

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church & School

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Mission Statement

United in Christ through Word and Sacrament to proclaim Christ to a waiting world.



The Lord's Prayer: A Prayer for All Seasons

Seasons for Standing Up to Evil

Christ Lutheran Church

Thursday March 22nd, 2018

As We Gather— We face temptation each day—the thoughts and ideas that enter our minds, the words from our mouth with which we struggle, the decisions of what we should and shouldn't do—they are all daily battles. We face evil each day. We see the headlines in the news and witness tragedies and travesties with our own eyes. Yet tonight in our final midweek service, we boldly pray to the Lord as we are taught, “Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.” As Jesus nears closer to the cross in this season of Lent and soon arrives for His final earthly destination in Jerusalem, we know He has resisted all temptation thrown His way. He has remained perfect as the Son of God, Son of Man, and Savior of this world. And evil? Instead of being delivered from it, He voluntarily goes to it out of love for this world to save us from sin. Though tempted, tried, tortured, and hung on a tree, His perfect love and resisting of all temptation would remain in the face of the greatest evils. It is from that sin that He came to save us. Because He won the victory no human ever could over sin, eternal death, and the power of the devil, we can look to Him and through the lens of the cross and continue to boldly pray this Lenten season and every season as He has taught us, “Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.”

Image: “He took Him to Jerusalem and set Him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to Him, “If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down from here. Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’

” *Luke 4:9, 12*

WELCOME!

We extend a cordial welcome to everyone in the name of our crucified and risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! Visitors are asked to sign the guest book at the entrance of the church and are always welcome in our midst.

Order of Worship—(as printed in the bulletin)

-Ringing of the Bell (Chimes)

OPENING HYMN—“The World Is Very Evil”

(TLH 605)

The world is very evil, The times are waxing late;
Be sober and keep vigil, The Judge is at the gate;
The Judge that comes in mercy, The Judge that comes with might,
To terminate the evil, To diadem the right.

Arise, arise, good Christian, Let right to wrong succeed;
Let penitential sorrow To heav'nly gladness lead,
To light that hath no evening, That knows no moon nor sun,
The light so new and golden, The light that is but one.

O home of fadeless splendor, Of flow'rs that bear no thorn,
Where they shall dwell as children Who here as exiles mourn.
Midst pow'r that knows no limit, Where knowledge has no bound,
The beatific vision Shall glad the saints around.

Strive, man, to win that glory; Toil, man, to gain that light;
Send hope before to grasp it Till hope be lost in sight.
Exult, O dust and ashes, The Lord shall be thy part;
His only, His forever, Thou shalt be and thou art.

O sweet and blessed country, The home of God's elect!
O sweet and blessed country That eager hearts expect!
Jesus, in mercy bring us To that dear land of rest,
Who art, with God the Father And Spirit, ever blest.

Text: Bernard of Cluny, 12th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66. Public domain.

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING VERSES—*Psalm 141*

Pastor: O LORD, I call upon You; hasten to me! Give ear to my voice when I call to You!

People: Let my prayer be counted as incense before You, and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice!

Pastor: Set a guard, O LORD, over my mouth; keep watch over the door of my lips!

People: Do not let my heart incline to any evil, to busy myself with wicked deeds in company with men who work iniquity, and let me not eat of their delicacies!

Pastor: Let a righteous man strike me—it is a kindness; let him rebuke me—it is oil for my head; let my head not refuse it. Yet my prayer is continually against their evil deeds.

People: When their judges are thrown over the cliff, then they shall hear my words, for they are pleasant.

Pastor: As when one plows and breaks up the earth, so shall our bones be scattered at the mouth of Sheol.

People: But my eyes are toward You, O GOD, my Lord; in You I seek refuge; leave me not defenseless!

Pastor: Keep me from the trap that they have laid for me and from the snares of evildoers!

People: Let the wicked fall into their own nets, while I pass by safely.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *1 Peter 5:8; James 1:13*

Pastor: Lord, in You we seek refuge, and You do not leave us defenseless. Daily, we face temptation and evil. Daily, we battle our enemy the devil, who “prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.” Keep us ever firm in the faith.

People: Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Pastor: 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.

People: Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Pastor: Gracious God in heaven, we bow before You to confess to You that we have sinned and done that which is evil in Your sight.

People: We have walked in pride, we have not been as thankful or forgiving as You call us to be. Help us to show forth the fruit of Your Spirit: the love, joy, and peace You have first shown to us. Forgive us for all our wrong of thought, word, and deed, and the many times we have fallen into temptation and followed the path of evil. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Pastor: We pray this in the name of Jesus, our Lord.

People: Amen.

Pastor: God the Father has given His one and only Son to be born in the flesh into this broken world. Resisting all temptation, He willingly walked among the wicked and evil to be the way, the truth, and the life for this world. He would voluntarily experience the evil of this world in His Passion and by being put to death on a cross. By His death, for His sake, as a called and ordained 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.

To those who believe in Jesus Christ, He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: Amen.

-Sharing of the Peace— (Please greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.) [Matthew 5:22-24; Ephesians 4:1-3]

HYMN—“O Christ, You Walked the Road” (LSB 424)

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty God, be with us when times of testing come upon us, and grant that every temptation we encounter will be one that,

by the aid of Your Holy Spirit, we can resist and overcome to Your glory. Grant that in the midst of our failures and weaknesses we may be delivered from all evil. This we ask for the sake of Jesus, our Savior.

People: Amen.

✠ **WORD** ✠

PSALM—*Psalms 23*

Pastor: The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

People: He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.

Pastor: He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

People: I will fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

Pastor: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

People: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

FIRST READING—*1 Peter 5:6–11* (Stand firm in the faith in spite of the devil's attempts.)

⁶Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, ⁷casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. ⁸Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. ⁹Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. ¹⁰And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING—*Luke 4:1–13* (Jesus is tempted by Satan.)

¹Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness

²for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing during those days. And when they were ended, he was hungry. ³The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread." ⁴And Jesus answered

him, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone.'" ⁵And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, ⁶and said to him, "To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. ⁷If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." ⁸And Jesus answered him, "It is written, "You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve.""

⁹And he took him to Jerusalem and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰for it is written,

"He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you,"

¹¹and

"On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.""

¹²And Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'" ¹³And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CREED—*Apostles' Creed (as found on the very back page of your hymnal)*

CLOSING HYMN—"In the Cross of Christ I Glory" (LSB 427)

SERMON—"Seasons for Standing Up to Evil" (*Sixth and Seventh Petitions*)

OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN "Our Father, Who from Heaven Above" (Sts. 1, 7–8: LSB 766)

PRAYERS

Pastor: Our Father in heaven, as we prepare to enter Holy Week, we pray Your Spirit continues to cause us to reflect, ponder, and meditate upon our need for a Savior. As we soon follow Jesus into Jerusalem and His eventual death on the cross, may we be affirmed in Your great love for us. Because we have first been loved and forgiven, help us also to love and forgive. In our lives each day, lead us not into temptation,

People: but deliver us from evil.

Pastor: Our Father in heaven, Your Son, our Savior Jesus, experienced the worst evil for our sake. Though He did nothing wrong, He was despised, hated, stricken, smitten, afflicted, and crucified. Taking our sins upon Himself to death on a cross, we are able to have new life. As we live in Your great love and grace each day, lead us not into temptation,

People: but deliver us from evil.

Pastor: Our Father in heaven, our enemy the devil prowls around like a lion, looking for someone to devour. Through Your Word and Sacraments, continue to nourish, nurture, and equip us with Your Word of truth and the working of the Holy Spirit to stand firm and resist the devil. Lead us not into temptation,

People: but deliver us from evil.

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

CATECHISM REFLECTION—*Luther's Small Catechism*

Pastor: *We pray in the Lord's Prayer, "And lead us not into temptation." What does this mean?*

People: 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.

Pastor: "But deliver us from evil." *What does this mean?*

People: We pray in this petition, in summary, that our Father in heaven would rescue us from every evil of body and soul, possessions and reputation, and finally, when our last hour comes, give us a blessed end, and graciously take us from this valley of sorrow to Himself in heaven.

Pastor: Though not in Scripture nor in the original Small Catechism of Martin Luther, we close the Lord's Prayer with the concluding words, "For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen." *What does this mean?*

People: This means that I should be certain that these petitions are pleasing to our Father in heaven, and are heard by Him; for He Himself has commanded us to pray in this way and has promised to hear us. Amen, amen means "yes, yes, it shall be so."

Pastor: We pray these petitions, and all petitions, in the prayer our Lord has taught us:

LORD'S PRAYER (as found on the very back page of your hymnal)

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The LORD bless you and keep you.

The LORD make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The LORD look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

Numbers 6:24-26

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN—"Abide with Me" (LSB 878)

At this time we leave our service in silent prayer contemplating and meditating on our Lord Jesus' passion in suffering and dying on the cross for our sins.

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Officiant: Rev. John M. Taggatz

Organist: Ila Robbert

Elder: Bryan Brazil

Ushers:

Altar Guild: Karen Tesch

Acolyte: Eli Boelter

WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR LENT AT CHRIST AND CALVARY—

Lenten midweek services are on Wednesdays at Calvary starting at 7:15pm with Soup Suppers from 5:30-7pm and on Thursdays at CELC at 7pm)... Lent starts with Ash Wednesday on Wednesday Feb. 14th and continues through to Easter on April 1st—

The Lord's Prayer: A Prayer for All Seasons (during our Lenten Midweek services)...

1. Maundy Thursday (6:30pm at Calvary Waupaca): Commandment Three, Mark 14:12-26; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17
2. Good Friday (7pm at Christ West Bloomfield): Commandment Two, Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9
3. Easter Day (8:30am Christ Lutheran & 10:30am Calvary): Commandment One, Mark 16:1-8