

† **Lent III — “Watch!”** †
“The Journey to the Cross”



“As the Days of Noah”
Luke 17:1-37

✠ The Divine Liturgy ✠

“Love the Creator & His Creation Like Jesus”
Saint Luke Lutheran Church | March 20, 2022

† Baptism — The Way of Faith †

Processional Song ✠ *LSB 425 “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”*

- ♫ *When I survey the wondrous cross on which the prince of glory died, my richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride. ♪*
♫ *Forbid it Lord that I should boast, save in the death of Christ my Lord! All the empty things I love most, I give up all that I have stored. ♪*
♫ *See from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down. Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown? ♪*
♫ *Were the whole realm of creation mine, that would be a gift far too small. Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all. ♪*

Remembering Our Baptism Journey

Father, Creator of all heaven and earth, ✠ **you save us from our selfishness and make us your children through Baptism.** ✠ Through your Son, whose example we follow, ✠ **we die to Civilization's Way of arrogance, fear, and violence.** ✠ Through your Spirit, who dwells among us, ✠ **we are reborn in Jesus's Way of faith, hope, and love.** ✠ We pray that you will complete this work of Baptism within us, ✠ **as we daily surrender to you and listen to your every word.**

(the Christ candle is lit to remind us that Jesus is present among us)

♫ *O Christ, who called the twelve to rise and follow you, forsaking old, familiar ways for ventures bold and new: Grant us to hear your call to risk security and, bound in heart and will to you, find perfect liberty. ♪ O Christ, who led the twelve among the desolate and broke as bread of life for all your love compassionate: Lead us along the ways where hope has nearly died and help us climb the lonely hills where love is crucified. ♪ (tune: LSB 856)*

Lent Litany

The Lord gives and the Lord takes away, ✠ **blessed be the name of the Lord.**
Naked we came from the earth's womb ✠ **and naked we will return there.**
When a seed falls into the earth and dies, ✠ **then it produces much fruit.**
Those who try to hold on to their lives, ✠ **remain prisoners of death.**
But those who lose their lives for the Lord, ✠ **rise again to new life.**
The rich, arrogant, and powerful ✠ **are torn down from their thrones.**
But the poor, humble, and meek ✠ **inherit the whole earth.**

Surrendering to the Creator

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit ✠ **we surrender our minds, bodies, and whole lives to you.**

(we make the sign of the cross, touching forehead, heart, and shoulders)

We let go of control ✠ **and submit ourselves into your loving hands.** ✠ We leave

behind our people-pleasing ☩ **and seek only your approval.** ☩ We walk away from our reliance on self, family, and nation ☩ **and trust you for everything we need.**

♩ *Take my life and all my heart, take my whole soul ev'ry part. Take my mouth and let it be, filled with your truth and mercy.* ♪ *Take my hands and let them love, with compassion from above. Take my feet and let them go, on the Way that Jesus showed.* ♪ *Take my things and my money, give me faith and set me free. Take my life and teach me how, to love all creation now.* ♪ (tune: LSB 783)

Prayer of the Day

The Lord Jesus be with you. ☩ **And also with you.** ☩ Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, help us to always live ready for the in-breaking of your Kingdom. In the name of Jesus, your Son, our Lord. **Amen.**

(sit)

Listening to the Creator

We gather at the feet of our Lord Jesus, listening to his word and allowing it to change and shape our minds, decisions, and lives. ♪ *Listen to what Jesus teaches, listen to him every day. Listen as you walk and follow, listen also as you pray. Listen to him every moment, listen with an open mind. Listen to find peace and patience, listen so you will be kind.* ♪ (tune: LSB 770)

Remembering the Saints & Martyrs ☩ Maximilian of Tebessa

Father, we give you thanks for your Spirit-filled saints and witnesses who have gone before us and have embodied the Way of Jesus. Today we remember Maximilian of Tebessa who was beheaded in 296 AD for refusing to serve in the Roman army because Jesus alone is Lord and then with his last act gave away his clothes to his executioner. Help us learn from his faith and example, **Amen.**

Chanted Psalm ☩ *Psalm 119 Heth*



♩ *O Lord, I have promised to | keep your words.*

* *Please be gracious to me according | to your word.*

I have turned my feet to your | teachings.

* *I did not delay in keeping | your commands.*

I have not forgotten to | do your law.

* *I will give thanks for your righteous | instructions.*

I walk with those who keep | your precepts.

* *With your love teach me | your commands.* ♪

Law & Prophets ☩ Ezekiel 22:6-16

The Prophets reading comes from Ezekiel 22. ☩ **We listen with open hearts.** This is the word of our Creator. ☩ **Thank you, Lord, for speaking to us.**

Epistle ☩ 2 Peter 1:12-21

The epistle reading comes from 2 Peter 1. ☩ **We listen with open hearts.** This is the word of our Creator. ☩ **Thank you, Lord, for speaking to us.**

(stand)

† Holy Gospel † Luke 17:1-37

We stand for the word of Jesus. ♪ ***If you lose your life for my sake, you will find it; if you want to save your life, let it go. Take up your cross, deny yourself. Come, follow me, follow me.*** ♪ (tune: GC2 688)

The holy Gospel comes from Luke 17. ✠ **Jesus, we listen, ready to follow you.**

This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus. ✠ **We will trust and obey.**

(sit)

Message

† Repentance — The Way of Hope †

Confronting Our Past

Let us reflect on how the word of Jesus is speaking into our lives this day.

(silence for reflection)

For placing our self, family, and nation above you, ✠ **Father, forgive us.**

For trusting the technology and works of human hands, ✠ **Father, forgive us.**

For being hypocrites who misrepresent your name, ✠ **Father, forgive us.**

For not living in restful peace with land, animals, and each other, ✠ **Father, forgive us.**

For not respecting our fathers and mothers in Christ, ✠ **Father, forgive us.**

For being violent to our bodies and your creation, ✠ **Father, forgive us.**

For not keeping our sexuality within marriage, ✠ **Father, forgive us.**

For trying to possess and control your creation, ✠ **Father, forgive us.**

For not being vulnerable and truthful with others, ✠ **Father, forgive us.**

For competing with others and not being content with our lives, ✠ **Father, forgive us.**

Father, turn us back to walking in your Spirit. ♪ ***Lord Father we have wandered and hidden from your face. Rescue your whole creation with your almighty grace. From trust in wealth and weapons and blindness to your Way, save us and all creation with your own hands, we pray.*** ♪ (tune: LSB 449)

Will you turn away from the Way of Civilization and reaffirm the Creator's claim upon you through your Baptism into the Way of Jesus? ✠ **Yes, I renounce the Way of Civilization and pledge my full allegiance to Jesus.** ✠ Will you release all debts and grudges that you hold against anyone—including yourself and every member of this church? ✠ **Yes, I forgive all those who have hurt me, frustrated me, or owe me anything.** ✠ Our heavenly Father heals all those who return to his loving arms. You are forgiven and set free from all slavery to live life in the Way of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit! ✠ **Amen.**

(stand)

Song of the Day ✠ ***“There Is a Mighty Question”*** (tune: LSB 684)

♪ ***There is a mighty question we ask as nations rage: Just when will be Christ's coming, the ending of the age? Take care, for not a stone will be left standing on stone, all of Civilization will then be overthrown.*** ♪

♪ ***For in the days of Noah, the people went along, In eating and in drinking, in***

business and in song — Then suddenly the world collapsed with great, surprising power; So too will be Christ's coming, and no one knows the hour. ♪

♪ *So keep awake and watchful; salvation is at hand! Our hope is in Christ Jesus, and on God's love we stand. The night is almost over, we wait for God's new day, And through the Holy Spirit, we follow Jesus' Way. ♪*

♪ *Be ready in your living, for when you feed the poor, Or give to thirsty children the water they long for, And when you welcome strangers and help the ones in need, Christ says: "Receive my kingdom, for you are serving me." ♪*

Waiting on the Creator

♪ *Our Father, bring your Rule and will to earth. Give what we need for worry-free rebirth. Bring peace among us and forgive us too, as we forgive and love in all we do.*

♪ *Protect us from all things that will mislead. Keep us from selfishness, violence, and greed. We place our lives into your hands this day. Teach us to listen and to walk your Way. Amen. ♪ (tune: LSB 637)*

(incense is lit to symbolize our prayers ascending to God and as its smell fills this space we are reminded of his presence among us)

In peace, let us pray to the Lord, ♪ Lord have mercy. ♪

Our Father in heaven, make your name holy, bring your Rule, make your will be done—on earth as in heaven. ✠ Father, set us apart from Civilization in all our thoughts, words, and deeds. Take charge of our lives and all those in authority. Use everything that happens to bring your good judgment and healing upon all creation. *Let us pray to the Lord, ♪ Lord have mercy. ♪*

Give us this day our daily bread. ✠ Father, provide for us, protect us, and heal our brokenness. Especially this day we remember Charlene Sargent, Jan & Paul Zugelder, COVID-19 victims, Ann Hauser's birthday, and those we name in our hearts... Father, give us exactly what we need this day and teach us to be content with that. *Let us pray to the Lord, ♪ Lord have mercy. ♪*

Forgive us our debts as we forgive those in debt to us. ✠ Father, forgive us and free us from all that enslaves us. Help us to walk away from our anxieties and traumas as well as our addictions to Civilization's Way, so we may walk in Jesus's Way. Empower us to love and forgive everyone, even our enemies, in the same way you have loved and forgiven us. *Let us pray to the Lord, ♪ Lord have mercy. ♪*

Do not abandon us in temptation, but rescue us from evil. ✠ Father, humble us and remind us that we have no strength apart from you. Stay with us in times of difficulty and save us from our selfishness. Comfort us in the certain hope that your creation and children will be renewed and raised from the dead. *Let us pray to the Lord, ♪ Lord have mercy. ♪*

For all authority, power, and glory are yours—now and forever. ✠ Father, help us to let go and surrender everything into your loving hands, trusting that you are working all things to the good of those who love you. ✠ **Amen.**

† Communion — The Way of Love †

Sharing the Lord's Peace

We prepare to be united as one Body and communion at the Lord's table by sharing

with each other the peace and love our Father has freely given to us.

(sit)

Offering

Everything belongs to our Father and is to be used to love each other in the same way Jesus has loved us. Therefore, we offer our entire lives as a living sacrifice to him while also offering gifts to support this communion.

Musical Offering

(stand)

Pledge of Allegiance

♫ We come before you, Lord, to bow. We lay our lives at your feet now. All things are yours, we own nothing! Our lives are in your hands this day. Give what we need, O Lord, we pray. Please protect us, provide for us! Watch over us, ever with us, always love us! ♫ (tune: LSB 816)

Lord, we pledge our obedience and every part of our lives to you...

I pledge allegiance to one God, the all-powerful Father, who is the Creator of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I pledge allegiance to one Lord, Jesus Christ, who is God's only Son. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He loved and he suffered. Under Pontius Pilate, he was crucified, died, and was buried. On the third day he was raised from the dead. He ascended to heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. He is coming to judge the living and the dead. His rule will not end.

I pledge allegiance to the Holy Spirit, who is the giver of life, the holy universal Church, the communion of saints, the baptism for forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life in the age to come. Amen.

Thanksgiving

The Lord Jesus be with you. **✠ And also with you. ✠** Lift up your hearts! **✠ We lift them to the Lord! ✠** Let us give thanks to our Creator! **✠ It is right to give him thanks and praise! ✠** Praise and thanks are due to you, Father, **✠ for you provide, protect, love, and renew us and all creation! ✠** We are grateful that you bring heaven and earth together through Jesus's love for all creation!

♫ Lord Jesus, think on me, amid struggle and strife. In all my pain and misery, please be my health and life. ♫ Lord Jesus, think on me, that when the flood is past, I may a new creation be, and walk with you steadfast. ♫ (tune LSB 610)

† Words of Our Lord Jesus †

On the night before our Lord Jesus was crucified, he revealed his Way of rescuing all creation from the Way of Civilization. Before supper, Jesus humbly washed the feet of his students and enemies. He said, "Follow my example. Love each other in the same way I have loved you." During supper, Jesus then took the bread and broke it. He gave it to them, saying, "This is my body which is being given for you. Do the same for each other in my memory." After supper, Jesus then took the cup and gave thanks. He said,

“This is my blood which is being shed for you, for the forgiveness of all of your sin. Do the same for each other in my memory.” ♪ ***When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your death Lord Jesus. So as we share this feast may we, remember your love for us. Help us now to follow your Way, and to walk in your goodness. Always make us one in you.*** ♪ (tune: LSB 384)

Invitation to the Table

We gather around Jesus’s table, trusting that he is truly giving his whole self to us through this bread, wine, and communion. As we receive the Lord’s gifts, we commit ourselves to laying down our lives for each member of this church in the same Way that Jesus has laid down his life for us. We invite all Baptized members of the holy universal Church, who give their undivided allegiance to Jesus and are at peace with their brothers and sisters in Christ, to join us in this mysterious communion of heaven and earth. ♪ ***Oh come, Lord Jesus, come and dine, and give yourself through bread and wine. Feed us so we may have new birth, and bring your rule ov’r all the earth. Come now, come now! Our Lord Jesus and bring your healing love to us!*** ♪ (tune: LSB 357)

(sit)

Sharing the Bread & Wine

(stand)

Sent to “Do the Same in My Memory”

Christ Jesus, as we feed on you ☩ **we are made members of your Body.** ☩ We leave behind our old lives ☩ **and are crucified with you.** ☩ We no longer live for ourselves ☩ **but you, Lord Christ, live within us.** ☩ As you have laid down your body and blood for us, ☩ **help us to do the same in your memory.** ☩ Help us share our whole lives with the church ☩ **and care for all your creation, including our own bodies. Amen.**

♪ ***Go to dark Gethsemane, you who feel the tempter’s pow’r. Your Lord Jesus’ conflict see, watch with him one painful hour. Shun not suff’ring, shame or loss, learn from him to bear your cross. ♪ To his cross go make your climb, there to worship at his feet. It is here his kingdom’s time, his self-sacrifice complete. “God forgive them,” hear his cry; learn from Jesus Christ to die.*** ♪ (tune: LSB 436)

Blessing

May the Father bless you and hold you in his hands. May the Son empower you to love all his creation in the way he has loved you. May the Holy Spirit fill your body and give you a peace that is free of all anxiety. ☩ **Amen.**

Recessional Song ☩ **LSB 508 “The Day Is Surely Drawing Near”**

♪ ***The day is surely drawing near When Jesus, God’s anointed, In all His power shall appear As judge whom God appointed. Then fright shall banish idle mirth, And flames on flames shall ravage earth As Scripture long has warned us.*** ♪

♪ ***The final trumpet then shall sound And all the earth be shaken, And all who rest beneath the ground Shall from their sleep awaken. But all who live will in that hour, By God’s almighty, boundless pow’r, Be changed at His commanding.*** ♪

- ♫ *The books are opened then to all, A record truly telling What each has done, both great and small, When he on earth was dwelling, And ev'ry heart be clearly seen, And all be known as they have been In thoughts and words and actions.* ♪
- ♫ *Then woe to those who scorned the Lord And sought but carnal pleasures, Who here despised His precious Word And loved their earthly treasures! With shame and trembling they will stand And at the judge's stern command To Satan be delivered.* ♪
- ♫ *May Christ our intercessor be And through His blood and merit Read from His book that we are free With all who life inherit. Then we shall see Him face to face, With all His saints in that blest place Which He has purchased for us.* ♪
- ♫ *O Jesus Christ, do not delay, But hasten our salvation; We often tremble on our way In fear and tribulation. O hear and grant our fervent plea; Come, mighty judge, and make us free From death and ev'ry evil.* ♪

* Midweek Lent worship is at 6:00 pm on Wednesdays through April 6.

* During liturgy try out the ancient prayer position of “orans,” arms outstretched.

*** Want to do a retreat at the Disciple Garden?**

Contact Samantha @ samantha.timpe@gmail.com or (219) 508-6194

Weekly Calendar | March 20 - 27, 2022

Sun, Mar 20	9:30 am	Divine Liturgy “As the Days of Noah” Luke 17:1-37
	10:45 am	Food & Fellowship Text of the Day Study
Mon, Mar 21	6:00 pm	Table Talk: “The Chosen” @ DG
Wed, Mar 23	4:30 pm	Jesus Time
	5:15 pm	Choir
	6:00 pm	40 Days of Walking the Way Luke 20:41—21:4
Sat, Mar 26	7-9 am	Breakfast & Devotion
Sun, Mar 27	9:30 am	Divine Liturgy “You Lack One Thing” Luke 18:1-30
	10:45 am	Food & Fellowship Text of the Day Study

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