

KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A CITY-WIDE CHURCH WITH A WORLD-WIDE MINISTRY

Olaf Roynesdal, Senior Pastor
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March 17, 2021

7:00 PM

PRELUDE

“Jesus, Priceless Treasure”

setting by Michael Burkhardt
Mark Jones, *organ*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(stand)

HYMN

“In the Hour of Trial”

LBW 106

- 1 In the hour of trial,
Jesus, plead for me,
lest by base denial
I depart from thee.
When thou seest me waver,
with a look recall;
nor from fear or favor
suffer me to fall.
- 2 With forbidden pleasures
should this vain world charm,
or its sordid treasures
spread to work me harm,
bring to my remembrance
sad Gethsemane,
or, in darker semblance,
cross-crowned Calvary.
- 3 Should thy mercy send me
sorrow, toil, and woe,
or should pain attend me
on my path below,
grant that I may never
fail thy hand to see;
grant that I may ever
cast my care on thee.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854

P In the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Holy God, in this season of Lenten fasting, we remember Jesus Christ .

C **who went out into the desert to fast and undergo temptation.**

P We confess that we are often distracted by material comforts.

C **and tempted to value them above the Kingdom of God.**

P You, God, are our help in difficulty;

C **Jesus Christ is our temptation.**

P We confess that we do not live by bread or worldly provision alone,

C **but by every word that comes from Your mouth.**

P May we fill our mouths, our hearts, our minds now with your words

C **that we will be transformed and renewed.**

P May we, with renewed hearts and minds,

C **better serve the purposes of Your kingdom.**

P May we, by setting aside worldly distractions

C **become more like Christ.**

P May we, with purified motives and deeper understanding,

C **Receive Christ when Christ comes to us.**

P Lead us not into temptation,

C **But deliver us from evil. Amen.**

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

C Praise you, God.

You are very great in every way!

Please give us the things we need today.

For You will give us what we need.

We're sorry that we do wrong things and disobey.

For You forgive us when we say we are truly sorry.

God, help us in everything we do.

Please help us to live for you all through each day.

For You always listen when we talk—

help us to listen when You talk. Amen

Jesus' Prayer from the Big Bible Storybook

FIRST READING

James 1:13-18

No one, when tempted, should say, "*I am being tempted by God*"; for God cannot be tempted by evil and he himself tempts no one. ¹⁴But one is tempted by one's own desire, being lured and enticed by it; ¹⁵then, when that desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin, and that sin, when it is fully grown, gives birth to death. ¹⁶Do not be deceived, my beloved.

¹⁷Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creature.

P The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Ido not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ²and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. ⁵Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

⁶Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. ⁷Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." ⁸We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. ⁹We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. ¹⁰And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. ¹¹These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. ¹²So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. ¹³No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

P The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

(sit)

FROM MARTIN LUTHER'S SMALL CATECHISM (1529)

P In the Sixth Petition of the Lord's Prayer we pray:

C and lead us not into temptation.

P What does this mean? Answer:

C God tempts no one to sin, but we pray in this petition that God may so guard and preserve us that the devil, the world, and our flesh may not deceive us or mislead us into unbelief, despair, and other great and shameful sins, but that, although we may be so tempted, we may finally prevail and gain the victory.

SERMON

Pastor Roynesdal

HYMN

"If You But Trust in God to Guide Thee"

ELW 769

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1 If you but trust in God to guide you
with gentle hand through all your ways,
you'll find that God is there beside you
when crosses come, in trying days.
Trust then in God's unchanging love;
build on the rock that will not move.</p> | <p>3 The Lord our restless hearts is holding,
in peace and quietness content.
We rest in God's good will unfolding,
what wisdom from on high has sent.
God, who has chosen us by grace,
knows very well the fears we face.</p> |
| <p>2 What gain is there in anxious weeping,
in helpless anger and distress?
If you are in your Savior's keeping,
in sorrow will he love you less?
For Christ who took for you a cross
will bring you safe through ev'ry loss.</p> | <p>4 Sing, pray, and keep God's ways
unswerving,
offer your service faithfully.
Trust heaven's word; though
undeserving,
you'll find this promise true to be.
This is our confidence indeed:
God never fails in time of need.</p> |

Text: Georg Neumark, 1621-1681; tr. composite
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(stand)

CLOSING PRAYERS

- P** Almighty God,
- C** you have called us, your servants, to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
- P** We give thanks to you, heavenly Father,
- C** through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have graciously protected us today. We ask you to forgive us all our sins, where we have done wrong, and graciously to protect us tonight. Into your hands we commend ourselves: our bodies, our souls, and all that is ours. Let your holy angels be with us, so that the wicked foe may have no power over us. Amen.
- P** We are again bold enough to pray as our Lord taught us:
- 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** Let us bless the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.
- P** Almighty God, the Father, ✠ the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.
- C** Amen.

**1 O Light whose splendor thrills and
gladdens
with radiance brighter than the sun,
pure gleam of God’s unending glory,
O Jesus, blest Anointed One:**

**2 As twilight hovers near at sunset,
and lamps are lit, and children nod,
in evening hymns we lift our voices
to Father, Spirit, Son, one God.**

**3 In all life’s brilliant, timeless moments, let
faithful voices sing your praise,
O Son of God, our life-bestower,
whose glory lightens endless days.**

Text: Greek hymn, 3rd cent.; para. Carl P. Daw Jr., b.1944
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DISMISSAL

(sit)

POSTLUDE

“A Plea In The Wilderness”

Gabriel Faure
arr. Thomas Chesterton
Mark Jones, *organ*



Spending Time (again!) with an Old Friend
Wednesdays, 7:00 PM
In-Person (please register by noon on Tuesday)
Live-Stream



Last year our midweek Lenten Worship was to give us an opportunity to visit an old friend: The Lord's Prayer. That was cut short by the pandemic. So again each week we will reflect on various petitions(s) of this great prayer gaining insights from Martin Luther's Small Catechism. The Pastors are looking forward to this special time and encourage you to come (or live-stream) and hopefully gain a new perspective and a new appreciation for the prayer we say most often.

Our Schedule will be as follows:

Wednesday, March 24
The Seventh Petition and the Conclusion
"But deliver us from evil. Amen."

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