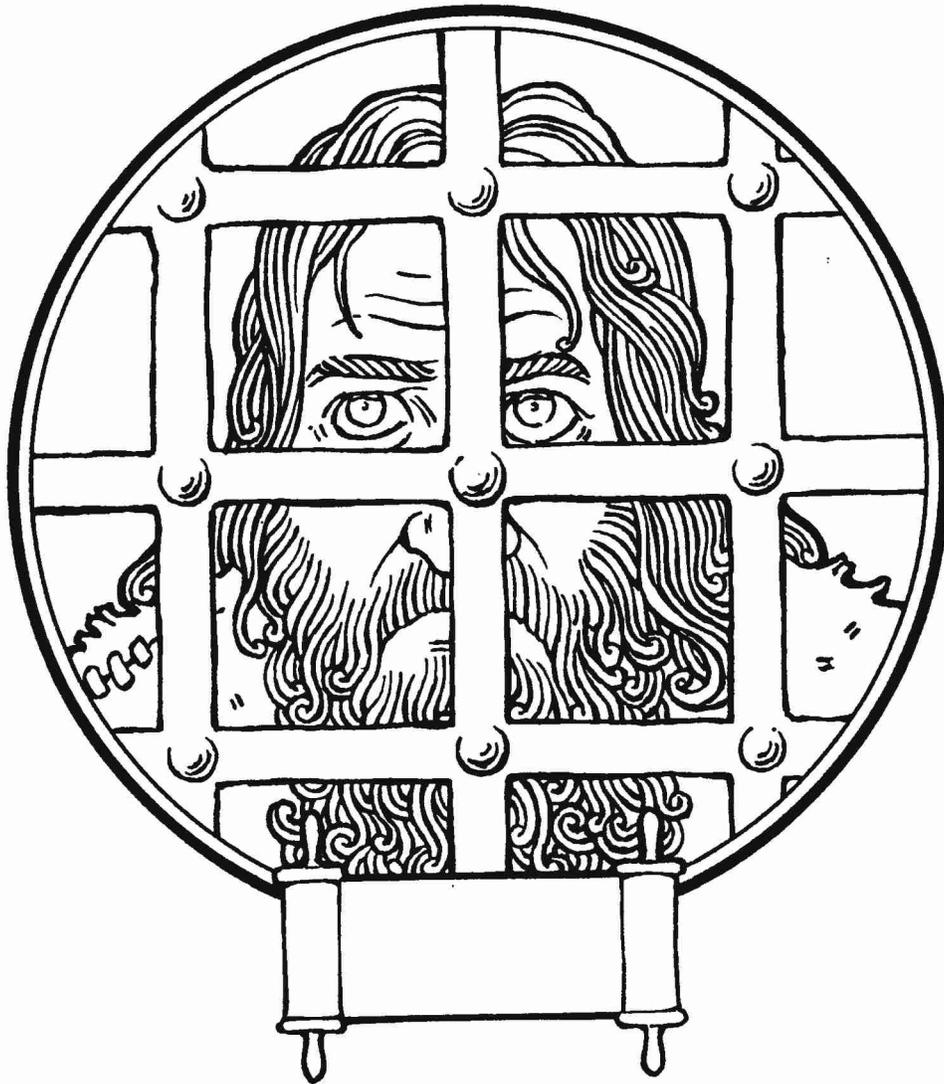


Wednesday in Gaudete

December 16, 2020



Saint Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

281 Spruce Ln, Boone Iowa 50036

Rev. Michael Standfest, Pastor

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345 Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

- 1 Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding!
“Christ is near,” we hear it say.
“Cast away the works of darkness,
All you children of the day!”
- 2 Startled at the solemn warning,
Let the earthbound soul arise;
Christ, its sun, all sloth dispelling,
Shines upon the morning skies.
- 3 See, the Lamb, so long expected,
Comes with pardon down from heav’n.
Let us haste, with tears of sorrow,
One and all, to be forgiv’n;
- 4 So, when next He comes in glory
And the world is wrapped in fear,
He will shield us with His mercy
And with words of love draw near.

- △ 5 Honor, glory, might, dominion
To the Father and the Son
With the ever-living Spirit
While eternal ages run!

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Stand

- L** O Lord, open my lips,
C and my mouth will declare Your praise.
- L** Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
C make haste to help me, O 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.
Praise to You, O Christ, King who comes to save us.

Psalmody

Psalm

Psalm 85

- ¹LORD, you were favorable | to your land;*
you restored the fortunes of | Jacob.
- ²You forgave the iniquity of your | people;*
you covered | all their sin.
- ³You withdrew | all your wrath;*
you turned from your hot | anger.
- ⁴Restore us again, O God of our sal- | vation,*
and put away your indignation | toward us!
- ⁵Will you be angry with us for- | ever?*
- Will you prolong your anger to all gener- | ations?
- ⁶Will you not revive | us again,*
that your people may re- | joice in you?
- ⁷Show us your steadfast love, | O LORD,*
and grant us your sal- | vation.

- ⁸Let me hear what God the | LORD will speak,*
 for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints;
 but let them not turn back to | folly.
- ⁹Surely his salvation is near to those who | fear him,*
 that glory may dwell | in our land.
- ¹⁰Steadfast love and faith- | fulness meet,*
 righteousness and peace kiss each | other.
- ¹¹Faithfulness springs up | from the ground,*
 and righteousness looks down | from the sky.
- ¹²Yes, the LORD will give | what is good,*
 and our land will yield its | increase.
- ¹³Righteousness will go be- | fore him*
 and make his foot- | steps a way.

Sit

347 Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

- 1 “Comfort, comfort ye My people,
 Speak ye peace,” thus saith our God;
 “Comfort those who sit in darkness,
 Mourning ’neath their sorrows’ load.
 Speak ye to Jerusalem
 Of the peace that waits for them;
 Tell her that her sins I cover
 And her warfare now is over.”
- 2 Yea, her sins our God will pardon,
 Blotting out each dark misdeed;
 All that well deserved His anger
 He no more will see or heed.
 She hath suffered many_a day,
 Now her griefs have passed away;
 God will change her pining sadness
 Into ever-springing gladness.
- 3 Hark, the herald’s voice is crying
 In the desert far and near,
 Calling sinners to repentance,
 Since the Kingdom now is here.
 O that warning cry obey!
 Now prepare for God a way;
 Let the valleys rise to meet Him
 And the hills bow down to greet Him.
- 4 Make ye straight what long was crooked;
 Make the rougher places plain.
 Let your hearts be true and humble,
 As befits His holy reign.
 For the glory of the Lord
 Now o’er earth is shed abroad,
 And all flesh shall see the token
 That His Word is never broken.

Readings

Reading

Isaiah 40:1–11

¹Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her

that her warfare is ended,
that her iniquity is pardoned,
that she has received from the LORD's hand
double for all her sins.

³A voice cries:

“In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

⁴Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.

⁵And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

⁶A voice says, “Cry!”

And I said, “What shall I cry?”

All flesh is grass,
and all its beauty is like the flower of the field.

⁷The grass withers, the flower fades
when the breath of the LORD blows on it;
surely the people are grass.

⁸The grass withers, the flower fades,
but the word of our God will stand forever.

⁹Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good news;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good news;
lift it up, fear not;

say to the cities of Judah,
“Behold your God!”

¹⁰Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
behold, his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.

¹¹He will tend his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms;
he will carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead those that are with young.

Reading

Philippians 4:4–13

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; ⁶do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you. ¹⁰I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. ¹¹Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. ¹²I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. ¹³I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Responsory (Advent)

LSB 230

- L** Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch.
- C** **This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**
- L** In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely.
- C** **This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**
- L** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
- C** **This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**

Sermon

Canticle

Stand

- L** Let my prayer rise before You as incense,
- C** **and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.**

Magnificat

LSB 231

- C** **My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior;**
- I** for He has regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden.
- II** For behold, from this day all generations will call me blessed.
- I** For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His name;
- II** and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation.
- I** He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
- II** He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has exalted the lowly.
- I** He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent empty away.
- II** He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever.
- 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.**

Prayer

Kneel/Stand

Kyrie

LSB 233

- C** Lord, have mercy;
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy.

Lord's Prayer

- 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.

Collects

- L** O Lord, hear my prayer.
- C** And let my cry come to You.

Collect of the Day

- P** Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Collect for Peace

- L** 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.

Stand

Benedicamus

LSB 234

- L** Let us bless the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 234

- P** The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C** Amen.

820 My Soul, Now Praise Your Maker

- 1 My soul, now praise your Maker!
Let all within me bless His name
Who makes you full partaker
Of mercies more than you dare claim.
Forget Him not whose meekness
Still bears with all your sin,
Who heals your ev'ry weakness,
Renews your life within;
Whose grace and care are endless
And saved you through the past;
Who leaves no sufferer friendless
But rights the wronged at last.
- 2 He offers all His treasure
Of justice, truth, and righteousness,
His love beyond all measure,
His yearning pity o'er distress;
Nor treats us as we merit
But sets His anger by.
The poor and contrite spirit
Finds His compassion nigh;
And high as heav'n above us,
As dawn from close of day,
So far, since He has loved us,
He puts our sins away.
- 3 For as a tender father
Has pity on his children here,
God in His arms will gather
All who are His in childlike fear.
He knows how frail our powers,
Who but from dust are made.
We flourish like the flowers,
And even so we fade;
The wind but through them passes,
And all their bloom is o'er.
We wither like the grasses;
Our place knows us no more.
- 4 His grace remains forever,
And children's children yet shall prove
That God forsakes them never
Who in true fear shall seek His love.
In heav'n is fixed His dwelling,
His rule is over all;
O hosts with might excelling,
With praise before Him fall.
Praise Him forever reigning,
All you who hear His Word—
Our life and all sustaining.
My soul, O praise the Lord!

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