



## The Whole Truth

Thursday & Sunday, February 23 & 26, 2023

### **As We Gather**

"X marks the spot" is a reminder that a cross, whether on a treasure map or on a police investigation site outline, has a special meaning. It indicates what is at the center and is of greatest importance. In the Small Catechism, Dr. Martin Luther directs Christian people to make the sign of the cross to begin their day, as he writes, "In the morning when you get up, make the sign of the holy cross" (*LSB*, p. 327). He commends the same sacred action at the close of the day, writing, "In the evening when you go to bed, make the sign of the holy cross" (*LSB*, p. 327). The purpose of making the sign of the cross, whether at home or in conjunction with our worship, is to indicate that all our lives are marked by the redeeming action of our Lord Jesus Christ on the cross for us and for our salvation. It is a most blessed sign!

## PREPARATION

**10:45 AM Pre-Service Song** “There’s Room At The Cross For You”

**6:30 PM & 8:15 AM Opening Hymn** “Lord, throughout These  
Forty Days” *LSB 418*

**10:45 AM Opening Song** “Amazing Grace”

### Invocation

**P** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy  
Spirit. **C** Amen.

**Opening Sentences** *Psalms 43:3–4, 5b; 61:1–2a*

**P** Hear my cry, O God, listen to my prayer;

**C** from the end of the earth I call to You when my heart is faint.

**P** Send out Your light and Your truth; let them lead me;

**C** let them bring me to Your holy hill and to Your dwelling!

**P** Then I will go to the altar of God, to God my exceeding joy,

**C** and I will praise You with the lyre, O God, my God.

**P** Hope in God; for I shall again praise Him,

**C** my salvation and my God.

### Confession and Absolution

**P** Let us make confession of our sins to God, our heavenly Father.

**C** Merciful Father, our Lord and King, we are sinful people.

We have inherited the legacy of original sin from our first  
parents, Adam and Eve, who disobeyed You in Eden. We

are by nature sinful and unclean. In our daily lives we  
have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. We

sincerely repent of our sins and humbly ask Your grace  
and forgiveness in Jesus Christ. By the renewing work of

the Holy Spirit, lead us to change what is sinful in our  
lives that each day we may grow in righteousness and  
godly living to the glory of Your holy name.

**P** God is gracious and forgiving. He has shown His merciful  
power in ways that renew, restore, and heal. To those who  
come to Him with repentant and contrite hearts, our Lord says,  
“Fear not!” and promises pardon, life, and salvation. 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. As you believe, so may it be. **C Amen.**

### Introit

**C** When he calls to Me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him.

*Women: With long life I will satisfy him and show him My salvation.*

*Men: Because you have made the Lord your dwelling place—the Most High, who is my refuge—no evil shall be allowed to befall you, no plague come near your tent.*

*Women: For He will command His angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways. On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.*

*Men: You will tread on the lion and the adder; the young lion and the serpent you will trample underfoot.*

**6:30 PM & 8:15 AM Hymn** “O Christ, You Walked the Road” *LSB 424*

**10:45 AM Song** “I Sing Praises”

### Salutation

**P** The Lord be with you. **C** And also with you.

### Prayer of the Day

**P** Let us pray...one God, now and forever. **C Amen.**

**Old Testament Reading** *Genesis 3:1–21*

*(after the reading)...*

**L** This is the Word of the Lord. **C Thanks be to God.**

**Epistle** *Romans 5:12–19*

*(after the reading)...*

**L** This is the Word of the Lord. **C Thanks be to God.**

**Special Music** “His Hands” – performed by Phil Schauer and Hannah Duff. Words and Music by Ruth Elaine Schram.

L: Please stand as you are able for the reading of the Holy Gospel.

### **Holy Gospel** *Matthew 4:1–11*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourth chapter.

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.** (*after the reading*)...

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

### **Children’s Message & Celebrate Song** 🎵

**6:30 PM & 8:15 AM Hymn of the Day** “Christ, the Life of All the Living” *LSB 420; vrs. 1-4*

**10:45 AM Sermon Song** “Create In Me”

### **Sermon**

#### **Catechism** *The Third Article*

**P** The Gospel appointed for the First Sunday in Lent begins by telling us that “Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil” (Matthew 4:1). These words remind us of the close interworking of the three Persons of the Holy Trinity all through the earthly life and ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ. Today, we confess the words of the Apostles’ Creed regarding the work of the Holy Spirit and also speak the words from Luther’s Small Catechism regarding the work of the Spirit.

**C** **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.**

**P** What does this mean?

**C** **I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian Church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers. On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.**

## **Prayer of the Church**

**P** (after each petition)... Lord, in Your mercy, **C** **hear our prayer.**

### **"Cross" Reference Ap XXIV 56**

**P** There are numerous references to the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Lutheran Confessions. These documents present the truth of our faith in Jesus, the ultimate sacrifice for sin that brings us reconciliation with God for time and eternity. In the Apology of the Augsburg Confession, a document that expands on previous expressions of the beliefs of Lutherans, it is written, "In the Old Testament, sacrifices did not merit reconciliation, except as a picture (for they merited civil reconciliation), but they illustrated the coming sacrifice. This means that Christ is the only sacrifice applied on behalf of the sins of others. Therefore, in the New Testament, no sacrifice is left to be applied for the sins of others, except the one sacrifice of Christ upon the cross."

## **Offering & Attendance/Involvement Cards**

**6:30 PM & 8:15 AM Offertory** "We Give Thee But Thine Own" *LSB 781; vrs. 1-2*

## **Lord's Prayer**

### **Benediction**

**P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C** **Amen.**

**6:30 PM & 8:15 AM Closing Hymn** "Christ, the Life of All the Living" *LSB 420*

**10:45 AM Closing Song** "Awesome God"

