

**FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT**  
Walking through the Wilderness  
February 16 & 17, 2013

**AS WE GATHER**

It is the physical location of the Gospel for this First Sunday in Lent that focuses our attention today---a desert wilderness. In contrast to the lush garden of creation in which the fall of Adam took place, Scripture characterizes the world after the fall as a wilderness into which God's Son breaks in so that He might undo what sin has done. The devil tempts us, our sins convict us, and death is sin's curse upon us. Into this wilderness, God sends His Son who is tempted in our place and found faithful---even to death on the cross. Still the Gospel is proclaimed in the midst of the desert wilderness of a world held captive to darkness and sin. But Christ took our place, fought for us, and now there is glory before us as Christ leads us home to the promise of the Father.

**WELCOME**

*Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.*  
*Hebrews 10:25*

**+ PREPARATION +**

(Rise)

**OPENING HYMN #656      “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”**

A mighty fortress is our God, A trusty shield and weapon;  
He helps us free from every need That hath us now o'er taken.  
The old evil foe Now means deadly woe; Deep guile and great might  
Are his dread arms in fight; On earth is not his equal.

With might of ours can naught be done, Soon were our loss effected;  
But for us fights the valiant One, Whom God Himself elected.  
Ask ye, Who is this? Jesus Christ it is, Of Sabaoth Lord,  
And there's none other God; He holds the field forever.

Though devils all the world should fill, All eager to devour us,  
We tremble not, we fear no ill; They shall not over pow'r us.  
This world's prince may still Scowl fierce as he will, He can harm us none.  
He's judged; the deed is done; One little word can fell him.

The Word they till shall let remain Nor any thanks have for it;  
He's by our side upon the plain With His good gifts and Spirit.  
And take they our life, Goods, fame, child, and wife,  
Though these all be gone, Our vict'ry has been won'  
The Kingdom ours remaineth.

**INVOCATION**

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

(1)

**CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION**

Pastor: The Lord says of the one who trusts in Him: When he calls to Me, I will answer him;

**People: I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him.** *Psalm 91:15*

Pastor: With long life I will satisfy him

**People: and show him My salvation.** *Psalm 91:16*

Pastor: O Lord:

**People: I, a poor, miserable sinner, plead guilty before you of all my sins. I have lived as if you did not matter and as if I mattered most of all. Your name, O Lord, I have not honored as I ought; my worship and prayers have faltered. I have not let your love persuade me and so my love for others has failed. There are those who I have hurt and those whom I have failed to help. My thoughts and desires are soiled with sin. I am sorry for all of this and I beg you for your grace to forgive me all my sin and grant me your Spirit to amend my sinful life,**

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. To the impenitent and unbelieving I declare, that so long as you continue in your impenitence, God will not forgive your sins and will visit your iniquity upon you until you turn from your sinful ways, come to repentance, and trust in the merits of Jesus Christ alone.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: May He who began this good work within you bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**SALUTATION**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

**COLLECT**

Pastor: Let us pray. O loving Lord, the journey of our lives leads us through the desert wilderness of temptation, doubt, and fear. Keep our hearts focused upon your Son, Jesus Christ, that we may follow His leading and be led to the blessed home of your grace. Grant us your Spirit that we may with repentant joy lament our sins and rejoice in our salvation through the saving merits of Jesus Christ, our Lord, in whose name we pray.

**People: Amen.** (Be seated)

(2)

## + THE WORD OF GOD +

**OLD TESTAMENT** Deuteronomy 26:1-11 (*The people of God are directed to remember their journey in the wilderness and how the Lord brought them to the land of promise.*) When you have entered the land the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance and have taken possession of it and settled in it, take some of the firstfruits of all that you produce from the soil of the land the LORD your God is giving you and put them in a basket. Then go to the place the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his Name and say to the priest in office at the time, "I declare today to the LORD your God that I have come to the land the LORD swore to our forefathers to give us." The priest shall take the basket from your hands and set it down in front of the altar of the LORD your God. Then you shall declare before the LORD your God: "My father was a wandering Aramean, and he went down into Egypt with a few people and lived there and became a great nation, powerful and numerous. But the Egyptians mistreated us and made us suffer, putting us to hard labor. Then we cried out to the LORD, the God of our fathers, and the LORD heard our voice and saw our misery, toil and oppression. So the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great terror and with miraculous signs and wonders. He brought us to this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey; and now I bring the firstfruits of the soil that you, O LORD, have given me." Place the basket before the LORD your God and bow down before him. And you and the Levites and the aliens among you shall rejoice in all the good things the LORD your God has given to you and your household.

**EPISTLE** Romans 10:8b-13 (*St. Paul reminds us that the word of faith is near us and that all who call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.*) it is in your mouth and in your heart," that is, the word of faith we are proclaiming: That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. As the Scripture says, "Anyone who trusts in him will never be put to shame." For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

**5:00 ANTHEM** "Teach Me O Lord" *Jr. High Choir*

(Rise)

**GOSPEL** Luke 4:1-13 (*Our Lord is tempted in the wilderness by Satan.*)

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the desert, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread." Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone.'" The devil led him up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And he said to him, "I will give you all their authority and splendor, for it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. So if you worship me, it will all be yours." Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.'" The devil led him to Jerusalem and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down from here. For it is written: "'He will command his angels concerning you to guard you carefully; they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.'" Jesus answered, "It says: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time.

(Be seated)

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

**SERMON HYMN #715** "Jesus, Savior Pilot Me"

Jesus, Savior, pilot me Over life's tempestuous sea;  
Unknown waves before me roll, Hiding rock and treach'rous shoal.  
Chart and compass come from Thee, Jesus, Savior, pilot me.

As a mother stills her child, Thou canst hush the ocean wild;  
Boist'rous waves obey Thy will When Thou say'st to them, "Be still!"  
Wondrous Sov'reign of the sea, Jesus, Savior, pilot me.

When at last I near the shore And the fearful breakers roar  
Twixt me and the peaceful rest, Then, while leaning on Thy breast,  
May I hear Thee say to me, "Fear not, I will pilot thee."

**SERMON** "The Temptation in the Wilderness" Luke 4:1-13

(Rise)

**NICENE CREED** (*found on the back cover of the hymnal*)

(Be seated)

## 10:30 RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

**OFFERINGS** As your offering is collected, please sign our attendance book located at the end of the pew. If you are a visitor, please leave your address and phone. After you are finished, please pass the book along to others in your pew, and return the book to the center aisle.

(Rise)

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**Pastor:** Let us pray to the Lord who hears the voice of His people, sees our misery and delivers us with a mighty hand and outstretched arm. Father in heaven, we pray for ourselves and all who are struggling with temptation; strengthen us to recognize Satan's lies, grant us to trust Christ's forgiveness, and to hold firm to the One who conquered Satan

**People: that we may resist the enticements of the devil, the world and our sinful natures, and walk day by day with you.**

**Pastor:** Lord of the Church, we pray that every division be overcome by the truth of your Word, that in unity God's people proclaim Jesus to the world so that the Gospel would turn unbelieving hearts to worship the Lord our God and serve Him only.

**People: Fill us with your Spirit that our thoughts, words, and deeds may give glory to Christ and witness to His amazing grace.**

**Pastor:** Almighty God, we give you thanks for the fellowship of believers and for

bringing more of your children to grow in faith and service among us.

**People: Bless Kimberly and Krystal and their children as they worship with us and help us to warmly welcome them as fellow members of the body of Christ.**

Pastor: Compassionate Lord, we pray for those who are afflicted by doubts, praying that the Holy Spirit would reassure them with the Savior's promises,

**People: that they may have confidence to confess that "Jesus is Lord" and believe that God raised Him from the dead.**

Pastor: Lord of healing and hope, we pray for all who are facing affliction or are troubled by the difficulties of life, including William, Eleanor, Carol, Bob, Carri, Al, Jean, Lois, Sarah, Irma, Nancy, Gerald and Joe.

**People: We pray that the Lord Jesus would mercifully reach into their lives with healing, comfort, faith and relief.**

Pastor: Compassionate Lord, comfort and console those who are grieving the passing of loved ones, especially the family and friends of Art Greve, Clarence Wendler, Jerry Boehm and Marge Habanek.

**People: Wrap them in your loving arms and give them hope and peace through faith in Jesus Christ.**

Pastor: Gracious God, source of abundant grace and blessing, we pray that our hearts and minds would be eager to give of the resources you entrust to us,

**People: that by the working of the Holy Spirit we would thankfully and willingly return to the Lord the firstfruits of all He gives us, using our offerings to extend His kingdom of grace.**

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, we pray for pastors, missionaries, deaconesses, teachers and all workers in the Holy Christian Church, asking that you would provide for their needs, bless them to care for us,

**People: and faithfully teach us from God's Word of Truth, that we may learn evermore that we do not live by bread alone but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.**

Pastor: Lord of all, we pray for good government and for good citizenship, praying that God would lead those who govern to promote justice, protect the weak, reward virtue and punish evil;

**People: and that the Lord would guide us to exercise our freedoms faithfully and responsibly.**

Pastor: Lord of Hosts, we pray for our armed forces and for all who work for our protection,

**People: asking God to shelter them from harm and give them courage and wisdom day by day.**

(5)

Pastor: Father in Heaven, you instituted Holy Marriage. Therefore, we pray for our marriages and families, asking you to heal broken relationships and strengthen healthy relationships.

**People: Renew our love for each other and use us to encourage one another in faith and life.**

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, as we come to receive your body and blood, give us true repentance, a firm faith in your grace,

**People: and fill us with confidence in your promise that everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.**

Pastor: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**+ SACRAMENT +**

**THE WORDS OF THE LORD**

**THE PEACE OF THE LORD**

Pastor: The gifts of God for the people of God. The peace of the + Lord be with you all.

**People: Amen.**

**AGNUS DEI**

Page 198

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.

(Be seated)

**DISTRIBUTION** Those guests who desire to commune who are members of another LCMS congregation may do so; if you are coming from another church background, please see the pastor or an elder first.

**HYMN #434 "Lamb of God Pure and Holy"**

Lamb of God, pure and holy, Who on the cross didst suffer,  
Ever patient and lowly, Thyself to scorn didst offer.

All sins Thou borest for us, Else had despair reigned o'er us:  
Have mercy on us, O Jesus! O Jesus!

Lamb of God, pure and holy, Who on the cross didst suffer,  
Ever patient and lowly, Thyself to scorn didst offer.

All sins Thou borest for us, Else had despair reigned o'er us:  
Have mercy on us, O Jesus! O Jesus!

*Continued*

Lamb of God, pure and holy, Who on the cross didst suffer,  
Ever patient and lowly, Thyself to scorn didst offer.  
All sins Thou borest for us, Else had despair reigned o'er us:  
Thy peace be with us, O Jesus! O Jesus!

**HYMN #550 "Lamb of God"**

Your only Son, no sin to hide, But You have sent Him from Your side  
To walk upon this guilty sod, And to become the Lamb of God.

**Refrain**

**O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God!  
O wash me in His precious blood, My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.**

Your Gift of love they crucified, They laughed and scorned Him as He died:  
The humble King they named a fraud, And sacrificed the Lamb of God.

**Refrain**

I was so lost, I should have died, But You have brought me to Your side  
To be led by Your staff and rod, And to be called a lamb of God.

**Refrain**

**HYMN #424 "O Christ, You Walked the Road"**

O Christ, you walked the road Our wand'ring feet must go.  
You faced with us temptation's pow'r And fought our ancient foe.

No bread of earth alone Can fill our hung'ring hearts.  
Lord, help us seek Your living Word, The food Your grace imparts.

No blinding sign we ask, No wonder from above.  
Lord, help us place our trust alone In Your unswerving love.

When lures of easy gain With promise brightly shine,  
Lord, help us seek Your kingdom first; Our wills with Yours align.

O Christ, you walked the road Our wand'ring feet must go.  
Stay with us through temptation's hour To fight our ancient foe.

**COMMON DISMISSAL**

(Rise)

**POST-COMMUNION COLLECT**

Pastor: Give thanks to the LORD for He is good.

**People: for His steadfast love endures forever!** *Psalm 106:1*

Pastor: We give you thanks, O Lord, for all your loving kindness to us but most  
especially for sending your Son to lead us from the wilderness of our sin

and its death to the promise of your grace and everlasting life. Guard us  
in faith against all the power of temptation and keep us faithful on our  
Lenten journey to the cross where we behold your mercy. Give us  
courage and strength that we may raise up the cross in witness before  
the world that all may know Jesus Christ as the way, the truth, and the  
life; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord who lives and reigns with  
you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

**BENEDICTION**

**People: Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN #418 "O Lord, Throughout These Forty Days"**

O Lord, throughout these forty days You prayed and kept the fast;  
Inspire repentance for our sin, And free us from our past.

You strove with Satan, and You won; Your faithfulness endured;  
Lend us Your nerve, Your skill and trust In God's eternal Word.

Though parched and hungry, yet You prayed And fixed Your mind above;  
So teach us to deny ourselves. Since we have known God's love.

Be with us through this season, Lord, And all our earthly days,  
That when the final Easter dawns, We join in heaven's praise.

Preacher

Liturgist

Lectors

Acolytes

Organist

Jr High Choir Director

Music Coordinator

Pastor Gregg Stanton

Pastor Harold Bender

Debbie Ulbing, Jodi Drew, Jane Adams

Rachel Osell, Ana Gonzalez-Clark, Nicholas Alioto

Roger Gottschalk

Shannon Wiegert

Kim Woller