

Wednesday of Lent 2

Prelude

Preambulum in c minor—V. Lübeck

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Hymn

430

My song is love unknown, My Savior's love to me,
Love to the loveless shown That they might lovely be.
Oh, who am I That for my sake
 My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?

He came from His blest throne Salvation to bestow;
But men made strange, and none The longed-for Christ would know.
But, oh, my friend, My friend indeed,
 Who at my need His life did spend!

Sometimes they strew His way And His sweet praises sing;
Resounding all the day Hosannas to their King.
Then "Crucify!" Is all their breath,
 And for His death They thirst and cry.

Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and spite?
He made the lame to run, He gave the blind their sight.
Sweet injuries! Yet they at these
 Themselves displease And 'gainst Him rise.

They rise and needs will have My dear Lord made away;
A murderer they save, The Prince of Life they slay.
Yet cheerful He To suff'ring goes
 That He His foes From thence might free.

In life no house, no home My Lord on earth might have;
In death no friendly tomb But what a stranger gave.
What may I say? Heav'n was His home
 But mine the tomb Wherein He lay.

Here might I stay and sing, No story so divine!
Never was love, dear King, Never was grief like Thine.
This is my friend, In whose sweet praise
 I all my days Could gladly spend!

Litany

please stand

- P** O Lord,
C have mercy.
P O Christ,
C have mercy.
P O Lord,
C have mercy.
P O Christ,
C hear us.
P God the Father in heaven,
C have mercy.

- P** God the Son, Redeemer of the world,
- C** **have mercy.**
- P** God the Holy Spirit,
- C** **have mercy.**
- P** Be gracious to us.
- C** **Spare us, good Lord.**
- P** Be gracious to us.
- C** **Help us, good Lord.**
- P** From all sin, from all error, from all evil; from the crafts and assaults of the devil; from sudden and evil death; from pestilence and famine; from war and bloodshed; from sedition and from rebellion; from lightning and tempest; from all calamity by fire and water; and from everlasting death:
- C** **Good Lord, deliver us.**
- P** By the mystery of Your holy incarnation; by Your holy nativity; by Your baptism, fasting, and temptation; by Your agony and bloody sweat; by Your cross and passion; by Your precious death and burial; by Your glorious resurrection and ascension; and by the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter:
- C** **Help us, good Lord.**
- P** In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death; and in the day of judgment:
- C** **Help us, good Lord.**
- P** We poor sinners implore You
- C** **to hear us, O Lord.**
- P** To rule and govern Your holy Christian Church; to preserve all pastors and ministers of Your Church in the true knowledge and understanding of Your wholesome Word and to sustain them in holy living; to put an end to all schisms and causes of offense; to bring into the way of truth all who have erred and are deceived; to beat down Satan under our feet; to send faithful laborers into Your harvest; and to accompany Your Word with Your grace and Spirit:
- C** **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**
- P** To raise those who fall and to strengthen those who stand; and to comfort and help the weakhearted and the distressed:
- C** **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**
- P** To give to all peoples concord and peace; to preserve our land from discord and strife; to give our country Your protection in every time of need; to direct and defend our president and all in authority; to bless and protect our magistrates and all our people; to watch over and help all who are in danger, necessity, and tribulation; to protect and guide all who travel; to grant all women with child, and all mothers with infant children, increasing happiness in their blessings; to defend all orphans and widows and provide for them; to strengthen and keep all sick persons and young children; to free those in bondage; and to have mercy on us all:
- C** **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**
- P** To forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers and to turn their hearts; to give and preserve for our use the kindly fruits of the earth; and graciously to hear our prayers:
- C** **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**
- P** Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
- C** **we implore You to hear us.**
- P** Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
- C** **have mercy.**
- P** Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
- C** **have mercy.**

P Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C grant us Your peace.

P O Christ,

C hear us.

P O Lord,

C have mercy.

P O Christ,

C have mercy.

P O Lord,

C have mercy. Amen.

Salutation and Collect for the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By Your mighty power defend us 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 You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

please be seated

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

When Abram was ninety-nine years old the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before Me, and be blameless, that I may make My covenant between Me and you, and may multiply you greatly." Then Abram fell on his face. And God said to him, "Behold, My covenant is with you, and you shall be the father of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham, for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make you into nations, and kings shall come from you. And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you."

And God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover, I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall become nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading

Romans 5:1-11

[Paul writes:] Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through Him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die—but God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by His blood, much more shall we be saved by Him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by His life. More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Lenten Verse

please stand and sing

C Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and abounding in steadfast love.

Gospel Reading

Mark 8:27-38

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the eighth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

And Jesus went on with His disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi. And on the way He asked His disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" And they told Him, "John the Baptist; and others say, Elijah; and others, one of the prophets." And He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered Him, "You are the Christ." And He strictly charged them to tell no one about Him.

And He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again. And He said this plainly. And Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him. But turning and seeing His disciples, He rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind Me, Satan! For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man."

And calling the crowd to Him with His disciples, He said to them, "If anyone would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? For what can a man give in return for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of Me and of My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of Man also be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

confessed together

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life  of the world to come. Amen.

please be seated

Little Sermon

Hymn of the Day

611

Chief of sinners though I be, Jesus shed His blood for me,
Died that I might live on high, Lives that I might never die.
As the branch is to the vine, I am His, and He is mine.

Oh, the height of Jesus' love, Higher than the heav'ns above,
Deeper than the depths of sea, Lasting as eternity!
Love that found me—wondrous thought! Found me when I sought Him not.

Only Jesus can impart Balm to heal the wounded heart,
Peace that flows from sin forgiv'n, Joy that lifts the soul to heav'n,
Faith and hope to walk with God In the way that Enoch trod.

Chief of sinners though I be, Christ is all in all to me;
All my wants to Him are known, All my sorrows are His own.
He sustains the hidden life Safe with Him from earthly strife.

O my Savior, help afford By Your Spirit and Your Word!
When my wayward heart would stray, Keep me in the narrow way;
Grace in time of need supply While I live and when I die.

Sermon

Therefore...

Romans 5:1-11

Hymn of Response

433

Glory be to Jesus, Who in bitter pains
Poured for me the lifeblood From His sacred veins!

Grace and life eternal In that blood I find;
Blest be His compassion, Infinitely kind!

Blest through endless ages Be the precious stream
Which from endless torment Did the world redeem!

Abel's blood for vengeance Pleaded to the skies;
But the blood of Jesus For our pardon cries.

Oft as earth exulting Wafts its praise on high,
Angel hosts rejoicing Make their glad reply.

Lift we, then, our voices, Swell the mighty flood;
Louder still and louder Praise the precious blood!

Prayer of the Church

please stand

Service of the Sacrament

pages 208-210

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary...evermore praising You and saying:

C (sung) Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;

Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.

Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;

Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

P Blessed are You...Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

C Our Father, who art in heaven...

P Our Lord Jesus Christ...

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

**C(sung) O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.**

Distribution of the Sacrament

708 stanzas 1-2

Lord, Thee I love with all my heart; I pray Thee, ne'er from me depart,
With tender mercy cheer me.

Earth has no pleasure I would share. Yea, heav'n itself were void and bare
If Thou, Lord, wert not near me.

And should my heart for sorrow break, My trust in Thee can nothing shake.
Thou art the portion I have sought; Thy precious blood my soul has bought.

Lord Jesus Christ, my God and Lord, my God and Lord, Forsake me not! I trust Thy Word.

Yea, Lord, 'twas Thy rich bounty gave My body, soul, and all I have
In this poor life of labor.

Lord, grant that I in ev'ry place May glorify Thy lavish grace
And help and serve my neighbor.

Let no false doctrine me beguile; Let Satan not my soul defile.

Give strength and patience unto me To bear my cross and follow Thee.
Lord Jesus Christ, my God and Lord, my God and Lord, In death Thy comfort still afford.

435 Come to Calv'ry's holy mountain, Sinners, ruined by the fall;
Here a pure and healing fountain Flows for you, for me, for all,
In a full, perpetual tide, Opened when our Savior died.

Come in poverty and meanness, Come defiled, without, within;
From infection and uncleanness, From the leprosy of sin,
Wash your robes and make them white; Ye shall walk with God in light.

Come in sorrow and contrition, Wounded, impotent, and blind;
Here the guilty, free remission, Here the troubled, peace may find.
Health this fountain will restore; They that drink shall thirst no more.

They that drink shall live forever; 'Tis a soul-renewing flood.
God is faithful; God will never Break His covenant of blood,
Signed when our Redeemer died, Sealed when He was glorified.

439 O dearest Jesus, what law hast Thou broken
That such sharp sentence should on Thee be spoken?
Of what great crime hast Thou to make confession, What dark transgression?

They crown Thy head with thorns, they smite, they scourge Thee;
With cruel mockings to the cross they urge Thee;
They give Thee gall to drink, they still decry Thee; They crucify Thee.

Whence come these sorrows, whence this mortal anguish?
It is my sins for which Thou, Lord, must languish;
Yea, all the wrath, the woe, Thou dost inherit, This I do merit.

What punishment so strange is suffered yonder!
The Shepherd dies for sheep that loved to wander;
The Master pays the debt His servants owe Him, Who would not know Him.

The sinless Son of God must die in sadness;
The sinful child of man may live in gladness;
Man forfeited his life and is acquitted; God is committed.

There was no spot in me by sin untainted;
Sick with sin's poison, all my heart had fainted;
My heavy guilt to hell had well-nigh brought me, Such woe it wrought me.

O wondrous love, whose depth no heart hath sounded,
That brought Thee here, by foes and thieves surrounded!
All worldly pleasures, heedless, I was trying While Thou wert dying.

O mighty King, no time can dim Thy glory!
How shall I spread abroad Thy wondrous story?
How shall I find some worthy gifts to proffer? What dare I offer?

For vainly doth our human wisdom ponder—
Thy woes, Thy mercy, still transcend our wonder.
Oh, how should I do aught that could delight Thee! Can I requite Thee?

Yet unrequited, Lord, I would not leave Thee;
I will renounce whate'er doth vex or grieve Thee
And quench with thoughts of Thee and prayers most lowly All fires unholy.

But since my strength will nevermore suffice me
To crucify desires that still entice me,
To all good deeds O let Thy Spirit win me And reign within me!

I'll think upon Thy mercy without ceasing,
That earth's vain joys to me no more be pleasing;
To do Thy will shall be my sole endeavor Henceforth forever.

Whate'er of earthly good this life may grant me,
I'll risk for Thee; no shame, no cross, shall daunt me.
I shall not fear what foes can do to harm me Nor death alarm me.

But worthless is my sacrifice, I own it;
Yet, Lord, for love's sake Thou wilt not disown it;
Thou wilt accept my gift in Thy great meekness Nor shame my weakness.
And when, dear Lord, before Thy throne in heaven
To me the crown of joy at last is given,
Where sweetest hymns Thy saints forever raise Thee, I, too, shall praise Thee.

Communion Blessing

please stand

Nunc Dimitis

page 211

**C(sung) O Lord, now let Your servant Depart in heav'nly peace,
For I have seen the glory Of Your redeeming grace:
A light to lead the Gentiles Unto Your holy hill, The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.
All glory to the Father, All glory to the Son, All glory to the Spirit, Forever Three in One;
For as in the beginning, Is now, shall ever be, God's triune name resounding Through all eternity.**

Post-Communion Collect and Benediction

page 212

P Let us pray...one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

P The Lord bless...give you peace.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn

708 stanza 3

Lord, let at last Thine angels come, To Abr'ham's bosom bear me home,

That I may die unfearing;

And in its narrow chamber keep My body safe in peaceful sleep

Until Thy reappearing.

And then from death awaken me, That these mine eyes with joy may see,

O Son of God, Thy glorious face, My Savior and my fount of grace.

Lord Jesus Christ, my prayer attend, my prayer attend, And I will praise Thee without end.

Postlude

Kleine Präludien und Intermezzi, Werk 9—H. Schroeder I. Meastoso

Therefore—Romans 5:1-11

The word justify means to d_____ not g_____.

Apart from God, we are w_____, u_____, s_____, and
e_____ of God.

Therefore, since we are justified, we...

...are saved from the w_____ of God.

...are r_____ to God.

...have p_____ with God.

...have God's l_____ in our hearts.

...have received the H_____ S_____.

...rejoice in our s_____.

...rejoice in h_____ of the glory of God.

Next Week's Readings

Exodus 20:1-17; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; John 2:13-22

LIVING THE SERMON... *Therefore, since we have been justified by faith...* With this powerful declaration, we receive blessing upon blessing. What gifts are yours because you have been justified by the blood of Christ? What certainty and confidence do you have because you are justified by Christ and not by your own works?

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH... Pray that you would trust in Christ alone for your salvation and never your own works or efforts. Pray for those who don't believe in Jesus and for those who are trusting in their own works for salvation, that, by the grace of God, they may be brought to faith and rejoice in the salvation freely given through Christ our Lord.

Our Weekly Schedule

Worship Services

Sunday Worship Services at 8 and 10:45 AM

Lenten Wednesday Worship Service at 4:45 PM (COVID-sensitive) and 7 PM

Sunday 8 AM and Wednesday 4:45 PM posted online.

Radio worship service Sundays at 9:30 AM on WYGS 91.1 FM

7 PM Lutheran Hour on WYGS 91.1 FM

Holy Communion Offered

All Sunday and Wednesday 4:45 PM services

2 PM Sundays Small Group Communion offered

By appointment at church or your house by contacting one of the pastors

Christian Education

Children's Sunday School and Adult Bible Study* Sundays at 9:30 AM

Bible Study Wednesdays at 9 AM and 6 PM

*Adult Bible Study is live-streamed on the St. Paul YouTube Channel each Sunday at 9:30 AM.