



MAY 4, 2025 • 8:30 AM •

OVERCOMING LIFE'S SORROWS THROUGH THE STORM

Welcome! We're excited you're here. In our service, we gather before Almighty God to offer Him our worship and praise. We come together to be strengthened by His Word to be His witnesses.

Families, if you brought your children with you today, we want you to know that the spiritual well-being of your child is very important to us. Many families wish to teach and encourage their younger child(ren) to be in church and get what they can out of it. If you feel that you need to take your child out for whatever reason; there is a cry room near the back of the sanctuary and a restroom with a baby changing station is located by the elevator (to the left as you exit the sanctuary). **Guests**, we welcome you. If you will, please help us to get to know you by filling out the Guest side of the Welcome Card found in the pews/ chair backs and place it in the offering plates.

As We Gather: "Are you stuck in a bad place? Jesus was stuck in a bad place. Are you hurting? Jesus hurt. Are you bleeding? Jesus bled. Do you feel like you're grasping for air? Jesus grasped for air. Are you crying? Jesus cried. Is your heart breaking? Jesus' heart was absolutely broken. What's it all mean? It means we're not alone in the storm." (*Overcoming Life's Sorrows – Learning From Jeremiah*, R. Reed Lessing, Concordia Publishing House, 2021, pg. 258)

WELCOME

Please Stand

CALL TO WORSHIP

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

OPENING HYMN

420 Christ, the Life of All the Living

- 1 Christ, the life of all the living, Christ, the death of death, our foe,
Who, Thyself for me once giving To the darkest depths of woe:
Through Thy sufferings, death, and merit I eternal life inherit.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.
- 2 Thou, ah! Thou, hast taken on Thee Bonds and stripes, a cruel rod;
Pain and scorn were heaped upon Thee, O Thou sinless Son of God!
Thus didst Thou my soul deliver From the bonds of sin forever.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.
- 3 Thou hast borne the smiting only That my wounds might all be whole;
Thou hast suffered, sad and lonely, Rest to give my weary soul;
Yea, the curse of God enduring, Blessing unto me securing.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

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CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Psalm 30:5, 8

P To You, O LORD, I cry,

C and to the Lord I plead for mercy.

P For His anger is but for a moment, and His favor is for a lifetime.

C Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *(cont.)*

Silence for meditation and reflection.

P Let us confess our sins before God and in the presence of one another.

C I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and 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.

P He who began this good work within you will bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of the Lord be with you.

C Amen.

GREETING OF THE SAINTS

HYMN OF PRAISE

420 Christ, the Life of All the Living

- 5 Thou hast suffered men to bruise Thee, That from pain I might be free;
Falsely did Thy foes accuse Thee: Thence I gain security;
Comfortless Thy soul did languish Me to comfort in my anguish.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.
- 6 Thou hast suffered great affliction And hast borne it patiently,
Even death by crucifixion, Fully to atone for me;
Thou didst choose to be tormented That my doom should be prevented.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be, Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.
- 7 Then, for all that wrought my pardon, For Thy sorrows deep and sore,
For Thine anguish in the Garden, I will thank Thee evermore,
Thank Thee for Thy groaning, sighing, For Thy bleeding and Thy dying,
For that last triumphant cry, And shall praise Thee, Lord, on high.

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SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. Merciful Father, in Your great love You bestowed forgiveness upon Saul, and by Your Spirit, You brought him to faith in Your Son. Grant that we, too, may be rescued from unbelief and, by Your grace, be granted the favor of Your friendship and redemption to believe in Jesus Christ, our Savior, and to serve His purpose in all that we do; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Be Seated

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

+ WORD +

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Jeremiah 38:1-13

(Jeremiah Cast and Rescued from a Cistern.)

38 Now Shephatiah the son of Mattan, Gedaliah the son of Pashhur, Jucal the son of Shelemiah, and Pashhur the son of Malchiah heard the words that Jeremiah was saying to all the people: ² "Thus says the Lord: He who stays in this city shall die by the sword, by famine, and by pestilence, but he who goes out to the Chaldeans shall live. He shall have his life as a prize of war, and live. ³ Thus says the Lord: This city shall surely be given into the hand of the army of the king of Babylon and be taken." ⁴ Then the officials said to the king, "Let this man be put to death, for he is weakening the hands of the soldiers who are left in this city, and the hands of all the people, by speaking such words to them. For this man is not seeking the welfare of this people, but their harm." ⁵ King Zedekiah said, "Behold, he is in your hands, for the king can do nothing against you." ⁶ So they took Jeremiah and cast him into the cistern of Malchiah, the king's son, which was in the court of the guard, letting Jeremiah down by ropes. And there was no water in the cistern, but only mud, and Jeremiah sank in the mud. ⁷ When Ebed-melech the Ethiopian, a eunuch who was in the king's house, heard that they had put Jeremiah into the cistern—the king was sitting in the Benjamin Gate—⁸ Ebed-melech went from the king's house and said to the king, ⁹ "My lord the king, these men have done evil in all that they did to Jeremiah the prophet by casting him into the cistern, and he will die there of hunger, for there is no bread left in the city." ¹⁰ Then the king commanded Ebed-melech the Ethiopian, "Take thirty men with you from here, and lift Jeremiah the prophet out of the cistern before he dies." ¹¹ So Ebed-melech took the men with him and went to the house of the king, to a wardrobe in the storehouse, and took from there old rags and worn-out clothes, which he let down to Jeremiah in the cistern by ropes. ¹² Then Ebed-melech the Ethiopian said to Jeremiah, "Put the rags and clothes between your armpits and the ropes." Jeremiah did so. ¹³ Then they drew Jeremiah up with ropes and lifted him out of the cistern. And Jeremiah remained in the court of the guard.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HYMN

Firm Was My Health

- 1 Firm was my health, my day was bright, And I presumed 'twould ne'er be night;
Fondly I said within my heart, Pleasure and peace shall ne'er depart.
- 2 But I forgot, Thine arm was strong, Which made my mountain stand so long;
And, when Thy face was turned aside, My health was gone, my comforts died.
- 3 Hear me, O God of grace, I said, And raise me from among the dead:
Thy word rebuked the pains I felt, Thy pard'ning love removed my guilt.
- 4 I will extol Thee, Lord, on high: At Thy command diseases fly.
Who but a God can speak and save From the dark borders of the grave?

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EPISTLE

Revelation 5:1-14

("Worthy is the Lamb who was slain.")

5 Then I saw in the right hand of him who was seated on the throne a scroll written within and on the back, sealed with seven seals. ² And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?" ³ And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it, ⁴ and I began to weep loudly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it. ⁵ And one of the elders said to me, "Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals." ⁶ And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain, with seven horns and with seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. ⁷ And he went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who was seated on the throne. ⁸ And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. ⁹ And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you

EPISTLE *(cont.)*

ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, ¹⁰ and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth." ¹¹ Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, ¹² saying with a loud voice, "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!" ¹³ And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying, "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!" ¹⁴ And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" and the elders fell down and worshiped.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please Stand

VERSE

Romans 6:9

P Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again;

C death no longer has dominion over Him. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 21:1–19

(Jesus asks Peter if he loves Him.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twenty-first chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

21 After this Jesus revealed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he revealed himself in this way. ²Simon Peter, Thomas (called the Twin), Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples were together. ³Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. ⁴Just as day was breaking, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵Jesus said to them, "Children, do you have any fish?" They answered him, "No." ⁶He said to them, "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in, because of the quantity of fish. ⁷That disciple whom Jesus loved therefore said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he was stripped for work, and threw himself into the sea. ⁸The other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, but about a hundred yards off. ⁹When they got out on land, they saw a charcoal fire in place, with fish laid out on it, and bread. ¹⁰Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." ¹¹So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, 153 of them. And although there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹²Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. ¹³Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and so with the fish. ¹⁴This was now the third time that Jesus was revealed to the disciples after he was raised from the dead. ¹⁵When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Feed my lambs." ¹⁶He said to him a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Tend my sheep." ¹⁷He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" and he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. ¹⁸Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you used to dress yourself and walk wherever you wanted, but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry you where you do not want to go." ¹⁹(This he said to show by what kind of death he was to glorify God.) And after saying this he said to him, "Follow me."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Be Seated – Children dismissed for Children's Church

Taking the cross of grace and peace to form a community of uncommon servants.

MESSAGE HYMN

739 *Precious Lord, Take My Hand*

- 1 Precious Lord, take my hand, Lead me on, let me stand;
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn. Through the storm, through the night,
Lead me on to the light. Take my hand, precious Lord; lead me home.
- 2 When my way grows drear, Precious Lord, linger near,
When my life is almost gone, Hear my cry, hear my call;
Hold my hand lest I fall. Take my hand, precious Lord; lead me home.
- 3 When the darkness appears And the night draws near
And the day is almost gone, At the river I stand;
Guide my feet, hold my hand, Take my hand, precious Lord; lead me home.

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MESSAGE

Please Stand – Children return from Children's Church

CREED

Second Article of the Apostles' Creed and meaning

C 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

P What does this mean?

C I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from all eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

Be Seated

RITE OF CONFIRMATION *(see sheets)*

Please Stand

OFFERING *(Thanks for your ongoing stewardship and support of God's mission here!)*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH *(Prayer response after each petition...)*

P Lord, in Your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9–13

+ SACRAMENT +

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross. By His rich wounds, yet visible above, those dear tokens of His passion, grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood, that we may believe and live in the hope of His life living in us. Bind us as one to receive the gift of the Lord's body and blood for us and for our salvation! In the name of Jesus!

C Amen.

Taking the cross of grace and peace to form a community of uncommon servants.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matt. 26:26–28; Mk. 14:22–24; Lk. 22:19–20; 1 Cor. 11:23–25

PAX DOMINI

Be Seated

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS (see pew hymnals) Chime Choir – “Fairest Lord Jesus”, arranged by Joel Raney
633 At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing

Please Stand

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P We give You thanks, O Lord, grant us grace that we may keep in holy hearts and live out in holy lives what we have here received in the Word of the Gospel and the Holy Supper of our Lord Jesus Christ, and preserve us in this faith even to life everlasting; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION Numbers 6:24–26

CLOSING HYMN 658 Preserve Your Word, O Savior,

Musical notation for the hymn "Preserve Your Word, O Savior" in G major (one sharp). The lyrics are:

1 Pre-serve Your Word, O Sav - ior, To us this lat - ter day,
4 Pre-serve Your Word and preach-ing, The truth that makes us whole,
5 Pre-serve in wave and tem - pest Your storm-tossed lit - tle flock;

And let Your king-dom flour-ish; En - large Your Church, we pray.
The mir - ror of Your glo - ry, The pow'r that saves the soul.
As - sailed by wind and weath - er, May it en - dure each shock.

O keep our faith from fail - ing; Keep hope's bright star a - glow.
Oh, may this liv - ing wa - ter, This dew of heav'n-ly grace,
Stand at the helm, our pi - lot, And set the course a - right;

Let noth-ing from truth turn us While liv - ing here be - low.
Sus - tain us while here liv - ing Un - til we see Your face.
Then we will reach the har - bor In Your e - ter - nal light.

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DISMISSAL

Into the world, overcoming through the storm...

A HUGE “Thank you” to those that served to make worship happen (virtual and in-person) today...

Pastor	Rev. Jason Hoerth	Reader	Jan Remmele
Children’s Message	Chris Graves, DCE	Organist	Carol Trumbo
Elder	Jon Dreier	Acolyte	Lillian Plourde

Acknowledgments

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