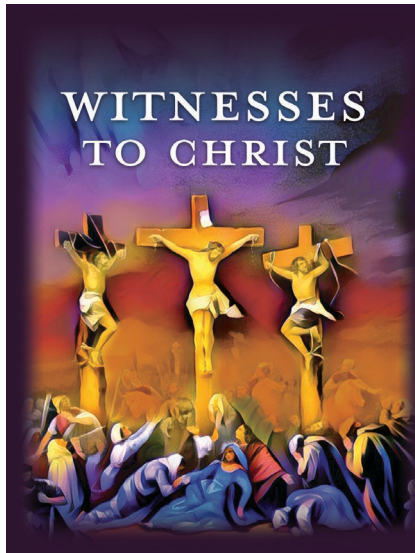


Zion Lutheran Church



March 23rd, 2022
Evening Service

Lent – Week 3

PETER

Simon Peter witnessed much of Christ's ministry on earth. He is featured in many highlights of the four Gospels, but today we see Peter at his lowest point, as he denies Jesus three times. The result of Peter's denial is a massive amount of guilt. Each of us can relate to that unwanted flood of self-disgust that comes when we remember past sin. But guilt is not the final word for Peter, and it is not the final word for us. After His resurrection, Jesus restores and forgives Peter. Jesus offered Peter grace. Jesus also gives us grace, forgiveness, and restoration at the cross.

P: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the

Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: O Lord, open my lips,

C: and my mouth will declare Your praise.

P: Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

C: make haste to help me, O Lord.

C: 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.

Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Like Peter, we have all experienced the pain and guilt of past sins. We know that we have been far from perfect. Though we follow Jesus, our thoughts, words, and actions have been poor representations of Christ to the world. Yet, in His infinite mercy, our heavenly Father invites us to return to Him for forgiveness and restoration.

C Heavenly Father, we confess that we have sinned against You. We have denied You in what we have done and in what we have failed to do. We have failed to trust You in all things. Lord, forgive us, restore us, and remove our guilt.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die and rise for you. On account of Jesus, all of your sin has been forgiven—all of the guilt you feel has been made powerless by God's grace. 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.

C Amen. We are forgiven and restored by God's abundant grace.

OPENING HYMN – From Depths of Woe I Cry to Thee

#607



1 From depths of woe I cry to Thee, In trial and
 2 Thy love and grace a - lone a - vail To blot out
 3 There - fore my hope is in the Lord And not in
 4 And though it tar - ry through the night And till the
 5 Though great our sins, yet great - er still Is God's a -



trib - u - la - tion; Bend down Thy gra - cious
 my trans - gres - sion; The best and ho - liest
 mine own mer - it; It rests up - on His
 morn - ing wak - en, My heart shall nev - er
 bun - dant fa - vor; His hand of mer - cy



ear to me, Lord, hear my sup - pli - ca - tion.
 deeds must fail To break sin's dread op - pres - sion.
 faith - ful Word To them of con - trite spir - it
 doubt His might Nor count it - self for - sak - en.
 nev - er will A - ban - don us, nor wa - ver.



If Thou re - mem - b'rest ev - 'ry sin, Who then could heav - en
 Be - fore Thee none can boast - ing stand, But all must fear Thy
 That He is mer - ci - ful and just; This is my com - fort
 O Is - rael, trust in God your Lord. Born of the Spir - it
 Our shep - herd good and true is He, Who will at last His



ev - er win Or stand be - fore Thy pres - ence?
 strict de - mand And live a - lone by mer - cy.
 and my trust. His help I wait with pa - tience.
 and the Word, Now wait for His ap - pear - ing.
 Is - rael free From all their sin and sor - row.

Text and tune: Public domain

First Reading – Zechariah 12:10–14

“And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and pleas for mercy, so that, when they look on Me, on Him whom

they have pierced, they shall mourn for Him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over Him, as one weeps over a firstborn. On that day the mourning in Jerusalem will be as great as the mourning for Hadad-rimmon in the plain of Megiddo. The land shall mourn, each family by itself: the family of the house of David by itself, and their wives by themselves; the family of the house of Nathan by itself, and their wives by themselves; the family of the house of Levi by itself, and their wives by themselves; the family of the Shimeites by itself, and their wives by themselves; and all the families that are left, each by itself, and their wives by themselves.”

P: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading –2 Corinthians 12:7–10

So to keep me from being too elated by the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. But He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

P: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Third Reading – John 18:12–27

So the band of soldiers and their captain and the officers of the Jews arrested Jesus and bound Him. First they led Him to Annas, for he was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, who was high priest that year. It was Caiaphas who had advised the Jews that it would be expedient that one man should die for the people.

Simon Peter followed Jesus, and so did another disciple. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he entered with Jesus into the court

of the high priest, but Peter stood outside at the door. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out and spoke to the servant girl who kept watch at the door, and brought Peter in. The servant girl at the door said to Peter, "You also are not one of this man's disciples, are you?" He said, "I am not." Now the servants and officers had made a charcoal fire, because it was cold, and they were standing and warming themselves. Peter also was with them, standing and warming himself.

The high priest then questioned Jesus about His disciples and His teaching. Jesus answered him, "I have spoken openly to the world. I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. Why do you ask Me? Ask those who have heard Me what I said to them; they know what I said." When He had said these things, one of the officers standing by struck Jesus with his hand, saying, "Is that how You answer the high priest?" Jesus answered him, "If what I said is wrong, bear witness about the wrong; but if what I said is right, why do you strike Me?" Annas then sent Him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.

Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. So they said to him, "You also are not one of His disciples, are you?" He denied it and said, "I am not." One of the servants of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, "Did I not see you in the garden with Him?" Peter again denied it, and at once a rooster crowed.

P: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORY

P: Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.

C: **Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.**

P: In You, O Lord, do I put my trust, leave me not, O Lord, my God.

C: **Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.**

P: Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.

C: **Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.**

HYMN OF THE DAY -- "Behold! The Lamb of God," John Said

- 1 “Behold! The Lamb of God,” John said
 “Who takes all sin away.”
 This Lamb is Christ, who in our stead
 For sin would mutely pay.
 “Behold your King!” by Pilate scourged;
 Sin’s hellish sum on Him converged,
 While “Crucify!” the hateful urged,
 Their Savior to betray.
- 2 The Way—of justice was deprived;
 The Truth—was overrun;
 The Life—was all from Christ derived;
 God glorifies His Son!
 “I am the Bread of Life,” Christ said;
 “My sacred blood for all, I shed;
 Who eats and drinks of Me is fed.”
 All death by Christ undone.
- 3 Christ’s glory is not seen by those
 Who view God’s Word as dross,
 For worldly wisdom never knows
 How gain could come from loss.
 Yet, this the glory of the Christ:
 His perfect life He sacrificed,
 His finished work for all sufficed—
 Debt canceled on the cross.
- 4 May we this holy Lententide
 Christ’s Passion clearly see;
 This somber vision will provide
 The truth that sets us free.
 Hear John, who speaks of what he knows;
 Come, follow on the path Christ chose:
 The cross, the tomb from which He rose
 In joyous victory!

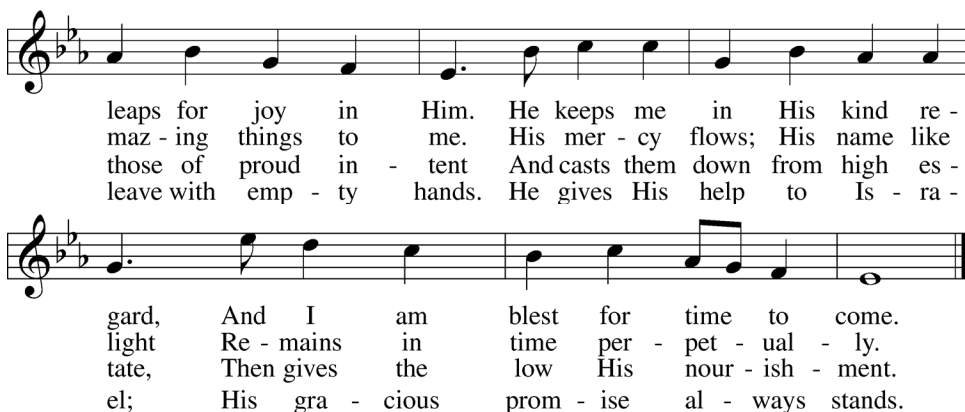
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SERMON

MAGNIFICAT



1 My soul now mag - ni - fies the Lord; My spir - it
 2 For He a - lone who shows such might Has done a -
 3 His arm is strong; His strength is great. He scat - ters
 4 He feeds the hun - gry as His own; The wealth - y



leaps for joy in Him. He keeps me in His kind re -
maz - ing things to me. His mer - cy flows; His name like
those of proud in - tent And casts them down from high es -
leave with emp - ty hands. He gives His help to Is - ra -
gard, And I am blest for time to come.
light Re - mains in time per - pet - ual - ly.
tate, Then gives the low His nour - ish - ment.
el; His gra - cious prom - ise al - ways stands.

Tune: Public domain

KYRIE

C: Lord, have mercy;
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy.

PRAYERS

- P** Let us pray to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who hears our prayers and helps us in our afflictions.
Lord, encourage all those who struggle with lingering guilt from past sins. Remind them that by Your death and resurrection, You have conquered sin and removed their guilt forever. O my Savior, help afford,
- C** by Your Spirit and Your Word.
- P** Lord, shield all those who suffer the attacks of Satan. Clothe them with Your full armor so that they might believe Your Word rather than the lies of Satan. O my Savior, help afford,
- C** by Your Spirit and Your Word.
- P** Lord, grant seasonable weather upon the earth that will nourish Your good creation. Protect us from fire, storm, and flood. Teach us how to better love, appreciate, and care for Your creation. O my Savior, help afford,
- C** by Your Spirit and Your Word.

P Lord, thank You for the gifts of community and friendship. Thank You for all the joy and laughter You have placed into our lives. Help us always to recognize these as Your good gifts. O my Savior, help afford,

C **by Your Spirit and Your Word.**

P Lord, comfort all those who worry about family and friends who have wandered from the faith. Give us patience, knowing that You continually pursue Your sheep. Help us welcome them back into Your fold with grace and love. O my Savior, help afford,

C **by Your Spirit and Your Word.**

P Lord, bring healing and patience to those who suffer illness and injury, [*especially . . .*]. O my Savior, help afford,

C **by Your Spirit and Your Word.**

P Lord, bring hope to all those who are grieving, [*especially . . .*]. By Your resurrection victory, remind them of the victory to come in Your return. O my Savior, help afford,

C **by Your Spirit and Your Word.**

P O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

C: **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.**

- P** In the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, at His command, and with His own words, we receive His testament:

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

DISTRIBUTION

COLLECTS

P: O Lord, hear my prayer.

C: **And let my cry come to You.**

P: O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

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.**

Closing Hymn on back page

CLOSING HYMN: I Know My Faith is Founded #587



1 I know my faith is found - ed On Je - sus Christ, my
2 In - crease my faith, dear Sav - ior, For Sa - tan seeks by
3 In faith, Lord, let me serve You; Though per - se - cu - tion,



God and Lord; And this my faith con - fess - ing, Un -
night and day To rob me of this trea - sure And
grief, and pain Should seek to o - ver - whelm me, Let



moved I stand on His sure Word. Our rea - son can - not
take my hope of bliss a - way. But, Lord, with You be -
me a stead - fast trust re - tain; And then at my de -



fath - om The truth of God pro - found; Who trusts in hu - man
side me, I shall be un - dis - mayed; And led by Your good
par - ture, Lord, take me home to You, Your rich - es to in -



wis - dom Re - lies on shift - ing ground. God's Word is
Spir - it, I shall be un - a - fraid. A - bide with
her - it As all You said holds true. In life and



all - suf - fi - cient, It makes di - vine - ly sure; And
me, O Sav - ior, A firm - er faith be - stow; Then
death, Lord, keep me Un - til Your heav'n I gain, Where



trust - ing in its wis - dom, My faith shall rest se - cure.
I shall bid de - fi - ance To ev - 'ry e - vil foe.
I by Your great mer - cy The end of faith at - tain.