FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT
Order of Worship – 9 AM

AS WE GATHER – Like an army runs to find refuge in a castle, we run to Jesus in every time of need. He is our fortress, our God. Today He mercifully invites us into His presence and shields us from the power of our adversary. He will guard and defend us! What makes Him completely trustworthy to be our fortress? What gives us confidence in knowing that He will deliver us from sin, death, and the devil? He Himself was tempted and can understand our temptation. He Himself was protected from the evil one and can protect us in our hour of need. He Himself battled Satan and won. He invites us to share in the victory of His cross and resurrection. Find refuge in Him today! He is our mighty fortress. He is our God.

PRESERVICE MUSIC  “In the Cross of Christ I Glory” by Wilbur Held

[Please fill out prayer request cards.]

OPENING HYMN

O Lord, Throughout These Forty Days

1 O Lord, through-out these for-ty days You
2 You strove with Sa-tan, and You won; Your
3 Though parched and hun-gry, yet You prayed And
4 Be with us through this sea-son, Lord, And

prayed and kept the fast; In-spire re-pen-tance
faith-ful-ness end-u-red; Lend us Your nerve, Your
fixed Your mind a-bove; So teach us to de-
all our earth-ly days, That when the fi-nal

for our sin, And free us from our past,
skill and trust In God’s e-ter-nal Word.
ny our-selves, Since we have known God’s love.
Easter dawns, We join in heav-en’s praise.

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INVOCATION
P In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS
P Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful,
C slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.
P Confident in His steadfast love, let us confess our sins to the Lord our God.
P O Lord, our gracious and merciful Father,
C we confess our unworthiness to be in Your presence. Our sins of thought, word, and deed leave us hopeless without Your saving work in our lives. Hear us as we call out for mercy and grace. Save us by the power of Your name. Help us find our refuge in the cross of Your only Son. By Your steadfast love, draw us to Jesus that we worship You with cleansed minds and hearts. In His saving name, we pray. Amen.
P In the mercy of the Lord our God, we are redeemed by Jesus Christ, and in Him we are fully and freely forgiven. Since He alone is our refuge and fortress, we find peace in the forgiveness earned for all people by Jesus’ death and resurrection. As your pastor, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen!

INTROIT
P When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble;
C I will rescue him and honor him.
P With long life I will satisfy him
C and show him my salvation.
P Because you have made the LORD your dwelling place—
C the Most High, who is my refuge—
P no evil shall be allowed to befall you,
C no plague come near your tent.
P For he will command his angels concerning you
C to guard you in all your ways.
P On their hands they will bear you up,
C lest you strike your foot against a stone.
P You will tread on the lion and the adder;
C the young lion and the serpent you will trample underfoot.
All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.
P When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble;
C I will rescue him and honor him.
P With long life I will satisfy him
C and show him my salvation.

PRAYER OF THE DAY
P The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.
P Let us pray.

(continued)
All: O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the Promised Land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE
P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C And also with you.
P Let us share this peace with one another.
   (People greet one another saying: "Peace be with you. And also with you.")

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON
(lesson is on the last page of the bulletin)
L This is the Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE LESSON
(lesson is on the last page of the bulletin)
L This is the Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

VERSE FOR LENT
All: Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

HOLY GOSPEL
P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourth chapter.
C Glory to You, O Lord.
   (lesson is on the last page of the bulletin)
P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

[Prayer requests will be collected at this time.]

HYMN OF THE DAY

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

1 A mighty fortress is our God, A sword and shield vic-
2 No strength of ours can match his might. We would be lost, re-
3 Though hordes of dev-ils fill the land All threat-ning to de-
4 God's Word for-ev-er shall a-bide, No thanks to foes, who

(continued)
to - rious; He breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod And wins sal-
ject - ed. But now a cham-pion comes to fight, Whom God Him-
your us, We trem-ble not, un-moved we stand; They can-not
fear it; For God Him-self fights by our side With weap-ons
va-tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe Has sworn to
self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be? The Lord of
o-ver-pow'r us. Let this world's ty- rant rage; In bat -
the Spir - it. Were they to take our house, Goods, hon - or,
work us woe. With craft and dread - ful might He
hosts is He, Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord, God's
we'll en - gage. His might is doomed to fail; God's
child, or spouse, Though life be wrecked a - way, They
arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e-
ony Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - ducses him.
can - not win the day. The King-dom's ours for - ev - er!

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SERMON

"IN THE WILDNESS"


I. In our culture today, it's easier to dismiss the seriousness of sin.
II. But dealing with sin is why Jesus came to us, and why our church exists.

APOSTLE'S CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His
only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered
under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third
day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of
God the Father Almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I
believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the
forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING / CHORAL SELECTION

"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

OFFERTORY [v. 1: Choir; vs. 2-4: Congregation] Evening and Morning

1 Evening and morn-ing, Sun-set and dawn-ing, Wealth, peace, and
2 Fa-ther, O hear me, Par-don and spare me; Calm all my
3 Ills that still grieve me Soon are to leave me; Though bil - lows
4 To God in heav-en All praise be giv-en! Come, let us
PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. For the hallowing of God’s name among us in this congregation and throughout the world, that His Word be taught in its truth and purity and we, as the children of God, live holy lives according to it, let us pray to the Lord.

Father, be our fortress and the One who makes us holy.

For the protection of all who bear the name of Christ and seek to share His saving Gospel with all creation, that when there are times of testing and persecution, the Church grow strong in the power of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.

Father, be our fortress and the One who strengthens Your Church.

For the blessing of all the world, especially the land and the community where we live, that our Mighty Fortress guide all public servants and leaders among us, that we live in peace and safety, let us pray to the Lord.

Father, be our fortress and the One who watches over us all.

For the support and care of all who are brokenhearted, that times of hardship, poverty, and loss lead all who struggle to seek refuge in the support of others and, ultimately, run to the fortress of Jesus and His never-failing mercy, let us pray to the Lord.

Father, be our fortress and the One who showers us with mercy.

For the healing of those who are struggling with medical issues and battling illness, that the Physician of body and soul work mightily in their lives and fill them with His perfect peace, let us pray to the Lord.
Father, be our fortress and the One who brings healing.

For the answering of these and all other prayers that we bring before the throne of the Most High, that we take comfort in knowing that He is our Father and we are His children, made holy by the name He has given to all who are baptized into Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

Father, be our fortress and the One who answers our prayers for the blessing of Your children and for the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

O Lord Jesus Christ, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

BENEDICTION

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.

I will say to the Lord, “My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.”

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you His peace.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Jesus, Lead Thou On

1 Jesus, lead Thou on Till our rest is won; And although the way be cheerless, We will follow calm and fearless.

2 If the way be drear, If the foe be near, Let not faithless fears o'ertake us; Let not faith and hope forsake us;

3 When we seek relief From a long-felt grief, When temp-ta-tions come aluring, Make us patient and enduring.

4 Jesus, lead Thou on Till our rest is won. Heav'nly leader, still direct us, Still support, console, protect us,

Guide us by Thy hand To our fatherland. For through man's woe To our home we go.

Show us that bright shore Where we weep no more. Till we safely stand In our fatherland.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

“Jesus, Lead Thou On” by Paul Manz

From Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 2
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