

Rethinking Religion



Part 2: Rethinking Suffering Under the Cross

St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church

Juneau

Salem-Lowell

Horicon

Second Sunday in Lent

February 24-25, 2024

Hymn 694 v. 1-3

“Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken”



1 Je - sus, I my cross have tak - en, all to leave and
2 Let the world de - spise and leave me; they have left my
3 Go, then, earth - ly fame and trea - sure! Come, dis - as - ter,



fol - low you; des - ti - tute, de - spised, for - sak - en, you on
Sav - ior, too. Hu - man hearts and looks de - ceive me; you are
scorn, and pain! In your ser - vice pain is plea - sure, with your



earth once suf - fered, too. Per - ish ev - 'ry fond am - bi - tion,
not, like them, un - true. And, since you have smiled up - on me,
fa - vor loss is gain. I have called you Ab - ba, Fa - ther;



all I've ev - er hoped or known; yet how rich is
God of wis - dom, love, and might, foes may hate and
you my all in all shall be. Storms may howl, and



my con - di - tion, God and heav'n are still my own!
friends may shun me; show your face, and all is bright.
clouds may gath - er, all must work for good to me.

Text: Henry Francis Lyte, 1793–1847, abr., alt. Tune: Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887 Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Confession

CW 154

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world.

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.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

The Word

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

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 all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Job 1:13-22 EHV

¹³ One day when Job's sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in the house of their oldest brother, ¹⁴ a messenger came to Job and said, "The oxen were plowing and the female donkeys were grazing nearby, ¹⁵ when the Sabeans swooped down and took them away. They put the servants to death with the sword, and I am the only one who has escaped to tell you!"

¹⁶ While he was still speaking, another servant came and said, "The fire of God fell from the sky and burned up the flocks and the servants and consumed them, and I am the only one who has escaped to tell you!"

¹⁷ While he was still speaking, another servant came and said, "The Chaldeans formed three raiding parties and plundered the camels and took them away. They put the servants to death with the sword, and I am the only one who has escaped to tell you!"

¹⁸ While he was still speaking, another servant came and said, "Your sons and daughters were eating and were drinking wine in the house of their oldest brother. ¹⁹ Suddenly a powerful wind swept in from the wilderness and struck the four corners of the house, and it collapsed on the young people, and they died, and I am the only one who has escaped to tell you!"

²⁰ Then Job stood up, tore his robe, and shaved his head. He fell to the ground and worshipped. ²¹ Then he said, "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I will return. The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away. May the name of the LORD be blessed."

²² In all this, Job did not sin or blame God.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Special Anthem

9:30 AM

Adult Choir

Second Reading

Romans 5:1-11 EHV

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. ² Through him we also have obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand. And we rejoice confidently on the basis of our hope for the glory of God.

³ Not only this, but we also rejoice confidently in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces patient endurance, ⁴ and patient endurance produces tested character, and tested character produces hope. ⁵ And hope will not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, who was given to us.

⁶ For at the appointed time, while we were still helpless, Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ It is rare indeed that someone will die for a righteous person. Perhaps someone might actually go so far as to die for a person who has been good to him. ⁸ But God shows his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

⁹ Therefore, since we have now been justified by his blood, it is even more certain that we will be saved from God's wrath through him. ¹⁰ For if, while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, it is even more certain that, since we have been reconciled, we will be saved by his life. ¹¹ And not only is this so, but we also go on rejoicing confidently in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received this reconciliation.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

Mark 8:34 EHV

If anyone wants to follow me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me.

Gospel

Mark 8:31-38 EHV

³¹ Jesus began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things; be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the experts in the law; be killed; and after three days rise again. ³² He was speaking plainly to them. Then Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³ But after turning around and looking at his disciples, Jesus rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! You do not have your mind set on the things of God, but the things of men.”

³⁴ He called the crowd and his disciples together and said to them, “If anyone wants to follow me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. ³⁵ For whoever wants to save his life will lose it. But whoever loses his life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶ After all, what good is it for a man to gain the whole world and yet forfeit his soul? ³⁷ Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul? ³⁸ In fact, whoever is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will also be ashamed of him when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Hymn 844

“What God Ordains Is Always Good”



1 What God or-dains is al - ways good: his will is just and
2 What God or-dains is al - ways good: he nev - er will de -
3 What God or-dains is al - ways good: though I the cup am
4 What God or-dains is al - ways good: this truth re - mains un -



ho - ly. As he di - rects my life for me, I fol - low
ceive me; he leads me in his right - eous way and nev - er
drink - ing which sa - vors now of bit - ter-ness, I take it
shak - en. Though sor - row, need, or death be mine, I shall not



meek and low - ly. My God in - deed in ev - 'ry need knows
 will he leave me. I take con - tent what he has sent; his
 with - out shrink - ing. For af - ter grief God grants re - lief, my
 be for - sak - en. I fear no harm, for with his arm he



well how he will shield me; to him, then, I will yield me.
 hand that sends me sad - ness will turn my tears to glad - ness.
 heart with com - fort fill - ing and all my sor - row still - ing.
 will em - brace and shield me; so to my God I yield me.

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Samuel Rodigast, 1649–1708, abr.
 Tune: Severus Gastorius, 1646–1682 Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Mark 8:31–38

Rethinking Suffering Under the Cross

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 truly 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 worshiped 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

Prayer of the Church

Offering

Hymn 750

“We Give Thee But Thine Own”



1 We give thee but thine own, what-e'er the gift may be;
2 May we thy boun-ties thus as stew-ards true re-ceive



all that we have is thine a-lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.
and glad-ly, as thou bless-est us, to thee our first-fruits give.

Text: William W. How, 1823–1897, abr. Tune: William H. Monk, 1823–1889 Text and tune: Public domain

The Sacrament

Stand

Preface

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

CW 165

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

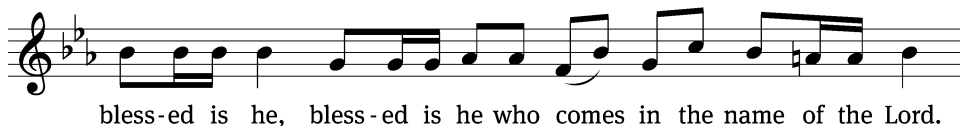
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree, would in turn by a tree be overcome. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy

CW 167



Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

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.

Words of Institution

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."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

O Christ, Lamb of God

CW 169

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.

Be seated

Distribution

Hymn 817

“Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart”

1 Lord, thee I love with all my heart; I pray thee,
2 Yea, Lord, 'twas thy rich boun - ty gave my bod - y,
3 Lord, let at last thine an - gels come, to A - br'ham's



ne'er from me de - part, with ten - der mer - cy cheer me.
 soul, and all I have in this poor life of la - bor.
 bos - om bear me home that I may die un - fear - ing;



Earth has no plea - sure I would share; yea, heav'n it -
 Lord, grant that I in ev - 'ry place may glo - ri -
 and in its nar - row cham - ber keep my bod - y



self were void and bare if thou, Lord, wert not near me.
 fy thy lav - ish grace and help and serve my neigh - bor.
 safe in peace - ful sleep un - til thy re - ap - pear - ing.



And should my heart for sor - row break, my trust in thee can
 Let no false doc - trine me be - guile; let Sa - tan not my
 And then from death a - wak - en me that these mine eyes with



noth - ing shake. Thou art the por - tion I have sought; thy pre - cious
 soul de - file. Give strength and pa - tience un - to me to bear my
 joy may see, O Son of God, thy glo - rious face, my Sav - ior



blood my soul has bought. Lord Je - sus Christ, my God and
 cross and fol - low thee. Lord Je - sus Christ, my God and
 and my fount of grace. Lord Je - sus Christ, my prayer at -



Lord, my God and Lord, for - sake me not! I trust thy Word.
 Lord, my God and Lord, in death thy com - fort still af - ford.
 tend, my prayer at - tend, and I will praise thee with - out end.

Stand

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing

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.

Amen.

Be seated

Hymn 694 v.4

“Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken”

4 Haste, my soul, from grace to glo - ry, armed by faith and
winged by prayer; all but heav'n is tran - si - to - ry, God's own



hand shall guide you there. Soon shall end this earth - ly sto - ry,
 swift shall pass the pil - grim days, hope soon change to
 heav'n - ly glo - ry, faith to sight and prayer to praise.

Text: Henry Francis Lyte, 1793–1847, abr., alt.
 Tune: Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887 Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Preacher: Joel Luetke

Liturgist: David Brandt / Duke Backhaus

Organist: Becky Schultz / Ruth Affeld

Songs are reprinted under Onelicense.net A-720071 and CCLI License 11520516* The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®) copyright © 2017 The Wartburg Project. All rights reserved.* Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide. * Artwork from www.canva.com, used with permission or ChurchArt Pro, license #74051531. Software distributed in partnership with Northwestern Publishing House. Created by Christian Worship: Service Builder © 2024 Concordia Publishing House. Setting One from Christian Worship.

Announcements

Special Gift Envelopes: During this season of Lent, St. John's has extended the opportunity for you to direct a special gift toward our two upcoming projects: Funding for the celebration of the Juneau campus' 150th anniversary and the construction of an age-appropriate playground for our Pre-K students! If you are interested in dedicating a gift to either of the projects, giving envelopes with more information can be found in your service folder or in the narthex!



Tuesday bible class now in Lowell! Pastor Mount's new study on the end times will be held at both the Juneau and Lowell Campuses on the 2nd, 4th, and 5th Tuesdays of the month. Join us at 4:00 PM in Lowell or 6:30 PM in Juneau to learn what the bible says about death, judgement, heaven, and hell.



WELS Youth Rally: The WELS Youth Rally with the theme "From the Mountaintops" will be held June 25th-28th in beautiful Fort Collins, CO. The rally is designed with teens in mind from 8th grade through high school seniors! If you (or your child) fit into this age group and would like to attend, please sign-up in the narthex or call the church office by March 18th.

Chaperones- over the age of 20- are also needed to encourage and supervise the youth who will be attending from our congregation. If you would be interested in this role, please sign-up or call the church office by March 18th.

More information on the Rally can be found at: welsyouthrally.net

Friends of Christian Education Day: Friends of Christian Education Day will be held on Wednesday, March 6th. On this day we are inviting parents, grandparents, and supporters of Christ centered education to come for a meal with your child(ren) or grandchildren, and fellowship in the church basement. We will have a hot turkey sandwich lunch (includes chips and pickles) starting at 12:00 noon. The cost is \$2.50 per person. If you would like to attend or you have any questions, please call Mrs. Leissring in the school office at 920-386-4644 or email her at school@stjohnsjuneau.org. by Wednesday, February 28th.



Salad & Dessert Donations: Would you be willing to provide a salad or dessert for our upcoming Lenten Meal on Wednesday, Feb. 28th? The main course will be provided, but we are looking for salads and desserts. If you are able, please bring your dish to our Juneau Fellowship Hall prior to the 3:30pm service on Feb. 28th. Thank you!

150th Anniversary Planning Committee:

Next meeting will be held on March 5th at 6:30 PM in the Juneau church basement. All are welcome to attend!

Don't forget to
spring forward!
Daylight savings
starts on Mar. 10th.



Please join us at the Juneau Campus for worship on Feb. 28th at 3:30 or 6:30 PM. You are also invited to the meal served between the services!

*This week's meal is hosted by:
Dan and Jane Jahnke
of Jahnke's Piggly Wiggly*

MENU

*Pulled Pork on Slider Buns with Chips,
Pickles, and Milk*

*The congregation is asked to bring
salads and desserts!*



There is a free-will offering to help offset the cost of the meal and be put towards our Juneau Campus' celebration of 150 years of ministry at our church and school. Donations may be given with cash/check at the meal or on our website and app (enter "150th" into the memo line).

Volunteers (2/25)

Greeters:

8:00 AM Suzi Colantonio, Lisa Bilgrien, Deanna McLain

10:30 AM Russ and Barb Ridge

Communion Assistants:

8:00 AM Dave Gerbitz, Chuck Wolfram, Scott Wohling, Matt Lober

9:30 AM Pastors and Matt Smith

10:30 AM Randy Mohr, Russ Ridge, Marty Weinheimer, Kevin Schultz

Ushers:

8:00 AM Scott Bilgrien, Steve Weinheimer, Tony Colantonio, Bob McLain, Wesley McLain

9:30 AM Harold Lenz, William Borth, Paul Metzger

10:30 AM Mark Saeger, Keith Weinheimer, Andy Gentz, Brandon Saeger

Juneau Snow Removal: (Week of Feb 26th)

Team 3 Mark and Andrew Buelter

You're Invited to our

OPEN HOUSE!

Now Enrolling
2 Year Old
through
Kindergarten



Sunday, March 3, 2024

9:15-10:15 A.M.

& 11:30-1:00 P.M.

4K

Kindergarten

3K

St. John's Lutheran School

402 South Main Street, Juneau WI

PRE-REGISTER

HERE



This Week at St. John's

Sunday (2/25)

Worship 8:00 & 10:30 AM- J

Worship 9:30 AM- SL

Bible Class 8:15 (SL) & 9:30 AM (J)

Sunday School 8:30 (SL) & 9:15 AM (J)

Monday (2/26)

Readings Bible Class 6:30 PM- J

Tuesday (2/27)

End Times Study

4 PM (L) & 6:30 PM (J)

Wednesday (2/28)

Worship 3:30 & 6:30 PM- J

Lenten Meal 4:30 PM- J

Confirmation 5:00 PM- J

Adult Choir 7:15 PM - J

Thursday (2/29)

Sunday School Teacher's

Mtg. 7:30 PM- J

Saturday (3/2)

Worship 5:00 PM- H

Sunday (3/3)

Worship 8:00 & 10:30 AM- J

Worship 9:30 AM- SL

Bible Class 8:15 (SL) & 9:30 AM (J)

Sunday School 8:30 (SL) & 9:15 AM (J)

PreK & K Open House 9:15-10:15 AM & 11:30-1 PM- School

Statistics

Offerings given to our Lord

2/8-2/11

General	\$ 12,142.97
Debt	\$ 90.00
Improvement	\$ 80.00
Lakeside	\$ 134.55
Missions	\$ 374.90
Total	\$ 12,822.42

Attendance

Weekend of Feb. 11th 490 (223,25,118,60,64)

*At our Voter's Meeting, our congregation approved a weekly budget with an average total of \$20,246 (includes General, Lakeside and Missions) needed every week. **Since the beginning of 2022, our congregation has gone from zero debt to drawing a total of \$158,513.40 from the line of credit.** Please continue to support St. John's through your time, talents, treasures, and prayers. Thank you!*

Welcome to St. John's

WELCOME

We are so glad you joined us to worship our Lord Jesus today! St. John's is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS). We are happy to answer your questions about our service, our beliefs, or communicant membership at any of our campuses. Please join us again soon!

PERSONAL PRAYER AFTER WORSHIP

Good Shepherd, I was glad to be here, gathered with your flock to worship you. Cause the Word I have heard to take root in my heart and bear fruit in my life. Guide me in paths of righteousness, that my words and actions might lead others to glorify you. Amen.

Pastors & Assistant

David Brandt 608-343-2206
Nicholas Mount 920-344-1524
Joel Luetke 920-285-1351
Duke Backhaus 414-559-6107

Principal

Richard Cody 920-386-4644

Staff Minister

Ryan Kummerow 608-345-1900

Worship Services

Thursday

6:30 PM Juneau

Saturday

5:00 PM Horicon

Sunday

8:00 AM Juneau

9:30 AM Lowell

10:30 AM Juneau

Bible Classes

Sunday

Juneau Campus

9:30 AM

Salem-Lowell Campus

8:15 AM

Monday

Juneau Campus

6:30 PM

Tuesday (2nd, 4th, 5th)

Juneau Campus

6:30 PM

St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church

Juneau Campus

920-386-3313

400 S. Main St.

Juneau, Wisconsin

Horicon Campus

920-386-3313

716 Clinton St.

Horicon, Wisconsin

Salem-Lowell Campus

920-386-3313

105 Juneau Rd.

Lowell, Wisconsin

School Office

920-386-4644

402 S. Main St.

Juneau, Wisconsin

www.stjohnsdodgecounty.com

Download our St. John's Dodge County app today!

