



CONTRAST 5) OF DEATH & LIFE

Fifth Sunday in Lent

12:00pm & 1:00pm March 29, 2020

At home option: [click here](#) on the pdf file [for a phone-screen friendly](#) version of this service

Welcome to our guests!

- May the message you hear today from God's Word will fill your heart with the peace and joy we have in knowing that Jesus Christ is our Savior from sin.



Take Care & Be Fed Here

- ✓ During this time of precaution against the spread of COVID-19 we encourage family units to sit together but to keep 6 feet of space between other persons. Try to avoid shared touch points such as doorknobs etc.
- ✓ We will be gathering in smaller groups.
- ✓ If you would feel it wise to stay home for a time, please let pastor know and he will be glad to help you with finding appropriate at-home worship resources.

Be Fed at Home

- ✓ Download each Sunday's service at Rock of Ages on Saturday night or on Sunday morning to hold an in-home service with your family. [RockOfAges-Payson.com](https://www.rockofages-payson.com)
- ✓ Follow another WELS ministry live online: <https://yearbook.wels.net/streaming>
- ✓ The Church is not a building, but the people. And Jesus promises his loving presences whenever any number gathers, "Wherever two or three gather together in my name there I am with them."
(Mt 18:20)
- Large print service folders and assisted hearing devices are available from an usher. Children's activity bags are available in

the nursery in the entry area.

- Restrooms are located at the far ends of the entry area.
- Parents are welcome to make use of the nursery in entry area. A changing table, a few supplies, and activity bags are all available there.
- Regular Bible classes will resume after cautionary measures are lifted. A new online Bible study series is on our website.
- If you are new here, we'd be honored if you'd sign our guest registry in the entry area.
- We are part of a world-wide Christian ministry and support the gospel ministry of the [WELS](http://wels.net). We'd love to share more with you. You can also visit wels.net



Meditation on the Commandments

Responses

In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Teach me, O LORD, to follow your decrees;

then I will keep them to the end.

Direct me in the path of your commands,

for there I find delight.

How I long for your precepts!

Preserve my life in your righteousness.

Hymn

I Lay My Sins on Jesus

Christian Worship 372:1-2

At home options: for each hymn you may click on the title in the pdf file. It will open a link to play the audio. You may also speak the words.

♪ **I lay my sins on Jesus,
The spotless Lamb of God;
He bears them all and frees us
From the accursed load.
I bring my guilt to Jesus
To wash my crimson stains
White in his blood most precious
Till not a spot remains.**

**2. I lay my wants on Jesus;
All fullness dwells in him.
He heals all my diseases;
My soul he does redeem.
I lay my griefs on Jesus,
My burdens and my cares;
He from them all releases;
He all my sorrows shares.**

Confession & Absolution

Lord God Almighty, we stand in violation of your holy will.

There is no one who does good, not even one.

In mercy, you sent your Son, the Passover Lamb without blemish, to atone for our sins.

This is the name by which he is called: The LORD Our Righteousness.

Teach our hearts to praise you for your saving love.

Lead us to fear, love, and trust in you above all things.

Prayer of the Day

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.

Amen.

First Reading

2 Kings 4:18-37

The prophet Elisha raises a boy to life.

The boy grew up, and one day he went out to his father, who was with the reapers. ¹⁹Then he said to his father, "My head! My head!"

His father said to his servant, "Carry him to his mother." ²⁰So he picked him up and carried him to his mother, and the boy sat on her lap until noon. Then he died.

²¹Then she went up and laid him on the bed of the man of God. She shut the door behind her and went out. ²²Then she called to her husband and said, "Send one of the servants to me with one of the donkeys, so that I can run to the man of God and come

back.”

²³He said, “Why are you going to him today? It’s not the new moon, and it’s not the Sabbath.”

But she said, “It’s all right.”

²⁴Then she saddled the donkey and said to her servant, “Lead the way. Don’t slow down for me unless I tell you.”

²⁵So she went to the man of God at Mount Carmel.

When the man of God saw her from a distance, he said to his servant Gehazi, “Look! That’s the woman from Shunem!” ²⁶Now run to meet her and say, ‘Are you all right? Is your husband all right? Is your son all right?’ ”

She answered, “We’re all right.”

²⁷Then she came to the man of God at the mountain, and she grasped his feet. Gehazi stepped forward to push her away, but the man of God said, “Leave her alone, for her soul is in distress, but the Lord has hidden it from me. He has not told me.”

²⁸Then she said, “Did I ask my lord for a son? Didn’t I say, ‘Don’t give me false hope?’”

²⁹Then Elisha said to Gehazi, “Hike up your garments for travel, and take my staff in your hand and go! If you meet someone, do not greet him, and if someone greets you, do not answer. Put my staff on the boy’s face.”

³⁰But the boy’s mother said, “As surely as the Lord lives and your soul lives, I will not leave you.” So he got up and followed her.

³¹Gehazi went ahead of them and put the staff on the boy’s face. But there was no sound, and there was no response. So he went back to Elisha and told him, “The boy did not wake up.”

³²When Elisha came to the house, there the boy was—dead, lying on his bed. ³³So he went in and he shut the door behind the two of them. Then he prayed to the Lord. ³⁴He got up and lay down on top of the boy. He put his mouth to the boy’s mouth, his eyes to the boy’s eyes, his palms to the boy’s palms. Then he bent

down over him, and the boy's flesh became warm. ³⁵He went back into the house and paced back and forth. Then he went up and bent down over him, and the boy sneezed seven times. Then the boy opened his eyes.

³⁶Then Elisha called Gehazi and said, "Call the woman of Shunem!" So he called her, and she came in. He said, "Pick up your son." ³⁷So she came in and fell at Elisha's feet and bowed down to the ground. Then she picked up her son and went out.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 115

Not to us, O LORD, not to us, but to your name give glory,
because of your mercy, because of your truth.

²Why should the nations say, "So where is their God now?"

³**In fact, our God is in the heavens. He does everything that pleases him.**

⁴Their idols are silver and gold, the work of human hands.

⁵They have a mouth, but they do not speak.

They have eyes, but they do not see.

⁶They have ears, but they do not hear.

They have a nose, but they do not smell.

⁷Their hands—they do not even feel.

Their feet—they do not even walk around.

They do not even make a sound with their throats.

⁸Those who make them will be like them,
and so will all who trust in them.

⁹Israel, trust in the LORD—

he is their help and their shield.

¹⁰House of Aaron, trust in the LORD—
he is their help and their shield.

¹¹You who fear the LORD, trust in the LORD—
he is their help and their shield.

¹²The LORD remembers us. He will bless.
He will bless the house of Israel.

He will bless the house of Aaron.

¹³**He will bless those who fear the LORD—
the small with the great.**

¹⁴May the LORD add blessings to you,
to you and to your children.

¹⁵May you be blessed by the LORD,
the Maker of heaven and earth.

¹⁶The heavens are heavens for the LORD,
but the earth he gave to the children of Adam.

¹⁷It is not the dead who praise the LORD, nor any of
those who go down to silence,

¹⁸**but we are the ones who bless the LORD, from now to
eternity. Praise the LORD.**

Second Reading

Romans 8:11-19

Paul contrast the suffering of this season of life with the coming glory that is ours.

And if the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, the one who raised Christ from the dead will also make your mortal bodies alive through his Spirit, who is dwelling in you.

¹²So then, brothers, we do not owe it to the sinful flesh to live in harmony with it. ¹³For if you live in harmony with the sinful flesh, you are going to die. But if by the Spirit you put to death the actions of the body, you will live.

¹⁴Indeed, those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery so that you are afraid again, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we call out, "Abba, Father!" ¹⁶The Spirit himself joins our spirit in testifying that we are God's children.

¹⁷Now if we are children, we are also heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, since we suffer with him, so that we may also be glorified with him.

¹⁸For I conclude that our sufferings at the present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is going to be revealed to us.

¹⁹In fact, creation is waiting with eager longing for the sons of God to be revealed.

Children's Message

Please share the name and email of a friend who might like to receive spiritual encouragement pictures from the Rock of Ages children this week.

Gospel

John 11:17-27,38-45

Jesus holds the power over all decay and death and will end all tears.

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days.

¹⁸Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles away. ¹⁹Many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them concerning their brother.

²⁰When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him, while Mary was sitting in the house.

²¹Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you."

²³Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."

²⁴Martha replied, "I know that he will rise in the resurrection on the Last Day."

²⁵Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me will live, even if he dies. ²⁶And whoever lives and believes in me will never perish. Do you believe this?"

²⁷"Yes, Lord," she told him. "I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who was to come into the world."

³⁸Jesus was deeply moved again as he came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹"Take away the stone," he said.

Martha, the dead man's sister, told him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, because it has been four days."

⁴⁰Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?" ⁴¹So they took away the stone.

Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you heard me. ⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." ⁴³After he said this, he shouted with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!"

⁴⁴The man who had died came out with his feet and his hands bound with strips of linen and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus told them, "Loose him and let him go."

⁴⁵Therefore many of the Jews who came to Mary and saw what Jesus did believed in him.

Seasonal Response

We all like sheep have gone astray, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

By his wounds we are healed.

Hymn of the Day

Take the World, But Give Me Jesus

Christian Worship 355

At home option: if you are unfamiliar with the CW tune the hymn title contains a link to a popular public domain version of the tune.

1. Take the world, but give me Jesus!

All its joys are but a name.

But his love abides forever,

Through eternal years the same.

Refrain:

Oh, the height and depth of mercy;

Oh, the length and breadth of love!

Oh, the fullness of redemption,

Pledge of endless life above!

2. Take the world, but give me Jesus,

Sweetest comfort of my soul.

With the Savior watching o'er me,

I can sing, though thunders roll. [Refrain]

**3 Take the world, but give me Jesus!
In his cross my trust shall be
Till with clearer, brighter vision
Face to face my Lord I see. [Refrain]**

Sermon

Romans 8:11-19

At home option: the Sermon will be at RockofAge-Payson.com/sermons each Sunday morning for you to watch, listen, or read. Click the links below:

Contrasts of...

Mar. 1 (Ro. 5:12-19)..... Adam and Christ

Mar. 8 (Ro. 4:1-5,13-17)Works and Faith

Mar. 15 (Eph. 5:8-14).....Darkness and Light

Mar. 22 (Ro. 8:1-10)..... Old Self and New Self

Mar. 29 (Ro. 8:11-19).....Death and Life

April 5 (Ph. 2:5-11)..... Exaltation and Humility

Confession of Faith

1st-3rd Commandments

The first commandment:

You shall have no other gods.

What does this mean?

We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things.

The second commandment:

You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God that we do not use his name to curse, swear, lie or deceive, or use witchcraft, but call upon God's name in every trouble, pray, praise, and give thanks.

The third commandment:

Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God that we do not despise preaching and his Word, but regard it as holy, and gladly hear and learn it.

Offerings Gathered

Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him. Our offerings go to support the gospel ministry of our congregation and our national church body, the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod.

At home option: If you are worshipping at home for a time due to precautions against the spread of illness please remember to continue to support our ministry. Offerings can be mailed to Rock of Ages Lutheran 204 W. Airport Rd. Payson, AZ 85541

Prayer of the Church For the Nation

Christian Worship page 128

Almighty God, we acknowledge with thanks that all we have and enjoy is a gift from your gracious hand. We come before you today in heartfelt appreciation for our nation and its people.

We thank you for enabling us to worship you in freedom and to serve you without fear.

You have enriched us with the bounties of farm and factory, the beauty of forest and mountain, and the marvels of medicine and science.

For all these blessings, we praise and glorify you.

Look with favor upon our nation, and preserve our cherished liberties. Enable our leaders to govern with wisdom, honesty, courage, and justice. Protect those who serve in the armed forces and those who maintain peace and safety in our communities.

Give us willingness to obey our nation's laws and to work for the common good.

Keep our financial institutions secure and our economy strong. Bless our fields that they may produce abundant harvests. Guard us from calamities of nature and accident, and spare our land from the ravages of disease and epidemic.

Teach us not to worry but to cast all our cares on you.

Strengthen the homes of our nation. By your Spirit lead husbands and wives to love each other, parents to nurture their children, young adults to assume responsibility, and children to show respect.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

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

Silent prayer

To you, O Lord, we bring our thanks and our requests.

Hear our prayers for Jesus' sake. Amen

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.

Blessing

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ (+), and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
Amen.

Closing Hymn

I Lay My Sins on Jesus

Christian Worship 372:3-4

**3. I rest my soul on Jesus,
This weary soul of mine.
His right hand me embraces;
I in his arms recline.
I love the name of Jesus,
Immanuel, Christ, the Lord;
Like fragrance on the breezes
His name abroad is poured.**

**4. I long to be like Jesus:
Meek, loving, lowly, mild;
I long to be like Jesus,
The Father's holy child.
I long to be with Jesus
Amid the heav'nly throng
To sing with saints his praises,
To learn the angels' song.**

THE SACRAMENT

At home options: The congregation is gathering Sundays at 12:00pm & 1:00pm with the Lord's Supper offered privately and in smaller groups after each service. Pastor would be glad to schedule private communion with any member at home or at church.

Acknowledgments

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NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Remember with Prayer

- All those shut-ins of the congregation who are isolated from contact to all friends and family members due to safety lock-down measures in their place of living; (Peggy Bishop, Glenora Hintze, Jim Strong, Chuck Tyrell) that they would remain encouraged and continue with us in spirit and heart as we turn to our Savior for strength, hope, and joy.
- All those who are helping to prevent the spread of the pandemic and caring for the ill; all who are suffering in some way due to the pandemic; that God mercifully spare everyone from calamity; that God use his Church to be a light and spread his healing and hope.

Serving This Week

Flowers: Della Kary

Music: Keyboard, Jeni Strickland;

Presiding Minister: Pastor Tom Barthel

Attendance

3/22 Small Group Services: 25

Joining us from home:

Total sermon & Bible study video views this past week: 64

**audio plays and text downloads are not tracked.*

Received in March: \$10,177.32 *(to date)*

CALENDAR

rockofages-payson.com/calendar

There are many fluid changes to our calendar as we strive to comply as far as possible with health and government recommendations during the pandemic. Currently all gatherings over ten people in number have been canceled. Please visit the website for the latest updates. You can plan on Sunday worship small group gatherings at 12:00pm and 1:00pm until otherwise indicated.



204 W. Airport Rd. Payson, AZ 85541 • Office: 928-474-2098 •

pastorbarthel@gmail.com

Pastor Tom Barthel • Mobile: 928-612-8463