

St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School
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Praise Service
Sermon: "Disruptive Jesus"



St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School
- A Family to Whom You Belong -
Our Mission is to: **Make More & Better Disciples**

The Third Sunday in Lent

10:45 a.m. Sunday, March 3, 2024

Servants of God's House Today:

Pastor: Rev. Kenny Hsu

Elder: Frank Tenuta

Praise Team Leader: Doris Hill

Usher: Mike Popken

Missionaries: Rev. Tim & Lisa Beckendorf and the Siouxland Hispanic Ministry

Reader: Ralph Schroeder

WELCOME! We are glad that you are here worshipping God with us. We pray for God's blessings to you and invite you to come back again soon.

AS WE GATHER In our Gospel today, we find Jesus clearing the temple of all those who have made it a house of trade. Jesus disrupts not just the sinfulness of these practices, showing a different side of Him than we expect to see. He also disrupted the status quo—everyday realities that had come to be accepted in the temple. May Jesus so disrupt our lives where it is needed.

HOLY COMMUNION The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod believes the Biblical teaching that in communion we receive not the symbolic but the true body and blood of Jesus Christ with the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins. If you are a baptized Christian who has been instructed in the same Biblical teaching, and if you agree with the announcement on our communion card and the confession of our faith, please join us to receive the gifts that Jesus Christ has prepared for us in communion. If you have any questions or uncertainties, please feel free to make an appointment to talk with the pastor during the week before communing with us.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP 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. Amen.

Worship Service

(The congregation is invited to respond in the words written in **bold**.)

The Ringing of the Bells

The Hand of Fellowship

The Invocation

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Opening Sentences

P: God invites us to gather in His name.

C: We are gathered to worship and praise.

P: Our heavenly Father's house is a house of prayer for all the nations.

C: He gathers people from every corner of the earth to sing His praises.

P: We listen to God's Word.

C: We hear the message proclaimed of Christ crucified.

Opening Song "Be the Center"

Jesus, be the center. Be my source be my light, Jesus.

Jesus, be the center. Be my hope, be my song, Jesus.

Chorus: Be the fire in my heart. Be the wind in these sails.
Be the reason that I live, Jesus, Jesus.

Jesus, be my vision. Be my path, be my guide, Jesus. (chorus)

Jesus, be the center. Be my source by my light, Jesus.

Jesus, be the center. Be my hope, be my song, Jesus. (chorus)

Jesus be the center, be my source, be my light, Jesus,

Be my source, be my light, Jesus, Jesus, Jesus.

(Words & music by Michael Frye, 1999 Vineyard Songs, used by permission, CCLI License 11440148 and 20162974)

Nicene Creed

First Lesson Exodus 20:1–17 (God offers ten words for the people He delivered from Egypt.)

¹And God spoke all these words, saying, thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

²I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. ⁷You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain.

³You shall have no other gods before me. ⁸Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, ¹⁰but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day.

⁴You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to

Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

¹²“Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³“You shall not murder.

¹⁴“You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵“You shall not steal.

¹⁶“You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

¹⁷“You shall not covet your neighbor’s house; you shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor’s.”

The Epistle 1 Corinthians 1:18–25

¹⁸The word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased

(We preach Christ crucified.)

God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, ²³but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

(Please stand, as you are able, for the Gospel)

Holy Gospel John 2:13–22 (Jesus cleanses the temple.)

¹³The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple He found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting there. ¹⁵And making a whip of cords, He drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and oxen. And He poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶And He told those who sold the pigeons, “Take these things away; do not make my Father’s house a house of trade.” ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it

was written, “Zeal for your house will consume me.” ¹⁸So the Jews said to Him, “What sign do you show us for doing these things?” ¹⁹Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” ²⁰The Jews then said, “It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?” ²¹But He was speaking about the temple of His body. ²²When therefore He was raised from the dead, His disciples remembered that He had said this, and they believed the Scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

Children’s Message

The Song of Instruction “Thy Word”

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. (Repeat)
When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way, still You're there right beside me.
And nothing will I fear as long as You are near. Please be near me to the end.

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. (Repeat)
I will not forget Your love for me and yet, my heart forever is wandering.
Jesus be my guide and hold me to Your side, and I will love You to the end.

Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. (Repeat last line)
(Words & music by Amy Grant & Michael W. Smith, copyright 1984 Bug and Bear Music,
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The Word “Disruptive Jesus” Text: John 2:13–22

WE WORSHIP GOD THROUGH OUR GIVING

We honor God with the gifts He has given to us.

St. Paul's members have pledged to support our ministry in their tithes and offerings.

Please place your offerings in the box upfront.

To our guest: Thank you for joining us today and please do not feel that you are obligated to participate. We invite you to come back again.

*Please pass your **Welcome Card** to an usher or acolyte.*

Mark 8:35-36 For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the Gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul?

Offertory “I am not Alone”

(Verse 1)

When I walk though deep waters I know that you will be with me
When I'm standing in the fire I will not be overcome
Through the valley of the shadow I will not fear

(Chorus)

I am not alone I am not alone You will go before me You will never leave me
I am not alone I am not alone You will go before me You will never leave me

(Verse 2)

In the midst of deep sorrow I see your light is breaking through
The dark of night will not overtake me I am pressing into you
Lord, you fight my every battle And I will not fear

(Chorus)

I am not alone I am not alone You will go before me You will never leave me
I am not alone I am not alone You will go before me You will never leave me

(Bridge)

You amaze me, redeem me You call me as your own You amaze me, redeem me You
call me as your own You amaze me, redeem me You call me as your own
You amaze me, redeem me You call me as your own

(Verse 3)

You're my strength You're my defender
You're my refuge in the storm Through these trials
You've always been faithful You bring healing to my soul

(Chorus)

I am not alone I am not alone You will go before me You will never leave me

I am not alone I am not alone You will go before me You will never leave me

Words and Music By: Austin Davis, Ben Davis, Dustin Sauder, Grant Pittman, Kari Jobe, Mary Sampson, Mia Fieldes CCLI #11440148 and 20162974

The Prayer of the Church

Invitation with Confession and Absolution

P: Though this is a house of prayer, we do not always honor God's house as we should. Still, our heavenly Father is merciful, and He invites us ever into His house to ask for forgiveness.

(Silence for reflection.)

P: Heavenly Father,

C: we have sinned against You and against our neighbors. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Disrupt our sinfulness. Forgive us, renew us, and restore us, on account of Jesus. Amen.

P: Almighty God in His mercy sent Jesus into our world, not only to disrupt our sinfulness but also to forgive us by His death and resurrection. 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 because of Christ crucified.

INVITATIONAL SONG ("Praise Team):

He said come to the table

Come join the sinners who have been redeemed

Take your place beside the Savior now

Sit down and be set free

Come to the table

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

READING OF THE ANNOUNCEMENT CARD FOR HOLY COMMUNION

(Praise Team will be served communion at this time.)

DISTRIBUTION "Breathe"

This is the air I breathe, This is the air I breathe Your holy presence living in me.

This is my daily bread This is my daily bread Your very word spoken to me

And I ---, I'm desperate for you And I ----, I'm lost without you, (repeat)

And I ---, I'm desperate for you And I ---, I'm lost without you

I'm lost without you I'm lost without you, I'm lost without you, I'm lost without you

This is the air I breathe This is the air I breathe

(1996 by Marie Barnett and Vineyard Music, used by permission CCLI #11440148 and

20162974)

“Lord, I Need You”

Vs. 1 Lord, I come, I confess, bowing here, I find my rest. Without You, I fall apart.
You're the One that guides my heart

Chorus: Lord I need You, oh, I need You. Every hour I need You.
My one defense my righteousness, oh God how I need You.

Vs. 2 Where sin runs deep, Your grace is more. Where Grace is found, is where You
are.
Where you are, Lord, I am free. Holiness is Christ in me.

Chorus: Lord I need You, oh, I need You. Every hour I need You.
My one defense my righteousness, oh God how I need You.

Bridge: So teach my song to rise to You when temptations come my way. When I cannot
stand.

I'll fall on You. Jesus, You're my hope and stay. Lord I need You, oh, I need You.
Every hour I need You. My one defense, my righteousness, oh God, how I need you.
You're my one defense my righteousness, Oh God how I need You.
My one defense my righteousness, Oh God , How I need You.
CCLI 11440148 and 20162974

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

1. Let us break bread together on our knees, let us break bread together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.
2. Let us drink wine together on our knees, let us drink wine together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.
3. Let us praise God together on our knees, let us praise God together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.
(Repeat 3rd verse)

(Traditional Spiritual, arranged by Keith Phillips, 1986 Word Music, used by
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The Lord's Prayer

The Benediction

The Going Out Song “Jesus Loves Me”

I was lost, I was in chains The world had ahold of me My heart was a stone
I was covered in shame When He came for me

I couldn't run Couldn't run from His presence
I couldn't run Couldn't run from His arms

Jesus He loves me He loves me, He is for me Jesus how can it be
He loves me, His is for me

It was a fire, deep in my soul I'll never be the same I stepped out of the dark
And into the light When He called my name

I couldn't run Couldn't run from His presence
I couldn't run Couldn't run from His arms

Jesus He loves me He loves me, He is for me
Jesus how can it be He loves me, He is for me

He holds the stars and He holds my heart With healing hands that bear the scars
The rugged cross where He died for me My only hope, my ev'rything

Jesus He loves me He loves me, Oh Jesus how can it be
He loves me, He is for me

He loves me He is for me My God, it's amazing, Lord
Jesus loves me

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Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 2.

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Lenten Service Times

Wednesdays
 at 12:15 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.
 (A Lenten Meal will be served following
 the 6 :00 p.m. service)

Our emphasis during Lent is on Moses' book called Exodus. In it, Moses asks Pharaoh to let God's people go seven times (Exodus 5:1; 7:16; 8:1, 20; 9:1, 13; 10:3) and Pharaoh finally does it! When he does, God's salvation is so amazing that the event becomes the Gospel of the Old Testament. Israel's Scriptures mention the **exodus 125 times!**

Throughout the book of Exodus God reveals who He is through His absence and His presence, through His silence and His speech, through His wrath and His mercy, and through His judgment and His amazing grace. In doing so, the book paints a beautiful portrait of Jesus.

Ash Wednesday	02/14	"Big Things with Small Stuff"	Exodus 2:1–10
Lent 1	02/21	"How God Changes Us"	Exodus 3:1–14
Lent 2	02/28	"Stop Trying and Start Trusting"	Exodus 14:1–29
Lent 3	03/06	"Strike the Rock!"	Exodus 17:1–7
Lent 4	03/13	"Mine!"	Exodus 20:1–17
Lent 5	03/20	"Digging Ourselves into a Hole"	Exodus 32:1–14
Palm Sunday	03/24	"A New Beginning!"	Exodus 34:1–8
Maundy Thursday	03/28	"Access!"	Exodus 24:1–11
Good Friday	03/29	"Agnus Dei"	Exodus 12:1–13
Easter Sunday	03/31	"Against all Odds!"	Exodus 15:1–18

- * Maundy Thursday & Good Friday: 12:15 & 6:00 PM
- * Palm Sunday & Easter Sunday: 8:15 & 10:45 AM
- * Easter Sunrise Service: 7:45 AM

