

# Bethlehem Lutheran Church



*Fifth Sunday in Lent (Judica)*

*March 21, 2021*

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**The Order of Service**

Divine Service Setting Three (LSB 184)

*(Please stand if you are able for portions of the liturgy marked with an \*)*

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**Opening Hymn: God Loved the World So That He Gave** **LSB 571**

**Confession and Absolution\*** **LSB 184**

**Introit**

(Ps. 25:1-2, 17-18, 20; antiphon: Ps. 25:15-16)

Vindicate me, O God,

and defend my cause against an ungodly people,

**From the deceitful and unjust man deliver me!**

**For you are the God in whom I take refuge.**

Send out your light and your truth; let them lead me;

let them bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling!

**Then I will go to the altar of God, to God my exceeding joy,**

**and I will praise you with the lyre, O God, my god.**

Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me?

Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God.

**Vindicate me, O God,**

**and defend my cause against an ungodly people,**

From the deceitful and unjust man deliver me!

For you are the God in whom I take refuge.

**Kyrie\***

**LSB 186**

**Gloria in Excelsis is omitted**

**Collect\*:** Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### **Old Testament Reading: Genesis 22:1-14**

<sup>1</sup> After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” <sup>2</sup> He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.” <sup>3</sup> So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. <sup>4</sup> On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. <sup>5</sup> Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you.” <sup>6</sup> And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. <sup>7</sup> And Isaac said to his father Abraham, “My father!” And he said, “Here I am, my son.” He said, “Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” <sup>8</sup> Abraham said, “God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So they went both of them together. <sup>9</sup> When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. <sup>10</sup> Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. <sup>11</sup> But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” <sup>12</sup> He said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.” <sup>13</sup> And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. <sup>14</sup> So Abraham called the name of that place, “The LORD will provide”; as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided.”

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual:** Deliver me from my enemies, O LORD! Teach me to do your will, for you are my God! [You] delivered me from my enemies; you rescued me from the man of violence.

### **Epistle: Hebrews 9:11-15**

<sup>11</sup> But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this

creation) <sup>12</sup> he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. <sup>13</sup> For if the blood of goats and bulls, and the sprinkling of defiled persons with the ashes of a heifer, sanctify for the purification of the flesh, <sup>14</sup> how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God. <sup>15</sup> Therefore he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, since a death has occurred that redeems them from the transgressions committed under the first covenant.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Tract:** “Greatly have they afflicted me from my youth”—let Israel now say—“Greatly have they afflicted me from my youth, yet they have not prevailed against me. The plowers plowed upon my back; they made long their furrows. The LORD is righteous; he has cut the cords of the wicked.

### **Holy Gospel\*: John 8:46-59**

The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 8<sup>th</sup> chapter. **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

<sup>46</sup> Which one of you convicts me of sin? If I tell the truth, why do you not believe me? <sup>47</sup> Whoever is of God hears the words of God. The reason why you do not hear them is that you are not of God.” <sup>48</sup> The Jews answered him, “Are we not right in saying that you are a Samaritan and have a demon?” <sup>49</sup> Jesus answered, “I do not have a demon, but I honor my Father, and you dishonor me. <sup>50</sup> Yet I do not seek my own glory; there is One who seeks it, and he is the judge. <sup>51</sup> Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death.” <sup>52</sup> The Jews said to him, “Now we know that you have a demon! Abraham died, as did the prophets, yet you say, ‘If anyone keeps my word, he will never taste death.’ <sup>53</sup> Are you greater than our father Abraham, who died? And the prophets died! Who do you make yourself out to be?” <sup>54</sup> Jesus answered, “If I glorify myself, my glory is nothing. It is my Father who glorifies me, of whom you say, ‘He is our God.’ <sup>55</sup> But you have not known him. I know him. If I were to say that I do not know him, I would be a liar like you, but I do know him and I keep his word. <sup>56</sup> Your father Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day. He saw it and was glad.” <sup>57</sup> So the Jews said to him, “You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?” <sup>58</sup> Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you,

before Abraham was, I am.”<sup>59</sup> So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

<b>Apostles’ Creed*</b>	<b>LSB 192</b>
<b>Hymn of the Day: My Song Is Love Unknown</b>	<b>LSB 430</b>
<b>Sermon</b>	
<b>Offertory*</b>	<b>LSB 192</b>
<b>Prayer of the Church*</b>	
<b>The Lord’s Prayer*</b>	<b>LSB 196</b>
<b>Benediction*</b>	
<b>Closing Hymn: Not All the Blood of Beasts</b>	<b>LSB 431</b>

### **Announcements**

**Midweek Lenten Vespers:** This Wednesday, March 24<sup>th</sup> at 7pm is our final midweek Lenten Vespers services. The focus during these midweek services will be on the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. Throughout these five weeks, we will look at Holy Scripture in order to answer the questions, what is baptism? What benefits does it give? How can water do that? What does this really mean for my life?

**Judica:** The Fifth Sunday in Lent is called Judica, which means “Judge (me)” in Latin. (The ESV translates it as “Vindicate me”.) This word is found in the opening line of the Introit, “Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly people...” (Ps. 43:1)

**Church Services:** While it is our desire to gather as one body, the church has decided to offer again a second service on Sundays at 7:30am. This second service will continue until Easter. As the coronavirus vaccine is becoming more available, this will allow members more time to get the vaccine. If you or someone you know have any concerns, please feel free to contact Pastor Jennings or stop by the church throughout the week to schedule a time to receive God’s gifts.

**Adult Bible Study:** There will not be an Adult Bible Study on Palm Sunday (March 28<sup>th</sup>).

**Rite of Confirmation:** The Rite of Confirmation for our confirmands will take place on Palm Sunday (March 28<sup>th</sup>) at the 9:30am Divine Service. We have a large class, and as a result, we're expecting a large number attending this service. For those of you who are concerned with larger groups, the 7:30am Divine Service is still available.

**New Address:** Paul Schierschwitz has moved to Florida. His new address is: 4620 N. Socrum Loop Rd. Room 312 Lakeland, FL 33809 Cell: (618)973-9045.

**Smoked Pork Chop Dinner:** Please join us for the Trinity Lutheran Church-Hoffman annual Men's Club/Women's Fellowship smoked pork chop dinner on **Sunday, March 21<sup>st</sup>** from 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Service will be drive-through only and will include a smoked pork chop, baked potato, green beans, applesauce and homemade dessert: All this for \$12.

**Flowers for Easter:** It is time to get your orders in for Easter. This year you have a choice of lilies or hydrangeas. The lilies will be \$15 each and the hydrangeas will be \$30 each. There are order forms in the usher's room for you to complete and return to Sylvia Kleiboeker by **March 28<sup>th</sup>**.

**Ladies Aid/LWML:** We will be cleaning the basement on **Tuesday, March 30, 2021**. For those that are available to help, we will begin at 9:00am.

**Easter Breakfast:** Agape youth will be hosting a **TAKE OUT** Easter breakfast after the early service. The menu will be different this year due to this. Each carry out breakfast will feature 2 biscuits and sausage gravy. Please remember, this is a donation only meal. Agape youth greatly appreciates your support! **ALSO** you **MUST PREORDER** your meal so we can accurately plan this year. Please respond to the online order form at <https://tinyurl.com/ferrinEB> OR contact a youth member or Sara Kuper by Good Friday.

**Books Wanted:** Agape Youth Group will be hosting a used book sale in the fall. But **FIRST** we are requesting donations of the following: gently used or new fiction or non-fiction books for all ages, gently used or new DVD's or Blu-Rays. Please no magazines, VHS, encyclopedias or textbooks. Donations may be given to any youth member or Sara. Contact Sara for more information.