

Lent 5 – Through Suffering

Grace Lutheran Church March 21, 2021

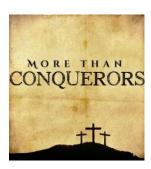
Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 21, 2021



The word Lent comes from an Old English word for Spring ("lengten," the time of the year when the days grow longer). For the last 1700 years, the Church has set aside the 40 days between Ash Wednesday and Easter as a time of preparation, of repentance and renewal.

The color of the season is purple. Purple is the ancient color of royalty. We have this kind of king: he wore a crown of thorns, and carried a cross for us to make us More Than Conquerors. Thanks be to God!



More Than Conquerors in Lent

Feb.21 – Through Christ

Feb.28 - Through Peace

March 7 - Through Foolishness

March 14 - Through Grace

March 21 - Through Suffering

March 28 – Through Humbleness (Palm Sunday)



Gathering around Grace – Growing in Grace – Going with Grace

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REMEMBER YOUR LOVE

Psalm 27

March 21, 2021

This alternate beginning to worship reminds us that conquering in the Christian life comes by simply remembering Christ's love for us. L: Remember your love and your faithfulness, O Lord. Remember your people and have mercy on us, Lord.

C: The Lord is my light and salvation, whom should I fear?
The Lord is my life and my refuge, when I call, God hears.

If you dwelt, O Lord, upon our sinfulness, then who could stand? But with you there is mercy and forgiveness and a guiding hand.

O Lord, hear the sound of my call and answer me. My heart cries out for your presence; it is you I seek.

L: Remember your love and your faithfulness, O Lord.

Remember your people and have mercy on us, Lord.

INVOCATION

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

C: Amen.

- L: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and action. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

L: 1. Lord Jesus, your cross is our salvation,

C: Lord, have mercy.

2. Christ Jesus, the life of your people,

C: Christ, have mercy.

3. Lord Jesus, beloved Son of God,

C: Lord, have mercy.

These cries for mercy fit the theme of the day.

L: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

All: Remember your love and your faithfulness, O Lord. Remember your people and have mercy on us, Lord.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray.

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 forgiveness of sins and 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

When you pass through rivers and fires and scattered and suffering, know you are God's redeemed, you are His glory! FIRST LESSON Isaiah 43:1-7

But now, this is what the LORD says—
he who created you, Jacob,
he who formed you, Israel:
"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have summoned you by name; you are mine.

² When you pass through the waters,
I will be with you;
and when you pass through the rivers,
they will not sweep over you.

When you walk through the fire,
you will not be burned;
the flames will not set you ablaze.

³ For I am the LORD your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior;
I give Egypt for your ransom,

Cush and Seba in your stead.

- ⁴Since you are precious and honored in my sight, and because I love you,
- I will give people in exchange for you, nations in exchange for your life.
- ⁵ Do not be afraid, for I am with you; I will bring your children from the east and gather you from the west.
- ⁶I will say to the north, 'Give them up!' and to the south, 'Do not hold them back.'

Bring my sons from afar

and my daughters from the ends of the earth—

⁷ everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory,

whom I formed and made."

Holy Week begins the next time we gather: Now is the time for Christ's glory and the glory of the Father and it comes through the cross. This is the Jesus we want to see, that we need to see.

GOSPEL LESSON

John 12:20-33

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

²³ Jesus replied, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴ 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. ²⁵ Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶ Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.

²⁷ "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. ²⁸ Father, glorify your name!"

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

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

- L. This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C. Thanks be to God.

1 Your only Son, no sin to hide, But you have sent him from your side To walk upon this guilty sod And to become the Lamb of God.

Refrain

O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God! Oh, wash me in his precious blood, My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

2 Your gift of love they crucified. They laughed and scorned him as he died: The humble King they named a fraud And sacrificed the Lamb of God.

Refrain

3 I was so lost; I should have died, But you have brought me to your side To be led by your staff and rod And to be called a lamb of God.

Refrain



More Than Conquerors...

SERMON LESSON

based on Hebrews 5:7-9

Through Suffering

- It means mission faced
- And mission accomplised

⁷ 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. ⁸ Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered ⁹ and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH and LORD'S PRAYER

Heavenly Father, you loved the world and gave your Son to liberate us from sin and death by his obedient death on the cross.

We confess that without your love we are lost.

Lord of the Church, we thank you for the treasure of the gospel. By your Spirit, keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.

Strengthen our determination to do what pleases you, no matter what the danger or the cost.

Let us pray for those who carry a cross in the name of Christ and face ridicule and persecution for the sake of the kingdom: missionaries and chaplains, young people who stand up for what is right in the face of pressure to do what is wrong, and all who pay a high price for their faith and their values as Christians.

By your Spirit, O Lord, grant them patience and endurance.

Let us pray for those who carry heavy burdens in life: the sick and the chronically ill, the depressed and the lonely, those torn by conflict in personal relationships, those victimized by war and injustice, and all who face the terrors of life with a heavy heart.

Grant them peace, O Lord, and in your mercy, be their guardian and friend, their comfort and hope.

Let us pray for those who care for others: pastors and counselors; physicians and nurses; social workers and caring friends; all who feed the hungry, comfort the hurting, and stand beside the dying.

Strengthen them in their work, O Lord, and do not let them become weary in doing good.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

Help us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Keep us faithful even to the point of death, that we may receive the crown of life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

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.

BLESSING

M: 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 HYMN

How Great Thou Art (#256:1,3,4)

1 O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder Consider all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder, Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed.

Refrain:

Then sings my soul, my Savior-God, to thee, "How great thou art! How great thou art!"
Then sings my soul, my Savior-God to thee, "How great thou art! How great thou art!"

3 And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,

Sent him to die, I scarce can take it in, That on the cross my burden gladly bearing He bled and died to take away my sin. Refrain

4 When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim: "My God, how great thou art!"
Refrain

CALENDAR



Wednesday – Online midweek Lent: Broken Law and Order
Thursday – Zoom Bible Study at 10 AM or 7 PM
PALM SUNDAY – Worship – online or 9:30 AM in person

Confirmation class

HOLY WEEK

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Maundy Thursday Communion - 7 PM – Broken Bread Good Friday Worship – 7 PM

Easter preparation day – come clean and prepare for our guests – 9 AM Easter – April 4th – 8:00 AM or 9:30 AM / or Online

Certain hope FOR UNCERTAIN TIMES

April 18 – Confirmation Sunday