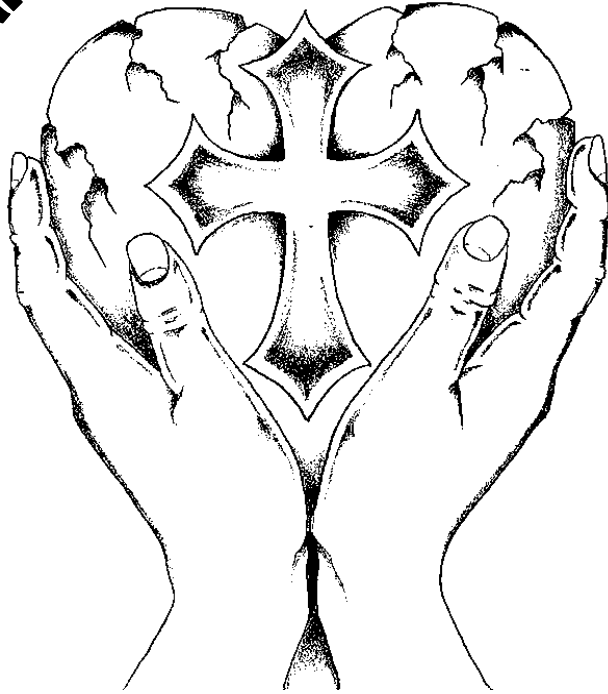


Take Heart: Overcoming a World of Loss



Losing Faith: Overcoming Doubt

March 29, 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

"Drawn to the Cross"

... Jeffrey Blersch and Benjamin M. Culli

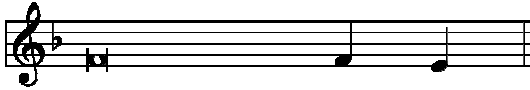
RINGING OF THE BELLS

After the bells have rung, please stand and face the back.

The Paschal Candle, symbolizing Christ, is carried into the congregation.

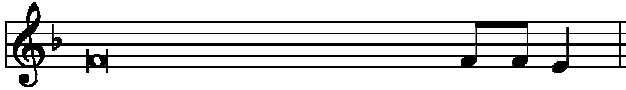
SERVICE OF LIGHT

P: Behold, now is the acceptable time;



C now is the day of sal - va - tion.

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



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

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

P: May your justice shine like the sun;



C and may the poor be lift - ed up.

P: Joyous light of glory:



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



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



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.



Please kneel.

PSALMODY *Psalm 141*

Let my prayer rise be - fore You as in - cense,

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

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

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

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

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

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.

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



Strip me not of my life.



Let my prayer rise be - fore You as in - cense,



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

During the last two weeks of Lent (Passiontide), the Gloria Patri (“Glory be to the Father . . .”) is not used to emphasize the growing solemnity of worship as we approach Good Friday.

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 13*

P: How long, O LORD? Will you forget me forever?

C: **How long will you hide your face from me?**

P: How long must I take counsel in my soul and have sorrow in my heart all the day?

C: **How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?**

P: Consider and answer me, O LORD my God;

C: **light up my eyes, lest I sleep the sleep of death,**

P: lest my enemy say, “I have prevailed over him,”

C: **lest my foes rejoice because I am shaken.**

P: But I have trusted in your steadfast love;

C: **my heart shall rejoice in your salvation.**

P: I will sing to the LORD,

C: **because he has dealt bountifully with me.**

Silence for reflection.

PSALM PRAYER

P: Lord our God, by the light of the resurrection of your Son you have helped us see that we shall not sleep in death forever. Look upon the sufferings of your Church, so that our hearts may rejoice in your saving help and sing you songs of praise; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen**

HYMN “Drawn to the Cross, Which Thou Hast Blessed” ... LSB #560

FIRST LESSON Philippians 4:4-9

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; ⁶do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. ⁸Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

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.

SECOND LESSON John 16:25-33

²⁵"I have said these things to you in figures of speech. The hour is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figures of speech but will tell you plainly about the Father. ²⁶In that day you will ask in my name, and I do not say to you that I will ask the Father on your behalf; ²⁷for the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. ²⁸I came from the Father and have come into the world, and now I am leaving the world and going to the Father." ²⁹His disciples said, "Ah, now you are speaking plainly and not using figurative speech! ³⁰Now we know that you know all things and do not need anyone to question you; this is why we believe that you came from God." ³¹Jesus answered them, "Do you now believe? ³²Behold, the hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each to his own home, and will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone, for the Father is with me. ³³I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN "Christ Be My Leader"

... LSB #861

SERMON "Losing Faith: Overcoming Doubt"

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.**

MAGNIFICAT

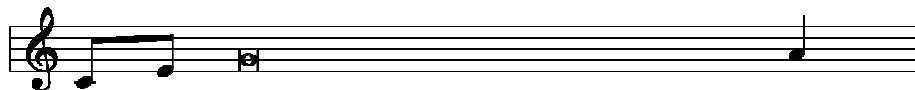
Refrain



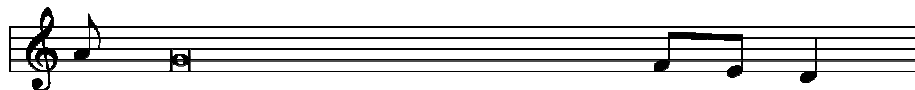
My soul mag-ni-fies the Lord, and my spir - it re -
joic - es in God, my Sav - ior. My soul mag-ni-fies the



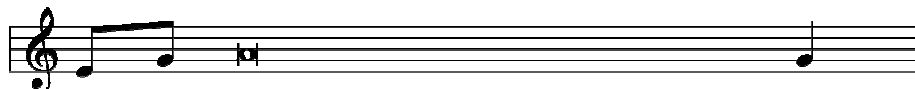
Lord, and my spir - it re - joic - es in God, my Sav - ior.



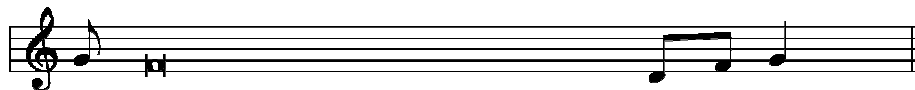
- 1 For _____ He has re - garded
- 2 For the Mighty One has done great things to me,
- 3 He has shown strength with His arm;
- 4 He has filled the hungry with good things,



- 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.



- 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



- 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.

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"

... Kevin Hildebrand

+ + +

Serving at Worship

Presiding: The Rev. Steven K. Gjerde

(Pr. Johnson to Bethany)

Organist: Kantor Irene Beethe

Elder: Scott Schubring

Acolyte: Elsa Oestreich

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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Associate Pastor Christopher S. Johnson
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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