

3rd Sunday in Lent

March 12, 2023

The Season The Church's Lenten worship is muted and quiet. For centuries, the Church has omitted her most jubilant songs of praise during this season of repentance. We will omit the use of "Alleluia" and the Song of Praise to reflect the somber nature of the season. Note, however, that the Sundays are designated as Sunday in Lent, not Sundays of Lent. The Sundays themselves are not considered part of the forty days, but are islands of refreshment in our Lenten walk. They are *Islands in the Son!*

The Sunday The light of the world brings sight to the blind and judgment to the blinded. We were born in the blindness of sin, and without the light of Christ we could not find a way to safety. Christ comes to shine his light into our darkened eyes that we might see him and live. *Islands in the Son: An Island Full of Light*

Opening Hymn

Christ Be My Leader CW 367



1 Christ be my lead - er by night as by day,
2 Christ be my teach - er in age as in youth,
3 Christ be my Sav - ior in calm as in strife;



Safe through the dark - ness, for he is the way.
Drift - ing or doubt - ing, for he is the truth.
Death can - not hold me, for he is the life. Nor



Glad - ly I fol - low, my fu - ture his care;
Grant me to trust him, though shift - ing as sand.
dark - ness nor doubt - ing nor sin and its stain Can



Dark - ness is day - light when Je - sus is there.
Doubt can - not daunt me— in Je - sus I stand!
touch my sal - va - tion— with Je - sus I reign!

TEXT: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926. © 1964. Renewed 1992 by Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188.
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TUNE: SLANE (Irregular) Irish folk tune.

Stand

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

C: **And also with you.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

Morrison Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod



MORRISON ZION LUTHERAN

Our mission is to **Glorify God**

as we **Gather** around the **Gospel** to help people

Grow in the **Gospel** and **Go**

with the **Gospel**

Welcome! We thank God that you have joined us at worship today.

Restrooms are located in the basement. Hearing loop headphones and Large Print Hymnals are available from an usher.

If your children need to leave worship, please take them to the basement. A TV broadcasts the service in the basement.

Today we gather together in the presence of God. He is present among us in a special way through his Word and Sacrament. We humbly acknowledge our sin and rejoice in the good news of forgiveness through the life and death of Christ. This is the focus of our worship.

- M: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.
- C: **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**
- M: God our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: **Amen.**

PRAYER AND PRAISE

Lord, Have Mercy *Kyrie*

- M: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.
- C: **Lord, have mercy.**
- M: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.
- C: **Christ, have mercy.**
- M: For the well-being of your church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.
- C: **Lord, have mercy.**
- M: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:
- C: **Amen**

Prayer of the Day

- M: Let us pray.
Almighty God, look with favor on your humble servants and stretch out the right hand of your power to defend us against all our enemies; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: **Amen.**

Be Seated

THE WORD

Choir

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light (10:30)

First Lesson:

Isaiah 42:14-21

To his helplessly blind children who cannot find a way out, God promises certain deliverance and rescue. God himself will lead them to safety and will turn their darkness into light. But to those who reject the true God and look to idols, God promises judgment! Like the Pharisees in the Gospel, God promises that though they see, they remain spiritually blind—though they hear, they remain spiritually deaf.

- ¹⁴ “For a long time I have kept silent,
I have been quiet and held myself back.
But now, like a woman in childbirth,
I cry out, I gasp and pant.
- ¹⁵ I will lay waste the mountains and hills
and dry up all their vegetation;
I will turn rivers into islands
and dry up the pools.
- ¹⁶ I will lead the blind by ways they have not known,
along unfamiliar paths I will guide them;
I will turn the darkness into light before them
and make the rough places smooth.
These are the things I will do;
I will not forsake them.
- ¹⁷ But those who trust in idols,
who say to images, ‘You are our gods,’
will be turned back in utter shame.
- ¹⁸ “Hear, you deaf;
look, you blind, and see!
- ¹⁹ Who is blind but my servant,
and deaf like the messenger I send?
Who is blind like the one in covenant with me,
blind like the servant of the LORD?
- ²⁰ You have seen many things, but you pay no attention;
your ears are open, but you do not listen.”
- ²¹ It pleased the LORD
for the sake of his righteousness
to make his law great and glorious. (NIV)

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 143 CW

Refrain



Lord, let your mer-cy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Psalm tone



O LORD, hear my prayer, listen to my cry for mercy;^{*}
in your faithfulness and righteousness come to my relief.

Do not bring your servant into judgment,^{*}
for no one living is righteous before you.

My spirit grows faint within me;^{*}
my heart within me is dismayed.

Refrain

Answer me quickly, O LORD;^{*}
do not hide your face from me.

Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love,^{*}
for I have put my trust in you.

Teach me to do your will, for you are my God;^{*}
may your good Spirit lead me on level ground.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son^{*}
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,^{*}
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Refrain

Refrain Tune: Richard Proulx. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL, www.giamusic.com. All rights reserved.
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Second Lesson

Ephesians 5:8-14

Paul does not say that once we were in the dark and now we are in the light. No, once we were darkness and now we are light. Our conversion meant a total transformation of what we are, and therefore, it will lead to a total transformation of what we do. No longer producing fruits of darkness, we live in the light and shine the light into the sin-darkened corners of our world.

⁸ For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light ⁹ (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) ¹⁰ and find out what pleases the Lord. ¹¹ Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. ¹² It is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. ¹³ But

everything exposed by the light becomes visible—and everything that is illuminated becomes a light. ¹⁴ This is why it is said:

“Wake up, sleeper,
rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”(NIV)

Verse of the Day

M: Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life. (John 3:14,15)

Stand

Gospel

John 9:1-7,13-17,34-39

The man was born blind not because of his parents' sin; nor was the man lying in Jesus' path by accident. Both happened that the work of God might be displayed in the life of this man who was doubly blind: he could not see Jesus physically or spiritually. Jesus shines as the light of the world. We believe, and we worship him.

⁹ As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. ² His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?”

³ “Neither this man nor his parents sinned,” said Jesus, “but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him. ⁴ As long as it is day, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵ While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”

⁶ After saying this, he spit on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man's eyes. ⁷ “Go,” he told him, “wash in the Pool of Siloam” (this word means “Sent”). So the man went and washed, and came home seeing.

¹³ They brought to the Pharisees the man who had been blind. ¹⁴ Now the day on which Jesus had made the mud and opened the man's eyes was a Sabbath. ¹⁵ Therefore the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. “He put mud on my eyes,” the man replied, “and I washed, and now I see.”

¹⁶ Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.”

But others asked, “How can a sinner perform such signs?” So they were divided.

¹⁷ Then they turned again to the blind man, “What have you to say about him? It was your eyes he opened.”

The man replied, “He is a prophet.”

³⁴ To this they replied, “You were steeped in sin at birth; how dare you lecture us!” And they threw him out.

³⁵ Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?”

³⁶ “Who is he, sir?” the man asked. “Tell me so that I may believe in him.”

³⁷ Jesus said, “You have now seen him; in fact, he is the one speaking with you.”

³⁸ Then the man said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him.

³⁹ Jesus said, “For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind.” (NIV)

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be Seated

Hymn of the Day

Christ Is the World's Light CW 343



1 Christ is the world's light, Christ and none oth - er;
2 Christ is the world's peace, Christ and none oth - er;
3 Christ is the world's life, Christ and none oth - er;
4 Give God the glo - ry, God and none oth - er;



Born in our dark - ness, he be - came our broth - er.
No one can serve him and de - spise an - oth - er.
Sold once for sil - ver, mur - dered here, our broth - er.
Give God the glo - ry, Spir - it, Son, and Fa - ther;



If we have seen him, we have seen the
Who else u - nites us, one with God the
He who re - deemed us reigns with God the
Give God the glo - ry, God with us, my



Fa - ther: Glo - ry to God on high!
Fa - ther? Glo - ry to God on high!
Fa - ther: Glo - ry to God on high!
broth - er: Glo - ry to God on high!

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000, alt. © 1969 Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.
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Tune: CHRISTE SANCTORUM (10 11 11 6) *Antiphoner*, Paris, 1681.

Sermon

Ephesians 5:8-14

Stand

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and

for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Be Seated

Offering

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Lord's Prayer

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.

THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

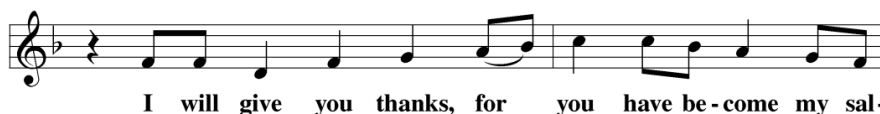
M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Proper Preface

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He made his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.

Holy, Holy, Holy



Words of Institution

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **Amen.**

O Christ, Lamb of God

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us your peace. A - men.

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff. It begins with a common time signature 'C'. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes, with some phrases ending in a half note. The lyrics are printed below the staff, aligned with the notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

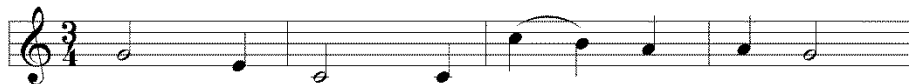
Be Seated

Because God speaks of communing together as an expression of unity in faith and warns us against the dangers of not understanding what communion is, we practice close communion. WELS members are welcome to commune with us. Visitors, please speak with the pastor before communing. If you would like to learn more about communing with us in the future, please contact pastor.

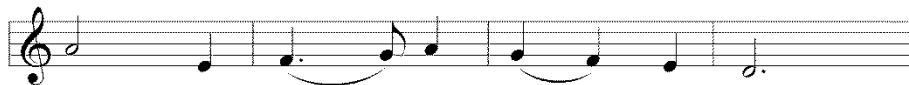
Distribution

Distribution Hymn

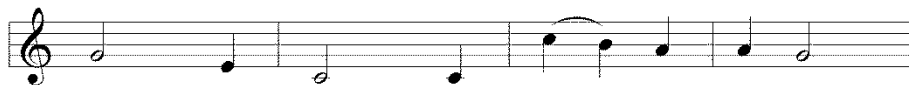
Church of God, Elect ad Glorious CWS 774



1 Church of God, e - lect and glo - rious,
 2 God has called you out of dark - ness
 3 Once you were an al - ien peo - ple,
 4 Church of God, e - lect and ho - ly,



Ho - ly na - tion, cho - sen race;
 In - to his most mar - v'lous light,
 Stran - gers to God's heart of love;
 Be the peo - ple he in - tends;



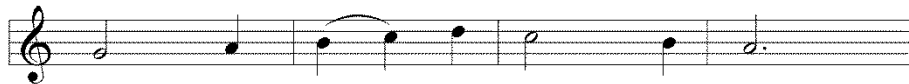
Called as God's own spe - cial peo - ple,
 Brought his truth to life with - in you,
 But he brought you home in mer - cy,
 Strong in faith and swift to an - swer



Roy - al priests and heirs of grace:
 Turned your blind - ness in - to sight.
 Cit - i - zens of heav'n a - bove.
 Each com - mand your mas - ter sends:



Know the pur - pose of your call - ing.
 Let your light so shine a - round you
 Let his love flow out to oth - ers;
 Roy - al priests, ful - fill your call - ing



Show to all his might - y deeds;
 That God's name is glo - ri - fied
 Let them feel a Fa - ther's care;
 Through your sac - ri - fice and prayer;



Tell of love that knows no lim - its,
 And all find fresh hope and pur - pose
 That they too may know his wel - come
 Give your lives in joy - ful ser - vice—



Grace that meets all hu - man needs.
 In Christ Je - sus cru - ci - fied.
 And his count - less bless - ings share.
 Sing his praise, his love de - clare.

This hymn emphasizes how Christians naturally fulfill what God has created and called them to be in Christ Jesus.

Text: James E. Seddon, 1915–1983 © 1982 Jubilate Hymns, Ltd. (admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188). All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Tune: ABBOTT'S LEIGH (87 87 D) Cyril V. Taylor, 1907–1992 © 1942, Ren. 1970 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Stand

Thank The Lord



C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud - ly bear his name.



He re - news his prom - is - es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

M: Hear the prayers of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son, may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the

pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Benediction

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.

Be Seated

Closing Hymn

Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name CW 321:1-2



1 Sav - ior, a - gain to thy dear name we raise
2 Grant us thy peace up - on our home - ward way;



With one ac - cord our part - ing hymn of praise.
With thee be - gan, with thee shall end the day.



Once more we bless thee ere our wor - ship cease,
Guard thou the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,



Then, low - ly bend - ing, wait thy word of peace.
That in this house have called up - on thy name.

Text: John Ellerton, 1826-93, abr., alt.

Tune: ELLERS (10 10 10 10) Edward J. Hopkins, 1818-1901.

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