

# TODAY'S BULLETIN

**As We Gather:** What a Priest We Have in Jesus!

Today's Epistle speaks of Jesus, our High Priest. High priests are called to offer sacrifices for the sins of the people as well as themselves. Jesus is a different sort of high priest who offers Himself as sacrifice, once for all, that we might be forgiven and granted eternal salvation. In the Gospel, Jesus proclaims that He came not to be served, but to serve. He came to offer His life as a ransom for us. As we follow Jesus, we are called to reflect His actions and attitude of service and sacrifice. May we likewise go to serve and sacrifice for others.

## **LENTEN MIDWEEK CHURCH SERVICES:**

Our Midweek church services here at Saint Matthew's will be held on Thursdays at 11:00 am and 7:00 pm. This week we continue our look at Psalm 41.

**EASTER LILIES:** Today is the last day to order Easter lilies. Forms are available on the table in the church's narthex for you to order Easter Lilies. The cost per plant is \$10. You can fill out the form and place it on the folder on the church's desk or hand it to Pastor Iovine. Additionally, you can order your plants on the church website. Look for the Easter Lilies link where you can fill out the form and even pay for the plants.

**THURSDAY BIBLE CLASS:** We continue this week and next week with our "Be Gracious to Me" bible study. Join us for Thursday for our Lenten Midweek Church service at 11:00 am and then bible class at noon.

**BIBLE MEMORY VERSE FOR THE WEEK:** Our verse is taken from Mark 10:45

**(Jesus said) "For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."**



**Saint Matthew's  
Lutheran Church**  
New Milford, NJ  
LCMS — New Jersey District

Sunday  
**March 17, 2024**  
Lent 5

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Evangelical Lutheran Church**

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**Serving in Our Church Service Today:** Jody Wangerin  
**Serving Next Sunday:** Ed Geiger  
**Sunday's Reader:** Pastor Iovine

**PALM SUNDAY READERS:**

You can help our Palm Sunday church service by signing up to read. There is one reading remaining! Take the reading and sign your name to the chart. Thank you for considering reading part of the Passion Story on Palm Sunday!

**FOOD PANTRY UPDATE:**

A food pantry needs update is available on the table in the back of the church. Take one along with you today!

**READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND:**

- John 12:12–19 (The triumphal entry)
- Mark 14:1–15:47 - (Step by step Jesus goes to his glorious death.)

**HYMNS FOR NEXT WEEKEND:**

- "All Glory Laud and Honor" - Hymn 442
- "Ride on, Ride On In Majesty" - Hymn 441
- "Lift High the Cross" - Hymn 837

**NEXT WEEK'S WORSHIP SERVICES**

March 9 & 10 - Lent 3

- **Lenten Midweek @ Holy Trinity** - Wednesday, March 20, beginning at 7:00pm
- **Lenten Midweek @ Saint Matthew's** - Thursday, March 21, 11:00am and 7:00pm
- Saturday, March 23 - 5:00pm @ Saint Matthew's
- Sunday, March 24 - 9:30am @ Saint Matthew's
- Sunday, March 24 - 11:30am @ Holy Trinity

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## **Fifth Sunday in Lent**

Divine Service 3 from Lutheran Service Book - begins on page 184

### **Opening Hymn**

"Christ Sits at God's Right Hand" - Hymn 564

**Christ sits at God's right hand, His saving work complete  
To reign till ev'ry foe will lie Beneath His feet  
All that the Father planned, The Son sought to fulfill  
When first He said, "Lord, here am I To do Your will."**

**Christ was that priest God swore, Uniquely First and Last  
Who would in righteousness and love Be unsurpassed  
"A priest forevermore," An oath God would not break  
"A priest within the order of Melchizedek."**

**Christ's altar was the tree, Where on the world's behalf  
He shed a blood, unlike the blood Of goat or calf  
To seal God's guarantee Of grace that cannot fail  
With blood He entered for our good Behind the veil.**

**What costly sacrifice To cover human sin!  
Who but Christ Jesus had the right To enter in?  
His blood, that sprinkled price, So we might be assured  
That our inheritance in light Has been secured.**

**Then let us now draw near, Washed in that precious flood  
And enter the Most Holy Place By Jesus' blood.  
From hearts that are sincere, Let tongues our hope profess,  
And trust anew God's faithful grace That we confess.**

**△ 6 All praise to Christ we bring, Our Lord who intercedes,  
Our great High Priest enthroned above Who knows our needs;  
And to the Father sing Our songs of thankful praise,  
Who with the Spirit reigns in love For endless days."**

**Text:** Stephen P. Starke, b. 1955

**Tune:** Hebrew; setting: *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1875

**Text:** © 2002 Stephen P. Starke; admin. Concordia Publishing House

**Music:** Public domain

### **Invocation & Opening Sentences**

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

**C:** Amen.

P: What a priest we have in Jesus!  
C: **He is our source of eternal salvation.**

P: He sympathizes with us in our weakness.  
C: **He offers prayers and supplications for us.**

P: He serves us and sacrifices Himself for us.  
C: **What a priest we have in Jesus!**

### **Confession and Absolution** - page 184

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
C: **who made heaven and earth.**

P: I said, I will confess my transgression unto the Lord,  
C: **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-evaluation*

P: O Almighty God, merciful Father,  
C: **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

### **Kyrie** - page 186

**Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

## Salutation and the Collect of the Day - pages 189-190

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And with thy spirit.**

P: Let us pray: Lord Jesus, You are our great High Priest. Teach us to follow Your example of service and sacrifice for others, so that more people may know of the forgiveness that can only be found in You; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

## Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 31:31–34

(God's new covenant)

L: The Old Testament Reading for the Fifth Sunday in Lent is taken from Jeremiah, Chapter 31:

“Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the Lord. For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, ‘Know the Lord,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.”

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## Epistle Reading

Hebrews 5:1–10

(Jesus is our great High Priest.)

L: The Epistle Reading is taken from Hebrews, Chapter 5:

For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. Because of this he is obligated to offer sacrifice for his own sins just as he does for those of the people. And no one takes this honor for himself, but only when called by God, just as Aaron was.

So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him,

“You are my Son,  
today I have begotten you”;

as he says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever,  
after the order of Melchizedek.”

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him, being designated by God a high priest after the order of Melchizedek.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

### **Holy Gospel Reading**

Mark 10:(32–34) 35–45

(The Son of Man came to serve and give His life.)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 10th Chapter:

 C: **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

(And they were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking ahead of them. And they were amazed, and those who followed were afraid. And taking the twelve again, he began to tell them what was to happen to him, saying, “See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death and deliver him over to the Gentiles. And they will mock him and spit on him, and flog him and kill him. And after three days he will rise.”)

And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came up to him and said to him, “Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.” And he said to them, “What do you want me to do for you?” And they said to him, “Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.” Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?” And they said to him, “We are able.” And Jesus said to them, “The cup that I drink you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized, but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.” And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John. And Jesus called them to him and said to them, “You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

 **C: Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

## **Apostles' Creed**

**A: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **Hymn of the Day**

“Since Our Great High Priest, Christ Jesus” - Hymn 529

**Since our great High Priest, Christ Jesus, Bears the name above all names  
Reigning Son of God, surpassing Other titles, pow'rs and claims  
Since to heav'n our Lord has passed Let us hold our witness fast!**

**Since we have a priest who suffered, Knowing weakness, tears, and pain  
Who like us was tried and tempted, Unlike us, without a stain  
Since He shared our lowly place, Let us boldly seeks His grace.**

**Sacrifice and suff'ring over, Now He sits at God's right hand  
Crowned with praise, no more an outcast, His preeminence long planned  
Such a great High Priest we have, Strong to help, supreme to save.**

**Love's example, hope's attraction, Faith's beginning and its end  
Pioneer of our salvation, Mighty advocate and friend  
Jesus, high in glory raised, Our ascended Lord be praised!**

**Text:** Christopher M. Idle, b. 1938

**Tune:** *Geistreiches Gesang-Buch*, Darmstadt, 1698; setting: William H. Monk, 1823–89, alt.

**Text:** © 1973 The Jubilate Group; admin. Hope Publishing Co.

**Music:** Public domain

## **Sermon**

 **Offertory** - page 192

**A:** Create in me a clean heart, O God  
And renew a right spirit within me  
Cast me not away from Thy presence  
And take not Thy Holy Spirit from me  
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation  
And uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

**Prayer of the Church**

**P:** For what a priest we have in Jesus,  
**C:** who became our sacrifice.

**The Service of the Sacrament**

**Preface** - page 194

 **P:** The Lord be with you.

 **C:** **And with thy spirit.**

 **P:** Lift up your hearts.

 **C:** **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

 **P:** Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

 **C:** **It is meet right so to do.**

**Proper Preface** - page 194

**P:** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord and great High Priest, who suffered for us in order to make us perfect. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

 **Sanctus** - page 195

**A:** Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabbaoth  
Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest  
Blessed is He, blessed is He,



**blessed is He who cometh in the name of the Lord  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest**

**Lord's Prayer** - spoken, page 196

**A: 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 Words of Our Lord** - spoken, page 197

**P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\mp$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."**

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\mp$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.

**Pax Domini** - page 197-198

**P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.**

**C: Amen.**

 **Agnus Dei** - page 198

**A: O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world  
Have mercy upon us  
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world  
Have mercy upon us  
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world  
Grant us Thy peace. Amen.**

**Communion Distribution**

**Communion Dismissal** - page 198

**P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart  $\mp$  in peace.**

**C: Amen.**

 **Nunc Dimittis** - page 198-199

**A:** Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace  
According to Thy word  
For mine eyes have seen Thy salvation  
which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people  
A light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.  
Amen.

**Thanksgiving** - page 200

**P:** O give thanks unto the Lord for He is good.

**C:** and His mercy endureth forever.

**P:** Let us pray: We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this Meal. We ask that You would strengthen us as we journey toward Holy Week, trusting in Jesus, the source of eternal salvation; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** Amen.

**Salutation and Benedicamus** - page 202

**P:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** And with thy spirit.

**P:** Bless we the Lord

**C:** Thanks be to God.

**Benediction** - page 202

**P:** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

 **C:** Amen, amen, amen.

**Closing Hymn**

“Abide O Dearest Jesus” - Hymn 919

**Abide, O dearest Jesus, Among us with Your grace  
That Satan may not harm us Nor we to sin give place.**

**Abide, O dear Redeemer, Among us with Your Word**

**And thus now and hereafter True peace and joy afford.**

**Abide with heav'nly brightness, Among us, precious Light  
Your truth direct and keep us From error's gloomy night.**

**Abide with richest blessings Among us, bounteous Lord  
Let us in grace and wisdom Grow daily through Your Word.**

**Abide with Your protection Among us, Lord, our strength,  
Lest world and Satan fell us And overcome at length.**

**Abide, O faithful Savior, Among us with Your love;  
Grant steadfastness and help us To reach our home above.**

**Text:** Josua Stegmann, 1588–1632; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.

**Tune:** Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570–1615; setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941

**Text and music:** Public domain