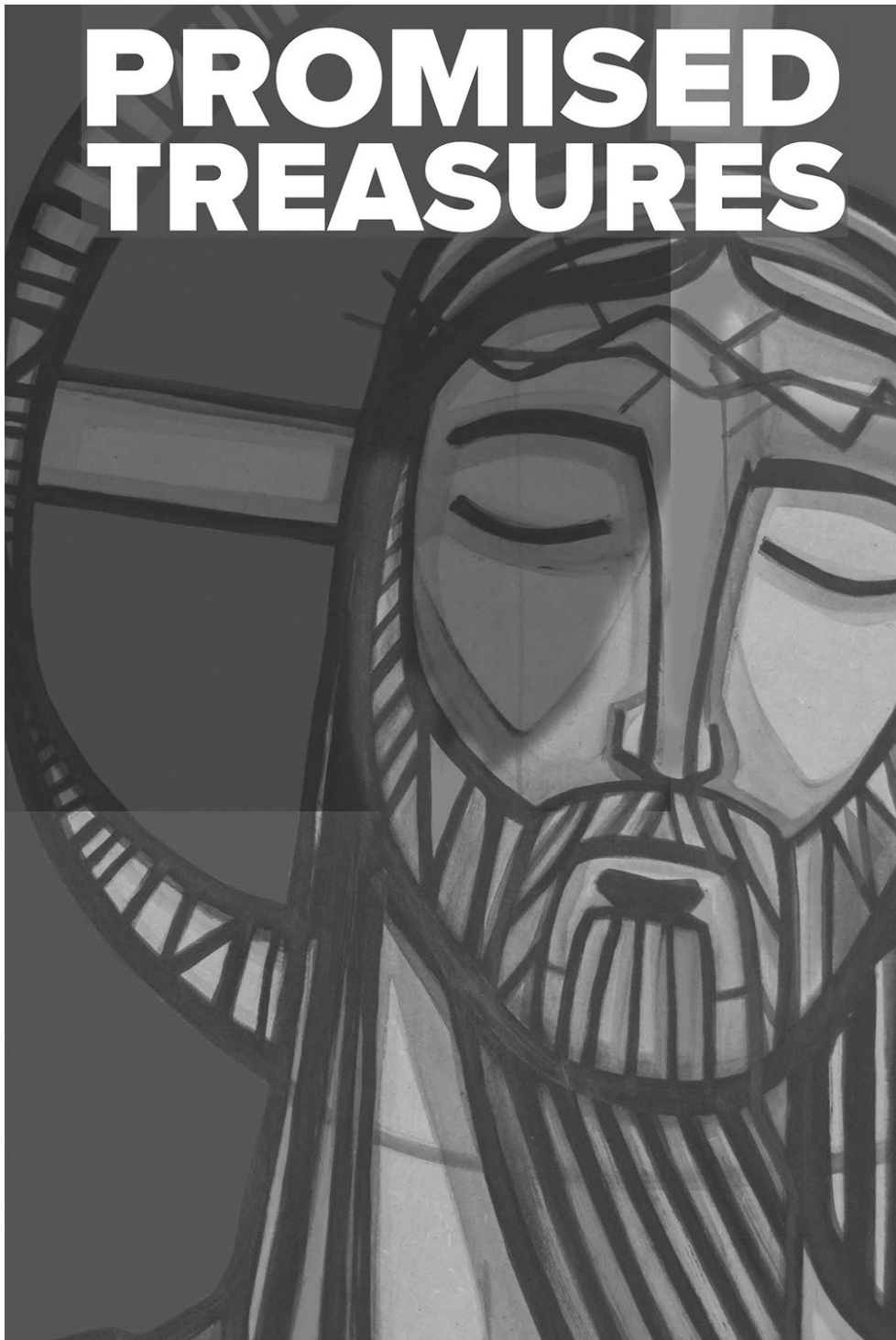


PROMISED TREASURES



Midweek Vespers
March 22, 2023

St. Matthew Lutheran Church LCMS
Hazen, ND

Pastor Kirk Peters

Bread of Life

The bread we bake in our homes or buy from the store is good for today. But by tomorrow, it may be gone. The gifts we receive in this world satisfy us for a moment; however, the gifts we receive in the promised treasures of God's Word are gifts that are eternal. When Jesus describes Himself in John 6 as the bread of life, we know that He highlights for us His mission of salvation. As our bread of life, Jesus comes to forgive us, renew us, and lead us toward a meaningful life in relationship with Him. Let us taste and experience that life together this day as the Holy Spirit calls us to walk with Jesus and be satisfied by His presence among us.

Opening Sentences

- P** O Lord, open my lips,
C and my mouth will declare Your praise.
P Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
C make haste to help me, O Lord.
C Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.
Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation.

PSALMODY

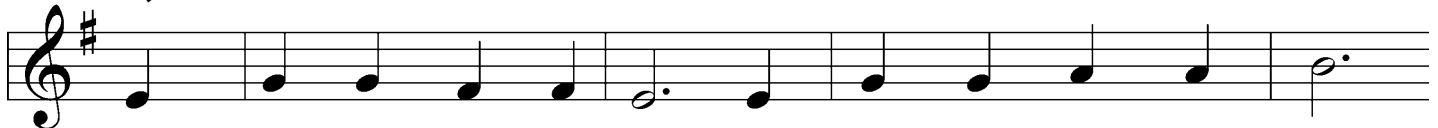
Psalm

Psalm 19:7–10, 14

- P** The law of the LORD is perfect,
C reviving the soul;
P the testimony of the LORD is sure,
C making wise the simple;
P the precepts of the LORD are right,
C rejoicing the heart;
P the commandment of the LORD is pure,
C enlightening the eyes;

- P** the fear of the LORD is clean,
C enduring forever;
P the just decrees of the LORD are true,
C and righteous altogether.
P More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold;
C sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb.
P Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
C be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

424 O Christ, You Walked the Road



- 1 O Christ, You walked the road Our wan - d'ring feet must go.
 2 No bread of earth a - lone Can fill our hun - g'ring hearts.
 3 No blind - ing sign we ask, No won - der from a - bove.
 4 When lures of eas - y gain With prom - ise bright - ly shine,
 5 O Christ, You walked the road Our wan - d'ring feet must go.



You faced with us temp - ta - tion's pow'r And fought our an - cient foe.
 Lord, help us seek Your liv - ing Word, The food Your grace im - parts.
 Lord, help us place our trust a - lone In Your un - swerv - ing love.
 Lord, help us seek Your king - dom first; Our wills with Yours a - lign.
 Stay with us through temp - ta - tion's hour To fight our an - cient foe.

READINGS

Reading

Exodus 16:2–5, 11–18

P A reading from Exodus, the sixteenth chapter.

²And the whole congregation of the people of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness, ³and the people of Israel said to them, “Would that we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the meat pots and ate bread to the full, for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

⁴Then the LORD said to Moses, “Behold, I am about to rain bread from heaven for you, and the people shall go out and gather a day’s portion every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in my law or not. ⁵On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather daily.”

¹¹And the LORD said to Moses, ¹²“I have heard the grumbling of the people of Israel. Say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread. Then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.’”

¹³In the evening quail came up and covered the camp, and in the morning dew lay around the camp. ¹⁴And when the dew had gone up, there was on the face of the wilderness a fine, flake-like thing, fine as frost on the ground. ¹⁵When the people of Israel saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat. ¹⁶This is what the LORD has commanded: ‘Gather of it, each one of you, as much as he can eat. You shall each take an omer, according to the number of the

persons that each of you has in his tent.”¹⁷ And the people of Israel did so. They gathered, some more, some less.

¹⁸But when they measured it with an omer, whoever gathered much had nothing left over, and whoever gathered little had no lack. Each of them gathered as much as he could eat.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Reading

1 Corinthians 10:1–4, 15–17

P A reading from First Corinthians, the tenth chapter.

¹I want you to know, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ²and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ.

¹⁵I speak as to sensible people; judge for yourselves what I say. ¹⁶The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ?

¹⁷Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Reading

John 6:32–37

P A reading from St. John, the sixth chapter.

³²Jesus then said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but my

Father gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” ³⁴They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.”

³⁵Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst. ³⁶But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. ³⁷All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Lent Responsory

LSB, p. 231

P Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.

C Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.

P In You, O Lord, do I put my trust, leave me not, O Lord, my God.

C Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.

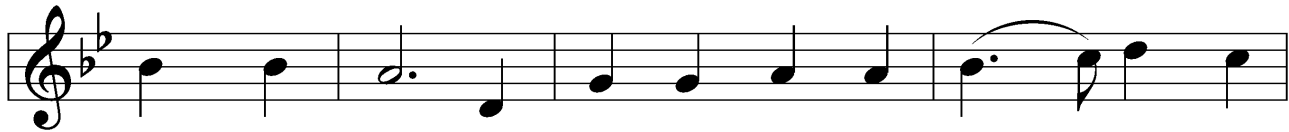
P Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.

C Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.

One House Abides Unending



1 One house a - bides un - end - ing, One Mas - ter
2 The wealth of all cre - a - tion We squan - dered
3 With end - less hun - ger driv - en The grave cried
4 Ex - change our ash for beau - ty, A - noint our



fears no fall, One Lord pro - vides, at - tend - ing The
at our birth. The heirs of con - dem - na - tion Sowed
out for more, But Je - sus Christ has giv - en Safe
grief with joy; Dear Lord, who paid our du - ty, All



dai - ly want of all. When ru - in would al -
tears in blight - ed earth. But light, the world's first
pas - sage through its door: His flow - ing blood our
grace for us em - ploy. Feed us the sav - ing



lure them Whose one es - tate was need, One Fa - ther
trea - sure, The Mas - ter worked a - new In prom - ise,
rai - ment, The flood to purge our shame; The liv - ing
man - na Lest on the way we fail And sweet - en



would se - cure them In will, in trust, in deed.
and in mea - sure No mor - tal eye could view.
God the pay - ment That buys for us His name.
our Ho - san - na To ho - ly Eas - ter's hail.

Text: Rachel Crane
Tune: Welsh
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Sermon

CANTICLE

Antiphon

- P** Let my prayer rise before You as incense,
C and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

Magnificat

LSB 231

- P** My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior;
C for He has regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden.
- P** For behold, from this day all generations will call me blessed.
C For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His name;
- P** and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation.
C He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
- P** He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has exalted the lowly.
C He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent empty away.
- P** He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever.
C Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Offering

PRAYER

Kyrie

C Lord, have mercy;
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy.

Lord's Prayer

C 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.

Collects

P O Lord, hear my prayer.

C And let my cry come to You.

P Lord Jesus Christ, You reveal Yourself as the bread of life who satisfies all the hungry souls that return to You in repentance and faith. Renew our hearts and minds during this Lenten season as we receive the promised

treasures of Your Word; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Gracious God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we thank You for blessing us with the opportunity to meditate again on the cross of Christ and receive Your promised treasures.

C **Grant that the message of the Lamb of God slain for our salvation bring us the riches of Your pardon and peace.**

P Lead us to see that our sins caused Jesus' great agony in the garden, that our sins nailed Him to the cross of Calvary,

C **that He was forsaken by His Father so that we might never be forsaken, and that He died so that we may live.**

P Lord Jesus, grant that especially during this sacred season the treasured story of Your wondrous love for us would draw us closer to You.

C **Enable us to savor You as the true bread of life, trusting that You forgive us, renew us, satisfy us, and give our lives meaning.**

P Holy Spirit, lift up troubled souls everywhere. Grant wholeness to those hurting in heart, body, and mind. Work Your healing power in the lives of those in need, [*especially . . .*], and in the lives of all we name before You in our hearts.

C All glory, honor, and praise be to You, with the Father and the Son, one God, now and forever. Amen.

P O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

P The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C Amen.

894 For the Fruits of His Creation



1 For the fruits of His cre - a - tion, Thanks be to God.
2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
3 For the har-vests of the Spir - it, Thanks be to God.



For His gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, Thanks be to God. For the
In the help we give our neigh-bor, God's will is done. In our
For the good we all in - her - it, Thanks be to God. For the



plow - ing, sow-ing, reap-ing, Si - lent growth while we are sleep-ing,
world-wide task of car - ing For the hun - gry and de - spair-ing,
won - ders that as-tound us, For the truths that still con-found us,



Fu - ture needs in earth's safe-keep-ing, Thanks be to God.
In the har-vests we are shar-ing, God's will is done.
Most of all, that love has found us, Thanks be to God.

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Tune: Welsh, 18th cent.

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