



Jesus Will Raise Us from Death to Life



The Fifth Sunday In Lent

March 28 and 29, 2020

Today's focus: Jesus will raise us from death to life. The crown jewel of the coming kingdom is the resurrection of the dead. One day, Jesus will defeat the last enemy (1 Corinthians 15:27) and life will reign again in our new Eden with God. On our Lenten walk to Calvary, the Church sees the Savior come face to face with death and defeat it completely.



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The Season of Lent

The word Lent comes from an Old English word for Spring (“lengten,” the time of the year when the days grow longer). For the last 1,700 years, the Church has set aside the 40 days between Ash Wednesday and Easter as a time of special preparation (the Church speaks of 40 days of Lent because they do not count the Sundays, which retain their significance as “little Easters”). It is a time of repentance and renewal. The color of the season is purple, the ancient color of royalty. We remember our King Jesus, who wore a crown of thorns, and carried a cross for us.

During Lent, our rejoicing is muted as we remember our Lord’s suffering and death. But it is with a purpose: we know that the Lord who died took up his life again on Easter Sunday morning. So our 40 days of Lent are ones lived in the certain hope of the resurrection. Thanks be to God!

The Sundays in Lent

The Sundays in Lent are intended to be islands of refreshment in our Lenten walk. As you come into the presence of God, repent and be refreshed! The Reason? . . .

Lent 1: Jesus defeated the devil for us	Feb 29/Mar 1
Lent 2: Jesus is the gift of God for all nations by faith	March 7/8
Lent 3: Jesus brings sight for the blind	March 14/15
Lent 4: Jesus calls us from sinful selfishness to selfless service	March 21/22
<i>Lent 5: Jesus will raise us from death to life</i>	<i>March 28/29</i>
Lent 6: Jesus is the King who comes to save us!	April 4/5

It is the mission of



Good Shepherd

to

Seek the Lost
Feed the Flock and
Serve our Savior



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church is part of a group of nearly 1,300 churches called the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod or WELS. The WELS is a worldwide church with congregations serving in all fifty of the United States, as well as in Mexico and Canada. The WELS also serves over 26 foreign countries through world mission work. We are united in faith and teaching with the other churches of the WELS as well as the members of the Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference, consisting of 21 confessional Lutheran church bodies throughout the world.

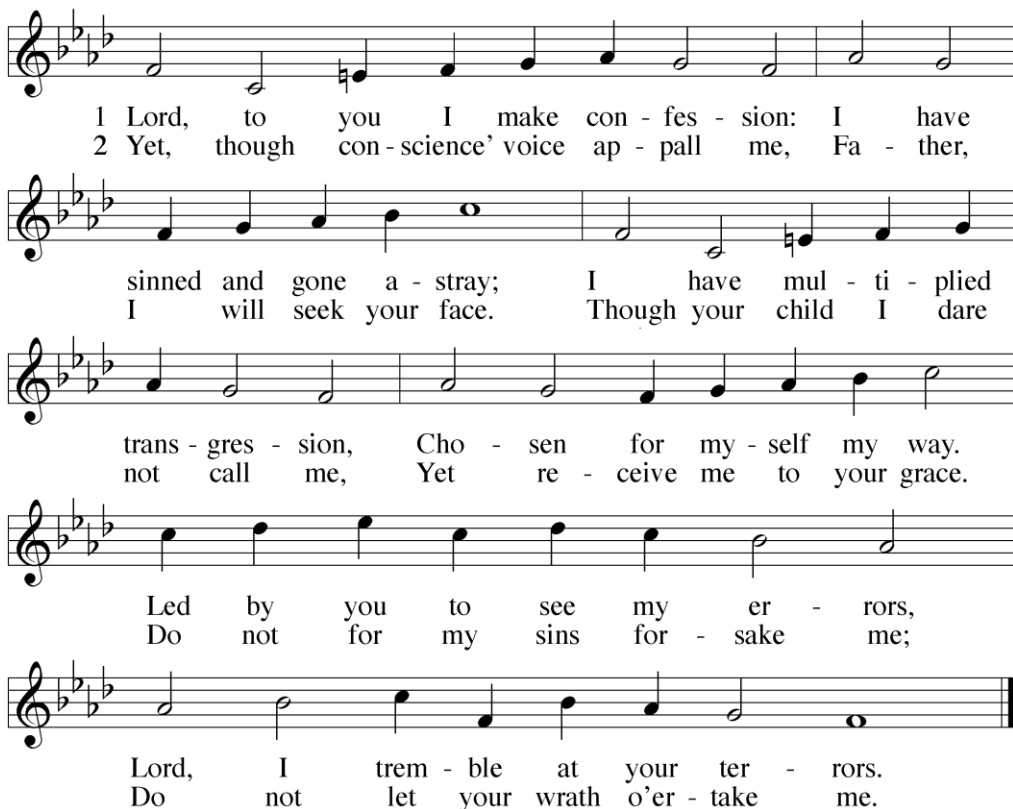
We Come into the Presence of God

Invocation

Minister: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

Congregation: **And also with you.**

Opening Hymn: #302, verses 1-2 “Lord, to You I Make Confession”



1 Lord, to you I make con - fes - sion: I have
2 Yet, though con - science' voice ap - pall me, Fa - ther,
sinned and gone a - stray; I have mul - ti - plied
I will seek your face. Though your child I dare
trans - gres - sion, Cho - sen for my - self my way.
not call me, Yet re - ceive me to your grace.
Led by you to see my er - rors,
Do not for my sins for - sake me;
Lord, I trem - ble at your ter - rors.
Do not let your wrath o'er - take me.

Text: Johann Franck, 1618–77, abr.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: HERR, ICH HABE MISSGEHANDELT (87 87 88) Johann Crüger, 1598–1662.

Confession of Sins

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

M: Dear Lord, for not loving you above all things, we come before you and say:

C: We are sorry.

M: Dear Lord, for using your name carelessly, failing to pray as we ought, and not applying ourselves fully to listening to your Word, we come before you and say:

C: We are sorry.

M: Dear Lord, for not honoring those in authority over us with our words and attitudes, for not helping others in need, and for letting impurity creep into our lives, we come before you and say:

C: We are sorry.

M: Dear Lord, for any time we have cheated or taken something not ours, any time we have been dishonest or greedy, any time we have gossiped and hurt the reputation of someone else, we come before you and say:

C: We are sorry.

M: Dear Lord, for all of our sins of thought, word, and action, those that we are aware of as well as those that we are unaware of, the sin we have done and the good we have not done, we come before you and say:

C: We are sorry.

Hymn: #302, verse 3 “Lord, to You I Make Confession”

**For your Son has suffered for me,
Giv’n himself to rescue me,
Died to save me and restore me,
Reconciled and set me free.
Jesus’ cross alone can vanquish
These dark fears and soothe this anguish.**

Absolution

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are forgiven. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: **Amen.**

Hymn: #302, verse 4 “Lord, to You I Make Confession”

**Lord, on you I cast my burden—
Sink it in the depths below!
Let me know your gracious pardon;
Wash me, make me white as snow.
Let your Spirit leave me never;
Make me only yours forever.**

We Listen

First Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14

¹The hand of the Lord was on me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the LORD and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ²He led me back and forth among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry. ³He asked me, “Son of man, can these bones live?”

I said, “Sovereign Lord, you alone know.”

⁴Then he said to me, “Prophesy to these bones and say to them, ‘Dry bones, hear the word of the Lord! ⁵This is what the Sovereign Lord says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life. ⁶I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the Lord.’”

⁷So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. ⁸I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them.

⁹Then he said to me, “Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to it, ‘This is what the Sovereign Lord says: Come, breath, from the four winds and breathe into these slain, that they may live.’” ¹⁰So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet—a vast army.

¹¹Then he said to me: “Son of man, these bones are the people of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone; we are cut off.’ ¹²Therefore prophesy and say to them: ‘This is what the Sovereign Lord says: My people, I am going to open your graves and bring you up from them; I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³Then you, my people, will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and bring you up from them. ¹⁴I will put my Spirit in you and you will live, and I will settle you in your own land. Then you will know that I the Lord have spoken, and I have done it, declares the Lord.’”

Psalm 116 (*Spoken responsively, no musical accompaniment*)

M: I love the Lord, for he heard my voice;
C: **he heard my cry for mercy.**

M: Because he turned his ear to me,
C: **I will call on him as long as I live.**

M: The Lord is gracious and righteous;
C: **when I was in great need, he saved me.**

M: For you, O Lord, have delivered my soul from death,
C: **my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.**

M: How can I repay the Lord
C: **for all his goodness to me?**

M: I will lift up the cup of salvation
C: **and call on the name of the Lord.**

M: I will walk in the presence of the Lord,
C: **in the land of the living.**

Second Reading: Romans 8:11-19

¹¹And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.

¹²Therefore, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation—but it is not to the flesh, to live according to it. ¹³For if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live.

¹⁴For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. ¹⁵The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, “*Abba, Father.*” ¹⁶The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children. ¹⁷Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

¹⁸I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. ¹⁹For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed.

The 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.**

Gospel: John 11:17-27, 38-45

¹⁷On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. ¹⁸Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁹and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. ²⁰When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home.

²¹“Lord,” Martha said to Jesus, “if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask.”

²³Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.”

²⁴Martha answered, “I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.”

²⁵Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; ²⁶and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?”

²⁷“Yes, Lord,” she replied, “I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world.”

³⁸Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. ³⁹“Take away the stone,” he said.

“But, Lord,” said Martha, the sister of the dead man, “by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days.”

⁴⁰Then Jesus said, “Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?”

⁴¹So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, “Father, I thank you that you have heard me. ⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me.”

⁴³When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” ⁴⁴The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face.

Jesus said to them, “Take off the grave clothes and let him go.”

⁴⁵Therefore many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary, and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

Children’s Message

Hymn of the Day: #110, verses 1-4 "My Song is Love Unknown"



1 My song is love un - known, My Sav - ior's love to
2 He came from his blest throne Sal - va - tion to be -
3 Some - times they strew his way And his sweet prais - es
4 Why? What has my Lord done? What makes this rage and



me, Love to the love - less shown That they might
stow, But such dis - dain! So few The longed - for
sing, Re - sound - ing all the day Ho - san - nas
spite? He made the lame to run; He gave the



love - ly be. Oh, who am I That for my
Christ would know! But oh, my friend, My friend in -
to their King. Then "Cru - ci - fy!" Is all their
blind their sight. Sweet in - ju - ries! Yet they at



sake My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?
deed, Who at my need His life did spend!
breath, And for his death They thirst and cry.
these Them - selves dis - please And 'gainst him rise.

Text: Samuel Crossman, c. 1624-83, alt.

Tune: LOVE UNKNOWN (66 66 4444) John N. Ireland, 1879-1962. © John Ireland Trust.
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Sermon

We Respond

Prayer of the Church

Lord's Prayer

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.

Blessing

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

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.

Closing Hymn: #110, verses 5-7 "My Song is Love Unknown"

**They rise and needs will have
My dear Lord made away.
A murderer they save;
The Prince of life they slay.
Yet cheerful he
To suffering goes
That he his foes
From death might free.**

**In life no house, no home
My Lord on earth might have;
In death no friendly tomb
But what a stranger gave.
What may I say?
Heav'n was his home
But mine the tomb
Wherein he lay.**

**Here might I stay and sing;
No story so divine,
Never was love, dear King,
Never was grief like thine.
This is my friend,
In whose sweet praise
I all my days
Could gladly spend!**

