

# JUDICA

THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT  
Sunday 17 March A✠D 2024



## OUR SAVIOR

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—Missouri Synod

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Rev. Jonathan C. McCall, Pastor

✠ Hymns ✠

454

430

604

429

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**Wooden kneeling stools** are available to all for use during the Preparation, Consecration, and Benediction. If you would like one, please take it from underneath the last row of chairs on the pulpit side of the nave before service. You may tuck it under the pew in front of you while not in use and may leave it there after the service.

### **This morning we will celebrate Holy Communion**

Visitors who have not before received communion from Pastor McCall are kindly asked to speak with him before Divine Service begins and before approaching the altar for the first time. Because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar and because those who eat and drink our Lord's Body and Blood unworthily do so to their great harm, it is very important to speak with pastor before service if you desire the Blessed Sacrament. Also, those who receive the Lord's Supper at Our Savior Evangelical Lutheran Church are baptized Christians who have been instructed in and publicly confess the Evangelical Lutheran faith. For these reasons, *only members of this congregation or sister congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod* receive Holy Communion at this altar. If you have any questions regarding the doctrine and practice of Closed Communion, please talk to the pastor before or after the Divine Service.

### **PASSIONTIDE**

The final stage in our symbolic journey toward Easter is *Passiontide*. Passiontide (the *time of the Passion*) begins with Judica, the fifth Sunday in Lent. The crosses are now covered at the conclusion of the Holy Gospel and even the *Gloria Patri* disappears for a while.

A common question is, "Why do we drape and cover the crosses as we get closer to Good Friday, as our attention upon the last hours and the sufferings of Our Lord increases?"

We do this because we do not deserve to look upon them. We are not worthy of the sacrifice. The cross is our greatest and most cherished symbol. So it is partially taken away from us for a short time, that we might better appreciate it when it returns.

The crosses are not taken away completely. They are not removed. They are only covered. We can see outlines of the crosses, but their beauty and details are fuzzy. This symbolizes the reality that our grief prevents us from seeing clearly until the Good Friday liturgy and, of course, Easter. Faith always views the cross in the light of the empty tomb.

The veiling also reminds us of Our Lord's actions in response to the violence of the people in the Judica Gospel. There we are told that "Jesus hid Himself." That is why the crucifixes in the sanctuary are veiled during the service, after the reading of the Gospel, and not before.

The idea of removing the *Gloria Patri* is much the same. The Triune name given at the Ascension is the fullest revelation of God's name given to men. To take away the *Gloria Patri* for two weeks is a bit jarring. It is particularly awkward to not sing it at the end of the *Nunc Dimittis*. But, again, its short-term removal serves to draw attention to it and highlight our privilege for the other fifty weeks of the year.

All of this is that we would learn to mortify the flesh and to depend more and more upon the grace of God in Christ. For never, even in our most somber of ceremonies, is the Church in doubt about the end. Jesus died, but He is not dead. Jesus lives. Easter is coming. Our *Alleluias*, *Gloria Patris*, crucifixes, fatty foods, and the like shall all return. But even better than that, we shall have them forever in the life of the world to come when our own resurrections occur.

Passiontide extends through Holy Week and the Triduum ("three holy days"—which includes Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday). At the conclusion of the Maundy Thursday service the altar will be stripped, the sanctuary decorations, such as the candelabra, paraments, etc., will be removed. Even the altar crucifix will be carried out. All that will be left in the sanctuary are the pieces of furniture, laid bare. The intensity builds from now until the Easter Vigil when we finally arrive at the empty tomb but not at an empty altar.



✠ HOLY WEEK ✠

<b>Sunday, 24 March</b>	<b>Palmarum (Palm Sunday)</b> 9:00 am Bible Study 10:30 am Divine Service with Palm Procession
<b>Thursday, 28 March</b>	<b>Maundy Thursday</b> 6:00 pm Divine Service, Stripping of the Altar
<b>Friday, 29 March</b>	<b>Good Friday</b> 5:00 pm Tenebrae Vespers
<b>Saturday, 30 March</b>	<b>Holy Saturday</b> 8:00 pm The Easter Vigil
<b>Sunday, 31 March</b>	<b>Easter Day</b> 9:30 am Easter Breakfast (NO Bible Study) 10:30 am Divine Service

✠ **THE DIVINE SERVICE** ✠

**10:30am**

**THE PRELUDE**

*The bell tolls three times to signify the beginning of service in reverence of the Holy Trinity. After the tolls, the Processional Hymn will begin.*

*Please STAND and face the Procession (beginning at the rear of the nave).*

**THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

**454** *Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle*

✠ **THE PREPARATION** ✠

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
ST. MATTHEW 28:19B; [18:20]

**Amen.**

Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

[HEBREWS 10:22]

*KNEEL IF YOU DESIRE AND ARE ABLE*

Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
who made heaven and earth. PSALM 124:8

I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the LORD,  
and You forgave the iniquity of my sin. PSALM 32:5

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination. The pastor will resume...*

**O almighty God, merciful Father, I a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.** [ST. JOHN 20:19-23]

STAND

## ☩ THE SERVICE OF THE WORD ☩

THE INTROIT PSALM 43:1-2A; PSALM 43:3-5



|Judge-| / me, O Gôd,  
and plead my cause against an / ungodly nation:  
**O deliver me from the deceit- / ful and unjust man.**  
**For thou art the God of my strength:**  
**/ why dost thou cast me off?**

O send out thy light and thy truth: / let them lead me;  
Let them bring me unto thy holy hill, and to / thy tabernacles.



**Then will I go unto the altar of God,  
Unto God / my exceeding joy:  
Yea, upon the harp will I praise thee,  
/ O God my God.—**

Why art thou cast down, / O my sôul?  
and why art thou disqui- / eted within me?

**Hope in God: for I / shall yet praise him,  
Who is the health of my / countenance, and my God.**

*\*The Gloria Patri is omitted during Passiontide.\**

|Judge-| / me, O Gôd,  
and plead my cause against an / ungodly nation:

**O deliver me from the deceit- / ful and unjust man.**  
**For thou art the God of my strength:**  
**/ why dost thou cast me off?**

THE KYRIE ST. MARK 10:47



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

THE SALUTATION 2 TIMOTHY 4:22

The Lord be with you.  
**And with thy spirit.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## THE OLD TESTAMENT

GENESIS 22:1-19

God tested Abraham, and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” Then He said, “Take now your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.” So Abraham rose early in the morning and saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son; and he split the wood for the burnt offering, and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. Then on the third day Abraham lifted his eyes and saw the place afar off. And Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; the lad and I will go yonder and worship, and we will come back to you.” So Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife, and the two of them went together. But Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said, “My father!” And he said, “Here I am, my son.” Then he said, “Look, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” And Abraham said, “My son, God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering.” So the two of them went together. Then they came to the place of which God had told him. And Abraham built an altar there and placed the wood in order; and he bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, upon the wood. And Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. But the Angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” So he said, “Here I am.” And He said, “Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me.” Then Abraham lifted his eyes and looked, and there behind him was a ram caught in a thicket by its horns. So Abraham went and took the ram, and offered it up for a burnt offering instead of his son. And Abraham called the name of the place, The-LORD-Will-

Provide; as it is said to this day, “In the Mount of the LORD it shall be provided.” Then the Angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time out of heaven, and said: “By Myself I have sworn, says the LORD, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son—blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies. In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice.” So Abraham returned to his young men, and they rose and went together to Beersheba; and Abraham dwelt at Beersheba.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## THE GRADUAL

PSALM 143:9A, 10A; 18:48A, C



Deliver me, O LORD, / from mine enemies:

- / teach me to do thy will;

**He delivereth me / from mine enemies:**

**thou hast delivered / me from the violent man.**

## THE EPISTLE

HEBREWS 9:11-15

*Brethren:* Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation. Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? And for this reason He is



the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions under the first covenant, that those who are called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

STAND

THE TRACT

PSALM 129:1-4



Many a time have they afflict- / ed me from my youth,  
may / Israel now say:

**Many a time have they afflict- / ed me from my youth:  
yet they have not / prevailed against me.**

The plowers / plowed upon my back:  
they / made long their furrows.

**The / LORD is righteous:  
he hath cut asunder the / cords of the wicked.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL

ST. JOHN 8:46-59A

The Lord be with you.

**And with thy spirit.**

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter.

**Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

✠ *At that time Jesus said to the multitude of the Jews and the chief priests:* “Which of you convicts Me of sin? And if I tell the truth, why do you not believe Me? He who is of God hears God’s words; therefore you do not hear, because you are not of God.” Then the Jews answered and said to Him, “Do we not say rightly that You are a Samaritan and have a demon?” Jesus answered, “I do not have a demon; but I honor My Father, and you dishonor Me. And I do not seek My own glory; there is One who seeks and judges. Most assuredly, I say to you, if anyone keeps My word he

shall never see death.” Then the Jews said to Him, “Now we know that You have a demon! Abraham is dead, and the prophets; and You say, ‘If anyone keeps My word he shall never taste death.’ Are You greater than our father Abraham, who is dead? And the prophets are dead. Who do You make Yourself out to be?” Jesus answered, “If I honor Myself, My honor is nothing. It is My Father who honors Me, of whom you say that He is your God. Yet you have not known Him, but I know Him. And if I say, ‘I do not know Him,’ I shall be a liar like you; but I do know Him and keep His word. Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad.” Then the Jews said to Him, “You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?” Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.” Then they took up stones to throw at Him; but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

THE NICENE CREED

**I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven *and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man*; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.**





Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

*KNEEL IF YOU DESIRE AND ARE ABLE*

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

ST. MATTHEW 6:9-13

**THE WORDS OF CHRIST'S TESTAMENT**

ST. MATTHEW 26:26-28;

ST. MARK 14:22-24; ST. LUKE 22:19-20; 1 CORINTHIANS 11:23-25

**THE PAX DOMINI**

ST. JOHN 20:19

The ☩ peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Amen.**

**THE AGNUS DEI**

ST. JOHN 1:29



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

*SIT*

**THE COMMUNION HYMNS**

604 *I Bind unto Myself Today*

429 *We Sing the Praise of Him Who Died*

*Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness*



1 Je - sus, Thy blood and right - eous - ness My beau - ty

2 Bold shall I stand in that great Day, For who aught

3 The ho - ly, meek, un - spot - ted Lamb, Who from the

4 Lord, I be - lieve Thy pre - cious blood, Which at the



are, my glo - rious dress; Midst flam - ing worlds, in these ar - rayed,

to my charge shall lay? Ful - ly thro' these ab - solved I am

Fa - ther's bos - om came, Who died for me, e'en me t'a - tone,

mer - cy - seat of God For - ev - er doth for sin - ners plead,



With joy shall I lift up my head.

From sin and fear, from guilt and shame.

Now for my Lord and God I own.

For me - e'en for my soul - was shed. A - men.



5 Lord, I believe were sinners more

Than sands upon the ocean shore,

Thou hast for all a ransom paid,

For all a full atonement made.

6 When from the dust of death I rise

To claim my mansion in the skies,

E'en then this shall be all my plea:

Jesus hath lived and died for me.

7 Jesus, be endless praise to Thee,

Whose boundless mercy hath for me,

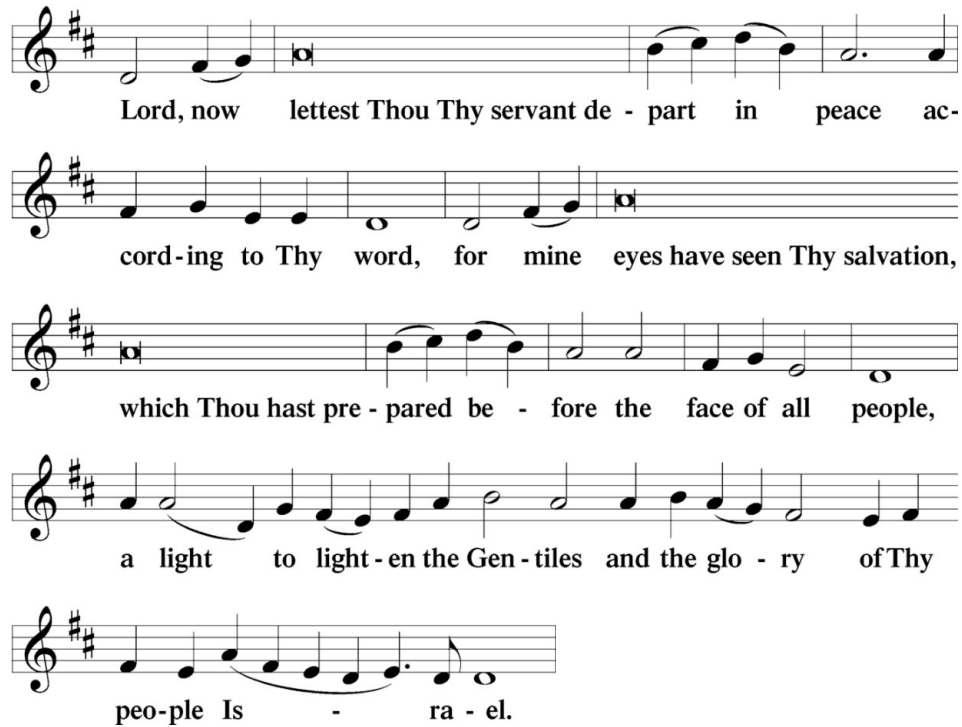
For me, and all Thy hands have made,

An everlasting ransom paid.

*STAND*

## THE NUNC DIMITTIS

ST. LUKE 2:29-32



Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-  
cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,  
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,  
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy  
peo-ple Is - ra - el.

## THE THANKSGIVING

PSALM 107:1

Oh, give thanks unto the LORD for He is good.

**And His mercy endureth forever.**

Let us pray. O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## THE SALUTATION

2 TIMOTHY 4:22

The Lord be with you.

**And with thy spirit.**

## THE BENEDICAMUS

[PSALM 103:1]

Bless we the LORD.

**Thanks be to God.**

*KNEEL IF YOU DESIRE AND ARE ABLE*

## THE BENEDICTION

NUMBERS 6:24-26

The LORD bless you and keep you.

The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

**Amen. Amen. Amen.**

*STAND*

## THE RETIRING PROCESSION WITH POSTLUDE

*Please face the Procession as it passes your pew.*

*Once the Retiring Procession reaches the narthex, depart in ✠ peace.*



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