



The  
Battle  
is the  
**Lord's**

**MARCH 13, 2024**

**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

# WELCOME

Thank you for worshipping with us today.  
Please sign the guest register in the entry  
as you leave the church today.

## TODAY'S SERVICE

March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**Speaker:** Pastor Terrel Kesterson

**Organist:** Peggy Kesterson

# PRE-SERVICE DEVOTION

## *Psalm 102:1-12*

Hear my prayer, O LORD, And let my cry come to You. <sup>2</sup>  
Do not hide Your face from me in the day of my trouble;  
Incline Your ear to me; In the day that I call, answer me  
speedily. <sup>3</sup> For my days are consumed like smoke, And my  
bones are burned like a hearth. <sup>4</sup> My heart is stricken and  
withered like grass, So that I forget to eat my bread. <sup>5</sup> Be-  
cause of the sound of my groaning My bones cling to my  
skin. <sup>6</sup> I am like a pelican of the wilderness; I am like an  
owl of the desert. <sup>7</sup> I lie awake, And am like a sparrow  
alone on the housetop. <sup>8</sup> My enemies reproach me all day  
long, Those who deride me swear an oath against me. <sup>9</sup>  
For I have eaten ashes like bread, And mingled my drink  
with weeping, <sup>10</sup> Because of Your indignation and Your  
wrath; For You have lifted me up and cast me away. <sup>11</sup> My  
days *are* like a shadow that lengthens, And I wither away  
like grass. <sup>12</sup> But You, O LORD, shall endure forever, And  
the remembrance of Your name to all generations.

# SERVICE OF THE WORD

#140:1-4 Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

## INVOCATION

p In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

P O Lord, open my lips,  
C and my mouth will declare Your praise.

P Make haste, O God, to deliver me;  
C make haste to help me, O Lord.

C 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.

Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation.

# CONFESSION

P What is Confession?

All Confession has two parts. First, that we confess our sins, and second, that we receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven.

P What sins should we confess?

All Before God we should plead guilty of all sins, even those we are not aware of, as we do in the Lord's Prayer; but before the pastor we should confess only those sins which we know and feel in our hearts.

P What do you believe according to these words?

All I believe that when the called ministers of Christ deal with us by His divine command, in particular when they exclude openly unrepentant sinners from the Christian congregation and absolve those who repent of their sins and want to do better, this is just as valid and certain, even in heaven, as if Christ our dear Lord dealt with us Himself.

**All** O almighty God, merciful Father, 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.

**P** God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith. Amen.

**P** Do you believe that the forgiveness I speak is not my forgiveness but God's?

**C** Yes.

**P** Let it be done for you as you believe.

**P** In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

# SING, MY TONGUE, THE GLORIOUS BATTLE

Sing, my tongue, the glo-ri-ous bat-tle;  
Tell how, when at length the full-ness  
Faith-ful cross, true sign of tri-umph,  
Sing the end-ing of the fray. Now a - bove the  
of the ap-point-ed time was come, He, the Word, was  
Be for all teh no-blest tree; None in fo - liage,  
cross, the tro - phy, Sound the loud tri - um-phant lay;  
born of wom-an, Left for us His Fa-ther's home,  
none in blos-som. None in fruit thine e - qual be;  
Tell how Christ, the world's re - deem - er,  
Blazed the path of true o - be - dience,  
sym - bol of the world's re - demp-tion,  
As a vic - tim won the day.  
Shone as light a - midst the gloom.  
For the weight that hung on Thee!

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

P Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts that lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness we may receive from You full pardon and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## THE WORD

**2 Chronicles 20:1-24** It happened after this *that* the people of Moab with the people of Ammon, and *others* with them besides the Ammonites<sup>1</sup>, came to battle against Jehoshaphat. <sup>2</sup> Then some came and told Jehoshaphat, saying, "A great multitude is coming against you from beyond the sea, from Syria<sup>1</sup>; and they are in Hazazon Tamar " (which is En Gedi). <sup>3</sup> And Jehoshaphat feared, and set himself to seek the LORD, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah. <sup>4</sup> So Judah gathered together to ask *help* from the



LORD; and from all the cities of Judah they came to seek the LORD. <sup>5</sup> Then Jehoshaphat stood in the assembly of Judah and Jerusalem, in the house of the LORD, before the new court, <sup>6</sup> and said: "O LORD God of our fathers, *are* You not God in heaven, and do You *not* rule over all the kingdoms of the nations, and in Your hand *is there not* power and might, so that no one is able to withstand You? <sup>7</sup> "Are You not our God, *who* drove out the inhabitants of this land before Your people Israel, and gave it to the descendants of Abraham Your friend forever? <sup>8</sup> "And they dwell in it, and have built You a sanctuary in it for Your name, saying, <sup>9</sup> 'If disaster comes upon us-- sword, judgment, pestilence, or famine-- we will stand before this temple and in Your presence (for Your name *is* in this temple), and cry out to You in our affliction, and You will hear and save.' <sup>10</sup> "And now, here are the people of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir-- whom You would not let Israel invade when they came out of the land of Egypt, but they turned from them and did not destroy them-- <sup>11</sup> "here they are, rewarding us by coming to throw us out of Your possession which You have given us to inherit. <sup>12</sup> "O our God, will You not judge them? For we have no power against this great multitude that is coming against us; nor

do we know what to do, but our eyes *are* upon You." <sup>13</sup>  
Now all Judah, with their little ones, their wives, and their children, stood before the LORD. <sup>14</sup> Then the Spirit of the LORD came upon Jahaziel the son of Zechariah, the son of Benaiah, the son of Jeiel, the son of Mattaniah, a Levite of the sons of Asaph, in the midst of the assembly. <sup>15</sup> And he said, "Listen, all you of Judah and you inhabitants of Jerusalem, and you, King Jehoshaphat! Thus says the LORD to you: 'Do not be afraid nor dismayed because of this great multitude, for the battle *is* not yours, but God's. <sup>16</sup> 'Tomorrow go down against them. They will surely come up by the Ascent of Ziz, and you will find them at the end of the brook before the Wilderness of Jeruel. <sup>17</sup> 'You will not *need* to fight in this *battle*. Position yourselves, stand still and see the salvation of the LORD, who is with you, O Judah and Jerusalem!' Do not fear or be dismayed; tomorrow go out against them, for the LORD *is* with you." <sup>18</sup> And Jehoshaphat bowed his head with *his* face to the ground, and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem bowed before the LORD, worshiping the LORD. <sup>19</sup> Then the Levites of the children of the Kohathites and of the children of the Korahites stood up to praise the LORD God of Israel with voices loud and high. <sup>20</sup> So they rose

early in the morning and went out into the Wilderness of Tekoa; and as they went out, Jehoshaphat stood and said, "Hear me, O Judah and you inhabitants of Jerusalem: Believe in the LORD your God, and you shall be established; believe His prophets, and you shall prosper." <sup>21</sup> And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed those who should sing to the LORD, and who should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army and were saying: "Praise the LORD, For His mercy *endures forever!*" <sup>22</sup> Now when they began to sing and to praise, the LORD set ambushes against the people of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir, who had come against Judah; and they were defeated. <sup>23</sup> For the people of Ammon and Moab stood up against the inhabitants of Mount Seir to utterly kill and destroy *them*. And when they had made an end of the inhabitants of Seir, they helped to destroy one another. <sup>24</sup> So when Judah came to a place overlooking the wilderness, they looked toward the multitude; and there *were* their dead bodies, fallen on the earth. No one had escaped.

**Matthew 26:36-46** <sup>36</sup> Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and said to the disciples, "Sit

here while I go and pray over there." <sup>37</sup> And He took with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and He began to be sorrowful and deeply distressed. <sup>38</sup> Then He said to them, "My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch with Me." <sup>39</sup> He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, "O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You *will*." <sup>40</sup> Then He came to the disciples and found them asleep, and said to Peter, "What? Could you not watch with Me one hour? <sup>41</sup> "Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." <sup>42</sup> Again, a second time, He went away and prayed, saying, "O My Father, if this cup cannot pass away from Me unless I drink it, Your will be done." <sup>43</sup> And He came and found them asleep again, for their eyes were heavy. <sup>44</sup> So He left them, went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words. <sup>45</sup> Then He came to His disciples and said to them, "Are *you* still sleeping and resting? Behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of sinners. <sup>46</sup> "Rise, let us be going. See, My betrayer is at hand."

p Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it!

# THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe 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 is seated 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.

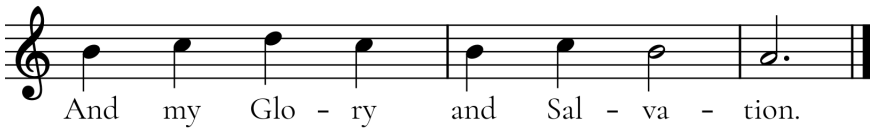
## #159 Go To Dark Gethsemane

# **SERMON**

**THE BATTLE IS NOT YOURS BUT THE LORD'S**

**A BATTLE OF WILL**

## #179 On My Heart



## #155 Sweet The Moments Rich in Blessing

### OFFERING

## Prayers and Lord's Prayer

P In peace let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:



**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

**all** **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 BENEDICTION

p The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.



## #555:1-4 The Day is Past and Over





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