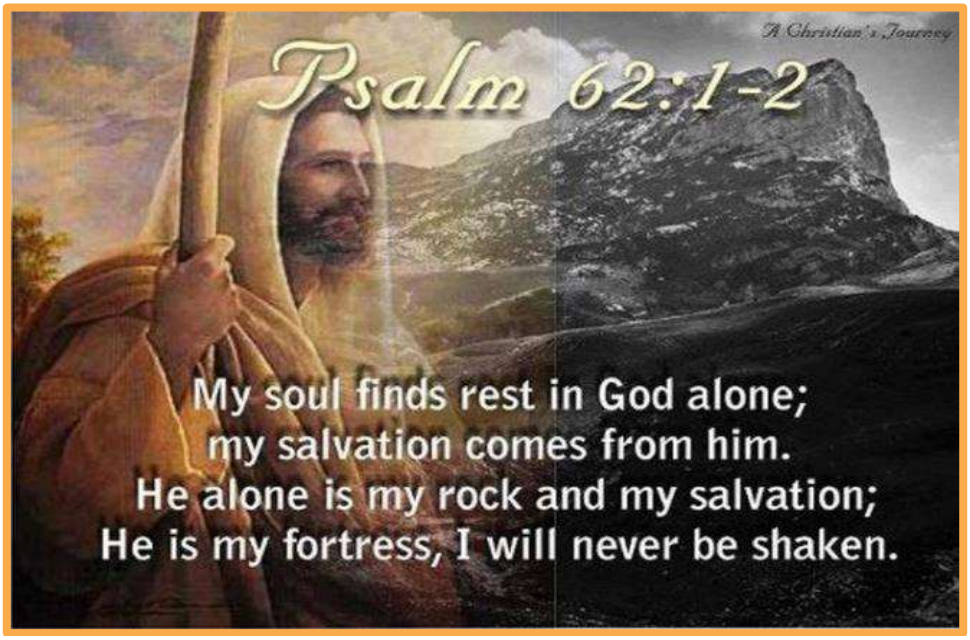
Family of Christ Lutheran Church and Early Education Center

Welcome to the Family!



Fifth Mid-week Service in Lent

Reflections on Hymn #556: "Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice"

March 17, 2021

Pastor's Greeting

Entrance Hymn "Jesus, Refuge of the Weary" *LSB 423*

Tune and text: Public domain

PHOS HILARON *(Hymn of Light)* *LSB 244*

P: Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,

C: the light no darkness can overcome.

P: Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening, and the day is almost over.

C: Let Your light scatter the darkness, and illumine Your Church.

P: Joyous light of glory:

C: Of the immortal Father; heavenly, holy, blessed Jesus Christ. We have come to the setting of the sun, and we look to the evening light. We sing to God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit: You are worthy of being praised with pure voices forever. O Son of God, O Giver of life: the universe proclaims Your glory.

PSALMODY *Psalm 32*

P: Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

C: Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

P: For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

C: I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

P: Therefore, let everyone who is godly offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found; surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not reach Him. You are a hiding place for me; You preserve me from trouble; You surround me with shouts of deliverance. I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

C: Be not like a horse or a mule, without understanding, which must be curbed with bit and bridle, or it will not stay near you. Many are the sorrows of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the LORD. Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you up right in heart!

All: 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.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: *Let us pray:* Almighty and everlasting God, of Your great mercy in Jesus Christ You have granted us forgiveness of sin and all things pertaining to life and godliness. Send us Your Holy Spirit that He may so rule our hearts that we, being ever mindful of Your fatherly mercy, may serve You in holiness and pureness of living and may give You continual thanks for all Your goodness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen!

EPISTLE READING

R: The Epistle Reading is from the Book of Romans 8:1-11

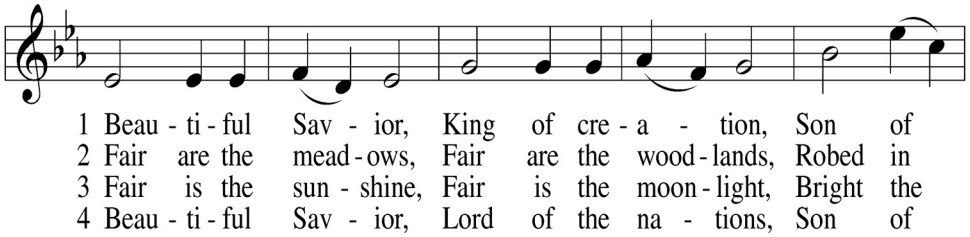
R: There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

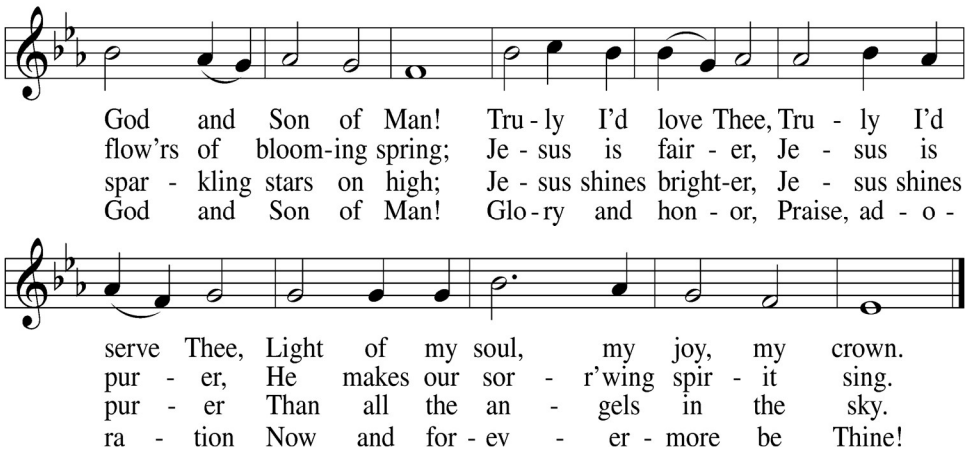
You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

HYMN OF THE DAY "BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR" *LSB 537*





Tune and text: Public domain

RESPONSORY *LSB 230*

P: Teach me Your way, O Lord, that I may walk in Your truth.

C: Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

P: Unite my heart to fear Your name that I may walk in Your truth.

C: Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

P: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

C: Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

P: A Reading of the Holy Gospel according to John 14:15-27

C: Glory to You O Lord.

P: "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him. You know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.

"I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him." Judas (not Iscariot) said to him, "Lord, how is it that you will manifest yourself to us, and not to the world?" Jesus answered him, "If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words. And the word that you hear is not mine but the Father's who sent me.

"These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you. But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, He will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

P: This is the Gospel of Our Lord.

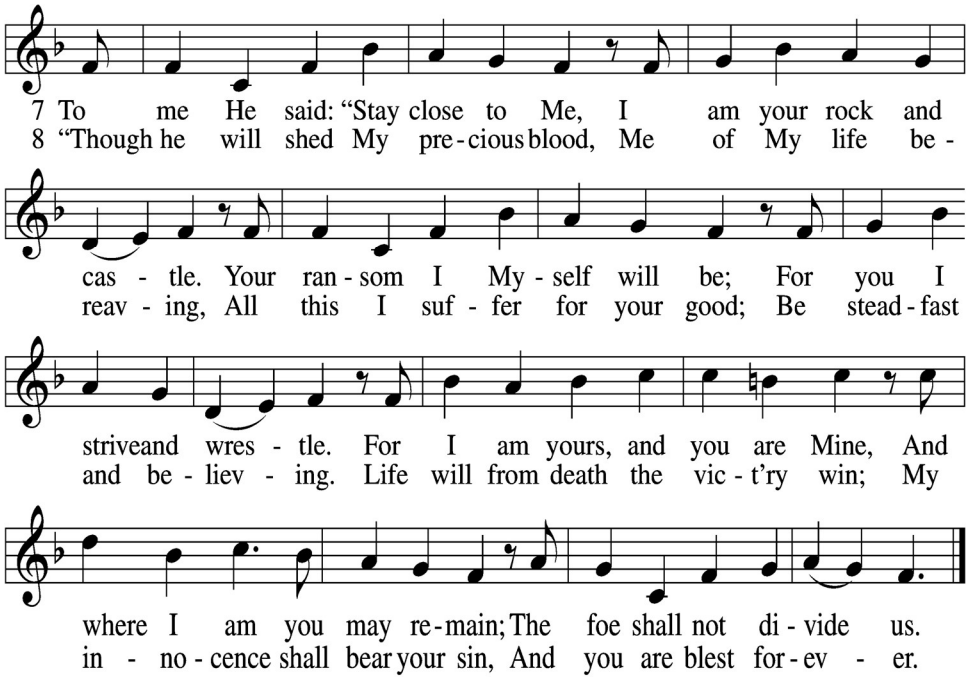
C: Praise to You O Christ.

THE APOSTLES CREED

All: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.

SERMON HYMN AND REFLECTION

"DEAR CHRISTIANS, ONE AND ALL, REJOICE" *LSB 556, STS. 7-8*



Tune and text: Public domain

SERMON *"YOUR RANSOM AND YOUR RESCUE"*

LITANY FOR LENT *LSB 249*

P: God in His Divine Mercy has revealed His Glory through the lifting up of His Son on the Cross. Therefore we can in confidence approach God with our petitions and supplications.

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For our Synodical President, Rev. Matthew Harrison; our District President Rev. Jameson Hardy; our Circuit Visitor Rev. Nick Wirtz; and for all pastors in Christ, for all servants of the Church, and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For President Joseph Biden; Governor Doug Ducey; for all public servants; for the government and those who protect us, that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all the people here present who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, and for those who have asked for our prayers: _____ let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord:

C: Thanks be to God.

P: Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord:

C: To You, O Lord.

COLLECT FOR PEACE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And with your spirit.

P: *Let us pray*: O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

BENEDICAMUS *LSB 252*

P: Let us bless the Lord.

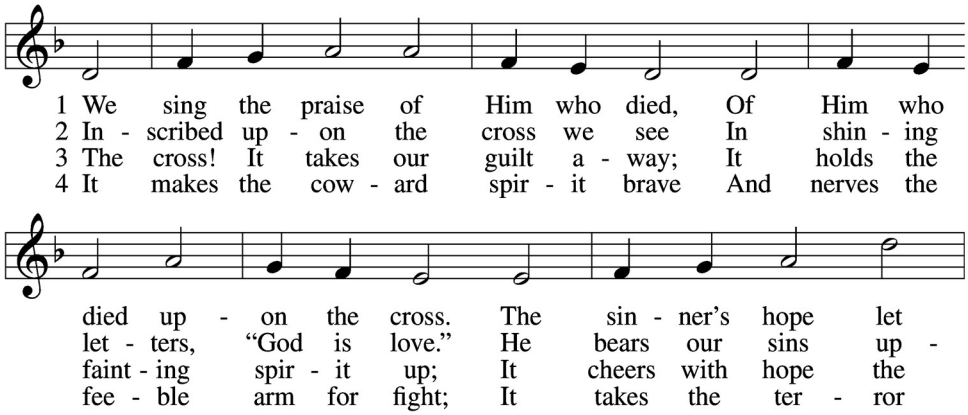
C: Thanks be to God.

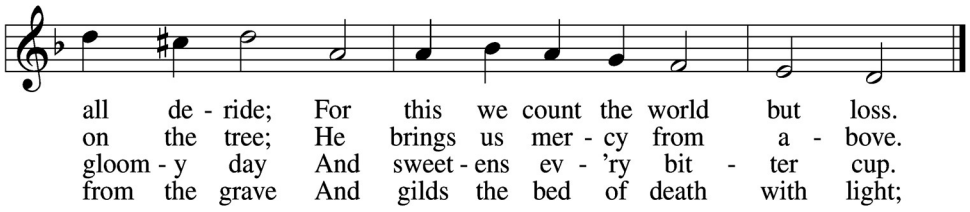
BENEDICTION *LSB 252*

P: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✝ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

C: Amen.

DEPARTING HYMN "WE SING THE PRAISE OF HIM WHO DIED" *LSB 429; STS.1-4*

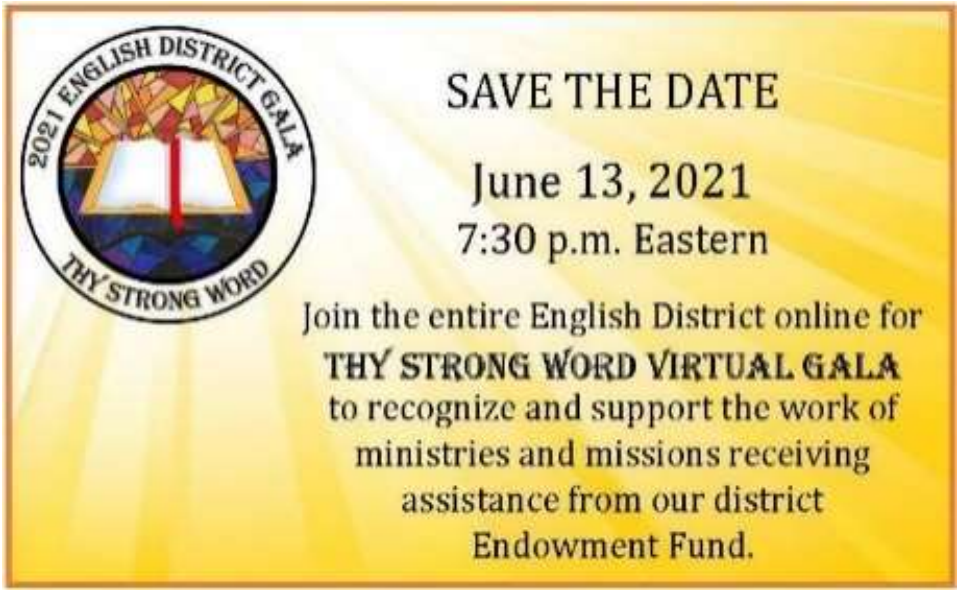




Tune and text: Public domain

KFUO Radio, a media ministry extension of LCMS congregations, shares Christ for you anytime, anywhere on **KFUO.org** via worship services, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music. You can find programs on demand at kfuo.org and wherever you get your podcasts! Find us on social: **@KFUOradio** on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

The week of March 21st on KFUO AM850 & kfuo.org:
Study Mark 14 on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m.), dig into Colossians 1-3 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m.), and worship in Midweek Lenten Service and organ recital on 3/24 at 11:00 a.m. Find your favorite programs on demand at kfuo.org or wherever you get your podcasts.



Family of Christ Lutheran Church and Early Education Center

3501 E Chandler Blvd; Phoenix, AZ 85048

480-759-4047

www.FamilyOfChristLutheranAZ.org

Serving at Family of Christ

Pastor

Reverend Fred H Gerlach

Pastor@FamilyOfChristLutheranAZ.org

Cell: 609-751-2546

Music Director

Inessa Leip

Music@FamilyOfChristLutheranAZ.org

Church Office Administrator

Admin@FamilyOfChristLutheranAZ.org

Prayer Requests

Prayer@FamilyOfChristLutheranAZ.org

Offerings can be mailed to the church or sent via Zelle® directly from your bank to:

familyofchristaz@gmail.com

This Week at Family of Christ

3/17– 3/24

Wednesday

6:00PM Mid-week Lenten Service

Thursday

5:30PM Confirmation Class at the Church

Friday

6:30AM Men's Bible Study in Leviticus

Sunday

9:30AM Divine Worship

11:00AM Bible Study on Large Catechism

Wednesday (March 24)

6:00PM Mid-week Lenten Service

PLEASE NOTE: *Church Services and Bible Studies are currently offered in person and via Zoom. In-person meetings follow all CDC-recommended protocols and procedures.*

Pastor is available upon request for: *(call the Church office or Pastor's cell to schedule)*

- ✝ Individual Confession and Absolution
- ✝ Home, hospital or nursing home visits
- ✝ Communion
- ✝ Prayer