Lord joic re _ _ es, kind I praise you, Guard _ ian and ten der. va -Your pit ying heart sought my sal _ tion; Whose _ faith ful teach - ing ho ly pow'r and And tri - umph fear and sad - ness, 0 ver 10 Would ful then claim songs in grate pro joys For all the dai ly find Ι You bore ly, the tri um phant cross Give me saints place. mong your a _ а Al though of woe runs o'er? my cup might То all, wher Ι be, ev er rich spread So _ ly on ev 'ry side Brought full me from bond age re lease, ev What er good by me is done shall Though heav'n and earth dis ap pear,



Text: Johann Mentzer, 1658–1734, abr.; tr. composite.

Tune: O DASS ICH TAUSEND ZUNGEN HÄTTE (DRETZEL) (98 98 88) Cornelius H. Dretzel, 1697–1775, alt.

INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

- M:Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- 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.

LORD, HAVE MERCY Kyrie



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.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.







PRAYER OF THE DAY

- M: The Lord be with you.
- C: And also with you.
- M: Almighty God, we confess that we deserve to be punished for our evil deeds. But we ask you graciously to cleanse us from all sin and to comfort us with your salvation; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: Amen.

BE SEATED



FIRST LESSON Genesis 37:1-11

Sold into slavery, and jailed unjustly, Joseph would trust in God and selflessly serve his fellow man.

Jacob lived in the land where his father had resided as an alien, that is, in the land of Canaan.

² This is the account about the development of the family of Jacob:

When Joseph was seventeen years old, he was tending the flock with his brothers. He was just a boy compared to the sons of his father's wives Bilhah and Zilpah. Joseph brought a bad report about them to their father. ³ Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his other sons, because he was the son born in his old age, and he made him a special robe. ⁴ His brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, so they hated him and could not speak to him in a friendly way.



⁵ Once Joseph had a dream, and he told it to his brothers, so they hated him all the more. ⁶ He said to them,
 "Please listen to this dream that I have reamed: ⁷ There we were, binding sheaves in the field, and suddenly my sheaf rose up and stood upright. Then your sheaves gathered around and bowed down to my sheaf."

⁸ His brothers said to him, "So will you really reign over us? Will you really have dominion over us?" They hated him all the more because of his dreams and what he said.

⁹ Then he had another dream and told it to his brothers. He said, "Listen, I had another dream. This is what I saw: The sun and the moon and eleven stars bowed down to me." ¹⁰ He told it to his father and to his brothers. His father rebuked him and said to him, "What kind of dream is this that you have dreamed? Will I and your mother and your brothers really come and bow down to the ground in front of you?" ¹¹ His brothers were jealous of him, but his father kept what he had said in mind.

PSALM 42-43





As the deer pants for streams of <u>wa</u>ter,* so my soul pants for <u>you</u>, O God.

My soul thirsts for God, for the <u>liv</u>ing God.* Where can I go and <u>meet</u> with God?

Why are you downcast, <u>O</u> my soul?* Why so disturbed with<u>in</u> me?

Put your hope in God,*

for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God.

Refrain

Send forth your light and your truth, let them <u>guide</u> me;* let them bring me to the place <u>where</u> you dwell.

Then will I go to the altar of God, my joy and <u>my</u> delight.* I will praise you with the harp, O <u>God</u>, my God.

Glory be to the Father and <u>to</u> the Son* and to the Holy <u>Spir</u>it, as it was in the beg<u>in</u>ning,* is now, and will be forever. <u>A</u>men.

Refrain

Refrain Tune: Robert J. Thompson. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL, www.giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

SECOND LESSON Romans 8:1-10

The sinful nature wants us to live in selfishness; the Spirit sets us free to live lives of selfless service to God and neighbor.

So then, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.² For in Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death. ³ Indeed, what the law was unable to do, because it was weakened by the flesh, God did, when he sent his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to deal with sin. God condemned sin in his flesh, ⁴ so that the righteous decree of the law would be fully satisfied in us who are not walking according to the flesh, but according to the spirit.

⁵ To be sure, those who are in harmony with the sinful flesh think about things the way the sinful flesh does, and those in harmony with the spirit think about things the way the spirit does. ⁶ Now, the way the sinful flesh thinks results in death, but the way the spirit thinks results in life and peace. ⁷ For the mind-set of the sinful flesh is hostile to God, since it does not submit to God's law, and in fact, it cannot. ⁸ Those who are in the sinful flesh cannot please God.

⁹ But you are not in the sinful flesh but in the spirit, if indeed God's Spirit lives in you. And if someone does not have the Spirit of Christ, that person does not belong to Christ. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin, but your spirit is alive because of right-eousness.

VERSE OF THE DAY

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16)



STAND

GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 20:17-28

Followers of Jesus drink his cup and find greatness in selflessly serving others. For our motivation and our model, Christ points back to God's plan for the Son of Man who came not to be served, but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many.

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



¹⁷ As Jesus was going up to Jerusalem, he took the twelve disciples aside; and on the way he said to them, ¹⁸ "Look, we are going up to Jerusalem. The Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and experts in the law, and they will condemn him to death. ¹⁹ They will hand him over to the Gentiles to mock, flog, and crucify him. On the third day he will be raised."

²⁰ Then the mother of Zebedee's sons came to him with her sons, kneeling and asking something of him. ²¹ He said to her, "What do you want?"

She said to him, "Promise that in your kingdom these two sons of mine may sit, one on your right hand and one on your left hand."

²² But Jesus answered, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink?"

They said to him, "We are."

²³ He said to them, "You will indeed drink my cup, but to sit on my right hand and on my left hand is not for me to give; rather these places belong to those for whom they have been prepared by my Father."

²⁴ When the ten heard this, they were angry with the two brothers.

²⁵ But Jesus summoned them and said, "You know that the rulers of the nations lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. ²⁶ It will not be that way among you. Instead whoever wants to become great among you will be your servant, ²⁷ and whoever wants to be first among you will be your slave— ²⁸ just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,

maker of heaven and earth.

I believe 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 heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will 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.



SERMON

STAND

After sermon, congregation sings:



BE SEATED

OFFERING

STAND

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M:Heavenly Father, you loved the world and gave your Son to liberate us from sin and death by his obedient death on the cross.

C: We confess that without your love we are lost.

M:Lord of the Church, we thank you for the treasure of the gospel. By your Spirit, keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.

C: Strengthen our determination to do what pleases you, no matter what the danger or the cost.

M:Let us pray for those who carry a cross in the name of Christ and face ridicule and persecution for the sake of the kingdom: missionaries and chaplains, young people who stand up for what is right in the face of pressure to do what is wrong, and all who pay a high price for their faith and their values as Christians.

C: By your Spirit, O Lord, grant them patience and endurance.

M:Let us pray for those who carry heavy burdens in life: the sick and the chronically ill, the depressed and the lonely, those torn by conflict in personal relationships, those victimized by war and injustice, and all who face the terrors of life with a heavy heart.

C: Grant them peace, O Lord, and in your mercy, be their guardian and friend, their comfort and hope.

M:Let us pray for those who care for others: pastors and counselors; physicians and nurses; social workers and caring friends; all who feed the hungry, comfort the hurting, and stand beside the dying.
C: Strengthen them in their work, O Lord, and do not let them become weary in doing good.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

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

Silent prayer.

M:Help us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Keep us faithful even to the point of death, that we may receive the crown of life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **C: Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

BE SEATED

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.





Text: Konrad Hubert, 1507–77, abr.; tr. Gilbert E. Doan, b. 1930. © 1967 Lutheran Council in the U.S.A. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress. Tune: ALLEIN ZU DIR (87 87 88 848) *Eyn schönn Lied*, Wittenberg, 1541, alt.

STAND

M: Blessed Lord, You have given us Your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn and take them to heart, that being strengthened and comforted by Your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

M: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.

BE SEATED





Your boundless mercy has for me, For me and all your hands have made, An everlasting ransom paid.

Text: Nicolaus L. von Zinzendorf, 1700–60, abr.; tr. John B. Wesley, 1703–91, alt. Tune: ST. CRISPIN (LM) George J. Elvey, 1816–93.



To everyone who has donated to the Peace Pantry: THANK YOU! Your support of our pantry makes such a difference to our community! We are still accepting donations. You can place donations on the table next to the refrigerator in the fellowship hall.

During these unprecedented times, please call the church office at 920-787-3856, email at peacelutheranwautoma@gmail.com, visit our website at www.wautomapeacelutheran.org, or visit our Facebook page for updates and other information. Things are changing at a very rapid pace and we will do our best to keep everyone informed of any changes to our cancellations.

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Jesus Calls Us from Sinful Selfishness to Selfless Service

God's Word for Today Jesus calls us from sinful selfishness to selfless service. We can view the world from the perspective of selfishness or selflessness. Selfishness puts self before all and leads to favoritism, pride and envy. Repentance, however, means despairing of self, trusting in Christ's substitutionary sacrifice and leading lives of selfless service modeled after our Savior who came not to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for us.

First Lesson (Genesis 37:1-11)

1. What do we learn about the choice between selfishness or selflessness from Joseph?

Second Lesson (Romans 8:1-10)

- 2. Why are the opening words (v 1) so triumphant?
- 3. While the Law no longer condemns us, it still has a function. What is the Law's purpose for us now? (v 4)

Gospel (Matthew 20:17-28)

- 4. What was the "cup" of which Jesus spoke?
- 5. Why is pride such a dangerous sin?
- 6. How do Jesus' life and ministry provide a model for us?

Answers:

- 1. The life of Joseph illustrates Jesus' message that whoever wants to be first must be your slave. Selfishness led to Jacob's favoritism and his sons' jealousy. Selfishness led Jacob and his sons to such pride that they could not imagine God's prophecy about Joseph coming true. Their selfishness forced Joseph into the role of slave, yet God in his grace would save many people in spite of their sin. Sold into slavery and jailed unjustly, Joseph trusted in God and selflessly served his fellow man. Ultimately, God brought the prideful low and raised up humble Joseph, fulfilling his prophecy and also saving the family of God and countless others.
- 2. Paul has already discoursed at length on the reality of sin and its consequences as well as on God's faithfulness and his gracious forgiveness in Christ. He acknowledged that Christians struggle daily with the sinful nature that is part of us, but that we are rescued by Jesus Christ (7:21-25). Now the triumphant confidence naturally follows: THERE IS NO CONDEMNATION FOR THOSE FOUND IN CHRIST! What a comfort! What a relief for sin-challenged Christians!
- 3. The "righteous requirements of the law" speak not of achieving God's demanded perfection. Remember that there is no condemnation in Christ! This use of the Law is referred to as the "guide" or "rule," which we obey out of love for God through the power of the Holy Spirit in our lives.
- 4. The cup was Jesus' suffering and death, which he was headed to Jerusalem to drink.
- 5. It is incorrect to consider one sin more punishable than another, but pride causes a person to ignore his need for spiritual help, and that can be a damning mistake.
- 6. Jesus revealed his Father's plan: the Son of God would leave his heavenly throne and selflessly give his life in order to be our Savior. Rather than marveling at the depth of his love, the disciples argued about places of greatness in glory. Followers of Jesus drink his cup and find greatness in selflessly serving others. For our motivation and our model, Christ points back to God's plan for the Son of Man who came not to be served, but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many.