

# Rethinking Religion

**RETHINKING DEVOTED COMMITMENT**



# Lamb of God Lutheran Church

Reaching Out. Reaching Up. Reaching Across.

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## Welcome

Thank you for joining us for worship this morning. In our service we gather before our almighty God to offer him our worship and praise. We also gather to strengthen ourselves through the study of God's holy and powerful Word.

## Pastor's Office Hours

If you would like to meet with Pastor Koepke, please contact him to make an appointment. Our pastor is here to serve both Lamb of God members and our community.

## Children's Room

We love having children in our service. However, if you feel your child needs to be taken out for a while, you may choose to use the children's room off the hallway near the mailboxes. We also ask everyone to reserve the back few rows for families with young children, making it easier to leave the church area if needed.

## GIVING TO LAMB OF GOD

If you wish to give your offering to Lamb of God online, the QR code at the right is provided for your convenience. Several types of payment are accepted on this secure site.



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# Fifth Sunday in Lent

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## ✠ The Gathering ✠

**OPENING HYMN:** *Nothing But the Blood of Jesus*

1. What can wash a - way my sin?  
2. Noth - ing can for sin a - tone,  
3. This is all my hope and peace,  
4. Glo - ry! Glo - ry! this I sing:

Noth-ing but the blood of Je - sus; What can make me  
Noth-ing but the blood of Je - sus; Naught of good that  
Noth-ing but the blood of Je - sus; This is all my  
Noth-ing but the blood of Je - sus; All my life, my

whole a - gain? Noth-ing but the blood of Je - sus. Oh! pre-cious  
I have done, Noth-ing but the blood of Je - sus.  
right-eous-ness, Noth-ing but the blood of Je - sus.  
cry shall be: Noth-ing but the blood of Je - sus.

is the flow that makes me white as snow; No oth - er

fount I know, noth-ing but the blood of Je - sus.

## INVOCATION

**M:** In the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** Amen.

## CONFESSION

M: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.  
Most merciful God,

**C: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

## ABSOLUTION

M: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the  $\text{✠}$  Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord!

## SONG OF PRAISE: *His Robes for Mine*



- 1 His robes for mine: O won - der - ful ex - change!
- 2 His robes for mine: What cause have I for dread?
- 3 His robes for mine: God's just - ice is ap - peased.



Clothed in my sin, Christ suf - fered 'neath God's rage.  
God's daunt ing law Christ mas - tered in my stead.  
Je sus is crushed, and thus the Fa - ther's pleased.



Draped in his right - eous - ness, I'm just - i - fied.  
Fault less I stand, with right - eous works not mine,  
Christ drank God's wrath on sin, then cried "'Tis done!"



In Christ I live, for in my place he died.  
Saved by my Lord's vi - car - ious death and life.  
Sin's wage is paid; and our re - demp - tion won.

*Refrain*



I cling to Christ, and mar - vel at the cost:



Je sus for sak - en, God e - stranged from God.



Bought by such love, my life is not my own.



My praise, my all, shall be for Christ a - lone.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

M: Eternal God and Father, help us to remember Jesus, who obeyed your will and bore the cross for our salvation, that through his anguish, pain, and death we may receive the forgiveness of sins, victory over the grave, and finally inherit eternal life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.



## ✠ The Word ✠

### FIRST LESSON: *Hebrews 5:7-9*

*Because he was truly human Jesus did not relish having to suffer for our salvation. Yet he submitted to the cross out of his devoted commitment to us.*

<sup>7</sup>During the days of Jesus' life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with fervent cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. <sup>8</sup>Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered <sup>9</sup>and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.

### PSALM: *Pilgrim's Song (Psalm 121)*

Leaders: Refrain



Congregation: Refrain

I lift up my eyes to the moun-tains, from



where shall come my help? My help shall come from the



One who has made the heav - ens and the



earth, the Mak - er of heav-en and earth.

*Verses (sung by Leaders):*

L: God will not let your foot be moved. God who keeps you will not slumber,  
The One who keeps Israel never slumbers, never sleeps.

**C: Refrain**

L: God will be the one who keeps you, as a shade at your right hand,  
so the sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon in the night.

**C: Refrain**

L: God will keep you from all evil. God will always guard your life,  
guard your comings, and your goings, from now and evermore.

**C: Refrain**

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### GOSPEL LESSON: *John 12:20-33*

*Though the thought of the cross troubled his soul, Jesus was committed to glorifying his Father's name by winning eternal life for us.*

<sup>20</sup>Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the festival. <sup>21</sup>They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request. "Sir," they said, "we would like to see Jesus." <sup>22</sup>Philip went to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip in turn told Jesus.

<sup>23</sup>Jesus replied, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. <sup>24</sup>Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. <sup>25</sup>Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. <sup>26</sup>Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.

<sup>27</sup>"Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. <sup>28</sup>Father, glorify your name!"

Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and will glorify it again." <sup>29</sup>The crowd that was there and heard it said it had thundered; others said an angel had spoken to him.

<sup>30</sup>Jesus said, "This voice was for your benefit, not mine. <sup>31</sup>Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. <sup>32</sup>And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." <sup>33</sup>He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die.

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** *The Tree of Life (CWS 754) - Music printed on pages 10-11.*

### SERMON: **Do You Know How Good You've Got It?** *Jeremiah 31:31-34*

<sup>31</sup>"The days are coming," declares the LORD, "when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah. <sup>32</sup>It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them," declares the LORD. <sup>33</sup>"This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time," declares the LORD. "I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. <sup>34</sup>No longer will they teach their neighbor, or say to one another, 'Know the LORD,' because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest," declares the LORD. "For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more."

## **CONFESSION OF FAITH: *Apostles' Creed***

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **✠ The Prayers ✠**

### **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

#### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

#### **THE LORD'S BLESSING**

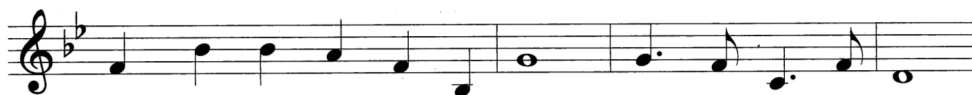
**M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace.  
Live in harmony with one another.  
Serve the Lord with gladness.**

**The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and give ☩ you peace.**

**C: Amen.**



**CLOSING SONG:** *He Will Hold Me Fast*



1 When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;  
 2 Those he saves are his de - light; Christ will hold me fast;  
 3 For my life he bled and died; Christ will hold me fast;



when the tempt - er would pre - vail, he will hold me fast.  
 pre - cious in his ho - ly sight, he will hold me fast.  
 jus - tice has been sat - is - fied; he will hold me fast.

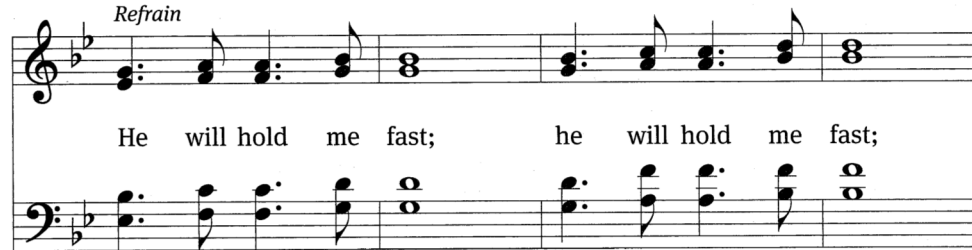


I could nev - er keep my hold thro' life's fear - ful path,  
 He'll not let my soul be lost; his prom - is - es shall last;  
 Raised with him to end - less life, he will hold me fast

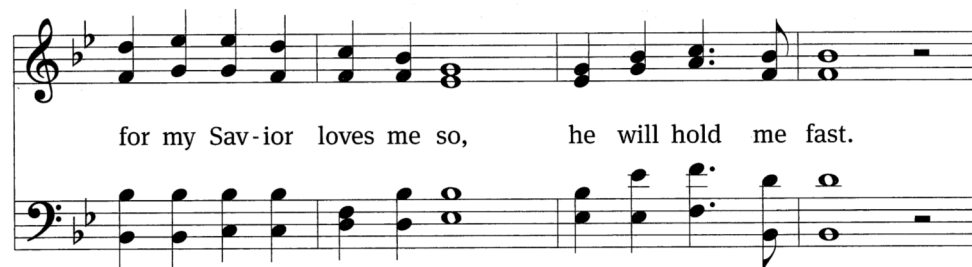


for my love is of - ten cold— he must hold me fast.  
 bought by him at such a cost, he will hold me fast.  
 till our faith is turned to sight when he comes at last!

*Refrain*



He will hold me fast; he will hold me fast;



for my Sav - ior loves me so, he will hold me fast.

# HYMN OF THE DAY: *The Tree of Life* (from page 7)



1 The tree of life with ev - 'ry  
 2 The still - ness of that sa - cred  
 3 What mer - cy God showed to our  
 4 Now from that tree of Je - sus'

good In E - den's ho - ly or - chard  
 grove Was bro - ken as the ser - pent  
 race, A plan of res - cue by his  
 shame Flows life e - ter - nal in his

stood, And of its fruit so pure and  
 strove With tempt - ing voice Eve to be -  
 grace: In send - ing One from wom - an's  
 name; For all who trust and will be -

sweet God let the man and wom - an  
 guile And Ad - am to by sin de -  
 seed, The One to fill our great - est  
 lieve, Sal - va - tion's liv - ing fruit re -

eat. Yet in this gar - den al - so  
 file. Oh, day of sad - ness when the  
 need— For on a tree up - lift - ed  
 ceive. And of this fruit so pure and

grew An - oth - er tree, of which they  
 breath Of fear and dark - ness, doubt and  
 high His on - ly Son for the sin would  
 sweet The Lord in - vites the world to

knew; death, die, eat, Its love - ly limbs with fruit a - Its aw - ful poi - son first dis - Would drink the cup of scorn and To find with - in this cross of dorned A - gainst whose eat - ing God had warned. played With - in the world so new - ly made. dread To crush the an - cient ser - pent's head! wood The tree of life with ev - 'ry good.

## HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Palm Sunday, March 24 - 9:30am

Maundy Thursday, March 28 - 7pm

Good Friday, March 29 - 7pm

Easter Sunday, March 31 - 7:30am outdoor service; 9:30am second service indoors

—LET'S CELEBRATE—  
**EASTER**  
—TOGETHER—

## PRAYER REQUESTS

When all you can do is the most powerful thing we can do for you...Let. Us. Pray.  
Feel free to submit your prayer request using this link.



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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **BIBLE CLASSES**

- ✝ Our Sunday Bible class will be held today at 10:45am.
- ✝ Children's Sunday School will start at 10:45am.
- ✝ The Midweek Bible study meets this Thursday at 6pm at church.

### **ACTIVE LOGs**

Today the Active LOGs plan to hike from the Desert Foothills Park Trailhead, noon to 2pm. If you have any questions, speak with Jenny & Ryan Pearson or Dwayne & Brenda Young.

### **SHARING OUR SELVES (SOS) PROJECT**

The SOS project for the month will benefit the Ryan House, which provides on-site respite and palliative care for children with life-limiting or end-of-life medical complexities. Items most needed now are individually packaged crackers, cookies, and chips, Pop Tarts, granola/breakfast bars, and juice boxes. A bigger list can be found in the narthex at church. The collection will be taken through April 7. For questions, please contact Darcy, 480-332-4120.

### **3Fs (FELLOWSHIP, FOOD, FUN)**

The next 3Fs event will be at the Poppe house (3121 E. Woodland Dr., Phoenix) on Saturday, March 23, at 6pm. The theme will be "favorite family recipes and games." Everyone is asked to bring a dish made from a favorite family recipe along with the recipe card. We will also have games available to play after dinner. If you plan to attend, please contact Scott & Nancy at [poppemail3121@gmail.com](mailto:poppemail3121@gmail.com) and Lenin Arthanari at [leninarthanari@hotmail.com](mailto:leninarthanari@hotmail.com).

### **OPPORTUNITIES TO VOLUNTEER**

There are several opportunities to assist with preparing for our Easter celebration. We need your help! See the poster near the snack table today to sign up. If all lines are used, feel free to add your name below the last line.

### **EASTER LILIES**

If you would like to contribute lilies for our Easter services, please bring them to church on Thursday or Friday night (Maundy Thursday or Good Friday), or on Saturday morning during the Easter set-up time, 9-11am. After the second service on Easter Sunday, you may take your lilies home with you.

### **CARING CARDS**

Don't forget to pick out some Easter cards today! Thank you for supporting the Caring Card Ministry.

**ROMEOs** will not meet in the month of March. Watch for the April date and location!