

THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

JUDICA

March 21, 2021

Service Notes:

Hymns: 431, 430, 420, 544, 454, 642, 421
 Old Testament Reading: Genesis 22:1-14
 Epistle: Hebrews 9:11-15
 Holy Gospel: John 8:42-59
 Sermon: "The Lord Provides" John 8:42-59

Divine Service Setting Three, page 184

Day	Date	Time	Attendance
Lenten Service	03/10	4:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	81 20
Thursday	03/11	7:00 p.m.	50
Sunday	03/14	8:00 a.m. 10:45 a.m.	79 41

BULLETINS are given by Dennis and Kathy Hanley in celebration of their 47th wedding anniversary.

FLOWERS are given by Todd Pfander in celebration of Clarence Laube's 93rd birthday.

HOLY COMMUNION is celebrated today. As a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, we follow the historic Christian practice of closed communion. According to the words of St. Paul in 1 Corinthians 11, only those who share the same outward confession of faith join us at the altar. Members of other LC-MS congregations are welcome, but we ask that you please see the pastor before communing.

MATINS Pastor will be conducting Matins services Tuesday through Friday at 11:00 a.m., which will be livestreamed at the Our Father's Ev. Lutheran Church Facebook page, but are also available on the church website, [ofls.org](https://www.ofls.org). Join us in daily prayer and the Word of God.

THANK YOU to Pastor Koch for preaching on Thursday, March 18.

EASTER SERVICES This year there will be three Divine Services, at 6:00 a.m., 8:00 a.m., and 10:00 a.m. All three will include special music and have the Blessed Sacrament. There will be a sign-up genius page to use again, as we did with the Christmas Eve services. If you prefer, you may also call the church office to sign up for one of the three options.

A VIRTUAL BAND CONCERT performed by the Martin Luther Symphonic Band will be streamed all day on Sunday, March 21. To view the concert, visit the Martin Luther High School Music Department Facebook page.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday	03/21	DIVINE SERVICES	8:00 & 10:45 a.m.
		Sunday School/Adult Bible Class	9:30 a.m.
Tuesday	03/23	Matins	11:00 a.m.
Wednesday	03/24	Matins	11:00 a.m.
		LENTEN SERVICES	4:30 & 7:00 p.m.
Thursday	03/25	Matins	11:00 a.m.
		DIVINE SERVICE	7:00 p.m.
Friday	03/26	Matins	11:00 a.m.
Sunday	03/28	PALM SUNDAY SERVICE	8:00 a.m.
		PALM SUNDAY/CONFIRMATION	10:45 a.m.
		Sunday School/Adult Bible Class	9:30 a.m.

WE PRAY for Mary Ankerberg, Karen Awe, Mike Bice (brother-in-law of Todd Pfander), Barbara Blue, Kathleen Brook, Janet Brown, Jennifer Chapel (niece of Linda Christian), Karen Christiansen, Sandy Damms, Keith Domagalski, LaVerne Edenfield, Cheryl Fisher (sister of Lynn Hester), Daut Gaba, Gerald Garske, Carol Georgson, Glenn Georgson, Maynard Georgson, Judy Hanson, Jessica Hetts (niece of Virginia Scholz), Elaine Howe, Michelle Johnson, Delrose Krueger, Clarence Laube, Rhonda Lesniewski, Linda Metzelfeld (sister-in-law of Don Metzelfeld), Shirley Nelson, Konnie Otto, Ruth Pelican (sister of Virginia Scholz), Angeline Pence, Robert Schneider, Virginia Scholz, and Dave Sievert.

THE LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE will collect mite boxes on March 28, the *last* Sunday of the month. Mite boxes can be left at any time in the mite box in the narthex.

SCRIP The next order due date is Sunday, **April 11**. A Scrip order box, order forms, and envelopes are in the narthex and church/school office. Place your order and check made out to Our Father's in one of the boxes, *OR* you may order online with the Presto Pay Plan at www.shopwithscrip.com. The website has a list of participating retailers. All profits are used to help pay staff health insurance. Call Linda Hojnacki with any questions at (414) 427-5949.

FINANCIAL REVIEW – YTD TOTAL OFFERINGS

YTD Offerings for Last Year (7/1/19-3/17/20)	\$400,198.42
YTD Offerings for Current Year (7/1/20-3/15/21)	\$420,009.54
YTD Offerings needed to meet Budget	\$422,582.56
YTD Offerings Surplus/(Shortfall)	(\$2,573.02)

ADOPT-A-BILL PROGRAM list includes: Gas Bill, Electric Bill, Front of Church Landscape, Health Insurance, High School Arrearage, Mortgage, Office Supplies, School Air Conditioner, School Boilers, School Storage Building, and Water Bill. Consider supporting this worthy cause. Envelopes are on the narthex bulletin board.

FEEDBACK The elders would like your opinion on changing the Thursday service from 7:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Please email or call Dave Felber at davidfelber1@gmail.com or (414) 793-5193. Thank you.

WOODMAN'S GIFT CARDS are available to purchase in the church/school office. All profits go to the Our Father's Scholarship Fund. Call Linda Hojnacki with any questions at (414) 427-5949.

THRIVENT MEMBERS This is a reminder to all church and school families who have Thrivent Financial Contracts that Thrivent Choice Dollars for 2020 must be directed by March 31, 2021. You need to log into your Thrivent account information to do this. You have many choices where your choice dollars can be given; but just as a reminder, you can designate these dollars to be given to Our Father's Lutheran Church or Our Father's Lutheran School. If you have any questions, please contact Linda Hojnacki at (414) 427-5949.

FRIENDLY REMINDER Please do not use the hymnals for the Lenten services. The entire service is in the bulletin. The hymnals have been cleaned and are ready for Thursday night service.

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE do "**NOT**" put the used hymnals on the back two tables against the windows after services, as this is where the "**CLEAN**" ones are kept. They must go on the table in front of the bulletin board labeled "**USED.**" We have to follow the Health Department Guidelines with regards to safe COVID-19 cleaning. Thank you for following these rules.

***OUR FATHER'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN
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**THE READINGS AND PSALMODY FOR
THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT
JUDICA**

March 21, 2021

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING

Genesis 22:1-14 (ESV)

¹ After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here am I." ² 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." ³ 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. ⁴ On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. ⁵ 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." ⁶ 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. ⁷ And Isaac said to his father Abraham, "My father!" And he said, "Here am I, my son." He said, "Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" ⁸ Abraham said, "God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So they went both of them together. ⁹ 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. ¹⁰ Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. ¹¹ But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here am I." ¹² 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." ¹³ 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. ¹⁴ 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."

A: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

THE EPISTLE READING

Hebrews 9:11-15 (ESV)

¹¹ 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) ¹² 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. ¹³ For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of goats and bulls and with the ashes of a heifer sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, ¹⁴ 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. ¹⁵ 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.

A: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 8:42-59 (ESV)

⁴² Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and I am here. I came not of my own accord, but he sent me. ⁴³ Why do you not understand what I say? It is because you cannot bear to hear my word. ⁴⁴ You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and has nothing to do with the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies. ⁴⁵ But because I tell the truth, you do not believe me. ⁴⁶ Which one of you convicts me of sin? If I tell the truth, why do you not believe me? ⁴⁷ Whoever is of God hears the words of God. The reason why you do not hear them is that you are not of God." ⁴⁸ The Jews answered him, "Are we not right in saying that you are a Samaritan and have a demon?" ⁴⁹ Jesus answered, "I do not have a demon, but I honor my Father, and you dishonor me. ⁵⁰ Yet I do not seek my own glory; there is One who seeks it, and he is the judge. ⁵¹ Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death." ⁵² 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.'"

⁵³ Are you greater than our father Abraham, who died? And the prophets died! Who do you make yourself out to be?" ⁵⁴ 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.' ⁵⁵ 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. ⁵⁶ Your father Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day. He saw it and was glad." ⁵⁷ So the Jews said to him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?" ⁵⁸ Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am." ⁵⁹ So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

THE PSALMODY

Psalm 43:1-5 (ESV)

¹ Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly people, from the deceitful and unjust man deliver me! ² For you are the God in whom I take refuge; why have you rejected me? Why do I go about mourning because of the oppression of the enemy? ³ Send out your light and your truth; let them lead me; let them bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling! ⁴ 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.

⁵ 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.

INTROIT

Vindicate me, | O God,*

and defend my cause against an ungodly | people,
from the deceitful and unjust man de- | liver 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 ex- | ceeding 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 with- | in 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 de- | liver me!*

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

Psalm 43:3-5; antiphon: vv. 1-2a

THE CONGREGATION AT PRAYER FOR THE WEEK OF THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT JUDICA

“The Lord Provides”
March 21 through March 27, 2021

Judica means vindicate or judge me. The plea of faith is for God to be our judge, not the unbelieving world which surrounds us. The judgment of God is not the same as the judgment of the world which can rightly point to all our sinful behavior. God’s judgment is rendered for us in Christ. The judgment is that all who live by faith in the only-begotten Son who was offered up at the cross will be saved (John 3:17-21). Faith looks to Jesus to plead our case and defend us against the innumerable accusations of the devil, the world, and our sinful flesh. Christ is the Light and the Truth who leads us up to the holy hill of Calvary that we might enter the new Zion, the Church, and heaven itself. Jesus draws us to the altar to pronounce His Father’s judgment of joy as we eat His flesh and drink His blood to have life. The Judge forgives our sins in this Supper and sends us away in His peace. Faith finds its hope in this word of God, “Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.” In the Judge’s word declared publicly over us at the altar, we are delivered from deceitful and unjust men.

INVOCATION: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **AMEN.**

THE CREED

VERSE: ²⁸ Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!
Luke 11:28 (ESV)

COLLECT FOR THE WEEK: 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.**

PSALM OF THE WEEK:

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PSALMODY PRAYER: O God, You have created all things and blessed them that the earth might yield her increase, now we pray that You would make known the abundance of Your mercies through the preaching of the Gospel of salvation to all nations. Let all nations know and confess that You have revealed Your mercy in the face of Your crucified Son through whom we receive the judgment of the forgiveness of sins. **AMEN.**

READINGS FOR THE WEEK	
Monday	Mark 15:16-32
Tuesday	John 12:1-11
Wednesday	John 12:12-26
Thursday	John 13:1-20
Friday	John 13:21-38
Saturday	Matthew 27:11-54 and John 12:12-19

CATECHISM FOR THE WEEK: Table of Duties

What the Hearers Owe Their Pastors

We ask you, brothers, to respect those who work hard among you, who are over you in the Lord and who admonish you. Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other. ¹ *Thessalonians 5:12-13*

Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you. *Hebrews 13:17*

Luther, Large Catechism, Sacrament of the Altar (1528): You will certainly also, in addition to the flesh and the world, have the devil about you. Him you will not completely tread under foot because not even our Lord Christ could entirely avoid His temptations. Now, what is the devil? Nothing else than what the Scripture calls him, a liar and a murderer. He is a liar who seduces the heart away from God’s Word and blinds it so that you become insensitive to your need and unable to come to Christ. He is a murderer who begrudges you every hour of your life. If you could see how many of his knives, spears, and arrows are aimed at you every moment, you would be glad to come to the Sacrament as often as you can. The one reason why we go about so heedlessly in our false sense of security is that we do not admit or believe that we are living in the flesh, in the world, and in the devil’s domain. Here, therefore, is something for you to try; practice it well: Look down deep into yourself, look round about you a little, and simply hold to what Scripture says about it all. If after doing this you still feel no need of the Sacrament, then you have all the more reason to lay your trouble before both God and your brother. Seek the counsel of others, and let them pray for you, and be sure not to give up until the rocky crust of your heart is broken. The trouble you are in will then be laid open to view, and you will become aware that you have sunk twice as low as any other poor sinner and are in much greater need than he of the Sacrament in order to overcome the misery which, unfortunately, you did not see. Be sure to do this. God may give you grace to become more sensitive to your need and hungrier for the Sacrament. You should do this especially because in his attempt to capture and ruin you, soul and body, the devil is pressuring and pursuing you so hard that you cannot be safe from him for a single hour. How much he would like to bring you into sudden misery and trouble when you least expect it! Let this serve as an exhortation

not only for us older grown-ups but also for the young people who are to be brought up in Christian doctrine and its right understanding. It might help to make it easier to instill the Ten Commandments, the Creed, and the Lord's Prayer into the young, so that they would gladly and genuinely accept them and put them early into habitual use. For we are really at the point where we can do no more with older people in order to assure the perpetuation of these and similar teachings. All we can expect to do is to train the people who are to come after us and step into our office and work so that, in their turn, they will bring up their children well. In this way, God's Word and the Christian church will be preserved. Therefore, let every head of a family remember that God's injunction and command makes him responsible to teach his children, or to have them taught, what they know. Having been baptized and taken up into the Christian church, the young people should also enjoy this fellowship of the Sacrament so that they may become useful and of service to us. For surely they are all to help us to live lives of faith, love, and prayer, and to fight against the devil. (CPH, 1978, p 120-121)

PRAYER: Each day a different aspect of Christian life is covered.

Monday	Our Baptism, calling, and daily work
Tuesday	Deliverance from sin and temptation
Wednesday	Marriage, family, and schools
Thursday	The Lord's Supper, the Church, and Her Pastors
Friday	The Preaching of the Cross, the persecuted, and missions
Saturday	True repentance and restoration of the withering
Sunday	The Hope of the resurrection and faithfulness to the Word

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER: I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me that the Evil Foe may have no power over me. **AMEN.**

OR

LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER: I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the Evil Foe may have no power over me. **AMEN.**

HYMN OF THE WEEK: LSB 571 *"God Loved the World So That He Gave"* (stanza 2)

LOOKING FORWARD TO PALM SUNDAY PALMARUM

March 28, 2021

"Hosanna"

HYMNS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: 442, 438, 571, 602, 422, 632, 622, 620, 443

READINGS

Zechariah 9:9-12

Philippians 2:5-11

Matthew 27:11-54 and John 12:12-19

They had come to the feast to sacrifice a lamb, and Jesus would be that Lamb. The use of palms recalls the Old Testament Feast of Tabernacles or Booths, which commemorated the wanderings in the wilderness by erecting booths or tent-like structures made of palms. John had begun the Gospel with a reference to the Word tabernacling in the flesh (1:14). The palms before Jesus are a confession of that truth and that He is the true Savior who has come among His people. Indeed, it was God who made the children of Israel dwell in booths when He brought them out of Egypt, but it was also God who brought an end to those booths when they entered into the Promised Land (Leviticus 23:33-44). The new Joshua, Jesus, has come to his people to bring great gladness (Nehemiah 8:13-17). In John 7:2, 37, the Feast of Tabernacles was introduced. The disciples urged Jesus to show Himself to the crowds, but His hour had not yet come. Now His hour has come and He comes to Jerusalem to pour forth living water from His side as He becomes the Passover Lamb (7:37). Here Jesus becomes the Feast of Tabernacles to which all nations are called (Zechariah 14:16-21). It is also these broken branches that foreshadow the broken hyssop branch that was used to spread the blood on the doors at the Passover.