

**ASCENSION
LUTHERAN CHURCH**
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD
LITTLETON, COLORADO

March 3, 2021
11:30 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Sermon on the Mount

A Series of Services for the Season of Lent

Do Not Worry



Prelude

Opening Hymn and Response Jesus, I Will Ponder Now (Verses 2-3)

LSB 440



2 Make me see Your great dis-tress, An - guish, and af - flic - tion,
3 Yet, O Lord, not thus a - lone Make me see Your pas - sion,



Bonds and stripes and wretch-ed - ness And Your cru - ci - fix - ion;
But its cause to me make known And its ter - mi - na - tion.



Make me see how scourge and rod, Spear and nails did wound You,
Ah! I al - so and my sin Wrought Your deep af - flic - tion;



How for them You died, O God, Who with thorns had crowned You.
This in - deed the cause has been Of Your cru - ci - fix - ion.

Tune and text: Public domain

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

C **Amen.**

P Do not be anxious about what you will eat or drink or wear.

C **Life is more than food and the body more than clothing.**

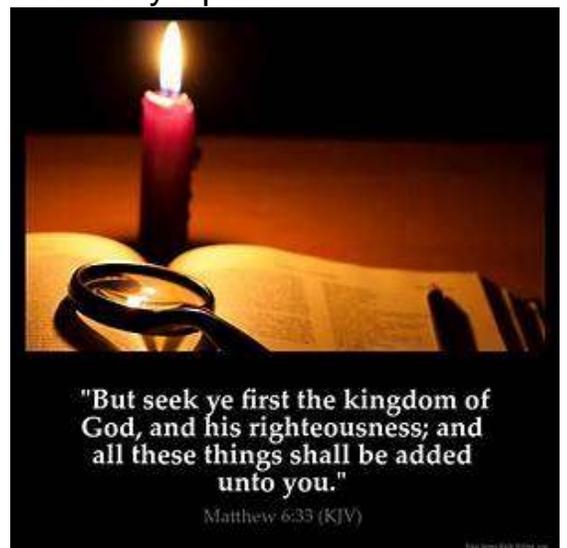
P Look at the birds of the air. They don't sow or reap or gather.

C **And yet our heavenly Father feeds them.**

P Consider the lilies of the field. They neither toil nor spin.

C **Even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like them.**

P But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?



- C** Yes! Yes, he will!
P Do not be anxious. Seek first the kingdom of God.
C And all these things will be added unto us.

Jesus, I Will Ponder Now
 (Verse 6)

LSB 440

6 Gra - cious - ly my faith re - new; Help me bear my cross - es,
 Learn - ing hum - ble - ness from You, Peace mid pain and loss - es.
 May I give You love for love! Hear me, O my Sav - ior,
 That I may in heav'n a - bove Sing Your praise for - ev - er.

Tune and text: Public domain

Confession and Absolution

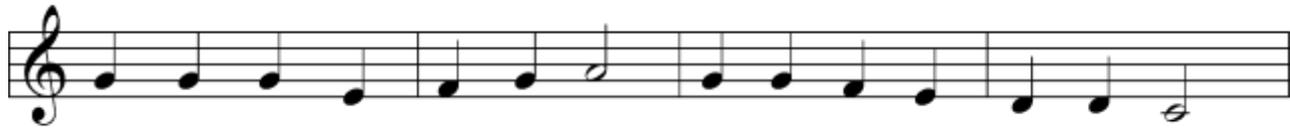
- P** Jesus reminds us not to be anxious or worry. When we seek first his kingdom, everything will be added unto us. And yet we are anxious and we worry.
- C** **Most merciful God, we know that worry is sin. We know that when we are anxious, it is because we fail to put our full trust in you. Instead of seeking your kingdom, we seek to create our own kingdom filled with sin and selfishness. We think we know what's best for us and fail to see that you always have our best interest in mind. Please forgive us for our lack of faith and trust. When we worry, help us turn to you for full provision and protection. Please forgive us for worshiping ourselves and our "things" instead of trusting in you.**
- P** God is gracious and his kingdom is filled with love and forgiveness. Because Jesus put his full trust in his heavenly Father and carried the weight of the world on the cross, your worry is overcome by God's great gifts. The greatest gift of all is the complete forgiveness of sins which I now proclaim to you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**



On my heart im - print Your im - age, Bless - ed Je - sus, King of grace,



That life's rich-es, cares, and plea-sures Nev - er may Your work e-raise;



Let the clear in - scrip-tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,



Is my life, my hope's foun - da - tion, And my glo - ry and sal - va - tion!

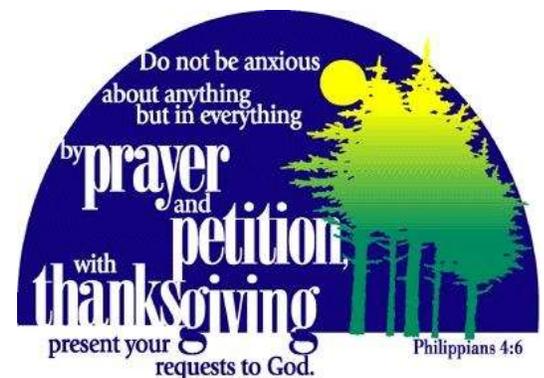
Tune and text: Public domain

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 41:8-13

P But you, Israel, my servant, Jacob, whom I have chosen, the offspring of Abraham, my friend; you whom I took from the ends of the earth, and called from its farthest corners, saying to you, “You are my servant, I have chosen you and not cast you off”; fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. Behold, all who are incensed against you shall be put to shame and confounded; those who strive against you shall be as nothing and shall perish. You shall seek those who contend with you, but you shall not find them; those who war against you shall be as nothing at all. For I, the Lord your God, hold your right hand; it is I who say to you, “Fear not, I am the one who helps you.”

Epistle Reading: Philippians 4:5-7

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



Gospel Reading: Matthew 6:25-34

P Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? Therefore do not be anxious, saying, “What shall we eat?” or “What shall we drink?” or “What shall we wear?” For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

Sermon Hymn

Have No Fear, Little Flock

LSB 735



1 Have no fear, lit - tle flock; Have no fear, lit - tle
2 Have good cheer, lit - tle flock; Have good cheer, lit - tle
3 Praise the Lord high a - bove; Praise the Lord high a -
4 Thank - ful hearts raise to God; Thank - ful hearts raise to



flock, For the Fa - ther has cho - sen To
flock, For the Fa - ther will keep you In
bove, For He stoops down to heal you, Up -
God, For He stays close be - side you, In



give you the King - dom; Have no fear, lit - tle flock!
His love for - ev - er; Have good cheer, lit - tle flock!
lift and re - store you; Praise the Lord high a - bove!
all things works with you; Thank - ful hearts raise to God!

Tune and text: © 1973 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000713

Sermon

Do Not Worry

Pastor John Larson
TEXT: Matthew 6:25-34

Offering Offerings will be collected at the back, in the Narthex.

Prayers

P God of creation, you clothe the flowers, you take care of the birds of the air, and you grant us everything we need. You have made us your beloved children. Forgive us for our worry and enable us to put our full trust in you.

C Lord, I believe. Help my unbelief.

P God of creation, you provide government and order. When there is chaos and war, it is the direct result of human sin. Send your love to us and through us that peace would prevail in our world. Where there is need, use us to share out of the bounty you have first given us.

C Lord, I believe. Help my unbelief.

P God of creation, thank you for the gift of your church. Bind us together in unity. Make us a shining light on a hill. Draw all the nations to your church by your grace.

C Lord, I believe. Help my unbelief.

P God of creation, you have the power to bring health and healing. Where there is disease and sickness, bring the gift of a cure. Bring us all, at last, to the perfect health of your eternal kingdom.

C Lord, I believe. Help my unbelief.

P Into your hands, God of creation, we place all of our needs, knowing that you are the one who has all authority, power, grace and mercy to do your will and turn unbelief into trust and belief.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

People: 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

Closing Hymn

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

LSB 739



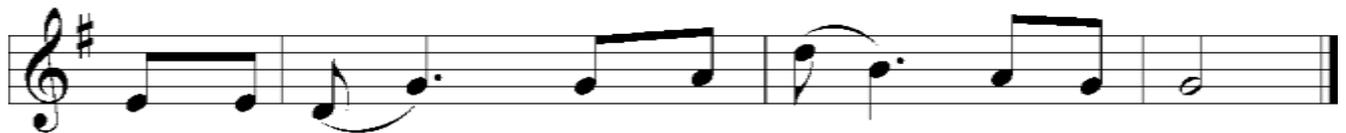
1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, Lead me on, let me stand;
2 When my way grows drear, Pre - cious Lord, lin - ger near,
3 When the dark - ness ap - pears And the night draws near



I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
When my life is al - most gone,
And the day is al - most gone,



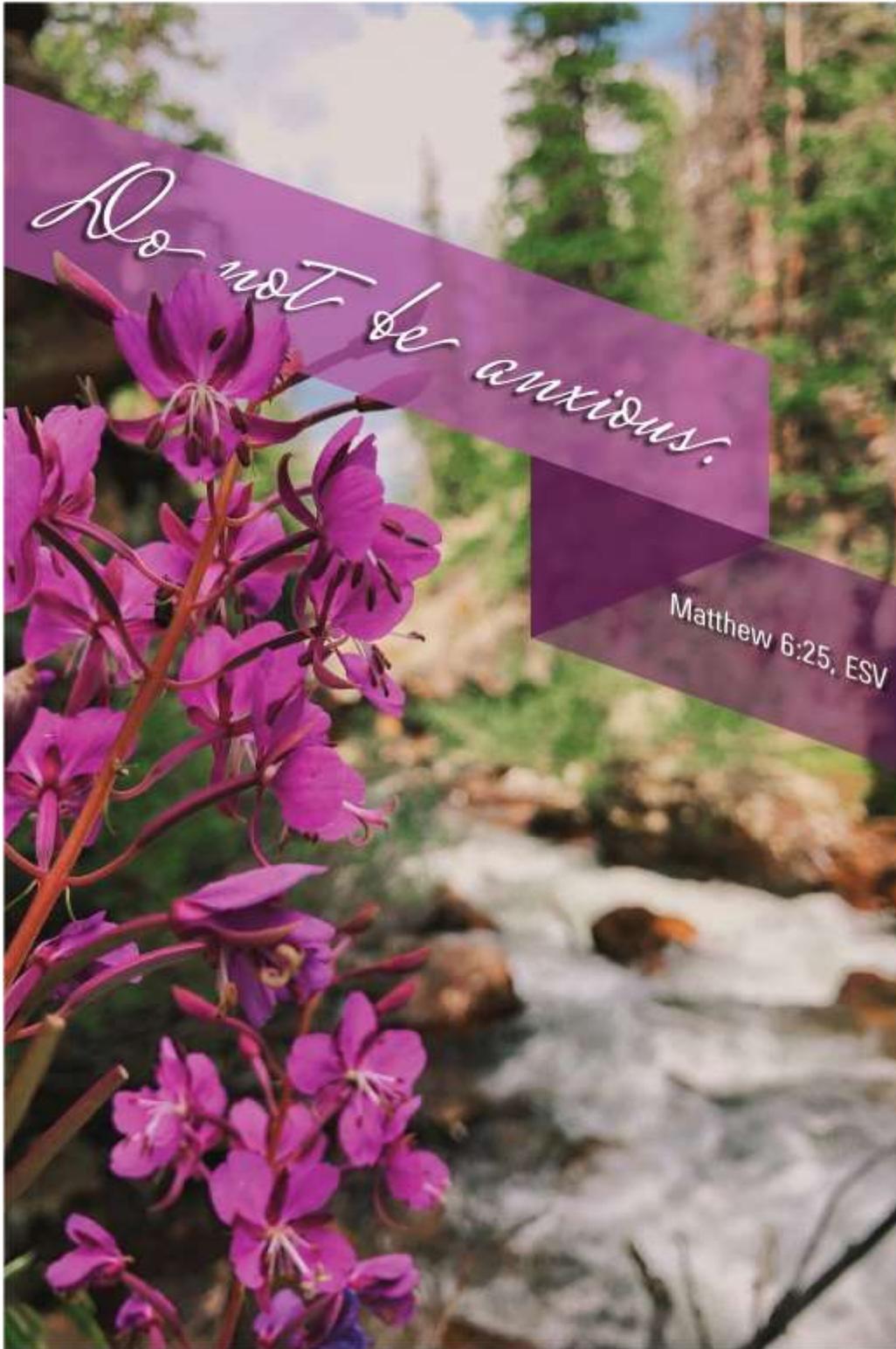
Through the storm, through the night, Lead me on to the light.
Hear my cry, hear my call; Hold my hand lest I fall.
At the riv - er I stand; Guide my feet, hold my hand,



Take my hand, pre - cious Lord; lead me home.
Take my hand, pre - cious Lord; lead me home.
Take my hand, pre - cious Lord; lead me home.

© 1938 Unichappell Music; admin. Alfred Publishing Co., Inc. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License .NET, no. 100013465.





Serving in Worship

OFFICIANT and CELEBRANT
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES

Pastor Jahn Larson
Michael Zehnder