



Faith Lutheran Church

Faithfully Growing, Welcoming, and Caring through Christ

**Wednesday,
March 20, 2019**

“Prayer and FASTING”

OPENING HYMN *“Beneath the Cross of Jesus” – Verse 1*

**Beneath the cross of Jesus
I long to take my stand;
the shadow of a mighty rock
within a weary land,
a home within a wilderness,
a rest upon the way,
from the burning of the noontide heat
and burdens of the day.**

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: God the Father has his ear turned
toward you.

C: Lord, teach us to pray.

P: God the Son pleads for you before the
kingdom throne.

C: Lord, teach us to pray.

P: God the Holy Spirit gives you the words when you don't know what to say.

C: Lord, teach us to pray.

P: God is always attentive, always listening, always ready, willing and able to help in time of need. He loves to be your guide and your shield.

C: Lord, teach us to pray.

P: When you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

C: **Lord, teach us to pray.**

“Beneath the Cross of Jesus” – Verse 2

**Upon the cross of Jesus,
my eye at times can see
the very dying form of one
who suffered there for me.
And from my contrite heart, with tears,
two wonders I confess:
the wonder of his glorious love
and my unworthiness.**

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

P: Our Lord teaches us to pray and even gives us the words to say. And yet our prayers are often shallow, showy or non-existent.

C: **Most merciful God, forgive us for the many times we fail to pray. Though you have given us the words to say, we neglect to use them. When we do pray, we often do so for show, for selfish reasons or with a complete lack of trust.**

Our faulty prayer life is a reflection of weak faith and sinful lives. We are harried and worried because we fail to take our concerns to you in prayer. Forgive us, renew us and restore us so that as your dear children we pray well, pray often and pray without ceasing.

P: Our God in his mercy sent his Son, Jesus Christ, who prayed perfectly for you. In his darkest hour he even prayed for you from the cross. Because of his perfect love and mercy demonstrated by his death and resurrection, your sins are forgiven and your life is renewed. As a result, I declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

“Beneath the Cross of Jesus” – Verse 3

**I take, O cross, your shadow
for my abiding place;
I ask no other sunshine than
the sunshine of his face;
content to let the world go by,
to know no gain nor loss,
my sinful self my only shame,
my glory all, the cross.**

Old Testament Reading 1 Samuel 2:1-3

Epistle Reading 1 Thessalonians 5:12-22

Gospel Reading Matthew 6:5-8

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

**What a friend we have in Jesus,
all our sins and griefs to bear!**

**What a privilege to carry
ev'rything to God in prayer!**

**Oh, what peace we often forfeit;
oh, what needless pain we bear--
all because we do not carry
ev'rything to God in prayer!**

Have we trials and temptations?

Is there trouble anywhere?

**We should never be discouraged--
take it to the Lord in prayer.**

**Can we find a friend so faithful
who will all our sorrows share?**

**Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness--
take it to the Lord in prayer.**

**Are we weak and heavy-laden,
cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge--
take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do your friends despise, forsake you?
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In his arms he'll take and shield you;
you will find a solace there.**

*Sharing
their faith
story:
Laurie
and Pat
Wicks*



Prayers

P: O Lord, you have given us the gift of prayer and have taught us to pray. Daily remind us that you are our Father and we are your dear children. Make our lives a reflection of your great name.

C: **Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.**

P: O Lord, you have built your kingdom on the witness, testimony and prayers of your people throughout the ages. Bring your kingdom to us and through us, that your will would be done right here and right now, just like it always is in heaven.

C: **Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

P: O Lord, you provide for all our needs of body, soul and spirit. You never leave us or forsake us. Give us good government and earthly peace so that your gospel would be proclaimed around the world. Please bring the daily bread of your healing to all in our lives who need it.

C: Give us this day our daily bread.

P: O Lord, we are imperfect sinners in need of a perfect Savior. You have provided for us all that we need for life and salvation. Make our lives an offering to you.

C: **And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.**

P: O Lord, you overcame every temptation and lived a perfect life. In our Baptism, you robed us in your righteousness. Free us from our sin and deliver us in the hour of every trial.

C: **And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

P: Into your hands, Lord Jesus, we place all of our needs, knowing that you are ever praying and pleading for us before the heavenly throne.

C: **For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN “*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*”

**Joyful, joyful we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee,
praising thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
drive the gloom of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day.**

**All thy works with joy surround thee,
earth and heav'n reflect thy rays,
stars and angels sing around thee,
center of unbroken praise.**

**Field and forest, vale and mountain,
flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird, and flowing fountain
call us to rejoice in thee.**

**Thou art giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
wellspring of the joy of living,
ocean-depth of happy rest!**

**Thou our Father, Christ our brother,
all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other,
lift us to the joy divine!**





















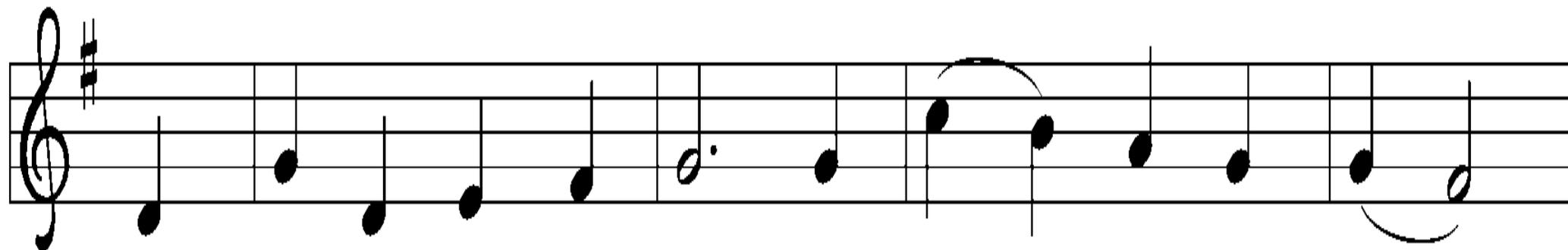








Offertory Response



1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;
2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,



all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.
and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.

**To God all glory, praise, and love
be now and ever giv'n
by saints below and saints above,
the church in earth and heav'n.**

**Look unto him, your Savior own,
O fallen human race!
Look and be saved through faith alone,
be justified by grace!**