

# Midweek Lenten Service

March 3, 2021



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

901 Cornwall Crescent

Dawson Creek, BC

## AS WE GATHER

As we journey through this Lenten season and the days of Holy Week, we find Jesus teaching and being asked various questions. Upon being asked which commandment is the greatest, Jesus says to love—with love for God and love for one's neighbor. We may find we are lacking in either of these commands to love. Let us find hope in the reality that because Christ first loved us, we are empowered to love others.

### HYMN #434 – Lamb of God, Pure and Holy

#### INSERT WORDS

#### INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

#### OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: As we turn our eyes to Holy Week, we find the scribes asking Jesus questions.

People: **They want to know which commandment is most important.**

Pastor: Jesus' answer is twofold. Love the Lord with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength,

People: **and love your neighbor as yourself.**

Pastor: These two commands are grounded in love.

People: **Lord, grant that we love God and others as Christ loves us.**

Pastor: And grant that we turn away from hate and indifference

People: **and share the love of Christ.**

**PSALM 42:1-5**

<sup>1</sup> As a deer pants for flowing streams,  
so pants my soul for you, O God.

<sup>2</sup> My soul thirsts for God,  
for the living God.  
When shall I come and appear before God?

<sup>3</sup> My tears have been my food  
day and night,  
while they say to me all the day long,  
“Where is your God?”

<sup>4</sup> These things I remember,  
as I pour out my soul:  
how I would go with the throng  
and lead them in procession to the house of God  
with glad shouts and songs of praise,  
a multitude keeping festival.

<sup>5</sup> Why are you cast down, O my soul,  
and why are you in turmoil within me?  
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him,  
my salvation and my God.

**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.**

## **PRAYER**

**Pastor:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

**Pastor:** 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.

**People:** **Amen.**

**READING** *Deuteronomy 6:4–9*

(The Lord is one, and we are to love Him with all our heart.)

**Lector:** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

**READING** *Mark 12:28–37*

(Jesus is asked a significant question: which commandment is the most important of all?)

**Lector:** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

## **SERMON**

**HYMN #560 - “Drawn to the Cross, Which Thou Hast Blessed”**

## COLLECTS

Pastor: O Lord, hear my prayer.

**People: And let my cry come to You.**

Pastor: Almighty and everlasting God, grant us by Your grace so to pass through this holy time of our Lord's passion that we may obtain the forgiveness 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.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: O God, You have commanded us to love You with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength; and to love our neighbors as ourselves. Strengthen us by Your own redeeming love that we might reflect Your steadfast love to the world; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: 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.

**People: Amen.**

**LORD'S PRAYER** *Matthew 6:9–13*

**People:**           **Our Father who art in heaven,  
                          hallowed be Thy name,  
                          Thy kingdom come,  
                          Thy will be done on earth  
                          as it is in heaven;  
                          give us this day our daily bread;  
                          and forgive us our trespasses  
                          as we forgive those  
                          who trespass against us;  
                          and lead us not into temptation,  
                          but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the kingdom  
                          and the power and the glory  
                          forever and ever. Amen.**

**PAX DOMINI**

**Pastor:**           The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**People:**           **Amen.**

**BENEDICTION**   *Numbers 6:24–26*

**Pastor:**           People of God, who have returned and are  
                          reconciled and rewarded, receive the blessing of our  
                          Lord.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be  
gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you  
peace.

**People:**           **Amen.**

## **HYMN - As the Deer**

You alone are my strength, my shield  
To You alone may my spirit yield  
You alone are my heart's desire  
And I long to worship Thee

As the deer panteth for the water  
So my soul longeth after Thee  
You alone are my heart's desire  
And I long to worship Thee

You're my friend  
And You are my brother  
Even though You are a King  
I love You more than any other  
So much more than anything

I want You more than gold or silver  
Only You can satisfy  
You alone are the real joy giver  
And the apple of my eye

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