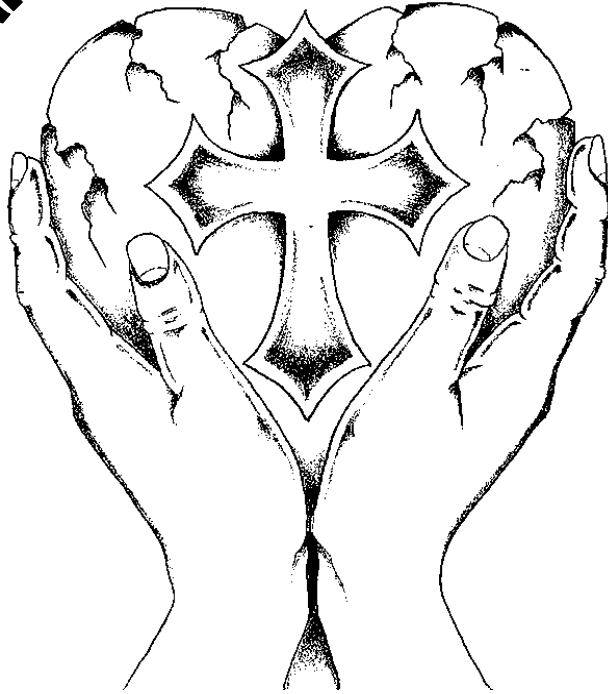


Take Heart: Overcoming a World of Loss



Losing Loved Ones: Overcoming Death

March 8, 2023 A.D. + 6:30 p.m. + Zion Lutheran Church + Wausau, Wisconsin

Midweek Preaching Series:

**“Take Heart:
Overcoming a World of Loss”**

*Every Wednesday in Lent + 12:15 and 6:30 PM
Soup-to-Go, 1-3 PM + Soup Suppers, 5:15-6:15 PM*

What have you lost? It seems we're always losing something: time, money, relationships, loved ones, dreams, and even our selves. In many ways, loss sets the conditions of human life. Does God have anything to say to such a world of loss?

*Feb. 22: **Losing Our Selves: Overcoming Sin***

*March 1: **Losing Relationships: Overcoming Separation***

March 8: Losing Loved Ones: Overcoming Death

March 15: Losing Dreams: Overcoming Disappointment

March 22: Losing Our Grip: Overcoming Need

March 29: Losing Faith: Overcoming Doubt

THE LITURGY OF VESPERS

PRELUDE

Aria on "Christ the Life of All the Living"

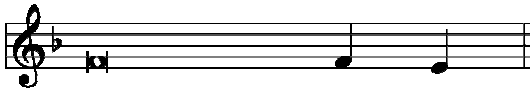
... Benjamin Kolodziej

RINGING OF THE BELLS

*After the bells have rung, please stand and face the back.
The Paschal Candle, symbolizing Christ, is carried into the congregation.*

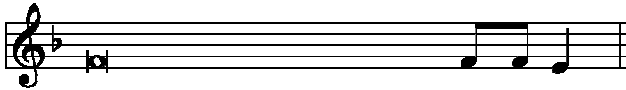
SERVICE OF LIGHT

P: Behold, now is the acceptable time;



☐ now is the day of sal-va - tion.

P: Turn us again, O God of our salvation,



☐ that the light of Your face may shine on us.

P: May your justice shine like the sun;



☐ and may the poor be lift - ed up.

P: Joyous light of glory:



☐ of the im-mor-tal Fa - ther; heav - en - ly, ho - ly,



bles - ed Je - sus Christ. We have come to the

*The opening responses
are sung a cappella,
(without organ
accompaniment).*



P: Blessèd are You, O Lord our God, king of the universe, who led Your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by the light of Your Christ; may His Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for You are merciful, and You love Your whole creation and we, Your creatures, glorify You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.



A - men.

Please kneel.

PSALMODY *Psalm 141*



the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

I O Lord, I call to You; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice

when I cry to You. **C** Let my prayer rise be - fore You as in - cense,

the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

II Set a watch be - fore my mouth, O Lord, and guard the door of my lips.

I Let not my heart in - cline to an - y e - vil thing;

let me not be oc - cu - pied in wick - ed - ness with e - vil - do - ers.

II But my eyes are turned to You, O God; in You I take ref - uge.

Strip me not of my life. **C** Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and



to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it; as it was in
the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A-men.
Let my prayer rise be-fore You as in-cense,
the lift-ing up of my hands as the eve-ning sac-ri-fice.

Silence for reflection.

P: Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before you, O Lord, and let your lovingkindness descend upon us, that with purified minds we may sing your praises with the Church on earth and the whole heavenly host, and may glorify you forever and ever.

C: Amen

Please be seated.

PSALMODY *Psalm 23*

P: The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

C: He makes me lie down in green pastures.

P: He leads me beside still waters.

C: He restores my soul.

P: He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

C: Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

P: I will fear no evil, for you are with me;

C: your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

P: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

C: you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

P: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,

C: and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Silence for reflection.

PSALM PRAYER

P: Lord Jesus Christ, shepherd of your Church, you give us new birth in the waters of baptism; you anoint us with oil, and call us to salvation at your table. Dispel the terrors of death and the darkness of error. Lead your people along safe paths, that they may rest securely in you and dwell in the house of the Lord now and forever, for your name's sake.

C: Amen

HYMN "Christ, the Life of All the Living"

... LSB #420

FIRST LESSON 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

¹³But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁵For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁶For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. ¹⁸Therefore encourage one another with these words.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORY

P: To you, O Lord, I lift | up my soul.*

O my God, in | you I trust.

C: The Lord is my | shepherd; *

I shall not | be in want.

P: You are the God of my sal - | vation; *
for you I wait | all day long.

C: **The Lord is my | shepherd; ***
I shall not | be in want.

P: Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit.

C: **The Lord is my | shepherd; ***
I shall not | be in want.

SECOND LESSON John 14:1-6

¹[Jesus said,] "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ²In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to where I am going." ⁵Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" ⁶Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN "Jerusalem the Golden"

... LSB #672

SERMON "Losing Loved Ones: Overcoming Death"

VERSICLES

P: In many and various ways God spoke to his people of old by the prophets.

C: **But now in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son.**

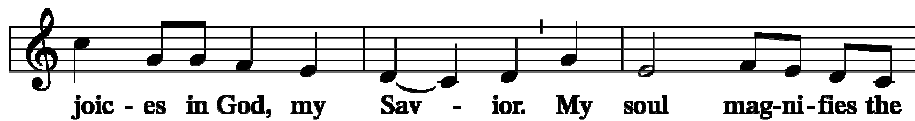
Please stand.

MAGNIFICAT

Refrain



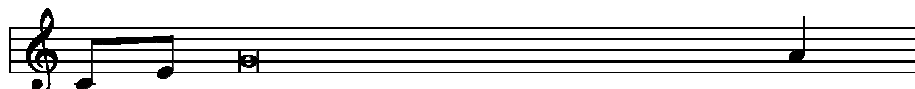
My soul mag - ni - fies the Lord, and my spir - it re -



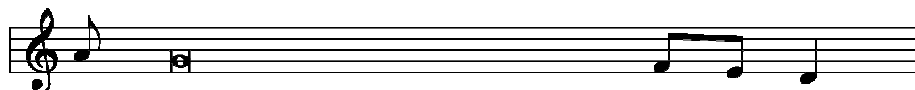
joic - es in God, my Sav - ior. My soul mag-ni-fies the



Lord, and my spir - it re - joic - es in God, my Sav - ior.



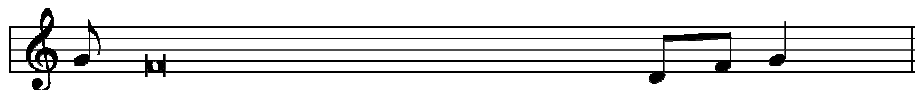
- 1 For He has re - garded
- 2 For the Mighty One has done great things to me,
- 3 He has shown strength with His arm;
- 4 He has filled the hungry with good things,
- 5 Glo - ry be to the Father and to the Son



- 1 the lowliness of His hand-maiden.
- 2 and holy is His name;
- 3 He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
- 4 and the rich He has sent emp - ty a - way.
- 5 and to the Ho - ly Spirit;



- 1 For be - hold, from this day
- 2 and His mercy is on those who fear Him
- 3 He has cast down the mighty from their thrones
- 4 He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy
- 5 as it was in the be - ginning,



- 1 all generations will call me blessèd.
- 2 from generation to gen - er - ation. *Refrain*
- 3 and has exalt - ed the lowly.
- 4 as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed for - ever.
- 5 is now, and will be forever. A - men. *Refrain*

Please kneel.

LITANY

Each petition will end with "let us pray to the Lord," to which the congregation responds,



C Lord, have mer - cy.

P: For the faithful who have gone before us and are at rest, let us give thanks to the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

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

C: *(silence for meditation)*

P: Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord.



C To You, O Lord.

EVENING PRAYER



P: I thank you, my heavenly | Father*,

C: through Jesus Christ, | your dear Son,

that you have | graciously*

kept | me this day;

and I pray that you would forgive me all my sins where I | have done
wrong*,
and graciously keep | me this night.

For into your hands I com - | mend myself*,
my body and soul, | and all things.

Let your holy angel | be with me*,
that the evil foe may have no power over me. | Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray.

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**

Please stand.

BENEDICAMUS

P: Let us bless the Lord.



☛ Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

P: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit,
bless and preserve you.



☛ A - men.

HYMN "Abide with Me"



1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.
6 Hold Thou Thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes;



The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.



When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
Heav'n's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee;



Help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.
In life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

POSTLUDE

"Abide with Me"

... David Cherwien

+ + +

Serving at Worship

Presiding: The Rev. Dr. Steven K. Gjerde

(Pr. Johnson to Bethany)

Organist: Kantor Irene Beethe

Elder: Adam Holzschuh

Acolyte: Trevor Kell

Church Offerings may be placed in the wall-box to the left of the chapel chancel.

Acknowledgements

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Zion Lutheran Church

Sixth and Grant Streets, Wausau, Wisconsin 54403

Those who trust in the Lord shall be like Mount Zion,
which cannot be moved, but abides forever. (Psalm 125:1)

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Kantor Irene Beethe
Office Manager Jessica G. Ray
Custodian Cody Augustine
Deployed Chaplain Joseph C. Pinzl
Pastor Emeritus Theodore B. Gulhaugen

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Host of the Wausau Lutheran Hour
Sundays, 9:00 am, WSAU Radio 550AM (or
click "Listen Live" at www.wsau.com)

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