

L.I.F.E.

Living In Faith Everyday

“For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age” (Titus 2:11-12).



Sanctity of Life Sunday • Lutherans For Life

Prelude

Opening Hymn “My Faith Looks up to Thee” (LSB 702)¹

My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine.

Now hear me while I pray; Take all my guilt away; O let me from this day Be wholly Thine!

May Thy rich grace impart Strength to my fainting heart; My zeal inspire!

As Thou hast died for me, Oh, may my love to Thee Pure, warm, and changeless be, A living fire!

While life’s dark maze I tread And griefs around me spread, Be Thou my guide;

Bid darkness turn to day, Wipe sorrow’s tears away, Nor let me ever stray From Thee aside.

When ends life’s transient dream, When death’s cold, sullen stream Shall o’er me roll,

Blest Savior, then, in love, Fear and distrust remove; O bear me safe above, A ransomed soul!

Invocation

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

C Amen.

Confession

P Let us draw near with a humble heart and confess our sins to our heavenly Father and ask that, for Jesus’ sake, He would forgive us.

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **Who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,

C **And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Lord God, we confess with Paul, “I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing” (Romans 7:19). I have not lived in faith every day, but rather every day I sin in thought, word, and deed. Forgive me for the sake of Jesus, and renew in me a spirit that is ready to know and do Your will.

P Jesus walked every day in perfect holiness in Your place. He took your unholiness into Himself upon the cross and paid the price for your sins. He has given you His Holy Spirit in the waters of your baptism and through faith in Him your sins are forgiven. Therefore, in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen! Thank You, Lord Jesus. Help us walk every day in faith.**

Entrance Psalm Psalm 26

- P** Vindicate me, O LORD, for I have walked in my integrity, and I have trusted in the Lord without wavering.
- C** **Prove me, O LORD, and try me; test my heart and my mind.**
- P** For your steadfast love is before my eyes, and I walk in your faithfulness.
- C** **I do not sit with men of falsehood, nor do I consort with hypocrites.**
- P** I hate the assembly of evildoers, and I will not sit with the wicked.
- C** **I wash my hands in innocence and go around your altar, O LORD,**
- P** proclaiming thanksgiving aloud, and telling all your wondrous deeds.
- C** **O LORD, I love the habitation of your house and the place where your glory dwells.**
- P** Do not sweep my soul away with sinners, nor my life with bloodthirsty men,
- C** **in whose hands are evil devices, and whose right hands are full of bribes.**
- P** But as for me, I shall walk in my integrity; redeem me, and be gracious to me.
- C** **My foot stands on level ground; in the great assembly I will bless the LORD.**
- C** **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.

Hymn of Praise “The Lord, My God, Be Praised” vs. 1&4 (LSB 794)¹

The Lord, my God, be praised, My light, my life from heaven;
My maker, who to me Has soul and body given;
My Father, who will shield And keep me day by day
And make each moment yield New blessings on my way.

The Lord, my God, be praised, My God, the ever living,
To whom the heavenly host Their laud and praise are giving.
The Lord, my God, be praised, In whose great name I boast,
God Father, God the Son, And God the Holy Ghost.

Collect

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And with your spirit.**
- P** Let us pray to the Lord.
Lord God, our heavenly Father, who has been faithful to us through Jesus Christ, enable us by the power of your Holy Spirit to trust in Your faithfulness and walk in faith every day, through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen!**

Old Testament Reading Genesis 2:21-24

So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said,

“This at last is bone of my bones
and flesh of my flesh;
she shall be called Woman,
because she was taken out of Man.”

Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading Titus 2:11-15

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works. Declare these things; exhort and rebuke with all authority. Let no one disregard you.

Gradual

Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths.

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. (Psalm 25:4; 119:105)

Gospel Reading Luke 1:46-55

And Mary said, “My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant. For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name. And his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts; he has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate; he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his offspring forever.”

Creed

Hymn of the Day “Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus”²

Let us ever walk with Jesus, Follow his example pure,
Flee the world which would deceive us And to sin our souls allure.
Ever in his footsteps treading, Body here, yet soul above,
Full of faith and hope and love, Let us do the Father’s bidding.
Faithful Lord, abide with me. Savior, lead; I follow thee.

Let us suffer here with Jesus, To his image e’er conform;
Heaven’s glory soon will please us, Sunshine follow on the storm.
Though we sow in tears of sorrow, We shall reap in heav’nly joy,
And the fears that now annoy Shall be laughter on the morrow.
Christ, I suffer here with thee; There, oh, share thy joy with me.

Let us also die with Jesus. His death from the second death,
From our soul’s destruction, frees us, Quickens us with life’s glad breath.
Let us mortify, while living, Flesh and blood and die to sin,
And the grave that shuts us in Shall but prove the gate to heaven.
Jesus, here I die to thee, There to live eternally.

Let us gladly live with Jesus; Since he’s risen from the dead,
Death and grave must soon release us. Jesus, thou art now our head.
We are truly thine own members; Where thou livest, there live we.
Take and own us constantly, Faithful Friend, as thy dear brethren.
Jesus, here I live to thee, Also there eternally.

Sermon

Offering

Prayers

- P** Father in heaven, thank You for Your Spirit’s gift of faith enabling us to receive forgiveness, life, and salvation through Your Son, Jesus Christ.
- C** **Help us live in faith every day.**
- P** Thank You for the gift of life.
- C** **Help us live in faith every day honoring and speaking up for the value You give to life.**
- P** Thank You for instituting marriage between a man and a woman so that they might complement one another, reflect Your relationship with us in Christ, and be the context for Your ongoing procreation of life.
- C** **Help us live in faith every day honoring our spouses and Your gift of marriage.**

- P** Thank You, Father, for purifying us in Jesus through the waters of Holy Baptism.
- C** **Help us live in faith every day making good decisions and being pure in thought, word, and deed both inside and outside of marriage.**
- P** Thank You for Your rich and daily forgiveness for all believers.
- C** **Help us live in faith every day confessing our sins of impurity and trusting in Your mercy and grace and the strength to strive again for purity.**
- P** Thank You, Lord, for the opportunities You provide to give witness to Your truth and bring our influence to bear upon our culture.
- C** **Help us live in faith every day boldly sharing Your truth in words spoken in love and in deeds performed in mercy.**
- P** Thank you for the work You do through Lutherans For Life.
- C** **May You continue to bless them so that they might continue to equip us to live in faith every day and be Gospel-motivated voices For Life.**
- P** We now bring the needs and joys of our congregation before You. (Special intercessions may be offered here.) Into Your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son Jesus Christ, who has taught us to pray
- C** **Our Father ...**

(The Communion liturgy may begin at this point according to local custom.)

Benediction

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you in His purity. The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.
- C** **Amen!**

Closing Hymn “Renew Me, O Eternal Light” (LSB 704)¹

Renew me, O eternal Light, And let my heart and soul be bright,
Illumined with the light of grace That issues from Your holy face.

Remove the pow’r of sin from me And cleanse all my impurity
That I may have the strength and will Temptations of the flesh to still.

Create in me a new heart, Lord, That gladly I obey Your Word.
Let what You will be my desire, And with new life my soul inspire.

Grant that I only You may love And seek those things which are above
Till I behold You face to face, O Light eternal, through Your grace.

Postlude

(Endnotes)

- 1 Text and music: Public domain
- 2 Hymn 452 *Christian Worship* (© 1993 Northwestern Publishing House). Text, Tune, Setting: Public domain

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