FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Reasons to Rejoice, Even During Lent!

AS WE GATHER

From the outside looking in, our walking together through the forty days of Lent does not seem nearly as exciting as the cheerfulness of Christmas or the elation of Easter, which we will experience two short weeks from today. Yet there is much joy to be found! There’s a great reason to rejoice! God blesses us with time together today to fix our eyes on Jesus and receive Him who was rejected for our redemption, forsaken for our forgiveness, and sacrificed for our salvation. Following the example of Paul, we cast everything else aside and find joy—true, lasting, eternal joy—in “the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus” (Philippians 3:8). Jesus longs for us to receive Him as He reveals Himself by His Word and Spirit, learning to know Him for who He truly is and what He has come to give. Christ alone is our joy—at Christmas, at Easter, during the season of Lent, and every day we are given! “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice” (Philippians 4:4).
GATHERING SONG

MY SAVIOR MY GOD

I am not skilled to understand What God has willed what God has planned
I only know at His right hand Stands One who is my Savior

I take Him at His word and deed Christ died to save me this I read
And in my heart I find a need Of Him to be my Savior

That He would leave His place on high And come for sinful man to die
You count it strange so once did I Before I knew my Savior

CHORUS: My Savior loves My Savior lives
My Savior's always there for me
My God He was my God
He is My God is always gonna be (REPEAT)

Yes living dying let me bring My strength my solace from this spring
That He who lives to be my King Once died to be my Savior

That He would leave His place on high And come for sinful man to die
You count it strange so once did I Before I knew my Savior CHORUS

My Savior lives My Savior loves
My Savior lives My Savior loves
My Savior lives

PASTORAL GREETING

※ PREPARATION ※
You hear me when I call. You are my morning song.
Though darkness fills the night, it cannot hide the light.
Whom shall I fear?

You crush the enemy under my feet.
You are my sword and shield, though troubles linger still.
Whom shall I fear?

CHORUS: I know who goes before me, I know who stands behind:
The God of angel armies is always by my side!
The One who reigns forever, He is a friend of mine.
The God of angel armies is always by my side!

My strength is in your name, for you alone can save.
You will deliver me. Yours is the victory.
Whom shall I fear? Whom shall I fear? CHORUS

And nothing formed against me shall stand!
You hold the whole world in Your hands.
I’m holding on to your promises; You are faithful, You are faithful.

And nothing formed against me shall stand!
You hold the whole world in Your hands.
I’m holding on to your promises; You are faithful, You are faithful,
You are faithful. CHORUS X2

The God of angel armies is always by my side!

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Holy Spirit.
People: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: In humility and faith, let us come before the Lord, counting everything as loss for the sake of knowing Christ Jesus, our Lord.
People: We count all things as rubbish, in order that we may gain Christ and be found in Him.
Pastor: If righteousness before God were to depend on our obedience of the Law, we would all be lost and condemned forever.
People: But our righteousness depends on faith alone; therefore, we trust in Christ, who suffered, died, and rose again for us.
Pastor: Confident in the work of our Savior, we confess our sins to God our Father.

Silence for reflection and confession
Pastor: Father in heaven, be merciful to me, a sinner.
People: Father in heaven, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.
Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✡ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: Amen.
Pastor: Forget what lies behind! Strain toward what lies ahead!
People: We press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus!

✡ WORD ✡

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 43:16-21
(The Lord gives refreshment in the wilderness to His chosen people.)

This is what the LORD says—He who made a way through the sea, a path through the mighty waters, who drew out the chariots and horses, the army and reinforcements together, and they lay there, never to rise again, extinguished, snuffed out like a wick: "Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland. The wild animals honor me, the jackals and the owls, because I provide water in the desert and streams in the wasteland, to give drink to my people, my chosen, the people I formed for myself that they may proclaim my praise.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL Hebrews 12:2

Lector: O come, let us fix our eyes on Jesus,
People: the founder and perfecter of our faith,
Lector: who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame,
People: and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Epistle: Philippians 3:8-14
(Everything is counted as loss compared to the surpassing worth of knowing Jesus Christ.)

What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not
having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead.
Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Congregation, please rise for the Gospel.

(The rejected Son of God is our cornerstone.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twentieth chapter.
People: Glory to You, O Lord.

He went on to tell the people this parable: "A man planted a vineyard, rented it to some farmers and went away for a long time. At harvest time he sent a servant to the tenants so they would give him some of the fruit of the vineyard. But the tenants beat him and sent him away empty-handed. He sent another servant, but that one also they beat and treated shamefully and sent away empty-handed. He sent still a third, and they wounded him and threw him out.
"Then the owner of the vineyard said, `What shall I do? I will send my son, whom I love; perhaps they will respect him.'
"But when the tenants saw him, they talked the matter over. `This is the heir,' they said. `Let's kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.' So they threw him out of the vineyard and killed him.
"What then will the owner of the vineyard do to them? He will come and kill those tenants and give the vineyard to others."
When the people heard this, they said, "May this never be!"
Jesus looked directly at them and asked, "Then what is the meaning of that which is written:
" `The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone'? Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces, but he on whom it falls will be crushed."
The teachers of the law and the chief priests looked for a way to arrest him immediately, because they knew he had spoken this parable against them. But they were afraid of the people. Keeping a close watch on him, they sent spies, who pretended to be honest.
They hoped to catch Jesus in something he said so that they might hand him over to the power and authority of the governor.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise to You, O Christ.

SONG OF THE DAY  CORNERSTONE  Myrin

My hope is built on nothing less, Than Jesus' blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, But wholly trust in Jesus' Name.

CHORUS: Christ alone. Cornerstone.  Weak made strong in the Savior's love.  
Through the storm, He is Lord. Lord of all.

When darkness seems to hide His face, I rest on His unchanging grace.
In every high and stormy gale, My anchor holds within the veil.  CHORUS

When He shall come with trumpet sound, Oh may I then in Him be found.
Dressed in His righteousness alone. Faultless to stand before the throne.  CHORUS

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE  Christa Kirschner

SERMON  “Trapped”  Pastor John Larson
TEXT: Philippians 3:4-14

APOSTLES’ CREED  Text found in the back of the Hymnal.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
People: And also with you.

We share the Lord’s peace with one another, saying, “Peace be with you.”

OFFERING  YOU ARE MY KING (AMAZING LOVE)  Foote

I'm forgiven because You were forsaken. I'm accepted; You were condemned. I'm alive and well, Your Spirit is within me because You died and rose again.

I'm forgiven because You were forsaken. I'm accepted; You were condemned. I'm alive and well, Your Spirit is within me because You died and rose again.

Amazing love, how can it be That You, my King, would die for me? Amazing love, I know it's true; It's my joy to honor You. In all I do I honor You.

You are my King. You are my King. Jesus, You are my King. Jesus, You are my King.
HOLY COMMUNION AT ASCENSION

The Lord, our Host, invites to his Supper those who are baptized into the Christian faith, confess him as Savior, have been instructed and have examined themselves, truly repent of sins, believe the Risen Lord is present in the sacrament with his true body and blood, and resolve to live faithfully and obediently. For those with an intolerance to alcohol, the center ring of the tray contains grape juice. Gluten free wafers are available to those with wheat allergies. Children who have not been instructed, yet desire a blessing, are invited to come forward with arms crossed. When receiving the bread and wine, the communicant may respond with “Amen!”, a word of affirmation and belief.

SACRAMENT

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you. People: And also with you. 2 Timothy 4:22
Pastor: Lift up your hearts. People: We lift them to the Lord. [Colossians 3:1]
Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise. [Psalm 136]


Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

LORD’S PRAYER (Matthew 6:9–13) Text found in the back of the Hymnal.
COME TO THE TABLE

Sidewalk Prophets

We all start on the outside The outside looking in
This is where grace begins We were hungry, we were thirsty
With nothing left to give Oh the shape that we were in
Just when all hope seemed lost Love opened the door for us, He said:

CHORUS: “Come to the table Come join the sinners who have been redeemed
Take your place beside the Savior Sit down and be set free
Come to the table”

Come meet this motley crew of misfits These liars and these thieves
There's no one unwelcome here So that sin and shame that you brought with you
You can leave it at the door Let mercy draw you near CHORUS

Come to the table Come join the sinners who have been redeemed
Take your place beside the Savior Sit down and be set free Whoa...
Sit down and be set free Come to the table Come to the table
Sit down and be set free Come to the table

LORD I NEED YOU

Maher

Lord, I come, I confess. Bowing here, I find my rest.
And without You, I fall apart. You're the one that guides my heart.

My one defense, my righteousness;
Oh, God, how I need You.

Where sin runs deep, Your grace is more. Where grace is found is where You are.
And where You are, Lord, I am free. Holiness is Christ in me. CHORUS

So, teach my song to rise to You When temptation comes my way.
And when I cannot stand, I'll fall on You. Jesus, You're my hope and stay. CHORUS
O Lord my God, When I in awesome wonder,  
Consider all the worlds Thy Hands have made;  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,  
Thy power 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!

When through the woods and forest glades I wander,  
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the tress;  
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur  
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze. REFRAIN

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

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 then proclaim: "My God, how great Thou art!" REFRAIN

GENERAL COMMUNION BLESSING

BENEDICTION Philippians 4:4

Pastor: Rejoice in the Lord always;  
People: again I will say, Rejoice.

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and * give you peace. Numbers 6:24–26

People: Amen.
CLOSING SONG  BUILD YOUR KINGDOM HERE

Come set Your rule, and reign In our hearts again.
Increase in us, we pray. Unveil why we're made.
Come set our hearts ablaze with hope, Like wildfire in our very souls;
Holy Spirit, come, invade us now. We are Your church; we need Your pow'r in us.

We seek Your kingdom first. We hunger and we thirst;
Refuse to waste our lives, for You're our joy and prize.
To see the captives' hearts released; The hurt, the sick, the poor at peace.
We lay down our lives for heaven's cause.
We are Your church; we pray, revive this earth.

CHORUS: Build Your kingdom here. Let the darkness fear.
Show Your mighty hand. Heal our streets and land.
Set Your church on fire. Win this nation back.
Change the atmosphere. Build Your kingdom here, we pray!

Unleash Your kingdom’s power, Reaching the near and far.
No force of hell can stop Your beauty, changing hearts.
You made us for much more than this; Awake the kingdom seed in us.
Fill us with the strength and love of Christ.
We are Your church; We are the hope on earth. CHORUS

CONGREGATIONAL CONCERNS
Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I PRESS ON to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has MADE ME HIS OWN.

Philippians 3:12, ESV
Serving in Worship

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Names</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OFFICIANT and CELEBRANT</td>
<td></td>
<td>Pastor John Larson</td>
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<tr>
<td>DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES</td>
<td></td>
<td>Michael Zehnder</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHOIR ACCOMPANIST</td>
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<td>Diana Gaide</td>
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<tr>
<td>YOUTH BAND</td>
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<td>Ashley Boeding, Brooke Boeding, Larry Boeding, Lilly Brinkman, Kayden Erling, Will Kopriva</td>
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<td>ELDER</td>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>Scott Luethy</td>
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<td>Roger Gaide</td>
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<td>LECTOR</td>
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<td>Ted Lemke</td>
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<td>Carol Shepherd</td>
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<td>ACOYLTE</td>
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<td>Holly Schmitt</td>
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<td>USHERS</td>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>Art Gordon, Members of the Congregation</td>
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<td>Jason Dierking, Members of the Congregation</td>
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<td>SERVER</td>
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<td>Kathy Johnson</td>
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<tr>
<td>ALTAR GUILD</td>
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<td>Charmaine Rohde, Laurel Shurtleff, Barb Williams</td>
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<tr>
<td>FLOWERS</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ellen Thompson, in celebration of her daughter, Terry’s, birthday and in loving memory of her husband, Ralph (d. 4/6/2009)</td>
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