



# GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH • SCHOOL

## FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

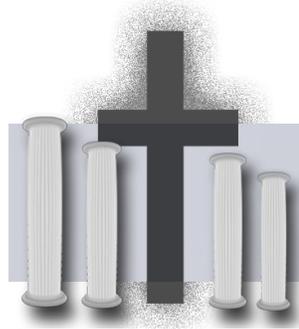
MARCH 26, 2022 - 5:00 PM

MARCH 27, 2022 - 10:45 AM



# WORTHY IS THE LAMB

*Sunday Lenten Series and Graphics created by Nick Klemetson*



# WORTHY IS THE LAMB

*"Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me." Psalm 23:4 (KJV)*

Psalm 23 is a microcosm of a journey from despair and loneliness to everlasting joy and comfort. In the span of three verses, we are taken from the darkest valley to the ultimate destination of our faith, **The House of the Lord**. This Lenten 5-part series journeys us through both Psalm 23 and the book of Revelation, where we will experience both Christ's 40-day journey to the crucifixion, as well as the promises of the heavenly kingdom that we hear in John's apocalyptic account.

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## **Week 4 - Worthy is the Lamb**

The *Christus Paradox*, Jesus as both Lamb and Shepherd. We will lack nothing because the Lord is our Shepherd. Simultaneously, He is also the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Revelation describes a slain lamb, who by its blood ransomed people for God and brought forth the heavenly kingdom. By this sacrifice, this lamb becomes worthy, is uplifted and celebrated, and receives honor and glory and blessing.

This is a strange but apt parallel to the return of the Prodigal Son. The younger of two brothers receives his share of inheritance, only to leave home and squander it through reckless living. After exhausting all of his resources, he realizes he should return home, repent (see Week 3), and hope his father will forgive him, which his father not only does, but also regales him in fine clothing and initiates a huge celebration.

As Jesus was slain as the Lamb of God in the place of sinners, he was then raised up, glorified and celebrated as the Savior of all. So also the Prodigal Son lost everything, hit rock bottom and was then welcomed back with open arms and a grand celebration. Even in what seems like our most hopeless times, we are not without hope. God's mercy and grace follows us all the days of our life and we will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

*(The \* indicates when the congregation is to stand.)*

## INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS VIDEO

### WELCOME

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN** “Christ Is Our Cornerstone” *Hymn 912*  
*(Stand and face the cross as it enters the Sanctuary.)*

**Christ is our cornerstone, On Him alone we build;  
With His true saints alone The courts of heav’n are filled.  
On His great love Our hopes we place Of present grace And joys above.**

**Here may we gain from heav’n The grace which we implore,  
And may that grace, once giv’n, Be with us evermore  
Until that day When all the blest To endless rest Are called away.**

**Oh, then, with hymns of praise These hallowed courts shall ring;  
Our voices we will raise The Three in One to sing  
And thus proclaim In joyful song, Both loud and long, That glorious name.**

### **\*THE INVOCATION, OPENING LITANY AND CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

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

**People:** **Amen.**

**Pastor:** The Lord is my Shepherd, I lack nothing.

**People:** **But Lord, we are consumed with wanting more.**

**Pastor:** He makes me lie down in green pastures, He leads me beside still waters, He refreshes my soul.

**People:** **But Lord, we allow our souls to be drained of Your life-giving water.**

**Pastor:** He guides me along the right paths for His name’s sake.

**People:** **But Lord, we often stray from Your path to follow our own.**

**Pastor:** Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff they comfort me.

**People:** **But Lord, we are afraid, and struggle to find our way.**

**Pastor:** You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

**People:** **But Lord, we don’t always find our seat, forgive us and guide us on the paths of Your righteousness.**

Pastor: Surely Your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

People: **Forgive us Lord, and lead us into Your heavenly kingdom.**

Pastor: In our darkest valleys we need not fear. The Lord is with us, He shelters us in His loving arms where no harm will come to us. God will wipe every tear from our eyes. The Lamb of God has taken away the sins of the world, and one day we will be reunited with him in everlasting peace.

People: **Amen.**

**\*THEME SONG** "As Your Spirit in the Desert" (v. 4) *Susan Palo Cherwien*



Through the nar - row gate now draw us, past all em - pire's pull and strife,  
where be - yond our fear and cling - ing stands the thresh - old of new life.  
Let us cross out of the wil - der - ness to the thresh - old of new life.

**THE FIRST READING**

*Revelation 5:6-12*

<sup>6</sup>And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain, with seven horns and with seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. <sup>7</sup>And he went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who was seated on the throne. <sup>8</sup>And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. <sup>9</sup>And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, <sup>10</sup>and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth." <sup>11</sup>Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, <sup>12</sup>saying with a loud voice, "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!"

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## THE SECOND READING

*2 Corinthians 5:16-21*

<sup>16</sup>From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer.

<sup>17</sup>Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. <sup>18</sup>All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup>that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. <sup>20</sup>Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup>For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God**

## \*THE HOLY GOSPEL

*Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32*

Pastor: The Gospel according to St. Luke, the fifteenth chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. <sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them." <sup>3</sup>So he told them this parable:

<sup>11</sup>"There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup>And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.' And he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup>Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. <sup>14</sup>And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup>So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. <sup>16</sup>And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything. <sup>17</sup>"But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! <sup>18</sup>I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. <sup>19</sup>I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.'" <sup>20</sup>And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup>And the son said to him,

‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’<sup>22</sup> But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet.’<sup>23</sup> And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate.’<sup>24</sup> For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.<sup>25</sup> “Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing.<sup>26</sup> And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant.<sup>27</sup> And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.’<sup>28</sup> But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him,<sup>29</sup> but he answered his father, ‘Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends.’<sup>30</sup> But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!’<sup>31</sup> And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours.’<sup>32</sup> It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.’”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

## [10:45] CHILDREN’S MESSAGE AND DISMISSAL TO CHILDREN’S CHURCH

### \*SERMON HYMN

“Look Ye Saints, the Sight Is Glorious”

Hymn 495



1 Look, ye saints, the sight is glo - rious; See the Man of  
 2 Crown the Sav - ior! An - gels, crown Him! Rich the tro - phies  
 3 Sin - ners in de - ri - sion crowned Him, Mock - ing thus the  
 4 Hark, those bursts of ac - cla - ma - tion! Hark, those loud tri -



Sor - rows now! From the fight re - turned vic - to - rious,  
 Je - sus brings; On the seat of pow'r en - throne Him  
 Sav - ior's claim; Saints and an - gels crowd a - round Him,  
 um - phant chords! Je - sus takes the high - est sta - tion;



Ev - 'ry knee to Him shall bow. Crown Him! Crown Him!  
 While the vault of heav - en rings. Crown Him! Crown Him!  
 Own His ti - tle, praise His name. Crown Him! Crown Him!  
 Oh, what joy the sight af - fords! Crown Him! Crown Him!



Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! Crowns be - come the  
 Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown the Sav - ior  
 Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! Spread a - broad the  
 Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! King of kings and



vic - tor's brow. Crowns be - come the vic - tor's brow.  
 King of kings. Crown the Sav - ior King of kings.  
 vic - tor's fame. Spread a - broad the vic - tor's fame.  
 Lord of lords! King of kings and Lord of lords!

## THE SERMON

“Worthy Is the Lamb”

### \*PROFESSION OF FAITH - NICENE CREED

I believe in one God,  
 the Father Almighty,  
 maker of heaven and earth  
 and of all things visible and invisible.  
 And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
 the only-begotten Son of God,  
 begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
 God of God, Light of Light,  
 very God of very God,  
 begotten, not made,  
 being of one substance with the Father,  
 by whom all things were made;  
 who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
 and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
 and was made man;  
 and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
 He suffered and was buried.

**And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.**

**And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.**

**And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

### **\*PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

**Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,**

**People: Hear our prayer.**

### **HOLY COMMUNION**

#### **\*WORDS OF PREPARATION**

#### **\*WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

#### **\*LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have  
 mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the  
 world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the  
 sin of the world; grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

MUSIC DURING THE DISTRIBUTION

“The Lamb”

Hymn 547

The Lamb, the Lamb, O Father, where’s the sacrifice?  
Faith sees, believes God will provide the Lamb of price! *Refrain*

*Refrain*

Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!  
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!

The Lamb, the Lamb, One perfect final offering.  
The Lamb, the Lamb, Let earth join heav’n His praise to sing. *Refrain*

The Lamb, the Lamb, As wayward sheep their shepherd kill  
So still, His will On our behalf the Law to fill. *Refrain*

He sighs, He dies, He takes my sin and wretchedness.  
He lives, forgives, He gives me His own righteousness. *Refrain*

He rose, He rose, My heart with thanks now overflows.  
His song prolong Till ev’ry heart to Him belong. *Refrain*

What a friend we have in Jesus, All our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry Ev’rything to God in prayer!  
Oh, what peace we often forfeit; Oh, what needless pain we bear—  
All because we do not carry Ev’rything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged— Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Can we find a friend so faithful Who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our ev’ry weakness— Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy laden, Cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious Savior, still our refuge— Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
In His arms He’ll take and shield thee; Thou wilt find a solace there.

Lord Jesus, think on me And purge away my sin;  
From worldly passions set me free And make me pure within.

Lord Jesus, think on me, By anxious thoughts oppressed;  
Let me Your loving servant be And taste Your promised rest.

Lord Jesus, think on me Amid the battle’s strife;  
In all my pain and misery, O be my health and life!

Lord Jesus, think on me Nor let me go astray;  
Through darkness and perplexity Point out Your chosen way.

Lord Jesus, think on me That, when this life is past,  
I may the eternal brightness see And share Your joy at last.

## \*POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

### \*THE BENEDICTION *(Numbers 6:24-26)*

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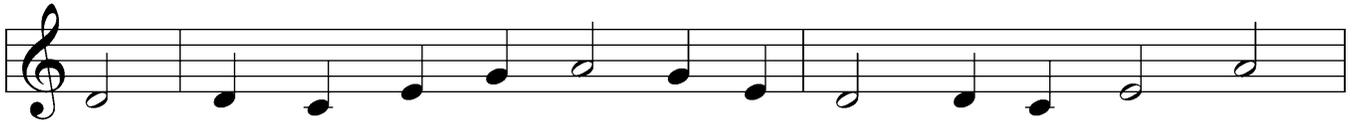
Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: Amen.

**\*RECESSIONAL HYMN**

**“What Wondrous Love Is This”**

*Hymn 543*



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What  
2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing down, When  
3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; To  
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; And



won-drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this That  
I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, When I was sink - ing down Be -  
God and to the Lamb I will sing; To God and to the Lamb, Who  
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free, I'll



caused the Lord of bliss To bear the dread-ful curse for my  
neath God's righ - teous frown, Christ laid a - side His crown for my  
is the great I AM, While mil - lions join the theme, I will  
sing His love for me, And through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, To bear the dread-ful curse for my soul!  
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side His crown for my soul.  
sing, I will sing, While mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.  
on, I'll sing on, And through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

**DISMISSAL**

**Pastor:** Go in peace and serve the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God!**

**POSTLUDE**

**“Look, The Sight Is Glorious”**

*arr. J. Wayne Kerr*

## WORSHIP SERVICE LEADERS

### SATURDAY, 5:00 PM

The Preacher  
The Organist  
The Communion Deacons  
The Lector  
The Usher/Greeter Team

The Rev. Charles T. Reich  
Nick Klemetson  
Jan Struck, Roger Walker  
Jim Joiner  
Chuck & Carol Smith

### SUNDAY, 10:45 AM

The Preacher  
The Celebrant/Liturgist  
The Organist  
The Sound Technician  
The Elder on Duty  
The Communion Deacons  
The Lectors  
The Robing Leader/Crucifer  
The Acolytes  
The Welcome Team Greeter  
At the Welcome Center  
The Welcome Team Ushers

The Rev. Charles T. Reich  
The Rev. Brendon T. Moore  
Sandy Hulse  
Bruce Wales  
Janet Hostler  
Fred Aceto, Ron Booth, Bet Tucker  
Dr. Terry Hostler, Cindy Sensabaugh  
Lilliann Witcher  
Brayden Carbone, Dakota Van Volkenburgh  
Carl Locke  
Tanya Locke  
Steve Hnatiuk, Dr. Ken Rogers, Barry Walker



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