

heart and produces these fruits from “an honest and good heart,” as Christ says in the parable recorded in Matthew 13 [Luke 8:15]. **Since the first table is greater** and must be a holier possession, I have summarized everything in the second table. Otherwise, I could have divided it too into seven holy possessions or seven principal parts, according to the seven commandments.

Now we know for certain what, where, and who the holy Christian church is, that is, the holy Christian people of God; and we are quite certain that it cannot fail us. Everything else may fail and surely does, as we shall hear in part. Men should be selected from this people to form a council; that might be a council ruled by the Holy Spirit. Thus Lyra, too, writes that the church is not to be assessed by the high or spiritual vocations in it, but by the people who truly believe. I am surprised that he was not burned at the stake for these words, for denying that popes, cardinals, bishops, and prelates compose the church; this amounts to abominable heresy, intolerable and offensive to the holy Roman church. More about this elsewhere. (Luther’s Works, v.41, p.167)

Catechism - Table of Duties: *To Bishops, Pastors, and Preachers*

The overseer must be above reproach, the husband of but one wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him with proper respect. 1 Tim. 3:2–4
He must not be a recent convert, or he may become conceited and fall under the same judgment as the devil. 1 Tim. 3:6
He must hold firmly to the trustworthy message as it has been taught, so that he can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it. Titus 1:9

Collect for Quasimodo Geniti

Grant, we implore You, almighty God, that we who have celebrated the solemnities of the Lord's resurrection may, by the help of Your grace, bring forth the fruits thereof in our life and conversation; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Our Family Daily Prayers

Gesima/Lent/Easter One

2020



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when we do not steal, rob, are not usurious, greedy, do not overcharge, but are mild, kind, content, charitable; when we are not false, mendacious, perjurers, but truthful, trustworthy, and do whatever else is taught in these commandments—all of which St. Paul teaches abundantly in more than one place.

We need the Decalogue not only to apprise us of our lawful obligations, but we also need it to discern how far the Holy Spirit has advanced us in his work of sanctification and by how much we still fall short of the goal, lest we become secure and imagine that we have now done all that is required. Thus we must constantly grow in **sanctification** and always become new creatures in Christ. This means “grow” and “do so more and more” [II Pet. 3:18]. (Luther’s Works, v.41, p.166)

For Synod. 1

ENLIGHTEN us, we beseech Thee, O God, with the gifts of the Holy Ghost; enrich us with the power of Thy holy Word; unite us in the love and peace of Christ; guard us, we implore Thee, from the snares of sin, the temptations of the world, the weaknesses of our own nature; rule us to the fulfilling of Thy holy mysteries; direct all our ways. to the advancement of Thy Church; abide with us and keep us ever in Thee, O Thou our God; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen. (Oremus, 1925, p.74).

Quasimodogeniti

#35 Signs of the Fruits of Faith Not as Reliable as Faith Itself

However, these signs cannot be regarded as being as reliable as those noted before since **some heathen too practice these works** and indeed at times appear holier than Christians; yet their actions do not issue from the heart purely and simply, for the sake of God, but they search for some other end because they lack a real faith in and a true knowledge of God. But here is the Holy Spirit, who sanctifies the

Front Picture: The chalice from historic Trinity Lutheran Church in Soulard Market, St. Louis, MO: It “was made in Austria for a monastery in Spain. During the Napoleonic Wars it somehow came into the possession of a Saxon prince, who gave it to the group when they left Germany for America in 1838” (from A Pictorial Souvenir).

Week leading to Quasimodo Geniti: April 13-19, 2020

Psalm - Psalm 81 (Not in LW)

Hymn – LW #123 "Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands"

Daily Readings –

13 Monday No service	Exodus 15:1-18	Hebrews 9:1-28
	Easter Monday Exodus 15:1-18, Acts 10:34-43, Luke 24:13-35	
14 Tuesday 10:30 AM	Exodus 15:19-16:12	Hebrews 10:1-18
	Easter Tuesday Daniel 3:8-28, Acts 13:26-33, Luke 24:36-48	
15 Wednesday 6:30 PM	Exodus 16:13-35	Hebrews 10:19-39
	Easter Wednesday Acts 3:12-19, John 21:1-14	
	Catechesis on John 20:19-31	
16 Thursday	Exodus 17:1-16	Hebrews 11:1-29
	Easter Thursday Acts 8:26-40, John 20:10-18	
17 Friday	Exodus 18:5-27	Hebrews 12:1-24
	Easter Friday 1 Peter 3:18-22, Matthew 28:16-20	
18 Saturday	Exodus 19:1-25	Hebrews 13:1-21
	Easter Saturday 1 Peter 2:1-10, John 20:1-9	
19 Sunday 10:15 AM	Exodus 20:1-24	Luke 4:1-15
	Quasimodo Geniti Ezekiel 37:1-14, 1 John 5:4-10, John 20:19-31	

Easter Monday/Tuesday

#34 Other Outward Signs(Fruits of Faith) that Identify The Church

In addition to these seven principal parts there are other outward signs that identify the Christian church, namely, **those signs whereby the Holy Spirit sanctifies us according to the second table of Moses**; when he assists us in sincerely honoring our father and mother, and conversely, when he helps them to raise their children in a Christian way and to lead honorable lives; when we faithfully serve our princes and lords and are obedient and subject to them, and conversely, when they love their subjects and protect and guard them; also when we bear no one a grudge, entertain no anger, hatred, envy, or vengefulness toward our neighbors, but gladly forgive them, lend to them, help them, and counsel them; when we are not lewd, not drunkards, not proud, arrogant, overbearing, but chaste, self-controlled, sober, friendly, kind, gentle, and humble;

Our Family Daily Prayers 2020

Follow the order for Daily Devotions in Lutheran Worship, p.293.

Week leading to Septuagesima: February 3-9, 2020

Psalm - Psalm 18(LW, p. 316-318)

Hymn – LW #77 "The People That in Darkness Sat"

Daily Readings –

3 Monday	Zechariah 14:1-21	Titus 2:7-3:15
4 Tuesday	Job 1:1-22	John 1:1-18
5 Wednesday 6:30 PM	Job 2:1-3:10	John 1:19-34
	Catechesis on Matthew 20:1-16	
6 Thursday	Job 3:11-26	John 1:35-51
7 Friday	Job 4:1-21	John 2:1-12
8 Saturday	Job 5:1-27	John 2:13-25
9 Sunday 10:15 AM	Job 6:1-13	John 3:1-21
	Septuagesima Exodus 17:1-7, 1 Cor. 9:24-10:5, Mt. 20:1-16	

#17 Second, the Church Is Recognized by the Holy Sacrament of Baptism

Second, God's people or the Christian holy people are recognized by the holy sacrament of baptism, wherever it is taught, believed, and administered correctly according to Christ's ordinance. That too is a public sign and a precious, holy possession by which God's people are sanctified. It is the holy bath of regeneration through the Holy Spirit [Titus 3:5], in which we bathe and with which we are washed of sin and death by the Holy Spirit, as in the innocent holy blood of the Lamb of God. Wherever you see this sign you may know that the church, or the holy Christian people, must surely be present, even if the pope does not baptize you or even if you know nothing of his holiness and power—just as the little children know nothing of it, although when they are grown, they are, sad to say, estranged from their baptism, as St. Peter laments in II Peter 2 [:18], "They entice with licentious passions of the flesh men who have barely escaped from those who live in error," etc. Indeed, you should not even pay attention to who baptizes, for baptism does not belong to the baptizer, nor is it given to him, but it belongs to the baptized. It was ordained for him by God, and given to him by God, just as the word of God is not the preacher's

(except in so far as he too hears and believes it) but belongs to the disciple who hears and believes it; to him is it given. (Luther's Works, v.41, p.151)

Catechism - Office of the Keys, Questions One & Two
What is the Office of the Keys?
The Office of the Keys is that special authority which Christ has given to His church on earth to forgive the sins of repentant sinners, but to withhold forgiveness from the unrepentant as long as they do not repent.

Where is this written?

This is what St. John the Evangelist writes in chapter twenty: The Lord Jesus breathed on His disciples and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."
[John 20:22-23]

Collect for Septuagesima

O Lord, we implore You favorably to hear the prayers of Your people that we, who are justly punished for our offenses, may be mercifully delivered by Your goodness, for the glory of Your name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Savior, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



The right pane of the Good Shepherd window includes a picture of the Holy Bible (German: *Heilige Schrift*).

Catechism - Christian Questions with their Answers, 17-20
(Repeat from Holy Saturday)

Easter Day

We implore you, Almighty and merciful God, cause us who celebrate Your Pascal Feast, kindled with heavenly desires, ever to thirst for the Fountain of Life, Jesus Christ; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Easter Evening

O God, who in the Paschal Feast bestowed restoration upon the world, continue to Your people Your heavenly gift that they may both walk in perfect freedom and receive eternal life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Adoration. 2

BLESSED be God, the Only God, Three Persons in one Eternity of Love.

Blessed be God, the Lover of men, their Creator, Redeemer and Sanctifier.

Blessed be God, the Fount of human love, Whence all earthly intercourse is fructified.

Blessed be God for all that He is.

Blessed be God for all that He has done.

Blessed in His Church on earth, and blessed in the height of Heaven: blessed in the Fellowship of the Redeemed; and blessed amid all the Celestial Host; blessed by all the chorus of humanity, and blessed by the whisper of each single soul.

Blessed from everlasting, blessed now, and blessed for evermore.

Blessed be God. **Amen.** (Oremus, 1925, p.21).

Easter Sunday: April 12, 2020

Psalm - Psalm 118 (LW, p. 346-347)

Hymn – LW #123 "Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands"

Daily Readings –

11 Saturday	Easter Vigil from 7 to 10:30 PM Saturday 12 Old Testament readings, Col. 3:1-4, Matthew 28:1-10	
12 Sunday	Exodus 14:10-31	Heb 7:23-8:13
7:00 AM	Easter Dawn - Matins Isaiah 25:6-9, 1 Cor 15:1-11, John 20:1-1	
10:15 AM	Easter Day Job 19:23-27, 1 Corinthians 5:6-8, Mark 16:1-8	

#33 The True Seven Principle

Possessions of The Church

These are the true seven principal parts of the great holy possession whereby the Holy Spirit effects in us a daily sanctification and vivification in Christ, according to the first table of Moses. By this we obey it, albeit never as perfectly as Christ. But we constantly strive to attain the goal, under his redemption or remission of sin, until we too shall one day become perfectly holy and no longer stand in need of forgiveness. Everything is directed toward that goal. I would even call these seven parts the seven sacraments, but since that term has been misused by the papists and is used in a different sense in Scripture, I shall let them stand as the seven principal parts of Christian sanctification or the seven holy possessions of the church.

1. **The Holy Word of God**
2. **The Holy Sacrament of Baptism**
3. **The Holy Sacrament of the Altar**
4. **The Office of the Keys**
5. **The Ministers Who Administer**
6. **Prayer, Praise and Thanksgiving**
7. **The Sacred Cross of Affliction**

(Luther's Works, v.41, p.165-166)

The Baptismal Font



Week leading to Sexagesima: February 10-16, 2020

Psalm - Psalm 1 (LW, p. 313)

Hymn – LW #77 "The People That in Darkness Sat"

Daily Readings –

10 Monday	Job 6:14-30	John 3:22-4:6
11 Tuesday	Job 7:1-21	John 4:7-45
12 Wednesday	Job 8:1-22	John 4:27-45
6:30 PM	Catechesis on Luke 8:4-15	
13 Thursday	Job 9:1-35 Optional: Job 10:1-22	John 4:46-54
14 Friday	Job 11:1-20	John 5:1-18
15 Saturday	Job 12:1-6, 12-25 Optional: Job 13:1-14:22	John 5:19-29
16 Sunday	Job 32:1-22	John 5:30-47
10:15 AM	Sexagesima Is. 55:10-13, 2 Cor. 11:19-12:9, Luke 8:4-15	

#18 Third, the Church Is Recognized by the Holy Sacrament of the Altar

Third, God's people, or Christian holy people, are recognized by the holy sacrament of the altar, wherever it is rightly administered, believed, and received, according to Christ's institution. This too is a public sign and a precious, holy possession left behind by Christ by which his people are sanctified so that they also exercise themselves in faith and openly confess that they are Christian, just as they do with the word and with baptism. And here too you need not be disturbed if the pope does not say mass for you, does not consecrate, anoint, or vest you with a chasuble. Indeed, you may, like a patient in bed, receive

For the Propagation of the Gospel.

O MOST Glorious Lord, magnify the joys of all the earth, to the end that faith, being spread abroad, it may fill the whole world, and that, according to the glory of Thy name, Thou mightest enable us to glorify Thy praise; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen.
(Oremus, 1925, p.71-72).

this sacrament without wearing any garb, except that outward decency obliges you to be properly covered. Moreover, you need not ask whether you have a tonsure or are anointed. In addition, the question of whether you are male or female, young or old, need not be argued—just as little as it matters in baptism and the preached word. It is enough that you are consecrated and anointed with the sublime and holy chrism of God, with the word of God, with baptism, and also this sacrament; then you are anointed highly and gloriously enough and sufficiently vested with priestly garments. Moreover, don't be led astray by the question of whether the man who administers the sacrament is holy, or whether or not he has two wives. The sacrament belongs to him who receives it, not to him who administers it, unless he also receives it. In that case he is one of those who receives it, and thus it is also given to him. Wherever you see this sacrament properly administered, there you may be assured of the presence of God's people. For, as was said above of the word, wherever God's word is, there the church must be; likewise, wherever baptism and the sacrament are, God's people

The left pane of the Good Shepherd window includes the two stone tablets of the Ten Commandments.
1-III. Love God,
IV-X Love Neighbor



The Victorious Savior Window



better advice can be given than this: first, he should touch his body to see if he still has flesh and blood. Then he should believe what the Scriptures say of it in Galatians 5 and Romans 7.

Second, he should look around to see whether he is still in the world, and remember that there will be no lack of sin and trouble, as the Scriptures say in John 15–16 and in 1 John 2 and 5.

Third, he will certainly have the devil also around him, who with his lying and murdering day and night will let him have no peace, within or without, as the Scriptures picture him in John 8 and 16; 1 Peter 5; Ephesians 6; and 2 Timothy 2.

Collect for Holy Saturday

O Lord Jesus Christ, we give You thanks that through death You have destroyed the power of death and delivered us, who through fear of death are in our lifetime subject to bondage, comfort us with Your precious merit and assist us in our last hour by Your grace; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

For Peace

O GOD, our Refuge and Strength, be present with us in all our troubles, that every adverse sword may be sheathed and every heart may be enriched with the blessings of peace; so that in tranquility we may behold Thee, and beholding Thee may possess Thee forever; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen. (Oremus, 1925, p.63).

For Confirmands.

O GOD, Whose Spirit multiplies and rules the whole body of the Church, conserve in those who have dedicated themselves to Thy service, the grace of sanctification, which Thou alone dost impart; so that, renewed in body and mind, they may serve Thee zealously in the unity of the faith; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen. (Oremus, 1925, p.76).

must be, and vice versa. No others have, give, practice, use, and confess these holy possessions save God's people alone, even though some false and unbelieving Christians are secretly among them. They, however, do not profane the people of God because they are not known; the church, or God's people, does not tolerate known sinners in its midst, but reproves them and also makes them holy. Or, if they refuse, it casts them out from the sanctuary by means of the ban and regards them as heathen, Matthew 18 [:17]. (Luther's Works, v.41, p.152-153)

Catechism - Office of the Keys, Question Three

What do you believe according to these words?

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.

Collect for Sexagesima

O God, who sees that we put not our trust in anything that we do, mercifully grant that by Your power we may be defended against all adversity; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

For Christian Unity.

GOD our Father, Good beyond all that is good, Fair beyond all that is fair, in Whom is calmness and peace: Do Thou make up the dissensions which divide us from each other, and bring us back into a unity of love, which may bear some likeness to Thy sublime nature; grant that we may be spiritually one, as well in ourselves as in each other, through that peace of Thine which maketh all things peaceful, and through the grace, mercy and tenderness of Thy Son, Who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen. (Oremus, 1925, p.72).

Week leading to Quinquagesima: February 17-23, 2020

Psalm - Psalm 77(LW, p. 334)

Hymn – LW#98, “Glory Be To Jesus”

Daily Readings –

17 Monday	Job 33:1-18	John 6:1-21
18 Tuesday	Job 33:19-34:9 <i>Optional: Job 35:1-16</i>	John 6:22-40
19 Wednesday 6:30 PM	Job 36:1-21 Catechesis on Luke 18:31-43	John 6:41-59
20 Thursday	Job 37:1-24	John 6:60-71
21 Friday	Job 38:1-40 {The Lord Speaks}	John 7:1-13
22 Saturday	Job 39:1-30	John 7:14-31
23 Sunday 10:15 AM	Job 40:1-24 Quinquagesima 1 Sam. 16:1-13, 1 Cor. 13:1-13, Lk. 18:31-43	John 7:32-53

#19 Fourth, the Church Is Recognized by the Office of the Keys

Fourth, God’s people or holy Christians are recognized by the office of the keys exercised publicly. That is, as Christ decrees in Matthew 18 [:15–20], if a Christian sins, he should be reprov’d; and if he does not mend his ways, he should be bound in his sin and cast out. If he does mend his ways, he should be absolved. That is the office of the keys. Now the use of the keys is twofold, public and private. There are some people with consciences so tender and despairing that even if they have not been publicly condemned, they cannot find comfort until they have been individually absolved by the pastor. On the other hand, there are also some who are so obdurate that they neither recant in their heart and want their sins forgiven individually by the pastor, nor desist from their sins. Therefore the keys must be used differently, publicly and privately. Now where you see sins forgiven or reprov’d in some persons, be it publicly or privately, you may know that God’s people are there. If God’s people are not there, the keys are not there either; and if the keys are not present for Christ, God’s people are not present. Christ bequeathed them as a public sign and a holy possession, whereby the Holy Spirit again sanctifies the fallen sinners redeemed by Christ’s death, and whereby the Christians confess that they are a holy people

inestimable blessings. In addition, the devil and the sectarians—the former with his flaming darts (Eph. 6:16), the latter with their perverse and wicked doctrine—are bent on this one thing: to obscure this doctrine and take it away from us. It is above all for this doctrine, on which we insist so diligently, that we bear the hate and persecution of Satan and of the world. For Satan feels the power and the results of this doctrine. (Luther’s Works, v.26, p.284-285)

Catechism - Christian Questions with their Answers, 17-20

17. *What motivated Christ to die and make full payment for your sins?* His great love for His Father and for me and other sinners, as it is written in John 14; Romans 5; Galatians 2 and Ephesians 5.
18. *Finally, why do you wish to go to the Sacrament?* That I may learn to believe that Christ, out of great love, died for my sin, and also learn from Him to love God and my neighbor.
19. *What should admonish and encourage a Christian to receive the Sacrament frequently?* First, both the command and the promise of Christ the Lord. Second, his own pressing need, because of which the command, encouragement, and promise are given.
20. *But what should you do if you are not aware of this need and have no hunger and thirst for the Sacrament?* To such a person no



Holy Saturday: April 11, 2020

Psalm - Psalm 16 (LW, p. 315-316)

Hymn – LW #123 "Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands"

Daily Readings –

	Saturday's Tenebrae Service on Friday at 3 PM	
11 Saturday	Exodus 13:17-14:9	Hebrews 7:1-22
10:00 AM	<i>Holy Saturday - Matins</i>	
	Daniel 6:1-24, 1 Peter 3:17-22, Matthew 27:57-66	
7:00 PM	Easter begins with The Great Easter Vigil	
	12 Old Testament readings, Col. 3:1-4, Matthew 28:1-10	

#32 The Victory of Christ Is Utterly Certain

We must look at this image and take hold of it with a firm faith. He who does this has the innocence and the victory of Christ, no matter how great a sinner he is. But this cannot be grasped by loving will; it can be grasped only by reason illumined by faith. Therefore we are justified by faith alone, because faith alone grasps this victory of Christ. To the extent that you believe this, to that extent you have it. If you believe that sin, death, and the curse have been abolished, they have been abolished, because Christ conquered and overcame them in Himself; and He wants us to believe that just as in His Person there is no longer the mask of the sinner or any vestige of death, so this is no longer in our person, since He has done everything for us.

Therefore if sin makes you anxious, and if death terrifies you, just think that this is an empty specter and an illusion of the devil—which is what it surely is. For in fact there is no sin any longer, no curse, no death, and no devil, because Christ has conquered and abolished all these. Accordingly, the victory of Christ is utterly certain; the defects lie not in the fact itself, which is completely true, but in our incredulity. It is difficult for reason to believe such



The Anchor

in this world under Christ. And those who refuse to be converted or sanctified again shall be cast out from this holy people, that is, bound and excluded by means of the keys, as happened to the unrepentant Antinomians. (Luther's Works, v.41, p.153)

Catechism - Lord's Supper, Question One

What is the Sacrament of the Altar?

It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christians to eat and to drink.

Collect for Quinquagesima

O Lord, we implore You, mercifully hear our prayers, and, having set us free from the bonds of sin, defend us from all evil; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



Beehive: A symbol of the unity of the communion of saints.

For Repentance. 1

ALMIGHTY and Most Merciful God, Who didst bring forth a fount of living water for Thy thirsting people out of the rock: Bring forth tears of repentance from our hard hearts, that we may be enabled to bewail our sins, and through Thy mercy obtain forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen. (Oremus, 1925, p.60).

Days leading to Invocabit: February 24-March 1, 2020

Psalm - Feb 11-13 Psalm 6 (LW, p. 314-315)

Feb 14-17 Psalm 91 (LW, p. 336-337)

Hymn – LW#98, “Glory Be To Jesus”

Daily Readings –

24 Monday 10:30 AM	Job 41:1-34 St. Matthias, Apostle Isaiah 66:1-2, Acts 1:15-26, Luke 6:12-16	John 8:1-20
25 Tuesday	Job 42:1-17	John 8:21-38
26 Wednesday 6:30 PM	Genesis 1:1-19 Learn-by-Heart (but, no Catechesis Service)	Mark 1:1-13
7:00 PM	Ash Wednesday Divine Service Joel 2:12-19, 2 Pet 1:2-11, Matt 6:1-6, 16-21	
27 Thursday	Genesis 1:20-2:3	Mark 1:14-28
28 Friday	Genesis 2:4-25	Mark 1:29-45
29 Saturday	Genesis 3:1-24	Mark 2:1-17
1 Sunday 10:15 AM	Genesis 4:1-26 Invocabit Gen. 3:1-12, 2 Cor. 6:1-10, Matthew 4:1-11	Mark 2:18-28

Ash Wednesday

#20 The Office of the Keys Do Not Belong to the Pope

You must pay no heed here to the two keys of the pope, which he converted into two skeleton keys to the treasure chests and crowns of all kings. If he does not want to bind or reprove sin, whether it be publicly or privately (as he really does not), let it be reprov'd and bound in your parish. If he will not loose, or forgive it, let it be loosed and forgiven in your parish, for his retaining or binding, his remitting or releasing, makes you neither holy nor unholy, since he can only have skeleton keys, not the true keys. The keys belong not to the pope (as he lies) but to the church, that is, to God's people, or to the holy Christian people throughout the entire world, or wherever there are Christians. They cannot all be in Rome, unless it be that the whole world is there first—which will not happen in a long time. The keys are the pope's as little as baptism, the sacrament, and the word of God are, for they belong to the people of Christ and are called “the church's keys” not “the pope's keys.” (Luther's Works, v.41, p.153-154)

Catechism - Christian Questions with their Answers, 17-20

(Forward one page)

Collect for Good Friday

Almighty God, we implore You graciously to be hold this Your family, for which our Lord Jesus Christ was contented to be betrayed and given up into the hands of wicked men and to suffer death upon the cross; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



The Tools of Crucifixion: The hammer and the pliers and the nails used in affixing Jesus to the cross. The pole with a vinegar-soaked cloth to wet his lips before He cried, “It is finished.” Also the spear which was used to pierce His side.

That One's Prayer be Heard.

O CHRIST, Who didst exclaim from the cross to the Father, "My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken me ?"-Who by Thy cross didst redeem lost man, and didst give Satan to be bound in eternal chains: We beseech Thy mercy, that Thou wouldst never forsake us who believe in Thee, never repel us who confide in Thee; but that when we cry in the day-time Thou wouldst hear, and in the night-season also Thou wouldst receive our prayer; Who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen. (Oremus, 1925, p.64-65).

Good Friday: April 10, 2020
Psalm - Psalm 22 (LW, p. 319-320)
Hymn – LW #123 "Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands"

Daily Readings –

	Friday's Tenebrae Service on Thursday at 3 PM	
10 Friday	Exodus 12:29-32; 13:1-16 <i>Optional Lamentations</i> <i>5:1-22 and Psalm 22</i>	Hebrews 6:1-20
3:00 PM	Tenebrae Service	
7:00 PM	Good Friday Isaiah 52:13-53:12, 2 Cor 5:14-21, John 18:1-19:42	

#31 This Fortunate Exchange

By this fortunate exchange with us He took upon Himself our sinful person and granted us His innocent and victorious Person. Clothed and dressed in this, we are freed from the curse of the Law, because Christ Himself voluntarily became a curse for us, saying: "For My own Person of humanity and divinity I am blessed, and I am in need of nothing whatever. But I shall empty Myself (Phil. 2:7); I shall assume your clothing and mask; and in this I shall walk about and suffer death, in order to set you free from death." Therefore when, inside our mask, He was carrying the sin of the whole world, He was captured, He suffered, He was crucified, He died; and for us He became a curse. But because He was a divine and eternal Person, it was impossible for death to hold Him. Therefore He arose from death on the third day, and now He lives eternally; nor can sin, death, and our mask be found in Him any longer; but there is sheer righteousness, life, and eternal blessing. (Luther's Works, v.26, p.284)

Collect for Ash Wednesday

Almighty and everlasting God, who hates nothing that You have made and who forgives the sins of all those who are penitent, create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of You, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



Office of the Keys

For Repentance. 2

WE know, O Lord Jesus Christ, that whilst Thou wast on earth, Thou didst every night water Thy couch with tears for us men: Grant us so to repent for our iniquities, that we may hereafter come to that place where all tears are wiped from all eyes: Who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen. (Oremus, 1925, p.60).

Invocabit

#21 Fifth, the Church Is Recognized by Her Ministers

Fifth, the church is recognized externally by the fact that it consecrates or calls ministers, or has offices that it is to administer. There must be bishops, pastors, or preachers, who publicly and privately give, administer, and use the aforementioned four things or holy possessions in behalf of and in the name of the church, or rather by reason of their institution by Christ, as St. Paul states in Ephesians 4 [:8], "He received gifts among men ..." —his gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some teachers and governors, etc. The people as a whole cannot do these things, but must entrust or have them entrusted to one person. Otherwise, what would happen if everyone wanted to speak or administer, and no one wanted to give way to the other? It must be entrusted to one person,

and he alone should be allowed to preach, to baptize, to absolve, and to administer the sacraments. The others should be content with this arrangement and agree to it. Wherever you see this done, be assured that God's people, the holy Christian people, are present. (Luther's Works, v.41, p.154)

Collect for Invocabit

O Lord, mercifully hear our prayer and stretch forth the right hand of Your majesty to defend us from those who rise up against us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Catechism - Lord's Supper, Question Two

Where is this written?

The holy Evangelists Matthew, Mark, Luke, and St. Paul write: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

For the Ministry. 1

JESUS, our God, Who, making a whip of small cords, dravest out those who bought and sold in Thy temple: Grant to us in Thy Church not to be taken with the gain of temporal things, nor to dwell within it in evil conversation: but that the zeal of Thy house may so eat us up, that Thou wouldst make of us examples for the brethren, pleasing unto Thee; Who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen. (Oremus, 1925, p.72).

world, the Law would have had no right over Him, since it condemns only sinners and holds only them under a curse. Therefore He could neither have become a curse nor have died, since the cause of the curse and of death is sin, of which He was innocent. But because He took upon Himself our sins, not by compulsion but of His own free will, it was right for Him to bear the punishment and the wrath of God—not for His own Person, which was righteous and invincible and therefore could not become guilty, but for our person. (Luther's Works, v.26, p.283-284)

Catechism - Christian Questions with their Answers, 17-20
(Back one page)



This Lord's Supper scene which is inset in their altar is three-dimensional. Even the faces of the disciples not facing the congregation were completed by the artist.

Collect for Maundy Thursday

O Lord, who has left to us in a wonderful Sacrament a memorial of Your Passion, grant we implore You that we may so use this Sacrament of Your body and blood that the fruits of Your redemption continually may be manifest in us; who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Maundy Thursday: April 9, 2020

Psalm - Psalm 116(LW, p. 345-346)

Hymn – LW #123 "Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands"

Daily Readings –

	Thursday's Tenebrae Service on Wednesday at 3 PM	
9 Thursday	Exodus 12:1-28 <i>Optional Lamentations 4:1-22 and Psalm 31</i>	Hebrews 5:1-14
3:00 PM	Tenebrae Service	
7:00 PM	Maundy Thursday Ex 12:1-14, 1 Co 11:23-32, John 13:1-15(34-35)	

#30 This Doctrine, So Sweet and So Filled With Comfort

With gratitude and with a sure confidence, therefore, let us accept this doctrine, so sweet and so filled with comfort, which teaches that Christ became a curse for us, that is, a sinner worthy of the wrath of God; that He clothed Himself in our person, laid our sins upon His own shoulders, and said: "I have committed the sins that all men have committed." Therefore He truly became accursed according to the Law, not for Himself but, as Paul says, ὑπὲρ ἡμῶν. For unless He had taken upon Himself my sins, your sins, and the sins of the entire

After Receiving Absolution. 1

ALMIGHTY, Everlasting God, we have sinned against Thee in many ways and for these our sins have justly deserved eternal condemnation, but since we believe Thy dear Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ, has obtained with Thee the forgiveness of sins and everlasting salvation for us, and we, but now, have been made confident of the same through the Holy Gospel and absolution: we beseech Thee right humbly and obediently, to endow us with the power of Thy Holy Spirit in order that we may guard ourselves hereafter against sin and live a true and godly life in Thy service; through the Same Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen. (Oremus, 1925, p.62-63).

Teaching for Lenten Preparation-

"...on this day(Ash Wednesday) the Church begins a holy season of prayerful and penitential reflection." The season of Lent is a 40-day season in which God's baptized people dwell confidently upon God's Word giving attention "to the holy sufferings and death of our Lord Jesus Christ." As we study God's Word, we examine ourselves so that with repentant hearts we may practice self-denial and put away any obstacles to God's grace that His kingdom may come.

All of this repentance, prayer, fasting, and almsgiving is done with a specific goal in mind. "...that we may come to Easter with glad hearts and keep the feast in sincerity and truth." That feast for us is the Lord's Supper at the break of day on Easter morning. On that sacred {Saturday} night we passover from sin and death to holiness and new life in the Resurrection of Our Lord.

Lent is nothing new to us. Our entire Christian life is a daily drowning of the old man in our baptism that through Christ's resurrection, we may live a new life and when our last day comes pass over from death to eternal life.

Our own Catechism acknowledges, "Fasting and bodily preparation are certainly fine outward training" (Sacrament of the Altar). Though we must constantly stress that it is faith alone which makes a person worthy, we should not disdain or at least not ignore the bodily preparation or discipline.

If you do choose to fast during Lent, understand that Christians do not fast to be like Jesus or to undergo some pseudo-religious suffering or discomfort. Christians don't fast to give up something sinful, just so they can pick it up again later.

FASTING IS DONE AS AN AID TOWARD REMEMBERING AND MEDITATING ON OUR LORD'S PASSION, DEATH AND RESURRECTION. We fast on Friday as a reminder that this is the day that our crucified Savior died. We refrain from red meat as a reminder of his flesh that hung on the cross. Prayer: "Blessed Savior, on this day(at this hour) You hung upon the cross, stretching out Your loving arms. Grant that all the peoples of the earth may look to You and be saved; for Your mercy's sake. Amen"(Hymnal Supplement, p.30).

Collect for Lent

Merciful and everlasting God, who has not spared Your only Son, but delivered Him up for us all that He might bear our sins upon the cross, grant that our hearts may be so fixed with steadfast faith in Him that we may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Week leading to Reminiscere: March 2-8, 2020

Psalm - Psalm 25 (LW, p. 321-322)

Hymn – LW#98, “Glory Be To Jesus”

Daily Readings –

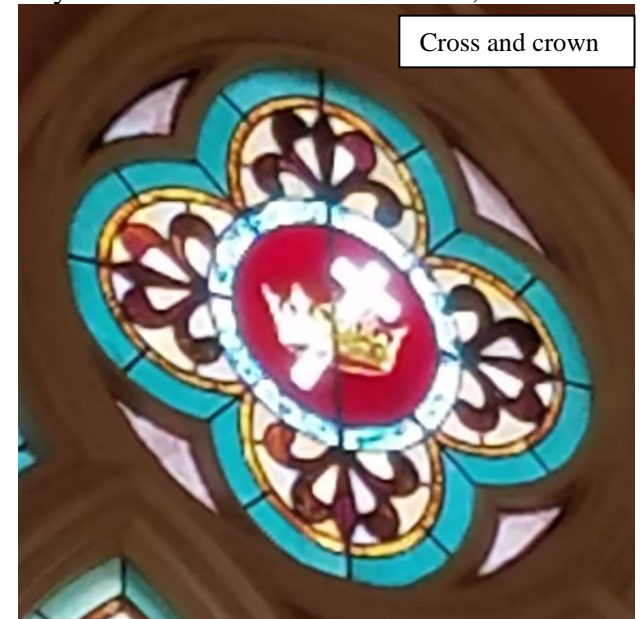
2 Monday	Genesis 6:1-7:5	Mark 3:1-19
3 Tuesday	Genesis 7:11-8:12	Mark 3:20-35
4 Wednesday	Genesis 8:13-9:17	Mark 4:1-20
	<i>Option Genesis 9:18-11:26</i>	
	7:00 AM 6:30 PM	Matins on Ember Wednesday in Lent Ex. 24:12-18, 1 Kings 19:3-8, Matt 12:38-50
5 Thursday	Genesis 11:27-12:20	Mark 4:21-41
6 Friday	Genesis 13:1-18	Mark 5:1-20
	<i>Option Genesis 14:1-24</i>	
7 Saturday	Genesis 15:1-21	Mark 5:21-43
No service	Ember Saturday in Lent 1 Thessalonians 5:14-28, Matthew 17:1-9	
8 Sunday	Gen. 16:1-9, 15-17:22	Mark 6:1-13
	10:15 AM	Reminiscere Gen. 32:22-32, 1 Thess 4:1-7, Matt 15:21-28

#22 The Qualifications of Her Ministers

It is, however, true that the Holy Spirit has excepted women, children, and incompetent people from this function, but chooses (except in emergencies) only competent males to fill this office, as one reads here and there in the epistles of St. Paul that a bishop must be pious, able to teach, and the husband of one wife —and in I Corinthians 14 [:34] he says, “The women should keep silence in the churches.” In summary, **it must be a competent and chosen man.** Children, women, and other persons are not qualified for this office, even though they are able to hear God’s word, to receive baptism, the sacrament, absolution, and are also true, holy Christians, as St. Peter says [I Pet. 3:7]. Even nature and God’s creation makes this distinction, implying that women (much less children or fools) cannot and shall not occupy positions of sovereignty, as experience

Catechism - Christian Questions with their Answers, 17-20

17. *What motivated Christ to die and make full payment for your sins?*
His great love for His Father and for me and other sinners, as it is written in John 14; Romans 5; Galatians 2 and Ephesians 5.
18. *Finally, why do you wish to go to the Sacrament?* That I may learn to believe that Christ, out of great love, died for my sin, and also learn from Him to love God and my neighbor.
19. *What should admonish and encourage a Christian to receive the Sacrament frequently?* First, both the command and the promise of Christ the Lord. Second, his own pressing need, because of which the command, encouragement, and promise are given.
20. *But what should you do if you are not aware of this need and have no hunger and thirst for the Sacrament?* To such a person no better advice can be given than this: first, he should touch his body to see if he still has flesh and blood. Then he should believe what the Scriptures say of it in Galatians 5 and Romans 7. Second, he should look around to see whether he is still in the world, and remember that there will be no lack of sin and trouble, as the Scriptures say in John 15–16 and in 1 John 2 and 5. Third, he will certainly have the devil also around him, who with his lying and murdering day and night will let him have no peace, within or without, as the Scriptures picture him in John 8 and 16; 1 Peter 5; Ephesians 6; and 2 Timothy 2.



Cross and crown

For Forgiveness. 1

CLEANSE us, O Lord, from our secret faults, by purifying our conscience which is stained with its own defilements; set free Thy servants also from the dominion of their enemies, and forgive us those things which we have learned by the example of the wicked or have done through the persuasion of evil counsellors; that we, who confess Thee to be our own Lord, may never again experience the domination of sin; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen. (Oremus, 1925, p.61).

sin, death, and the wrath of God.” In this way they have made us true God by nature! Here the papists, under the Christian name, have shown themselves to be seven times greater idolaters than the Gentiles. What happens to them is what happens to the sow, which “is washed only to wallow in the mire” (2 Peter 2:22). And, as Christ says (Luke 11:24–26), after a man has fallen from faith, the evil spirit returns to the house from which he was expelled and brings along seven other spirits more evil than himself and dwells there; and the last state of that man becomes worse than the first. (Luther’s Works, v.26, p.283)

Collect for Holy Wednesday

Grant, we implore You, almighty God, that we, who for our evil deeds are continually afflicted, may mercifully be relieved by the Passion of Your only-begotten Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

also suggests and as Moses says in Genesis 3 [:16], “You shall be subject to man.” The gospel, however, does not abrogate this natural law, but confirms it as the ordinance and creation of God. (Luther’s Works, v.41, p.154-155)

Catechism - Lord’s Supper, Question Three

What is the benefit of this eating and drinking?

These words, “Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins,” show us that in the Sacrament forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation are given us through these words. For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation.

Collect for Reminiscere

O God, who sees that of ourselves we have no strength, keep us both outwardly and inwardly that we may be defended from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

For the Ministry. 2

O HOLY Lord, Father almighty, eternal God, carry onward in us the gifts of Thy grace, and mercifully bestow by Thy Spirit what human frailty cannot attain, that they who minister before Thee may be both grounded in perfect faith, and conspicuous by the brightness of their souls; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen. (Oremus, 1925, p.72).



Days leading to Oculi: March 9-15, 2020

Psalm - Psalm 9 (Not in LW)

Hymn – LW#98, “Glory Be To Jesus”

Daily Readings –

9 Monday	Genesis 18:1-15 <i>Option Gen 18:16-20:18</i>	Mark 6:14-34
10 Tuesday	Genesis 21:1-21	Mark 6:35-56
11 Wednesday	Genesis 22:1-19	Mark 7:1-23
	No Learn-by-Heart/Catechesis	
12 Thursday	Genesis 24:1-31	Mark 7:24-37
13 Friday	Genesis 24:32-52, 61-67 <i>Option Genesis 25:1-26:35</i>	Mark 8:1-21
14 Saturday	Genesis 27:1-29	Mark 8:22-38
15 Sunday	Gen. 27:30-45, 28:10-22	Mark 9:1-13
10:15 AM	Oculi Exodus 8:16-24, Ephesians 5:1-9, Luke 11:14-28	

#23 The Minister's Office and Not his Person Matters

Just as was said earlier about the other four parts of the great, divine, holy possession by which the holy church is sanctified, that you need not care who or how those from whom you receive it are, so again you should not ask who and how he is who gives it to you or has the office. For all of it is given, not to him who has the office, but to him who is to receive it through this office, except that he can receive it together with you if he so desires. Let him be what he will.

Because he is in office and is tolerated by the assembly, you put

For Men for the Ministry.

O LORD, we beseech Thee, to raise up for the work of the ministry faithful and able men, counting it all joy to spend and be spent for the sake of Thy dear Son, and for the souls for which He shed His most precious blood upon the cross; and we pray Thee to fit them for their holy function by Thy bountiful grace and benediction; through the Same Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

(Oremus, 1925, p.73).

For Forgiveness. 4

O LORD, the Expectation of our salvation: Receive the prayers of them that call upon Thee; Thou that art the Discoverer of hidden things, give ear to the hidden cry of the heart, that those things which we tremble to have committed and blush to confess, Thou, our King, mayest forgive of Thy clemency, and blot out of Thy goodness; so that our supplication may rise to Thee in the morning, and the good gifts of Thy mercy may descend on us right early; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen. (Oremus, 1925, p.62).

Holy Wednesday

#29 If the Doctrine of Justification is Sound, So Are the Others

As I often warn, therefore, the doctrine of justification must be learned diligently. For in it are included all the other doctrines of our faith; and if it is sound, all the others are sound as well. Therefore when we teach that men are justified through Christ and that Christ is the Victor over sin, death, and the eternal curse, we are testifying at the same time that He is God by nature.

From this it is evident enough how horribly blind and wicked the papists were when they taught that these fierce and mighty tyrants—sin, death, and the curse—who swallow up the whole human race, are to be conquered, not by the righteousness of the divine Law (which, even though it is just, good, and holy, cannot do anything but subject one to a curse) but by the righteousness of human works, such as fasts, pilgrimages, rosaries, vows, etc. But, I ask you, who has ever been found who conquered sin, death, etc., if he was equipped with this armor? In Eph. 6:13 ff. Paul describes a far different armor to be used against these savage beasts. By putting us, naked and without the armor of God, up against these invincible and almighty tyrants, these blind men and leaders of the blind (Matt. 15:14) have not only handed us over to them to be devoured but have also made us ten times greater and worse sinners than murderers or harlots. For it belongs exclusively to the divine power to destroy sin and abolish death, to create righteousness and grant life. This divine power they have attributed to our own works, saying: “If you do this or that work, you will conquer

Holy Tuesday

#28 Those Who Deny the Divinity of Christ lose all Christianity

This is the chief doctrine of the Christian faith. The sophists have completely obliterated it, and today the fanatics are obscuring it once more. Here you see how necessary it is to believe and confess the doctrine of the divinity of Christ.



When Arius denied this, it was necessary also for him to deny the doctrine of redemption. For to conquer the sin of the world, death, the curse, and the wrath of God in Himself—this is the work, not of any creature but of the divine power. Therefore it was necessary that He who was to conquer these in Himself should be true God by nature. For in opposition to this mighty power—sin, death, and the curse—which of itself reigns in the whole world and in the entire creation, it is necessary to set an even higher power, which cannot be found and does not exist apart from the divine power. Therefore to abolish sin, to destroy death, to remove the curse in Himself, to grant righteousness, to bring life to light (2 Tim. 1:10), and to bring the blessing in Himself, that is, to annihilate these things and to create those—all these are works solely of the divine power. Since Scripture attributes all these to Christ, therefore He Himself is Life, Righteousness, and Blessing, that is, God by nature and in essence. Hence those who deny the divinity of Christ lose all Christianity and become Gentiles and Turks through and through. (Luther's Works, v.26, p.282-283)

Collect for Holy Tuesday

Almighty and everlasting God, grant us by Your grace so to pass through this holy time of our Lord's Passion that we may be sustained by the remission of our sins; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

up with him too. His person will make God's word and sacraments neither worse nor better for you.

What he says or does is not his, but Christ, your Lord, and the Holy Spirit say and do everything, in so far as he adheres to correct doctrine and practice. The church, of course, cannot and should not tolerate open vices; but you yourself be content and tolerant, since you, an individual, cannot be the whole assembly or the Christian holy people. (Luther's Works, v.41, p.156)

Catechism - Lord's Supper, Question Four

How can bodily eating and drinking do such great things?

Certainly not just eating and drinking do these things, but the words written here: "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." These words, along with the bodily eating and drinking, are the main thing in the Sacrament. Whoever believes these words has exactly what they say: "forgiveness of sins."

Collect for Oculi

We implore You, almighty God, to look upon the hearty desires of Your humble servants and stretch forth the right hand of Your mercy to be our defense against all our enemies; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



Week leading to Laetare: March 16-22, 2020

Psalm - Psalm 122 (Not in LW)

Hymn – LW#98, “Glory Be To Jesus”

Daily Readings –

16 Monday	Genesis 29:1-30 <i>Optional Gen. 29:31-34:31</i>	Mark 9:14-32
17 Tuesday	Genesis 35:1-29	Mark 9:33-50
18 Wednesday 6:30 PM	Genesis 37:1-36 Catechesis on St. John 6:1-15	Mark 10:1-12
19 Thursday	Genesis 39:1-23	Mark 10:13-31
20 Friday	Genesis 40:1-23	Mark 10:32-52
21 Saturday	Genesis 41:1-27	Mark 11:1-9
22 Sunday 10:15 AM	Genesis 41:28-57 Laetare Exodus 16:2-21, Galatians 4:21-31, John 6:1-15	Mark 11:20-33

#24 The Minister’s Personal Qualifications: A Married Man?

The pope condemns the marriage of bishops or priests; that is now plain enough. ... St. Paul says (they say) in Ephesians 4 [5:31–32] that husband and wife are a great sacrament. I say, “Yes, in Christ and the church.” My dear man, can you gather from these words of St. Paul that marriage is the kind of a sacrament of which they speak? He says that husband and wife are one body, which is a great sacrament. Then he interprets himself, saying, “I speak of Christ and the church, not of husband and wife.” But they say that he is speaking of husband and wife. Paul envisages Christ and the church as a great sacrament or “mystery”; so they say that husband and wife are a great sacrament. Why then do they regard it as virtually the least of the sacraments, indeed, as sheer impurity and sin, in which one cannot serve God?...

Therefore do not worry (as was said) about the papists’ talk concerning the personal qualifications for an ecclesiastical office, for these asses do not understand St. Paul’s words, nor do they know what St. Paul’s language calls a sacrament. He says [Eph. 5:31–32] that Christ and the church are a sacrament, that is, Christ and the church are one body, as husband and wife are, and that this is a great mystery, to be apprehended by faith. It is not visible or tangible;

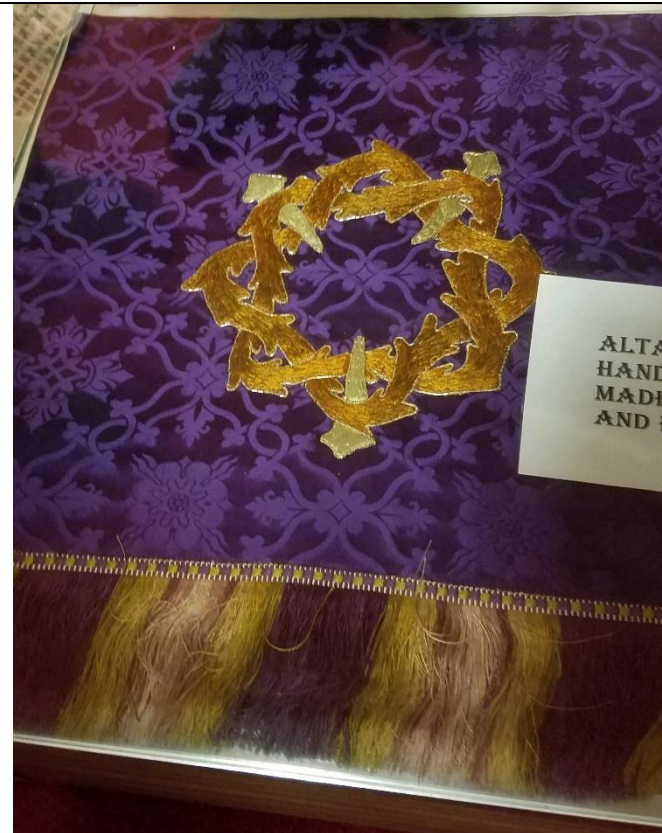
For Forgiveness. 3

HEAR us when we call, O Lord Jesus Christ, Who art our Righteousness; that as Thou didst for the wicked undergo all miseries, so Thou wouldest on the penitent bestow all mercies; Who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen. (Oremus, 1925, p.61).

Collect for Holy Monday

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we implore You that we, who amid so many adversities do fail through our own infirmities, may be restored through the Passion and intercession of Your only-begotten Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

In the small museum they had a hand-made altar cloth that was now retired. The thorn crown with nails and the multi-colored fringe closely resembles our paraments.



Holy Week: April 6-8, 2020

Psalm - Psalm 38 (LW, p.326-327) and Psalm 51 (LW, p. 329-330)

Hymn – LW #123 "Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands"

Daily Readings –

6 Monday 10:30 AM	Exodus 9:1-28 <i>Optional Lamentations 1:1-22</i>	Heb. 2:1-18
	Holy Monday Is. 50:5-10, 1 Pet 2:21-24, John 12:1-36 (37-43)	
7 Tuesday 10:30 AM	Exodus 9:29-10:20 <i>Optional Lamentations 2:1-22</i>	Heb. 3:1-19
	Holy Tuesday Jer 11:18-20, 1 Tim 6:12-14, Mark 14:1-15:46	
8 Wednesday 10:30 AM 3:00 PM 6:30 PM	Exodus 10:21-11:10 <i>Optional Lamentations 3:1-66</i>	Heb. 4:1-16
	Holy Wednesday Isa 62:11-63:7, Rev 1:5b-7, Luke 22:1-23:56	
	Tenebrae Service	
	Learn-by-Heart/Catechesis on Mark 16:1-8	

Holy Monday

#27 The Church Is Not Recognized by Relics

Meanwhile, pay no heed to the papists' holy possessions from dead saints, from the wood of the holy cross. For these are just as often bones taken from a carrion pit as bones of saints, and just as often wood taken from gallows as wood from the holy cross. There is nothing but fraud in this. The pope thus tricks people out of their money and alienates them from Christ. Even if it were a genuine holy possession, it would nonetheless not sanctify anyone. But when you are condemned, cursed, reviled, slandered, and plagued because of Christ, you are sanctified. It mortifies the old Adam and teaches him patience, humility, gentleness, praise and thanks, and good cheer in suffering. That is what it means to be sanctified by the Holy Spirit and to be renewed to a new life in Christ; in that way we learn to believe in God, to trust him, to love him, and to place our hope in him, as Romans 5 [1-5] says, "Suffering produces hope," etc. (Luther's Works, v.41, p.165)

therefore it is a sacrament, that is, something secret, a mystery, invisible, hidden. ... Now wherever you find these offices or officers, you may be assured that the holy Christian people are there; for the church cannot be without these bishops, pastors, preachers, priests; and conversely, they cannot be without the church. Both must be together. (Luther's Works, v.41, p.156, 158-159, 163-164)

Catechism - Lord's Supper, Question Five

Who receives this sacrament worthily?

Fasting and bodily preparation are certainly fine outward training. But that person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." But anyone who does not believe these words or doubts them is unworthy and unprepared, for the words "for you" require all hearts to believe.

Collect for Laetare

Grant, we implore You, almighty God, that we, who for our evil deeds do worthily deserve to be punished, by the comfort of Your grace may be mercifully relieved; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Thanksgiving for Heard Prayer. 1

O GOD, Whose mercy is limitless, Who art an inexhaustible Fount of blessings: We give Thy Majesty praise and thanksgiving for all the gifts which Thou hast bestowed upon us; and we beseech Thy mercy, that, from those whose prayer Thou hast granted Thou wilt not in the future withhold Thy help; but make them fit to the attaining of the Future Blessing; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen. (Oremus, 1925, p.64).

Week leading to Judica: March 23- 29, 2020

Psalm - Psalm 43 (Not in LW)
or Psalm 143 (LW, p.363)

Hymn – LW#98, “Glory Be To Jesus”

Daily Readings –

23 Monday	Genesis 42:1-34, 38	Mark 12:1-12
24 Tuesday	Genesis 43:1-28	Mark 12:13-27
25 Wednesday	Genesis 44:1-18, 32-34	Mark 12:28-44
10:30 AM	Annunciation of Our Lord Isaiah 7:10-14, Hebrews 10:5-10, Luke 1:25-38	
6:30 PM	Catechesis on John 8:42-59	
26 Thursday	Genesis 45:1-20, 24-28	Mark 13:1-23
27 Friday	Genesis 47:1-31 <i>Opt. Genesis 48:1-49:28</i>	Mark 13:24-37
28 Saturday	Gen. 49:29-50:7, 14-26	Mark 14:1-11
29 Sunday	Exodus 1:1-22	Mark 14:12-31
10:15 AM	Judica Gen 22:1-14, Heb 9:11-15, John 8:(42-45) 46-59	

#25 Sixth, the Church Is Recognized by Prayer, Praise and Thanksgiving

Sixth, the holy Christian people are externally recognized by prayer, public praise, and thanksgiving to God. Where you see and hear the Lord’s Prayer prayed and taught; or psalms or other spiritual songs sung, in accordance with the word of God and the true faith; also the creed, the Ten Commandments, and the catechism used in public, you may rest assured that a holy Christian people of God are present. For prayer, too, is one of the precious holy possessions whereby everything is sanctified, as St. Paul says [I Tim. 4:5]. The psalms too are nothing but prayers in which we praise, thank, and glorify God. The creed and the Ten Commandments are also God’s word and belong to the holy possession, whereby the Holy Spirit sanctifies the holy people of Christ. However, we are now speaking of prayers and songs which are intelligible and from which we can learn and by means of which we can mend our ways. The clamor of monks and nuns and priests is not prayer, nor is it praise to God; for they do not understand it, nor do they learn anything from it; they do

Collect for Palm Sunday

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon Him our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross that all mankind should follow the example of His great humility, mercifully grant that we may both be guided by His patience in this life and also be made partakers of His resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



Veronica window: “According to Church tradition, Veronica was moved with sympathy when she saw Jesus carrying his cross to Golgotha and gave him her veil that he might wipe his forehead. Jesus accepted the offering, held it to his face, and then handed it back to her—the image of his face miraculously impressed upon it. This piece of cloth became known as the Veil of Veronica” (Wikipedia). The Palmarum picture has the face enlarged for details.

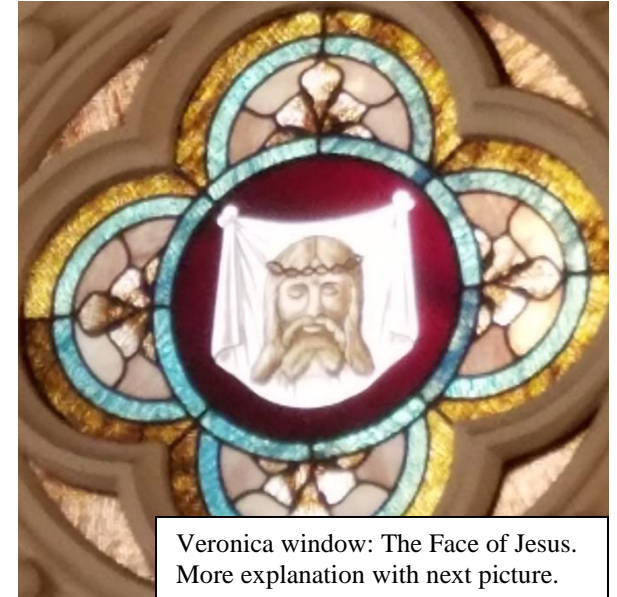
Catechism - Christian Questions with their Answers, 10-16

10. *Did the Father also die for you?* He did not. The Father is God only, as is the Holy Spirit; but the Son is both true God and true man. He died for me and shed His blood for me.
11. *How do you know this?* From the holy Gospel, from the words instituting the Sacrament, and by His body and blood given me as a pledge in the Sacrament.
12. *What are the words of institution?* Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."
- In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."
13. *Do you believe, then, that the true body and blood of Christ are in the Sacrament?* Yes, I believe it.
14. *What convinces you to believe this?* The word of Christ: Take, eat, this is My body; drink of it, all of you, this is My blood.
15. *What should we do when we eat His body and drink His blood, and in this way receive His pledge?* We should remember and proclaim His death and the shedding of His blood, as He taught us: This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.
16. *Why should we remember and proclaim His death?* First, so we may learn to believe that no creature could make satisfaction for our sins. Only Christ, true God and man, could do that. Second, so we may learn to be horrified by our sins, and to regard them as very serious. Third, so we may find joy and comfort in Christ alone, and through faith in Him be saved.

it like a donkey, only for the sake of the belly and not at all in quest of any reform or sanctification or of the will of God. (Luther's Works, v.41, p.164)

Catechism - Christian Questions with their Answers, 1-9

1. *Do you believe that you are a sinner?*
Yes, I believe it. I am a sinner.
2. *How do you know this?* From the Ten Commandments, which I have not kept.
3. *Are you sorry for your sins?* Yes, I am sorry that I have sinned against God.
4. *What have you deserved from God because of your sins?* His wrath and displeasure, temporal death, and eternal damnation. See Rom. 6:21, 23.
5. *Do you hope to be saved?* Yes, that is my hope.
6. *In whom then do you trust?* In my dear Lord Jesus Christ.
7. *Who is Christ?* The Son of God, true God and man.
8. *How many Gods are there?* Only one, but there are three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
9. *What has Christ done for you that you trust in Him?* He died for me and shed His blood for me on the cross for the forgiveness of sins.



Veronica window: The Face of Jesus. More explanation with next picture.

Collect for Judica/Passion Sunday

We implore You, almighty God, mercifully to look upon Your people that by Your great goodness they may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Repentance. 3

O CHRIST, Son of the Living God, Whose beauty in Thy Passion departed for very heaviness and has worn away because of all Thine enemies: Heal the wounds of our hearts, that Thy grace being confirmed in us, we may so put our trust in Thy Passion as to find our glory in Thy Resurrection : Who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen. (Oremus, 1925, p.60).

Week leading to Palmarum: March 30-April 5, 2020

Psalm - Psalm 73 (LW, p.332-334)

Hymn – LW#98, “Glory Be To Jesus”

Daily Readings –

30 Monday	Exodus 2:1-22	Mark 14:32-52
	Passion Monday John 7:32-39	
31 Tuesday	Exodus 2:23-3:22	Mark 14:53-72
	Passion Tuesday John 7:1-13	
1 Wednesday 6:30 PM	Exodus 4:1-18	Mark 15:1-15
	Passion Wednesday John 10:23-38	
	Catechesis on Matthew 26:1-27:66	
2 Thursday	Exodus 4:19-31	Mark 15:16-32
	Passion Thursday Luke 7:36-50	
3 Friday	Exodus 5:1-6:1	Mark 15:33-47
	Passion Friday John 11:47-54	
4 Saturday	Exodus 7:1-25	Mark 16:1-20
	Passion Saturday John 12:10-36	
5 Sunday 10:15 AM	Exodus 8:1-32 <i>optional Psalm 118</i>	Hebrews 1:1-14
	Palmarum Zech 9:9-12, Phil. 2:5-11, Matthew 26:1-27:66	

#26 Seventh, the Church Is Recognized by The Sacred Cross of Affliction

Seventh, the holy Christian people are externally recognized by the holy possession of the sacred cross. They must endure every misfortune and persecution, all kinds of trials and evil from the devil,

the world, and the flesh (as the Lord’s Prayer indicates) by inward sadness, timidity, fear, outward poverty, contempt, illness, and weakness, in order to become like their head, Christ. And the only reason they must suffer is that they steadfastly adhere to Christ and God’s word, enduring this for the sake of Christ, Matthew 5 [:11], “Blessed are you when men persecute you on my account.” They must be pious, quiet, obedient, and prepared to serve the government and everybody with life and goods, doing no one any harm. No people on earth have to endure such bitter hate; they must be accounted worse than Jews, heathen, and Turks. In summary, they must be called heretics, knaves, and devils, the most pernicious people on earth, to the point where those who hang, drown, murder, torture, banish, and plague them to death are rendering God a service. No one has compassion on them; they are given myrrh and gall to drink when they thirst. And all of this is done not because they are adulterers, murderers, thieves, or rogues, but because they want to have none but Christ, and no other God. Wherever you see or hear this, you may know that the holy Christian church is there, as Christ says in Matthew 5 [:11–12], “Blessed are you when men revile you and utter all kinds of evil against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven.” This too is a holy possession whereby the Holy Spirit not only sanctifies his people, but also blesses them. (Luther’s Works, v.41, p.164-165)

For the Ministry of Mercy.

MOST MERCIFUL FATHER, Who dost commit to our love and care our fellowmen in their necessities: Graciously be with and prosper all those who are seeking and ministering to the sick and needy; let their ministry be abundantly blessed in bringing ease to the suffering, comfort to the sorrowing, and peace to the dying; and themselves be inspired with the consecration to selfless service, knowing that inasmuch as they do it unto the least of the Master's brethren, they do it unto Him; through Him Who came to minister Thy Love unto men, even Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen. (Oremus, 1925, p.76-77).