

SURRENDER STRONGER

† *Soli Deo Gloria* †

“Truth Be Told”

Duet

Opening Hymn “Christ, the Life of All the Living” LSB 420 v.1-3

- 1 Christ, the life of all the living,
Christ, the death of death, our foe,
Who, Thyself for me once giving
To the darkest depths of woe:
Through Thy sufferings, death, and merit
I eternal life inherit.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.
- 2 Thou, ah! Thou, hast taken on Thee
Bonds and stripes, a cruel rod;
Pain and scorn were heaped upon Thee,
O Thou sinless Son of God!
Thus didst Thou my soul deliver
From the bonds of sin forever.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.
- 3 Thou hast borne the smiting only
That my wounds might all be whole;
Thou hast suffered, sad and lonely,
Rest to give my weary soul;
Yea, the curse of God enduring,
Blessing unto me securing.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

† **PREPARATION** †

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

CONFESSION

From 1 John 1:8-9 and John 20:19-23.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and self-examination.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment.

For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Lent Anthem "On My Heart Imprint Your Image"

LSB

422

**On my heart im-print Your im-age,
Bless-ed Je-sus, King of grace,
That life's rich-es, cares, and plea-sures
Nev-er may Your work e-race;
Let the clear in-scrip-tion be:
Je-sus, cru-ci-fied for me,
Is my life, my hope's foun-da-tion,**

And my glo-ry and sal-va-tion!

† **WORD** †

THE SALUTATION AND THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

GENESIS 3:1-9

¹Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made.

He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden’?” ²And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’” ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. ⁵For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” ⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

⁸And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE READING

REVELATION 22:1-5

¹Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ²through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. ³No longer will there be anything accursed, but the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him. ⁴They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵And night will be no more. They will need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

LENTEN VERSE

P 157

**All Re-turn to the Lord, your God,
 for He is gra-cious and mer-ci-ful,
 slow to an-ger, and a-bound-ing in stead-fast love,
 and a-bound-ing in stead-fast love.**

GOSPEL READING

MATTHEW 16:24-28

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 5th chapter.

C **Glo-ry to You, O Lord.**

²⁴Then Jesus told his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ²⁵For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. ²⁶For

what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his life? Or what shall a man give in return for his life? ²⁷For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done. ²⁸Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

APOSTLE’S CREED

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father
Almighty.**

**From thence 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 HYMN “THE LAMB”

LSB 547

1 The Lamb, the Lamb,
O Father, where’s the sacrifice?
Faith sees, believes
God will provide the Lamb of price! Refrain

- ref Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!
- 2 The Lamb, the Lamb,
One perfect final offering.
The Lamb, the Lamb,
Let earth join heav'n His praise to sing. Refrain
- 3 The Lamb, the Lamb,
As wayward sheep their shepherd kill
So still, His will
On our behalf the Law to fill. Refrain
- 4 He sighs, He dies,
He takes my sin and wretchedness.
He lives, forgives,
He gives me His own righteousness. Refrain
- 5 He rose, He rose,
My heart with thanks now overflows.
His song prolong
Till ev'ry heart to Him belong. Refrain

SERMON "SURRENDER STRONGER" PASTOR REDEKER

ANTHEM "Create In Me" P 192

**Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God,
and re-new a right spir-it with-in me.
Cast me not a-way from Thy pres-ence,
And take not Thy ho-ly Spir-it from me.
Re-store un-to me the joy of Thy Sal-va-tion,
and up-hold me with Thy free spir-it. A-men.**

OFFERING

PRAYERS 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.**

BENEDICTION

- P** 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 **T** give you
peace.
- C** **Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN “CHRIST, THE LIFE OF ALL THE LIVING” LSB 420
v.4-7**

- 4 Heartless scoffers did surround Thee,
Treating Thee with shameful scorn
And with piercing thorns they crowned Thee.
All disgrace Thou, Lord, hast borne,
That as Thine Thou mightest own me
And with heav’nly glory crown me.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.
- 5 Thou hast suffered men to bruise Thee,
That from pain I might be free;
Falsely did Thy foes accuse Thee:
Thence I gain security;
Comfortless Thy soul did languish
Me to comfort in my anguish.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.
- 6 Thou hast suffered great affliction
And hast borne it patiently,

Even death by crucifixion,
Fully to atone for me;
Thou didst choose to be tormented
That my doom should be prevented.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

- 7 Then, for all that wrought my pardon,
For Thy sorrows deep and sore,
For Thine anguish in the Garden,
I will thank Thee evermore,
Thank Thee for Thy groaning, sighing,
For Thy bleeding and Thy dying,
For that last triumphant cry,
And shall praise Thee, Lord, on high.

**The Worship Service Lent
March 17th, 2021**

Preacher	Rev. Michael Redeker
Liturgist	Rev. Joshua Schmidt
Organist	David Fenske
Acolyte	Brielle Krizman
Videographer	Jeremy Skoog
Solo	James VanFossan, & Fritz Nuffer

Surrender Stronger

Discussion Notes:

God Loves:

We often want to follow our own will instead of surrendering to God's. When we live God's way He strengthens our lives with Spiritual Fruit.

The ultimate fulfillment of spiritual fruit is found in Revelation 22 where the Tree of Life is found as trees of many fruits with leaves that heal the nations.

1. What does it mean to your life that the Holy Spirit grows Spiritual Fruit within you?
2. How could you tell the whole story of the Bible through the metaphor of a tree?
3. When Jesus says in Revelation 21:5 that he is "making everything new" what does that mean to for your life?

Love Others:

1. What's the farthest place you have ever traveled to?
2. Have you ever served on a foreign mission trip or met a Christian from another culture outside of America?
3. Did you observe anything in the lives of the believers in that part of the world that particularly impressed you or struck you as different from American Christianity?

Serve World:

In Exodus 16, the Jewish people were led from slavery in Egypt toward a new promised land. Unfortunately, they spent the bulk of the time grumbling about what they left behind instead of anticipating the freedom God planned for them. They would rather live in slavery than surrender to a God that wants to make them stronger.

1. How can you make sure you don't allow a grumbling spirit get in the way of what God wants to do in your life?
2. How is God calling you to "take up your cross and follow Jesus" more fully?
3. Do you know of someone who models "surrender stronger"?
4. How will this concept be reflected in your daily life?

Let's demonstrate the fruits of the Spirit in our community!

Challenge yourself to do two random acts of kindness for strangers and consider supporting local businesses in your neighborhood (suggestions below).

1. Leave your extra change at the cash register.
2. Send a thank-you note to one of the following: the staff at your local police or fire station, teachers and school administration, grocery store workers, pharmacy workers, hospitals, care facilities, servers, etc.

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