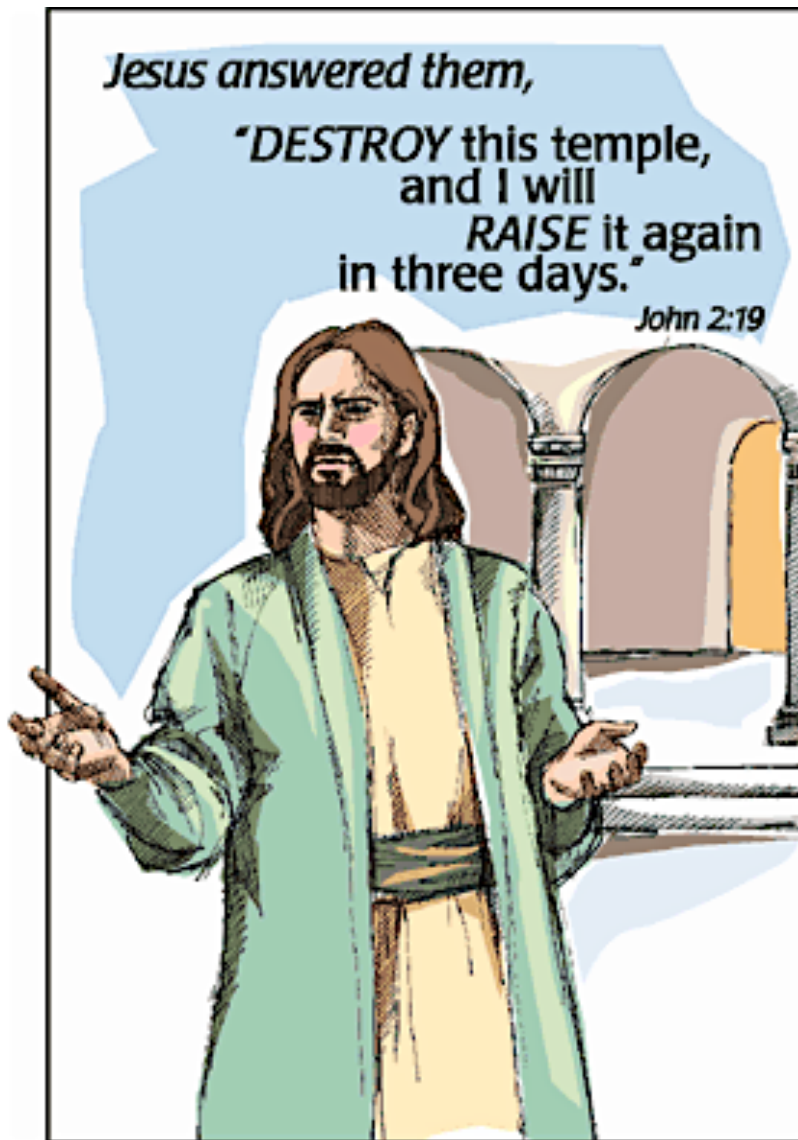


ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

– CHURCH OF THE LUTHERAN CONFESSION –
LAKEWOOD, COLORADO



3RD SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 7, 2021

ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC)
www.clclutheran.org

Thomas Schuetze, pastor (303-428-5524)
Ed Chiappetti, president – Mike Sprengeler, SS Superintendent

ORDER OF WORSHIP: SERVICE OF WORD & SACRAMENT

(printed on liturgy insert inside front cover of maroon hymnal)

- ◆ Pre-Service Devotion: Psalm 69:1-18 (pew bible, p.515)
- ◆ The Hymns: 793, 579, 637, 427
- ◆ Scripture Lessons: Exodus 20:1-17, John 2:13-22
- ◆ Psalm of the Day: From Psalm 51
- ◆ Confession of Faith: The Nicene Creed (last page of liturgy insert)

Sermon Text – 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

KEEP ON CLINGING TO THE MESSAGE OF THE CROSS!

1. Though outwardly weak, it packs tremendous power!
2. Though seemingly foolish, it is the highest wisdom!

- ◆ Presentation of the Offering
- ◆ Prayer & the Lord's Prayer
- ◆ Reception of New Member, Karen Thompson
- ◆ Communion Liturgy (liturgy insert, pp.17-21)
- ◆ Benediction & Closing Hymn (632)

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Large print bulletins are available on the shelf by
the tract rack or by request from an usher.

You may contribute an offering for God's kingdom work by
putting it in the collection plate located by the back pew.
There will be no offering collection during the service.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURES

Old Testament – Exodus 20:1-17

1 And God spoke all these words: 2 “I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. 3 “You shall have no other gods before me. 4 “You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. 5 You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, 6 but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments. 7 “You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name. 8 “Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. 9 Six days you shall labor and do all your work, 10 but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your manservant or maidservant, nor your animals, nor the alien within your gates. 11 For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy. 12 “Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you. 13 “You shall not murder. 14 “You shall not commit adultery. 15 “You shall not steal. 16 “You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor. 17 “You shall not covet your neighbor’s house. You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.”

Psalm of the Day – From Psalm 51

P O Lord, open my lips:
C And my mouth will declare your praise.
P You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it:
C You do not take pleasure in burnt offerings.
P The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit:
C A broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.
P Create in me a pure heart, O God:
C And renew a steadfast spirit within me.
P Do not cast me from your presence:
C Or take your Holy Spirit from me.
P Restore to me the joy of your salvation:
C And grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.
P Then I will teach transgressors your ways:
C And sinners will turn back to you.

Second Lesson – John 2:13-22

13 When it was almost time for the Jewish Passover, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. 14 In the temple courts he found men selling cattle, sheep and doves, and others sitting at tables exchanging money. 15 So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple area, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. 16 To those who sold doves he said, “Get these out of here! How dare you turn my Father’s house into a market!” 17 His disciples remembered that it is written: “Zeal for your house will consume me.” 18 Then the Jews demanded of him, “What miraculous sign can you show us to prove your authority to do all this?” 19 Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days.” 20 The Jews replied, “It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?” 21 But the temple he had spoken of was his body. 22 After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they believed the Scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken.

Sermon Text – 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

18 For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. 19 For it is written: “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise; the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate.” 20 Where is the wise man? Where is the scholar? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? 21 For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe. 22 Jews demand miraculous signs and Greeks look for wisdom, 23 but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, 24 but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. 25 For the foolishness of God is wiser than man’s wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than man’s strength.

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A WARM WELCOME IN CHRIST TO OUR WORSHIP GUESTS. We’re glad for the opportunity to share with you the Gospel of forgiveness through Jesus! Please introduce yourself to the pastor and sign our guest book. We invite you to come worship with us again. If you would like to know more about St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church and our national organization, the Church of the Lutheran Confession, please speak with the pastor. He would be happy to call on you to share our confession and mission with you.

SERVING US AT GOD'S HOUSE TODAY
Organist, Carly Meyer; Usher, Ed Chiappetti
Communion Usher, Mike Sprengeler

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL

Today (3/7) 9:30 am Worship Service with Communion
 10:45 am Sunday School (Jesus in Gethsemane, NT 36)
 11:00 am Bible Class
Wed 7:00 pm Lenten Service
Sun (3/14) 9:30 am Worship Service
 10:45 am Sunday School (The Trial of Jesus, NT 37)
 10:45 am Bible Class

REMINDER: *Daylight Savings Time* begins next Sunday, March 14, so you'll want to remember to turn your clocks ahead one hour.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Wed. Lenten Services: March 10,17,24, 7:00 pm
Palm Sunday Worship: March 28, 9:30 am
Maundy Thursday Communion Service: April 1, 7:00 pm
Good Friday Worship: April 2, 7:00 pm
Easter Sunday Worship: April 4, 9:30 am

IN OUR PRAYERS: Benjamin Whitmer (son of Julie Whitmer-Wright) who remains hospitalized in the ICU at St. Anthony's Medical Center in Lakewood. He is being treated for Covid. May the Lord grant him healing according to His gracious will.

OUR FOURTH MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICE will be held this Wednesday at 7:00 pm, conducted by Pastor Tim Wheaton. This week's thought for meditation is: "*Jesus Was Condemned, Though Innocent of Wrong-Doing*" (a truth proclaimed by Judas Iscariot). Sermon text: Matthew 27:3-4. Pastor Schuetze will conduct the service at Redeemer Cheyenne.



SYNOD NEWS – "*Youth Camp at Camp Jim in Pillager, MN is currently a 'go' for June 13-19, 2021. Because of spacing restrictions in Minnesota, attendance at this point is limited to those entering 9th through 12th grade in the Fall of 2021. Should restrictions be lifted, the camp directors will be ready to open registration to those entering 6th-8th grade as well. Initial registration date for Grades 9-12 will be on Palm Sunday, March 28, at 3:00 pm Central. Because of COVID uncertainties, no registration fee will be due at that time. Cost to be paid at a later date will be \$180 per camper. Watch for a registration reminder and web address in the coming weeks*" (from camp director Jonathan Gamble).

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR HOME DEVOTIONS

MARCH 14-21

Mon Exodus 20:1-17 God said it plain and simple: “You should not be doing idolatry, throwing dirt on My good name, disrespecting life, marriage, and your neighbor’s property, dissing his good name or coveting his possessions; also, respect My gifts of Sabbath and your parents.” Because those sinners didn’t recognize how bad they were, God spelled it out. Read it and weep!

Tues John 2:13-22 God wants respect for Himself and His house of worship—but Jesus found repulsive conditions in the Jerusalem Temple. The purpose of the Temple and the function of bloody sacrifices escaped them; they failed to see that the sacrifice of the perfect Lamb of God was implied. And Easter was a closed book until God opened it and read it out loud and clear (18-22).

Wed 1 Corinthians 1:22-25 It’s old-fashion to expect God to prove Himself by doing miracles, and new-fashion to expect God to conduct His business in a rational manner. So God surpasses both expectations: He demoted Himself, putting Himself so low that He endured the worst that humans can do to one another (Christ crucified)—which doesn’t look like a glorious miracle nor a reasonable thing for God to be doing. Praise God for having the last word!

Thurs Psalm 19 God’s Universe has the first word, declaring His existence and power (1-6). If you want to know more about God, pay attention to what He has put into print about Himself (7-10). And don’t ignore your errors, faults, sins, and transgressions (11-13), as you approach the throne of grace asking that your repentance be acceptable in His sight. Have mercy on us, O Lord, our strength and our Redeemer, for Jesus’ sake! Amen.

Fri Matthew 21:12-13 Evidently the entrepreneurs picked up the pieces and moved right back in—where Jesus found them again three years later. Since Jesus seldom raised His hand against anyone, we deduce that this situation really provoked Him. That’s why we are scrupulously careful to avoid using secular ventures to support our spiritual endeavors. Lord, have mercy!

Sat Acts 22:3-16 Paul justified his conduct in the Temple by a quick review of his devotion to Judaism; he was neither a drop-out from seminary (3) nor a wimp in putting his religion into practice by persecuting Christians (4-5). Then God stopped him in his tracks. God knocked him off his high horse, flattened him, blinded him, and forced him to face the ultimate question: “WHY are you persecuting ME? You have made yourself MY enemy, and I want to know why.” Well, since Paul had no defense, he surrendered. From then on, God led him by the hand, bringing him into the Kingdom and into Christian fellowship (10-16). The world has never been the same; praise the Lord!