Grace Lutheran Church

Postor Cris Escher

Mid-Week Lenten Service April 9, 2025 The Rock - Motthew 7:13-27



-- OPENING RESPONSE: Psalm 31:1-5

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

PEOPLE: Amen

Pastor: In you, O Lord, I have taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; in your

righteousness deliver me.

PEOPLE: Lord, be our refuge and deliver us in your righteousness.

Pastor: Turn your ear to me; come quickly to my rescue; be my rock of refuge, a strong

fortress to save me.

PEOPLE: Lord, hear our prayer and be our strong deliverer.

Pastor: For you are my rock and my fortress; therefore, for your name's sake, lead me and

guide me.Into your hands I commit my spirit; deliver me, O Lord, the God of truth.

PEOPLE: Lord, we commit our spirits into your hands; deliver us, O God of truth. Amen.

-- THE OPENING HYMN

"Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me" (Robinson, Farren, Thompson #7121852)

3. No fate I dread I know I am forgiven
The future sure the price it has been paid
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon
And he was raised to overthrow the grave
To this I hold my sin has been defeated
Jesus now and ever is my plea
Oh the chains are released I can sing I am free
Yet not I but through Christ in me

4. With every breath I long to follow Jesus
For he has said that he will bring me home
And day by day I know he will renew me
Until I stand with joy before the throne
To this I hold my hope is only Jesus
All the glory evermore to him
When the race is complete still my lips shall repeat
Yet not I but through Christ in me
Yet not I but through Christ in me

-- CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION - Matthew 6:1-17

Leader: Let us confess our sins to God, our merciful Father, as we reflect on the words of our

Lord in the Sermon on the Mount.

(Silence for self-reflection)

Leader: Lord, we confess that we have not always been poor in spirit. We have clung to

pride and self-sufficiency, rather than acknowledging our need for your grace.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: We confess that we have not always been merciful. We have judged others harshly,

and have failed to forgive as you have forgiven us.

PEOPLE: Christ, have mercy.

Leader: We confess that we have not always been peacemakers. We have contributed to

division and conflict, rather than seeking reconciliation.

PEOPLE: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: We confess that we have often failed to be the salt of the earth and the light of the

world. We have hidden our faith, rather than letting your light shine through us. We

have allowed our salt to lose its savor.

PEOPLE: Christ, have mercy.

Leader: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives

us all our sins. As a called and ordained 1 servant of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the

Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit

PEOPLE: Amen. As salt and light, we go forth in peace to love and serve the Lord.

The Old Testament Lesson Deuteronomy 11:18-21, 26-28

PEOPLE:

Reader:

THANKS BE TO GOD.

The Holy Gospel Matthew 7:13-27

The Gospel of the Lord Leader: PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST **PEOPLE:**

This is the Word of the Lord.

-- THE APOSTLES CREED

-- THE SERMON – Kingdom Way Sermon on the Mount -The Rock

-- PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH - Matthew Chapters 5-7

Lord Jesus, you called us the salt of the earth and the light of the world. Leader:

PEOPLE: Help us to season the world with your love and shine your light brightly before

others.

Lord Jesus, you said, "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for Leader:

they will be filled."

Fill us with your righteousness, and help us to seek your kingdom above all else. PEOPLE:

Leader: Lord Jesus, you taught us to forgive others as we are forgiven.

Grant us hearts of forgiveness, and help us to release bitterness and resentment. **PEOPLE:**

Leader: Lord Jesus, you told us not to worry about tomorrow, but to seek your kingdom

today.

Help us to trust in your provision, and to cast all our anxieties upon you. **PEOPLE:**

Leader: Lord Jesus, you said that those who hear your words and put them into practice are

like a wise builder.

Give us the strength to not only hear your word, but to live it out faithfully. **PEOPLE:**

Amen.

-- THE LORD'S PRAYER

-- THE BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine upon you and be Leader:

gracious unto you. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you his peace.

PEOPLE: AMEN.

-- THE CLOSING HYMN

"The Church's One Foundation" (LW 289 1-3)

- The Church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
 She is His new creation by water and the Word.
 From heav'n He came and sought her to be His holy bride;
 With His own blood He bought her, and for her life He died.
- 2. Elect from ev'ry nation, yet one o'er all the earth; Her charter of salvation: one Lord, one faith, one birth. One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food, And to one hope she presses with ev'ry grace endued.
- Through toil and tribulation and tumult of her war She waits the consummation of peace forevermore.
 Till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,
 And the great Church victorious shall be the Church at rest.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE! April 13 THROUGH April 20

April 13 - Palm Sunday: 8:30 AM & 10:15 AM (10:15 AM will be livestreamed)

April 17 - Maundy Thursday: 6:00 PM with Communion (Live Streamed)

(Fellowship Meal will follow afterwards, IHOP?)

April 18 - Good Friday: 12:00 (Noon) and 7:00 PM

<u>April 20 -Easter Sunday:</u> 6:30 AM (outside), 8:30 AM & 10:15 AM <u>Easter Breakfast & Fellowship:</u> starts after Sunrise Service (7:30ish)

serving will end at 10:00 AM (Egg hunt: 9:50 AM)

SENIOR WALTHER LEAGUE GAME TIME: Let's start a bit earlier! This Friday, April 11th, at 10:00 AM, we will have the Grace Hall in the ACC Building, open for everyone to come and play some board/card games and socialize. We will provide some snacks and drinks. You can come to socialize, play cards/games, or bring games you may have at home. This month we will meet in the ACC hall. Anything can happen! Let's try it! Leigh Liagre is setting it up. If you would like more information or to help, call or text Leigh at 772-418-4298.