
CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
Order of Worship – Lenten Midweek
April 6, 2022
7:00 PM

AS WE GATHER – Are you the type of person who has a plan for the day, the week, and the foreseeable future? Goals are made, tasks are determined, and time is set aside, all so things go “according to plan.” But what happens when things don’t go as we anticipate? What happens when a wrench is thrown in—when we realize the plans will not come to fruition? When Joseph was a young boy, we do not know what his plans were for his life ahead. We can be confident they did not include being sold into slavery by his brothers, his father believing him dead, spending time in an Egyptian prison after being falsely accused of a crime, being Pharaoh’s right-hand man over the land of Egypt, and saving the area lands from famine with food stored from a dream the Lord gave Pharaoh. But they were part of the Lord’s plans in and through him. Though we will not follow the same plan as Joseph in our lives, whether our minor or major things go according to our plans, we take heart that God still has a plan for our lives. That plan begins, ends, and is found through Christ alone and in His cross to which we follow in this Lenten time and each day.

PRESERVICE MUSIC **“Come to Calvary’s Holy Mountain”** by Lani Smith

[♯Means please stand; ♪Means please be seated]

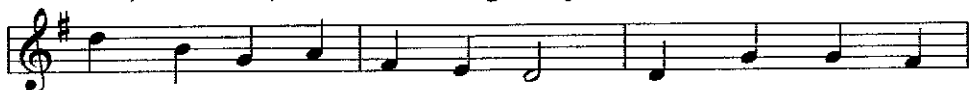
♯**OPENING HYMN** **Come to Calvary’s Holy Mountain** LSB 435 (v.1-3)



1 Come to Cal - v'ry's ho - ly moun - tain, Sin - ners, ru - ined
2 Come in pov - er - ty and mean - ness, Come de - filed, with -
3 Come in sor - row and con - tri - tion, Wound - ed, im - po -



by the fall; Here a pure and heal - ing foun - tain
out, with - in; From in - fec - tion and un - clean - ness,
tent, and blind; Here the guilt - y, free re - mis - sion,



Flows for you, for me, for all, In a full, per -
From the lep - ro - sy of sin, Wash your robes and
Here the trou - bled, peace may find. Health this foun - tain

(continued)



pet - ual tide, O - pened when our Sav - ior died.
 make them white; Ye shall walk with God in light.
 will re - store; They that drink shall thirst no more.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt.; Tune: Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–87; Text and tune: Public domain

INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES

Psalm 105:1-6

- P** *In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.*
- C** **Amen.**
- P** *In this Lenten season, we journey with Joseph in Genesis*
- C** **and come to the cross of Christ on Calvary.**
- P** *Our journey with Joseph draws to a close as he reveals his identity to his brothers in Egypt. Through many events of injustice, unfairness, silence, waiting, and ultimately being raised up in the land, God had a plan. We respond with the psalmist:
Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon His name; make known His deeds among the peoples!*
- C** **Sing to Him, sing praises to Him; tell of all His wondrous works!**
- P** *Glory in His holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!*
- C** **Seek the LORD and His strength; seek His presence continually!**
- P** *Remember the wondrous works that He has done, His miracles, and the judgments He uttered,*
- C** **O offspring of Abraham, His servant, children of Jacob, His chosen ones!**

CONFESSION

Psalm 105:1-6, adapted

- P** *As we come before the Lord, in Lenten reflection and in humble faith, we bring before Him our sins and sorrows, our faults and failings.*
- C** **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

OPENING SENTENCES

Psalm 105:16–22

- P** *When He summoned a famine on the land and broke all supply of bread,*
- C** **He had sent a man ahead of them, Joseph, who was sold as a slave.**
- P** *His feet were hurt with fetters; his neck was put in a collar of iron;*
- C** **until what he had said came to pass, the word of the LORD tested him.**
- P** *The king sent and released him; the ruler of the peoples set him free;*
- C** **he made him lord of his house and ruler of all his possessions,**
- P** *to bind his princes at his pleasure and to teach his elders wisdom.*

FORGIVENESS

- P** *God's plan for Joseph's life was nourishment and land for God's people, forgiveness and reconciliation for his brothers, and a foreshadowing of the One who would fulfill the perfect plan of redemption for us and for this world. Though our plans change, God's perfect plan ends in victory. God's plan is our Savior. Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you, and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.*
- C** **Amen.**

4. They that drink shall live forever;
 'Tis a soul-renewing flood.
 God is faithful; God will never
 Break His covenant of blood,
 Signed when our Redeemer died,
 Sealed when He was glorified.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt.; Text: Public domain

PRAYER

- P** *Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, as we journey with Joseph together in this Lenten season, we are reminded that amid interruptions, injustices, inequity, and iniquity, Your plan perfectly fulfilled for Your people is indefectible and infallible, even to Your sacrificial death on the cross. Grant us the eyes to see You lead, the hearts to trust Your Word, and the faith to cling to Your promises with present and eternal plans for us, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever.* **C** **Amen.**

SERMON READING

Genesis 45:1-15

- P** *The Reading serving as the focus for today's message, from Genesis, the forty-fifth chapter:*

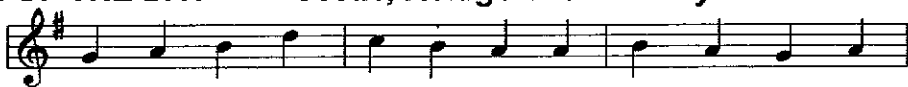
Then Joseph could not control himself before all those who stood by him. He cried, "Make everyone go out from me." So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. And he wept aloud, so that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it.

Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph! Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, for they were dismayed at his presence.

So, Joseph said to his brothers, "Come near to me, please." And they came near. And he said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are yet five years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. And God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God. He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt. Come down to me; do not tarry. You shall dwell in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, and your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. There I will provide for you, for there are yet five years of famine to come, so that you and your household, and all that you have, do not come to poverty.' And now your eyes see, and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see, that it is my mouth that speaks to you. You must tell my father of all my honor in Egypt, and of all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here." Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, and Benjamin wept upon his neck. And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them. After that his brothers talked with him.

- P** *This is the Word of the Lord.*

C **Thanks be to God.**



1 Je - sus, ref - uge of the wea - ry, Blest Re - deem - er,
 2 Do we pass that cross un - heed - ing, Breath - ing no re -
 3 Je - sus, may our hearts be burn - ing With more fer - vent



whom we love, Foun - tain in life's des - ert drea - ry, Sav - ior
 pen - tant vow, Though we see You wound - ed, bleed - ing, See Your
 love for You; May our eyes be ev - er turn - ing To be -



from the world a - bove: Of - ten have Your eyes, of - fend - ed,
 thorn - en - cir - cled brow? Yet Your sin - less death has brought us
 hold Your cross a - new Till in glo - ry, part - ed nev - er



Gazed up - on the sin - ner's fall; Yet up - on the
 Life e - ter - nal, peace, and rest; On - ly what Your
 From the bless - ed Sav - ior's side, Grav - en in our



cross ex - tend - ed, You have borne the pain of all.
 grace has taught us Calms the sin - ner's deep dis - tress.
 hearts for - ev - er, Dwell the cross, the Cru - ci - fied.

4. Through Your Word are faithful servants Used as instruments by You,
 Pointing to Christ's wondrous mission: Perfect Savior, hope renewed.
 As we journey now with Joseph, Through his life and lessons bless,
 Seeing Jesus as fulfillment, One in whom we find our rest.

Text: Sts. 1–3: Girolamo Savonarola, 1452–98; tr. Jane F. Wilde, 1826–96, alt. Public domain; St. 4: Jonathan Riggert.
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SERMON

GOD DOES HAVE A PLAN

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

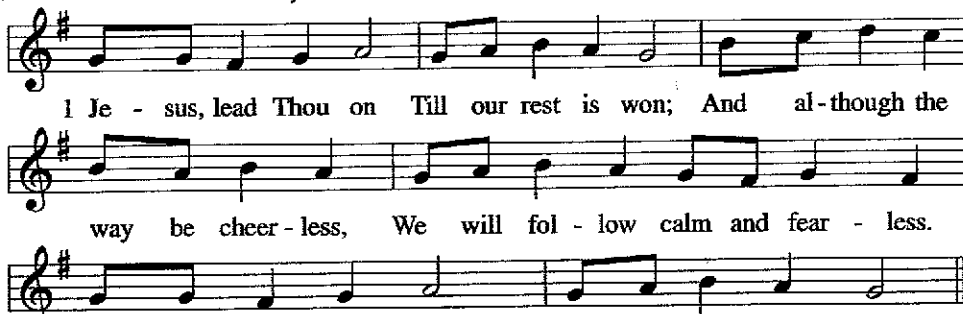
“Christ, the Life of All the Living”

by J. S. Bach

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P *Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs. Heavenly Father, Your ways are not our ways, nor are Your thoughts our thoughts. With Your servant Joseph, we see Your plan and almighty hand through his life even amid strife and struggles. Grant that we also learn to put our trust in You, with Christ and His cross before us.*

HYMN *Jesus, Lead Thou On* LSB 718 (v. 1)



1 Je - sus, lead Thou on Till our rest is won; And al-though the
way be cheer-less, We will fol-low calm and fear-less.
Guide us by Thy hand To our fa-ther-land.

Text: Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, 1700–60; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–97, alt.
Tune: Adam Drese, 1620–1701; Text and tune: Public domain

P *God of all peace and promise, we are reminded through Your Son that in this world we will have trouble, but to take heart as He has overcome the world. Remind us in this Lenten season and always of Your perfect plan for this world, that amid humanity's sin and waywardness, out of love You sent Your own Son as our Savior. Draw us closer to You and to His cross in the Holy Week ahead.*

HYMN *Jesus, Lead Thou On* LSB 718 (v. 2)

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;
For through many a woe
To our home we go.

Text: Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, 1700–60; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–97, alt.; Text: Public domain

P *God of hope and healing, many people face trials not according to their plans with bodies, minds, and spirits. For all who face surgery, for all who suffer without cure, for all who face their journeys in pain and distress, grant them faith through Your Spirit to find hope in Your present and eternal plans for them and for all in the world.*

HYMN *Jesus, Lead Thou On* LSB 718 (v. 3)

3. When we seek relief
From a long-felt grief,
When temptations come alluring,
Make us patient and enduring.
Show us that bright shore
Where we weep no more.

Text: Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, 1700–60; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–97, alt.; Text: Public domain

P *Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.*

C Amen.

HYMN *Jesus, Lead Thou On*

LSB 718 (v. 4)

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

Text: Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, 1700–60; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–97, alt.; Text: Public domain

LORD'S PRAYER

P *O Lord Jesus Christ, 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.

CLOSING PRAYER

Luther's Evening Prayer

C I thank You, my heavenly Father, 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 commend 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.

CLOSING SENTENCES

Psalm 29:4

P *In this Lenten season, we journey with Joseph in Genesis*

C and come to the cross of Christ on Calvary.

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

P *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.*

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Go to Dark Gethsemane

LSB 436



1 Go to dark Geth - sem - a - ne, All who feel the
2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall, View the Lord of
3 Cal - v'ry's mourn - ful moun - tain climb; There, a - dor - ing
4 Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb Where they laid His

(continued)



tempt - er's pow'r; Your Re - deem - er's con - flict see,
 life ar-raigned; Oh, the worm-wood and the gall!
 at His feet, Mark that mir - a - cle of time,
 breath-less clay; All is sol - i - tude and gloom.



Watch with Him one bit - ter hour; Turn not from His
 Oh, the pangs His soul sus-tained! Shun not suf - f'ring,
 God's own sac - ri - fice com-plete. "It is fin - ished!"
 Who has tak - en Him a - way? Christ is ris'n! He



griefs a - way; Learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.
 shame, or loss; Learn from Him to bear the cross.
 hear Him cry; Learn from Je - sus Christ to die.
 meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854; Tune: Richard Redhead, 1820–1901; Text and tune: Public domain

POSTLUDE "Lamb of God We Fall Before Thee" by Henry J. Markworth

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WE WISH TO THANK the following for their participation in our worship service this evening:

Acolyte..... Steve Rolen
 Altar Guild..... Elsie Leiker & Sharon Milliken
 Elder on Duty Tony Williams
 Greeter Betty Adam
 Organist/Music Director..... Beth Buss
 Service Web Recorder Robert Showalter
 Service Live Streaming Stuart Ruwet
 Worship Leader Pastor Roger Wohletz, Christ Lutheran Church
 Ushers Phil Vandre & Naomi Kettner
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