



Apostles Evangelical Lutheran Church & Preschool

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Mission Statement of Apostles Evangelical Lutheran Church & Preschool of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

As God's disciples, we the men, women and children of Apostles, are united in the preaching, teaching and sharing of God's Word in its truth and purity. By God's grace, we will nurture believers and joyfully spread the Word of God in our community and throughout the world, all to His glory.



FINDING JOY IN TRUE REPENTANCE

Third Sunday in Lent

March 7, 2010

Prayer before Worship

I, a sinner, come to you With a penitent confession.
Savior, show me mercy, too; Grant for all my sins remission.
Let these words my soul relieve Jesus sinners does receive.

Lord Jesus, through the power of the Spirit strengthen my trust that you are my personal Savior and Lord. In you I have forgiveness! In you I have life and to you I give my life now and forever. Amen.

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Service of Word and Sacrament

OPENING HYMN

Today Your Mercy Calls Us
(Hymn 339 vs. 1-3)

please stand

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

P: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words and actions. I have not always turned away from sin nor have I always produced proper fruits of repentance. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

P: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. 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. Through faith you possess Jesus' righteousness.

C: Amen.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

P: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.



P: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.



P: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.

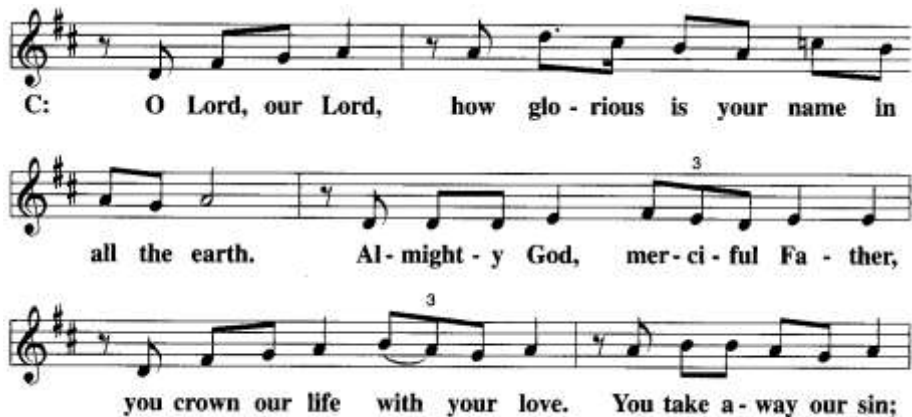


P: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:



P: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

O LORD, OUR LORD



you com - fort our spir - it; you make us pure and
 ho - ly in your sight. You did not spare your on - ly Son,
 but gave him up for us all. O Lord, our Lord,
 how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.
 O Son of God, e - ter - nal Word of the Fa - ther,
 you came to live with us; you made your Fa - ther known;
 you washed us from our sins in your own blood. You are the
 King of glo - ry; you are the Lord! O Lord, our Lord,
 how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.

WE GIVE YOU THANKS,
 AND PRAISE YOUR
 GLORIOUS
 NAME.

P: Let us pray.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, look with favor on your humble servants and stretch out the right hand of your power to defend us against all our enemies; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



please be seated

LESSON

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

1 For I do not want you to be ignorant of the fact, brothers, that our forefathers were all under the cloud and that they all passed through the sea. 2 They were all baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea. 3 They all ate the same spiritual food 4 and drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank from the spiritual rock that accompanied them, and that rock was Christ. 5 Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them; their bodies were scattered over the desert.

6 Now these things occurred as examples to keep us from setting our hearts on evil things as they did. 7 Do not be idolaters, as some of them were; as it is written: "The people sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in pagan revelry." 8 We should not commit sexual immorality, as some of them did — and in one day twenty-three thousand of them died. 9 We should not test the Lord, as some of them did — and were killed by snakes. 10 And do not grumble, as some of them did — and were killed by the destroying angel.


11 These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the fulfillment of the ages has come. 12 So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall! 13 No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.

VERSE OF THE DAY

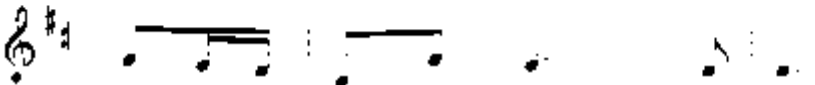
Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.

HYMN OF THE DAY


In Christ Alone
(Hymn 752)



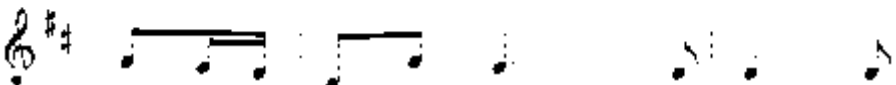
1 In Christ a lone my hope is found.
 2 In Christ a lone who took on flesh,
 3 There in the ground his body lay,
 4 No guilt in life, no fear in death.




He is my light, my strength, my song;
 Fullness of God in help less babe,
 Light of the world by dark ness slain;
 This is the pow'r of Christ in me;



This corner stone, this solid ground,
 This gift of love and righteous ness,
 Then burst ing forth in glo rious day
 from life's hist'ry to li nal breath,



From through the here est thought and storm,
 Scorned by the ones he came to save,
 Up from the grave he rose in pain!
 Je sus com mands my des tin y.



What heights of love, what depths of grace,
 Till on that cross, as Je sus died,
 And as he stands in vic tu ry,
 No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man

When fears are stilled, when striv - ings cease!
 The wrath of God was sat - is - lied:
 Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
 Can ev - er pluck me from his hand;

My Com - for - ter, my all in all,
 For ev - 'ry sin on him was laid,
 For I am his and he is mine—
 Till he re - turns or calls me home,

Here in the love of Christ I stand,
 Here in the death of Christ I live,
 Bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ,
 Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand,

(Fine)

THE SERMON ~ Luke 13:1-9 ~

NOTICE THE TIME

I. Today is for repentance

II. Today is for fruit

1 Now there were some present at that time who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mixed with their sacrifices. 2 Jesus answered, "Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans because they suffered this way? 3 I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish. 4 Or those eighteen who died when the tower in Siloam fell on them — do you think they were more guilty than all the others living in Jerusalem? 5 I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish."

6 Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree, planted in his vineyard, and he went to look for fruit on it, but did not find any. 7 So he said to the man who took care of the vineyard, 'For three years now I've been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and haven't found any. Cut

it down! Why should it use up the soil?'

8 "'Sir,' the man replied, 'leave it alone for one more year, and I'll dig around it and fertilize it. 9 If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it down.'"

please stand

CONFESSION OF FAITH ~ *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 fully 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 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 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.**

please be seated

OFFERING

Guests and visitors, please do not feel that we expect an offering from you; but we thank you if you wish to assist us in our efforts to carry out our ministry of the gospel. "Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Corinthians 9:7)

please stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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.*



THE SACRAMENT

In the Lord's Supper, Jesus comes to us with his true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. God's Word also tells us that when we come together at the Lord's table, we are confessing the oneness of faith that exists between those who believe and confess the same truths of Scripture. For this reason, if you had not had the opportunity to learn what this congregation teaches and to confess your agreement, we ask that you please speak with a pastor if you desire to commune in the future.

P: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.



C: We lift them up to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

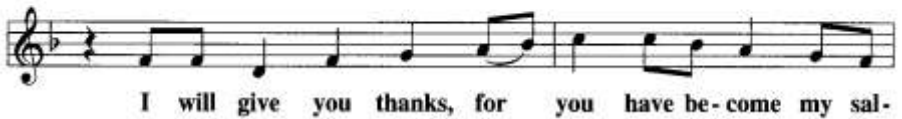


C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: Praise to God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He made his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: 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.



O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

C: 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.

please be seated

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

As Surely As I Live, God Said
(Hymn 308 vs. 1-5)

How Can I Thank You, Lord
(Hymn 460)

please stand

P: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



THE BLESSING

P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

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.



CLOSING HYMN

Now, the Hour of Worship O'er
(Hymn 330 vs. 2)



We wait for the blessed hope –
the glorious appearing of our great
God and Savior, Jesus Christ

Titus 2:13, NIV