



HANDS THAT HEAL THE SICK

THE THIRD WEDNESDAY IN LENT
26 MARCH 2025
CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH

AS WE GATHER *Quarantine* is a term for isolating people suspected of carrying some infectious or contagious disease. In Latin, the term literally refers to “forty days.” The forty-day season of Lent serves as a sort of quarantine for sinners, a time when the medicine of repentance and faith in God’s Word brings healing and deliverance from sin, sickness, and death—whatever causes a person to be rejected, abandoned, or shunned by others, or even by God. The hand of the Lord is the reaching, touching, healing hand of the Son of God, Christ, the mighty Savior, that touches you, bringing healing and reconciliation with God and His people.

PRELUDE

✠ PREPARATION ✠

PROCESSIONAL HYMN “Jesus, Refuge of the Weary” LSB 423

**Jesus, refuge of the weary, Blest Redeemer, whom we love,
Fountain in life’s desert dreary, Savior from the world above:
Often have Your eyes, offended, Gazed upon the sinner’s fall;
Yet upon the cross extended, You have borne the pain of all.**

**Do we pass that cross unheeding, Breathing no repentant vow,
Though we see You wounded, bleeding, See Your thorn-encircled brow?
Yet Your sinless death has brought us Life eternal, peace, and rest;
Only what Your grace has taught us Calms the sinner’s deep distress.**

**Jesus, may our hearts be burning With more fervent love for You;
May our eyes be ever turning To behold Your cross anew
Till in glory, parted never From the blessed Savior’s side,
Graven in our hearts forever, Dwell the cross, the Crucified.**

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INVOCATION

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

C: Amen.

THE LITANY LSB 288-289

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 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 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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: 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

✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

FIRST LESSON 2 Kings 5:1-14

¹Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Syria, was a great man with his master and in high favor, because by him the Lord had given victory to Syria. He was a mighty man of valor, but he was a leper. ²Now the Syrians on one of their raids had carried off a little girl from the land of Israel, and she worked in the service of Naaman's wife. ³She said to her mistress, "Would that my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy." ⁴So Naaman went in and told his lord, "Thus and so spoke the girl from the land of Israel." ⁵And the king of Syria said, "Go now, and I will send a letter to the king of Israel." So he went, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten changes of clothes. ⁶And he brought the letter to the king of Israel, which read, "When this letter reaches you, know that I have sent to you Naaman my servant, that you may cure him of his leprosy." ⁷And when the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to kill and to make alive, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his leprosy? Only consider, and see how he is seeking a quarrel with me." ⁸But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent to the king, saying, "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come now to me, that he may know that there is a prophet in Israel." ⁹So Naaman came with his horses and chariots and stood at the door of Elisha's house. ¹⁰And Elisha sent a messenger to

him, saying, “Go and wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored, and you shall be clean.” ¹¹But Naaman was angry and went away, saying, “Behold, I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand and call upon the name of the Lord his God, and wave his hand over the place and cure the leper. ¹²Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?” So he turned and went away in a rage. ¹³But his servants came near and said to him, “My father, it is a great word the prophet has spoken to you; will you not do it? Has he actually said to you, ‘Wash, and be clean?’” ¹⁴So he went down and dipped himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God, and his flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C:(spoken) Thanks be to God.

SECOND LESSON Acts 3:1-10

¹Now Peter and John were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour. ²And a man lame from birth was being carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple that is called the Beautiful Gate to ask alms of those entering the temple. ³Seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked to receive alms. ⁴And Peter directed his gaze at him, as did John, and said, “Look at us.” ⁵And he fixed his attention on them, expecting to receive something from them. ⁶But Peter said, “I have no silver and gold, but what I do have I give to you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk!” ⁷And he took him by the right hand and raised him up, and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong. ⁸And leaping up he stood and began to walk, and entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God. ⁹And all the people saw him walking and praising God, ¹⁰and recognized him as the one who sat at the Beautiful Gate of the temple, asking for alms. And they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C:(spoken) Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 8:1-17

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew

C:(spoken) Glory to You, O Lord.

¹When [Jesus] came down from the mountain, great crowds followed him. ²And behold, a leper came to him and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, if you will, you can

make me clean.”³ And Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, saying, “I will; be clean.” And immediately his leprosy was cleansed.⁴ And Jesus said to him, “See that you say nothing to anyone, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer the gift that Moses commanded, for a proof to them.”⁵ When he entered Capernaum, a centurion came forward to him, appealing to him,⁶ “Lord, my servant is lying paralyzed at home, suffering terribly.”⁷ And he said to him, “I will come and heal him.”⁸ But the centurion replied, “Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof, but only say the word, and my servant will be healed.⁹ For I too am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. And I say to one, ‘Go,’ and he goes, and to another, ‘Come,’ and he comes, and to my servant, ‘Do this,’ and he does it.”¹⁰ When Jesus heard this, he marveled and said to those who followed him, “Truly, I tell you, with no one in Israel have I found such faith.¹¹ I tell you, many will come from east and west and recline at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven,¹² while the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”¹³ And to the centurion Jesus said, “Go; let it be done for you as you have believed.” And the servant was healed at that very moment.¹⁴ And when Jesus entered Peter’s house, he saw his mother-in-law lying sick with a fever.¹⁵ He touched her hand, and the fever left her, and she rose and began to serve him.¹⁶ That evening they brought to him many who were oppressed by demons, and he cast out the spirits with a word and healed all who were sick.¹⁷ This was to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah: “He took our illnesses and bore our diseases.”

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C:(spoken) Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON HYMN “Jesus, Grant That Balm and Healing” *LSB* 421

**Jesus, grant that balm and healing In Your holy wounds I find,
Ev’ry hour that I am feeling Pains of body and of mind.
Should some evil thought within Tempt my treach’rous heart to sin,
Show the peril, and from sinning Keep me from its first beginning.**

**Should some lust or sharp temptation Fascinate my sinful mind,
Draw me to Your cross and passion, And new courage I shall find.
Or should Satan press me hard, Let me then be on my guard,
Saying, “Christ for me was wounded,” That the tempter flee confounded.**

**If the world my heart entices With the broad and easy road,
With seductive, sinful vices, Let me weigh the awful load
You were willing to endure. Help me flee all thoughts impure
And to master each temptation, Calm in prayer and meditation.**

**Ev'ry wound that pains or grieves me By Your wounds, Lord, is made whole;
When I'm faint, Your cross revives me, Granting new life to my soul.
Yes, Your comfort renders sweet Ev'ry bitter cup I meet;
For Your all-atoning passion Has procured my soul's salvation.**

**O my God, my rock and tower, Grant that in Your death I trust,
Knowing death has lost its power Since You crushed it in the dust.
Savior, let Your agony Ever help and comfort me;
When I die be my protection, Light and life and resurrection.**

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MESSAGE

OFFERING + Solo "The Power of the Cross" (Getty, Townend) (7:00)

*Oh, to see the dawn of the darkest day, Christ on the road to Calvary.
Tried by sinful men, torn and beaten, then nailed to a cross of wood.*

*Refrain This, the pow'r of the cross: Christ became sin for us,
Took the blame, bore the wrath. We stand forgiven at the cross.*

*Oh, to see the pain written on Your face, bearing the awesome weight of sin.
Ev'ry bitter thought, ev'ry evil deed, crowning Your blood-stained brow.
Refrain*

*Now the daylight flees, now the ground beneath quakes as its Maker bows His head.
Curtain torn in two, dead are raised to life, "Finished!" the vict'ry cry. Refrain*

*Oh, to see my name written in the wounds, for through Your suffering I am free.
Death is crushed to death, life is mine to live, won through Your selfless love.*

*This, the pow'r of the cross: Son of God slain for us.
What a love, what a cost, We stand forgiven at the cross.*

PRAYERS

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you

P: Let us pray. Lord God, as the familiar hymn bids us, in this time of Lent we "come to Calvary's holy mountain, sinners, ruined by the fall". We "come in poverty and meanness, come defiled, without, within." We pray, "from infection and uncleanness, from the leprosy of sin," wash our robes and make them white . Help us walk with You in light; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts that lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness we may receive from You full pardon and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: 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.

C: Amen.

LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER (Noon)

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER (7:00)

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me.

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9-11*

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C: 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.

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift His countenance upon you and ~~to~~ give you peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN “Lord, Support Us All Day Long” *LSB 884*

Lord, support us all day long, Guide and strengthen.

Evening comes, the world is hushed, Shadows lengthen,

Work is done, life’s fevered pace Now has ended;

Christ, to You, our final rest Is commended.

Be our light in darkness, Lord, Our defender;

In Your presence perils all Must surrender.

Drive all dark satanic snares From each dwelling;

Then, at peace, our hearts Your praise Will be telling.

With Your presence, Lord, draw near Those who labor

Through the nighttime on behalf Of their neighbor.

Grant them courage for each fear, Faithful caring:

Your compassion and Your love Truly sharing.

Gracious Lord, we give You thanks, Praise and bless You,

As the giver of all good We confess You.

This past day we now commit To Your keeping

And entrust to You the hours Of our sleeping.

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POSTLUDE

Those Who Serve

Proclaimer Rev. Matthew Lynch

Liturgist Rev. Mark Goble

Organist Michella Novy

Soloist Stephanie Frey

Accompanist Carol Kutteh

Ushers Gil Whitlock, Jim Calhoun, Bo Summers, Charlton Gutierrez, Kevin Baskette, Andrew Smith

Sound Walt Kosman, Murph Ellard, Kim Goble, Jim Hofer, Peter Cothron, Aaron Winter