

GOD'S GRACE

REVERSES

OUR PLACE



**FROM POSSESSING NOTHING
TO POSSESSING EVERYTHING**

Second Sunday in Lent

9:00 & 11:15am February 28, 2021



ROCK OF AGES

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Reaching Out in Rim Country with Rock-Solid Hope in Jesus

Welcome! May the message you hear today will fill your heart with the peace and joy we have in knowing that Jesus Christ is our Savior from sin.

Our Mission is to share the rock-solid hope of Jesus with today's world through timeless truths found in the Holy Scriptures.

Our Message centers around the forgiveness, freedom, and fellowship we have in Jesus.

Large Print service folders and **hearing assistance** devices are available.

Social Distancing is encouraged out of respect for all worshipping today. Volunteers are sanitizing touch points between services.

Restrooms are located at the far ends of the entry area.

Children's activity bags, quiet toys, and a changing table are available from the nursery in entry area.

We Support the world-wide gospel ministry of the WELS. We'd love to share more with you. Contact our pastor today. You can also visit wels.net



WELS

Christ's Love, Our Calling.



The Common Service

The Common Service is based on the historic liturgy of the Christian Church.

Greeting

Hymn

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty
Christian Worship 195

♪ **Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!**
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

2. Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
Who was and is and evermore shall be.

3. Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
Though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,
Only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,
Perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.

4. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

The Invocation

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

Confession of Sins

You who are loved by the Lord: Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Announcement of Forgiveness

God our heavenly Father has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

Response of Praise

Jesus, Name Above All Names

♪ **Jesus, name above all names
Beautiful Saviour, Glorious Lord
Emmanuel, God is with us
Blessed Redeemer, Living Word**

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, you see that we have no power to defend ourselves. Guard and keep us both outwardly and inwardly from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

THE WORD

First Lesson

Genesis 28:10-17

Jacob fled his home with nothing except God's promises.

Jacob set out from Beersheba and traveled toward Haran. ¹¹He came to a certain place and decided to spend the night there, because the sun had set. He took one of the stones from that place, put it under his head, and lay down to sleep in that place. ¹²He had a dream in which he saw a stairway set up on the earth with its top reaching to heaven. There were angels of God ascending and descending on it. ¹³There at the top stood the LORD, who said, "I am the LORD, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. The land on which you are lying, I give to you and to your descendants. ¹⁴Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south. In you and in your seed all the families of the earth will be blessed. ¹⁵Now, I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back again into this land. Indeed, I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised to you."

¹⁶Jacob woke up from his sleep, and he said, "Certainly the LORD is in this place, and I was not aware of it." ¹⁷He was afraid and he said, "How awe-inspiring is this place! This is nothing other than the house of God, and this is the gate to heaven."

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 73

Christian Worship page 94

Congregation is invited to join the refrain and boldface verses.

Refrain

Sure-ly, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and
not be a - fraid. For the Lord is my strong-hold and my
sure de-fense, and he will be my Sav - ior.

that we will be saved from God's wrath through him. ¹⁰For if, while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, it is even more certain that, since we have been reconciled, we will be saved by his life. ¹¹And not only is this so, but we also go on rejoicing confidently in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received this reconciliation.

Children's Message

*All children 5th grade and under are invited to come to the front area.
Helpers or parents are welcome to join them.*

Verse of the Day

(Philippians 2:8b)

Jesus humbled himself and became obedient to death, even death on a cross.

Gospel

Mark 8:31-38

Even if we lose everything for Jesus' sake we have gained life.

Jesus began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things; be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the experts in the law; be killed; and after three days rise again. ³²He was speaking plainly to them. Then Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But after turning around and looking at his disciples, Jesus rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! You do not have your mind set on the things of God, but the things of men."

³⁴He called the crowd and his disciples together and said to them, "If anyone wants to follow me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. ³⁵For whoever wants to save his life will lose it. But whoever loses his life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶After all, what good is it for a man to gain the whole world and yet forfeit his soul? ³⁷Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul? ³⁸In fact, whoever is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will also be ashamed of him when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

Hymn of the Day

Lord, Take My Hand And Lead Me

Christian Worship 439

♪ **Lord, take my hand and lead me Upon life's way;
Direct, protect, and feed me From day to day.
Without your grace and favor I go astray;
So take my hand, O Savior, And lead the way.**

**2. Lord, when the tempest rages,
I need not fear;
For you, the Rock of Ages,
Are always near.
Close by your side abiding,
I fear no foe,
For when your hand is guiding,
In peace I go.**

**3. Lord, when the shadows lengthen
And night has come,
I know that you will strengthen
My steps toward home,
Then nothing can impede me,
O blessed Friend!
So, take my hand and lead me
Unto the end.**

Sermon

Genesis 28:10-17

God's Grace Reverses Our Place



- | | | |
|---------|--|---------------|
| Feb. 21 | From Losing a Child to Countless In the Family | (Ge 22:1-18) |
| Feb. 28 | From Possessing Nothing to Possessing Everything | (Ge 28:10-17) |
| Mar. 7 | From the House of Slaves to Serving the Lord | (Ex 20:1-7) |
| Mar. 14 | From Grumbling & the Grave to Grateful & Saved | (Nu 21:4-9) |
| Mar. 21 | From Scattered & Scorched to Gathered & Adored | (Is 43:1-7) |
| Mar. 28 | From Suffering in Prison to Shining in Paradise | (Zec 9:9-17) |

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. Today you may place your offering on the table by the entryway as you enter or exit.

Confession of Faith

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Gracious God and Father, we praise you for the countless blessings, which we receive from your hand: the beauties of creation and the bounties of the earth, the joy of life and the pleasure of friendship, the good of work and the gift of rest, the privilege to share happiness and sorrow with one another. Above all we praise and thank you for your saving Word and for

your Son's body and blood, which you give us to eat and to drink in the sacrament. Through these means of grace, you send the Holy Spirit into our hearts and unite us to Jesus and to the whole Christian Church on earth.

Strengthen us through this heavenly food; increase our trust in Christ and our love for one another.

Great God and Lord, without your continuing help we easily waver in our faith, lose courage, and grow careless in our watchfulness. The times and days are perilous. Give us strength to face the evils of each day with fresh confidence. Open our lips to speak of your grace, and move us to use the gifts that you give us to share your Word of salvation with all people. Protect and prosper the family, the school, the government, and all good institutions that you have established for the benefit of society. Remember in mercy those who are sick and suffering, and bring your healing to troubled homes and lives.

Move us to pray for those in need and to help them with deeds of kindness.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

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

Silent prayer.

Now, eternal God and Father, keep us in the saving faith and so enable us to overcome all things through our Lord Jesus Christ.

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.

THE SACRAMENT

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is good and right so to do.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross, so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree would in turn by a tree be overcome. Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -



na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -
na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my (+) body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my (+) blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

Lamb of God, *Agnus Dei*

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;

grant us your peace. A - men.

Distribution

Rock of Ages Lutheran practices close communion. We kindly ask that only members of Rock of Ages Lutheran or another WELS/ELS congregation partake of the sacrament today. If you have questions about becoming a member to partake of the sacrament, please speak to pastor after worship.

After the distribution please stand to sing:

Song of Simeon

Luke 2:29-32

C: Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing
 to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-
 pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the
 Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of your peo-ple Is - ra - el.

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

And his mercy endures forever.

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ,

our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing

Numbers 6:24-26

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

Amen.

Hymn

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

Christian Worship 441

♪ **O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home,**

**2. Under the shadow of your throne
Your saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is your arm alone,
And our defense is sure.**

**3. Before the hills in order stood Or earth received its frame,
From everlasting you are God, To endless years the same.**

**4. A thousand ages in your sight Are like an evening gone,
Short as the watch that ends the night Before the rising sun.**

**5. Time, like an ever-rolling stream, Soon bears us all away;
We fly, forgotten, as a dream Dies at the op'ning day.**

**6. O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,
Still be our guard while troubles last And our eternal home!**

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Remember with Prayer

- Marlene Neilsen's son who is battling cancer; that God mercifully relieves his pain and gives him the sure hope of forgiveness and eternal life in Christ.
- Irma Mahler who will have a medical procedure on Monday; that God gives health and strength.

Attendance

02/17 Ash Wednesday: 25
02/18 Midweek Bible Class: 9
02/18 Starting Point Class: 4
02/21 Sunday Worship: 53
02/21 Sunday Bible Class: 14

Received in February \$7,627.32 *(as of Feb 15)*

Serving This Week

Flowers, Communion Setup: Pat Solomon
Music: Keyboard, Jeni Strickland; 4 For Christ;
Presiding Minister: Tom Barthel
Ushers: Creig Solomon, Jerry Zuvich

Branches Band

This music group will be coming to Rock of Ages to share their music during our Midweek Lent service this Wednesday at 6pm. Invite a friend to join.

Making Music

Members of Rock of Ages: volunteers are needed to help with running our summer music program. Please contact pastor if you would like to help serve this June & July.

CALENDAR

rockofages-payson.com/calendar

Sunday, February 28 *Lent 2*

9:00am Service with Lord's Supper
10:05am Bible Study
11:15am Service with Lord's Supper
12:30pm Youth Confirmation Class

Wednesday, March 3

9:00am Elders Meeting
6:00pm Branches Band Visiting
6:00pm Midweek Lent Service

Thursday, March 4

9:00am Midweek Bible Class
10:00am Starting Point Class

Sunday, March 7 *Lent 3*

9:00am Service
10:05am Bible Study
11:15am Service
12:30pm Youth Confirmation Class

Wednesday, March 10

6:00pm Midweek Lent Service

Thursday, March 11

9:00am Midweek Bible Class
10:00am Starting Point Class

Saturday, March 13

11:00am Memorial Service (Jim Strong)

Acknowledgments

Order of Service "Morning Praise" text revised from "The Lutheran Hymnal 1941"

"Midday opening responses and closing responses" from Christian Worship Supplement © Northwestern Pub. House.

"Confession" & "Lord, Have Mercy" are from a preview of the 2021 Christian Worship Hymnal © NPH

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