

MIDWEEK OF LENT 2 GETHSEMANE: A PLACE OF STRENGTH

Immanuel Lutheran Church – LCMS Lakefield, Minnesota March 8, 2023

AS WE GATHER

This evening, we meditate upon the simple words of our Lord's prayer in Gethsemane: "Thy will be done."

As we listen to Jesus pray, the Spirit brings about a change in our hearts. So often, our prayer can be about our will. With this prayer, our eyes are opened to God's will. Rather than struggle to make God part of our lives, we see our Lord struggle because we are part of His life. His work in this world was for our salvation.

When disciples enter into places of sorrow, places where they struggle and fail to carry out God's will, Jesus bears their weakness before His Father. His prayer and labor turn our places of sorrow into the places of God's strength. HYMN: "Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray" (LSB 663)

LENTEN SENTENCES

- **P** From the rising of the sun to its setting,
- **C** the name of the Lord is to be praised.
- **P** Rend your hearts and not your garments.
- Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
- P Jesus said, "If any man would come after Me,
- **C** let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me."
- P Christ was wounded for our transgressions.
- **C** He was bruised for our iniquities.
- **P** From the rising of the sun to its setting,
- **C** the name of the Lord is to be praised.

PRAYER

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.
- P Let us pray . . . Almighty God, You seek not our death or destruction but our life and salvation. Speak Your Word of rescue to our sin-sick hearts and fearful souls. Call us forth from the darkness of our guilt and shame. Bring us into the light of Your presence where Your forgiveness dwells. Restore us to Your people that our wandering ways may end. Direct us to the path Your Son has made that we may walk in it by faith and never depart from its hope. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Amen.
- Again let us pray . . . Merciful Lord, in the quiet of the night You sought a place of prayer. Calm our hearts from the busyness of the day that we may also seek

You in the quiet of the night and open our hearts to You in prayer. Wear down our fearful barriers and teach us to trust in Your will and to surrender in faith to Your good and gracious will. Then help us arise to serve You anew, to delight in Your will, and to walk in Your ways. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

READING

Romans 8:26-39

²⁶Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷And He who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. ²⁸And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose. ²⁹For those whom He foreknew He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, in order that He might be the firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰And those whom He predestined He also called, and those whom He called He also justified, and those whom He justified He also glorified.

³¹What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²He who did not spare His own Son but gave Him up for us all, how will He not also with Him graciously give us all things? ³³Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. ³⁵Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall

tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶As it is written,

"For Your sake we are being killed all the day long;

we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered."

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. ³⁸For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

PSALM 139

¹O LORD, You have searched me and known me!

²You know when I sit down and when I rise up; You discern my thoughts from afar.

³You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.

⁴Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O LORD, You know it altogether.

⁵You hem me in, behind and before, and lay Your hand upon me.

⁶Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high; I cannot attain it.

⁷Where shall I go from Your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from Your presence?

⁸If I ascend to heaven, You are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, You are there!

⁹If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,

¹⁰even there Your hand shall lead me, and Your right hand shall hold me.

¹¹If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light about me be night,"

¹²even the darkness is not dark to You; the night is bright as the day, for darkness is as light with You.

¹³For You formed my inward parts;

You knitted me together in my mother's womb.

¹⁴I praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

Wonderful are Your works; my soul knows it very well.

¹⁵My frame was not hidden from You, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

¹⁶Your eyes saw my unformed substance;

in Your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them.

¹⁷How precious to me are Your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!

¹⁸If I would count them, they are more than the sand. I awake, and I am still with You.

¹⁹Oh that You would slay the wicked, O God! O men of blood, depart from me!

²⁰They speak against You with malicious intent; Your enemies take Your name in vain!

²¹Do I not hate those who hate You, O LORD? And do I not loathe those who rise up against You?

²²I hate them with complete hatred; I count them my enemies.

²³Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts!

²⁴And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!

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.

READING

Luke 22:39-46

³⁹And He came out and went, as was His custom, to the Mount of Olives, and the disciples followed Him. ⁴⁰And when He came to the place, He said to them, "Pray that you may not enter into temptation." ⁴¹And He withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and knelt down and prayed, ⁴²saying, "Father, if You are willing, remove this cup from Me. Nevertheless, not My will, but Yours, be done." ⁴³And there appeared to Him an angel from heaven, strengthening Him. 44And being in an agony He prayed more earnestly; and His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground. ⁴⁵And when He rose from prayer, He came to the disciples and found them sleeping for sorrow. 46 and He said to them, "Why are you sleeping? Rise and pray that you may not enter into temptation."

HYMN: "Be Still, My Soul, before the Lord" (LSB 771)

SERMON: "Gethsemane: A Place of Strength" (Luke 22:39–46)

CONFESSION

- **P** Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man.
- **C** He will dwell with them, and they will be His people, and God Himself will be with them as their God.
- **P** Take off the sandals from your feet,

- **C** for the place where you are standing is holy ground.
- **P** Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great!
- She has become a dwelling place for demons, a haunt for every unclean spirit, a haunt for every unclean bird, a haunt for every unclean and detestable beast.
- **P** Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips,
- and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!
- P But in the very place where it was said to them, "You are not my people,"
- C there they will be called "sons of the living God."
- I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.
- **C** You are a hiding place for me; You preserve me from trouble; You surround me with shouts of deliverance.
- P Lord, open their eyes, so that they may turn from darkness to light
- and from the power of Satan to God,
- P that they may receive forgiveness of sins
- **C** and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in Christ.
- **P** O Lord,
- **C** have mercy upon us and forgive us all our sins.
- In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun

this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

PRAYER

- P I desire then that in every place the people should pray,
- **C** lifting holy hands without anger or quarreling.
- P Hear my prayer, O Lord;
- C let my cry come to You.
- **P** In the day of trouble I call upon You,
- **C** And You answer me.
- P Save Your people and bless Your heritage!
- **G** Be their shepherd and carry them forever.
- **P** Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer;
- C listen to my plea for grace.
- P Let us pray . . . O Lord, our God, we acknowledge Your great goodness toward us and praise You for the mercy and grace that our eyes have seen, our ears have heard, and our hearts have known.
- We sincerely repent of the sins of this day and those in the past. Pardon our offenses, correct and reform what is lacking in us, and help us to grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.
- Inscribe Your Law upon our hearts, and equip us to serve You with holy and blameless lives. May each day remind us of the coming of the night when no one can work.
- In the emptiness of this present age keep us united by a living faith through the power of Your Holy Spirit with Him who is the resurrection and the life, that we may escape the eternal bitter pains of condemnation.

- P By Your Holy Spirit bless the preaching of Your Word and the administration of Your Sacraments.
- C Preserve these gifts to us and to all Christians. Guard and protect us from all dangers to body and soul.
- P Grant that we may with faithful perseverance receive from You our sorrows as well as our joys, knowing that health and sickness, riches and poverty, and all things come by permission of Your fatherly hand. Let us pray for . . . [individual names may be mentioned] . . . and for all people as they have need.
- Keep us this day under Your protective care and preserve us, securely trusting in Your everlasting goodness and love, for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- P Help us, O Lord, this night
- **C** To live without sin.
- **P** O Lord, have mercy on us.
- **C** Have mercy on us.
- **P** O Lord, let Your mercy be on us.
- **C** As our trust is in You.
- P Hear our prayer, O Lord.
- **C** And let our cry come to You.
- P O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, who at this hour sought a place of quiet as a refuge for prayer, open our hearts that we may offer to You petitions and supplications on behalf of ourselves, those within the household of faith, and all people according to their need. Strengthen us in the conviction that You will both hear and grant us all things needful, according to Your gracious will; whom with the Father and the

Holy Spirit You live and reign, one God, now and forever.

- C Amen.
- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.
- **P** Let us bless the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.
- P The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the

 Son, and the Holy Spirit bless and preserve you.
- C Amen.

HYMN: "Eternal Spirit of the Living Christ" (LSB 769)

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book
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- 1. Facebook: "Immanuel Lutheran Church" on Sundays at 8:30 a.m. or any time after.
- 2. YouTube: "Immanuel Lutheran Church and School Lakefield" on Sundays at 8:30 a.m. or any time after.
- 3. Southwest Broadband Stream TV channel 70 on Sunday 3/12 at 7:00 p.m.

Assisting with the Service

Preacher Pastor Phil Beukema

Elder Jim Ackermann (7:00)

Organist LaDonna Peterson (1:00)

Lori Kruger (7:00)

Acolyte 7th-8th Graders (1:00)

Drake Grein (7:00)

Usher Merle Hendricksen & 7th-8th Graders (1:00)

(7:00)

We Remember in our Prayers

Joyce Meyer hospitalized and recovering from a broken hip Ruby Ackermann on her 90th birthday 3/16

- Steve and Brenda Matasovsky and family on the death of Brenda's father, Virgil Bening
- Colten Stevens and Carmen Flores-Bleess as they will be wed 3/25
- Pastor Beukema and Brandi as Pastor considers a Call to Risen Savior Lutheran Church in Franklin, Wisconsin
- Principal Jason Roslansky and family as he has accepted a K-12 Principal position in Tanana, Alaska for the 2023-2024 school year
- Dean Jennissen and family as he considers the Principal/Teacher position here at Immanuel Lutheran School
- Our residents at Colonial Manor, Valley View, Meadows and Golden Horizons in Worthington, Keelson Harbour and Accura HealthCare in Spirit Lake, Pathstone in Mankato, Good Sam in Jackson, Temperance Lake Ridge in Sherburn, Accura HealthCare in Milford
- Clyde Daberkow, Dave Ackermann, Doug Hansen, Albert Henning, Betty Hage, Adrian Connell, Ines Henning, Chuck Bergmann, Berniece Kolander, Joyce Rossow, Bev Hall, Darlene Stender, dealing with health issues Stacey Dunker, mother of ILS student Janessa Dunker; Lori

Koerselman, friend of Amy Altman; Pastor Ben Rucker; Mitch Voehl, son of Lila Voehl; Marcus Lere, grandson of Joyce Bretzman; Carol Olson, from Wisconsin; Denny Daberkow; Duwayne Hoffman, father of Tracey Beeck; Jim Salentiny, uncle of Mark Freking; dealing with cancer

Bill Tusa, brother of Marie Kruse; Rieny Rossow, brother of Betty Hage and brother-in-law of LaNell Rossow; Ava Zyskowski, sister of Pastor Phil Beukema; Mike Conro, friend of Pastor and Brandi Beukema; Charlotte Swarm, daughter of David and Inez Kosen; Pastor Travis Loeslie, Bethlehem Morristown; Rob Pohlman, son of Ken Pohlman; Jacob Boe, son of Rose Parrington; Curt Gates, brother-in-law of Miles Voehl (Lila's son), dealing with health issues

All those affected by COVID-19 First Responders Our Missionaries in the Field Our Country and Our Military

> Immanuel Lutheran Church and School 604 Bush Street, PO Box 750, Lakefield, MN 56150 507-662-5718

> > www.immanuellakefield.com immanuel@immanuellakefield.com