

Christ The King Evangelical Lutheran Church

"To know... To teach... To share Christ"

Pastor Alan W. Gumm

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But God demonstrates
his own love for us
in this: While we
were still sinners
Christ died for us.

ROMANS 5:8, EHV

**Second Sunday In Lent
February 25, 2018**

Our Worship Today

Welcome! We pray that your worship here will draw you closer to your savior and equip you for a continuing life of Christian discipleship. For your spiritual needs we offer you the Word of Him who can supply all our needs - Jesus Christ, our Savior. Rejoice in His love for you. He cares for you. You are His own dear child.

Prayer Before Worship Almighty God, you see that we have no power to defend ourselves. Guard and keep us both outwardly and inwardly from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Worship Guide For Today's Service

Service of the Word, pages 38-44

Our Songs CW 114 "Christ, the Life of All the Living"
CW 108 "Jesus, Refuge of the Weary"
WS 715 "What Grace Is This"
CW 379 "Amazing Grace—How Sweet the Sound"

Psalm CW 94 Psalm 73

Our Stewardship Last Week

Sunday Worship 77 Communion 69 Sunday Bible Class 28
Sunday Offering: General Fund \$2,006
Midweek Lenten Service 35

Serving In Worship Today

Minister
Organist
Choir Director
Accompanist
Videographer

Pastor Alan W. Gumm
Jodie Roberts
Linda Martin
Sharon Martin
Larry Martin

Opening Hymn

CW 114 “Christ, the Life of All the Living“

Guide For Worship

CW Page 38 Service of the Word

The First Lesson

Genesis 28:10-17

¹⁰ Jacob left Beersheba and set out for Haran. ¹¹ When he reached a certain place, he stopped for the night because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones there, he put it under his head and lay down to sleep. ¹² He had a dream in which he saw a stairway resting on the earth, with its top reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. ¹³ There above it stood the Lord, and he said: “I am the Lord, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying. ¹⁴ Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east, to the north and to the south. All peoples on earth will be blessed through you and your offspring. ¹⁵ I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.” ¹⁶ When Jacob awoke from his sleep, he thought, “Surely the Lord is in this place, and I was not aware of it.” ¹⁷ He was afraid and said, “How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God; this is the gate of heaven.” (NIV1984)

The Psalm

CW Page 94, Psalm 73

Congregation sings refrain and speaks the second half of each verse.

The Second Lesson

Romans 5:1-11

¹ Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. ³ Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; ⁴ perseverance, character; and character, hope. ⁵ And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us. ⁶ You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. ⁸ But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹ Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! ¹⁰ For if, when we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! ¹¹ Not only is this so, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation. (NIV1984)

Verse of the Day

Jesus humbled himself and became obedient to death, even death on a cross.

The Gospel

Please Stand

Mark 8:31-38

³¹ He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. ³² He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³ But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. "Get behind me, Satan!" he said. "You do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men." ³⁴ Then he called the crowd to him along with his

disciples and said: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ³⁵ For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me and for the gospel will save it. ³⁶ What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his soul? ³⁷ Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul? ³⁸ If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels." (NIV1984)

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Sermon Hymn

CW 108 "Jesus, Refuge of the Weary"

Sermon

"God Demonstrates His Love"

Romans 5:8

Apostles' Creed

CW Page 41

Offering

Our Offerings to the Lord are freewill. Let your offerings be a joyful response to God's Grace to you.

Special Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

CW Page 43

Hymn

WS 715 “What Grace Is This“

Choir sings verses 1, 2, & 3

Congregation and choir sing verses 4, 5, & 6

Prayer and Benediction

CW Page 43

Closing Hymn

CW 379 “Amazing Grace—How Sweet the Sound”

WELS Connection

Announcements

Christ The King Evangelical Lutheran Church

- Today, February 25: Bible Study, 9:30 AM
Worship Service, 10:30 AM
- Tuesday, February 27: Bible Study, 9:30 AM
Membership Class, 10:30 AM
- Wednesday, February 28: Soup Supper, 5:00 PM
Midweek Lenten Service 6:00 PM
Choir, 7:00 PM
- Thursday, March 1: Membership Class, 10:30 AM
- Sunday, March 4: Bible Study, 9:30 AM
Worship Service with Communion, 10:30 AM
- Saturday, March 10: Spring Rally at Crown of Life Fort Myers, 8:30 AM
- Pastor in the Office: Tuesday, 9:00 AM to 12:00PM
Thursday, 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM & 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

The picture days on March 2nd and 3rd with Lifetouch have been cancelled.

The *Time of Grace* television program with Pastor Mark Jeske is now airing locally out of Fort Myers on Sundays at 5:30AM. Channel 26.1 (ABC) over the air, channel 26 on Dish or DirectTV, and channel 7 on Comcast or CenturyLink.

Serving our congregation: President-Larry Martin, Finance Chairman-John Smith, Head Elder-Robby Robinson, Worship Chairman-Marlyn Rische, Education Chairman-Ron Gorske, Outreach Chairman-Don Schoening, Properties Chairman-Wally Jordan

February Birthdays: John Pueschel-6th Jan Boyle-24th

February Anniversaries: Curtis and Sue Whittier-14th, Perry and Lois Jamar-26th, William and Jonette Jordan-28th.

Prayer List: Ellen Laurencell, Mary Emery, Fran Stecher, Keith Haslam, Dick Clemens, Marge Krueger, Robert Krueger, Barb Wiese



GOD'S WORD FOR THIS WEEK

Lent has to last a while and come around every year if for no other reason than this, that it is so hard for us to get the points made so strikingly in Lent. This Sunday we see God's seriousness in Lent in this: Salvation and suffering go hand in hand, for Jesus and for us too!

First Lesson: Genesis 28:10-17

Notice that Jacob's suffering is largely his own fault. Were there ever more beautiful promises given to one more obviously a sinner? God lets Jacob suffer some of the consequences of his sins. To the extent that those well deserved consequences tempt him to the even greater sin of despairing of God's mercy, to that extent his suffering is a cross. But God does not want to drive him to despair. God prevents that from happening by showing himself as gracious; he comes with grace to sinners who deserve nothing but suffering in consequence of their sins. In consequence of his sins he has nothing and humanly speaking should expect to have nothing for the indefinite future. But look at how quickly his perspective changes when God is gracious. With the ground for a bed and a rock for a pillow he has heaven! For God is there in grace. And so, what do the details of the future matter? Suffering is certain because of sin; the merciful presence of God is also certain and that because of grace and grace alone. Not all suffering is, of course, a direct consequence of our own sin. But much is, and the suffering proves it. Sinner is my name; it is for me that Jesus came in Lent. My suffering reminds me of sin, the real reason for it; it reminds as well of his suffering and the real fruit of it in the redemption of this sinner.

Second Lesson: Romans 5:1-11

To the world the real meaning of Lent makes no sense at all. Only the Christian gets it, and that as a result of the miracle of faith worked by the proclamation of the gospel. And this is that miracle: Christ the holy one, Christ the innocent, suffered for man the sinner, for man the guilty. The suffering was real. So too was its result: Christ suffering for sinners and in their place makes them innocent in God's sight. Because we would never get the point or hang on to it, we suffer, too. Our suffering, whether from the purifying and purging hand of God or from his permission granted to the devil to scourge us as he scourged Job and Paul, helps us to despair of ourselves and our own strength and to live by faith in his suffering for us sinners. Reconciled we now cling to him confidently in suffering as we await the final manifestation of the glory of his resurrection. Therefore we embrace the suffering Savior and do not run away from our own suffering; both are gifts of grace for sinners who have become saints by virtue of Christ's suffering and through faith in his merit. Only a Christian can grasp that.

The Gospel: Mark 8:31-28

There it is, the stark reality: the love of God is inseparably connected to the cross, both his and ours! The price of our salvation is steep indeed! The suffering was as real as the resurrection which followed it. The cross of the Christian is likewise as real as the glory which follows it. In both cases, no cross, no crown! In Christ's case the cross is redemptive. In our case the cross is the necessary consequence of his redemptive work, not its cause—but nevertheless an indispensable consequence. Be careful in defining it; the cross is not all suffering. It is all suffering that comes as a result of following Jesus, e.g., persecution, the excruciating pain to self of denying self, even the struggle against both self-righteousness and despair. Our cross drives us to his cross both for forgiveness and for strength (Note the Prayer of the Day). Beware of proving Marx and Lenin right when they said that religion is the opium of the masses; the religion of the cross certainly is not that!

OUR SERVICE FOR NEXT WEEK

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| First Lesson | Exodus 20:1-17 | |
| Second Lesson | I Corinthians 1:22-25 | |
| The Gospel | John 2:13-22 | Psalm 19 |