

# Lenten Mid-Week Worship

March 28, 2012

## On The Road To Nineveh

Our Lenten Mid Week Services will include portions of Martin Luther's Small Catechism; sermons will focus on the series "On the Road."

*On the Road...*

*Roads and paths, Roman highways and shepherd's trails, Biblical Palestine was crisscrossed with them. People leaving somewhere and headed toward someplace... what's left behind can be as significant as what lies ahead. Our 2012 midweek and Holy Week Lenten series focuses on some **roads** to and from in the Bible. Roads that we'll walk together.*

### + A SERVICE OF PRAYER +

**HYMN #618 "I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table"** Stanzas 1-3

*(Rise)*

### OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: Jesus Christ is the Light of the world, *John 8:12*

**People: the light no darkness can overcome.** *John 1:5*

Pastor: Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,

**People: and the day is almost over.** *Luke 24:29*

Pastor: Let your light scatter the darkness *1 Corinthians 4:5*

**People: and illumine your Church.** *2 Corinthians 4:6*

### OPENING PRAYER

Pastor: Joyous light of glory,

**People: of the immortal Father; heavenly, holy, blessed Jesus Christ. We have come to the setting of the sun, and we look to the evening light. We sing to God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit: You are worthy of being praised with pure voices forever. O Son of God, O Giver of life: the universe proclaims your glory.**

Pastor: Blessed are you, O Lord, our God, King of the universe, who led your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by the light of your Christ; may His Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for you are merciful, and you love your whole creation and we, your creatures, glorify you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

### HYMN #620 "Jesus Comes Today With Healing"

Jesus comes today with healing,  
Knocking at my door, appealing,  
Off'ring pardon, grace, and peace.

He Himself makes preparation, And I hear His invitation:  
"Come and taste the blessed feast."

### OLD TESTAMENT Exodus 24:3-8

*When Moses went and told the people all the LORD's words and laws, they responded with one voice, "Everything the LORD has said we will do." Moses then wrote down everything the LORD had said. He got up early the next morning and built an altar at the foot of the mountain and set up twelve stone pillars representing the twelve tribes of Israel. Then he sent young Israelite men, and they offered burnt offerings and sacrificed young bulls as fellowship offerings to the LORD. Moses took half of the blood and put it in bowls, and the other half he splashed against the altar. Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read it to the people. They responded, "We will do everything the LORD has said; we will obey." Moses then took the blood, sprinkled it on the people and said, "This is the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words."*

SOLO

*"The Lord's Prayer"*

### CATECHISM

Pastor: What is the Sacrament of the Altar?

**People: It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christians to eat and drink.**

Pastor: Where is this written?

**People:** The holy evangelists Matthew, Mark, Luke, and St. Paul write: 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 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 blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

**HYMN #620 "Jesus Comes Today With Healing"**

Christ Himself, the priest presiding,  
Yet in bread and wine abiding In this holy sacrament,  
Gives the bread of life, once broken,  
And the cup, the precious token Of His sacred covenant.

**EPISTLE 1 Corinthians 10:14-21**

*Therefore, my dear friends, flee from idolatry. I speak to sensible people; judge for yourselves what I say. Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ? Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all share the one loaf. Consider the people of Israel: Do not those who eat the sacrifices participate in the altar? Do I mean then that food sacrificed to an idol is anything, or that an idol is anything? No, but the sacrifices of pagans are offered to demons, not to God, and I do not want you to be participants with demons. You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons too; you cannot have a part in both the Lord's table and the table of demons.*

**HYMN #620 "Jesus Comes Today With Healing"**

Under bread and wine, though lowly,  
I receive the Savior holy, Blood and body, giv'n for me,  
Very Lamb of God from heaven,  
Who to bitter death was given,  
Hung upon the cursed tree.

**CATECHISM**

Pastor: What is the benefit of this eating and drinking?

**People:** These words, "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins," show us that in the Sacrament forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation are given us through these words. For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation.

Pastor: How can bodily eating and drinking do such great things?

**People:** Certainly not just eating and drinking do these things, but the words written here: "given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." These words, along with the bodily eating and drinking, are the main thing in the Sacrament. Whoever believes these words has exactly what they say.

**HYMN #620 "Jesus Comes Today With Healing"**

God descends with heav'nly power,  
Gives Himself to me this hour In this ordinary sign.  
On my tongue His pledge receiving,  
I accept His grace, believing That I taste His love divine.

*(Rise)* **HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 26:26-28**

*The word of the LORD came to Jonah son of Amittai: "Go to the great city of Nineveh and preach against it, because its wickedness has come up before me." But Jonah ran away from the LORD and headed for Tarshish. He went down to Joppa, where he found a ship bound for that port. After paying the fare, he went aboard and sailed for Tarshish to flee from the LORD. Then the LORD sent a great wind on the sea, and such a violent storm arose that the ship threatened to break up. All the sailors were afraid and each cried out to his own god. And they threw the cargo into the sea to lighten the ship. But Jonah had gone below deck, where he lay down and fell into a deep sleep. The captain went to him and said, "How can you sleep? Get up and call on your god! Maybe he will take notice of us so that we will not perish." Then the sailors said to each other, "Come, let us cast lots to find out who is responsible for this calamity." They cast lots and the lot fell on Jonah. So they asked him, "Tell us, who is responsible for making all this trouble for us? What kind of work do*

*you do? Where do you come from? What is your country? From what people are you?" He answered, "I am a Hebrew and I worship the LORD, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land." This terrified them and they asked, "What have you done?" (They knew he was running away from the LORD, because he had already told them so.) The sea was getting rougher and rougher. So they asked him, "What should we do to you to make the sea calm down for us?" "Pick me up and throw me into the sea," he replied, "and it will become calm. I know that it is my fault that this great storm has come upon you." Instead, the men did their best to row back to land. But they could not, for the sea grew even wilder than before. Then they cried out to the LORD, "Please, LORD, do not let us die for taking this man's life. Do not hold us accountable for killing an innocent man, for you, LORD, have done as you pleased." Then they took Jonah and threw him overboard, and the raging sea grew calm. At this the men greatly feared the LORD, and they offered a sacrifice to the LORD and made vows to him. Now the LORD provided a huge fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights. (Be seated)*

### **HYMN #620 "Jesus Comes Today With Healing"**

Let me praise God's boundless favor,  
Whose own feast of love I savor,  
Bidden by His gracious call.  
Wedding garments He provides me,  
With a robe of white He hides me,  
Fits me for the royal hall.

### **CATECHISM**

Pastor: Who receives this Sacrament worthily?

**People: Fasting and bodily preparation are certainly fine outward training. But that person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." But anyone who does not believe these words or doubts them is unworthy and unprepared, for the words "for you" require all hearts to believe.**

### **HYMN #620 "Jesus Comes Today With Healing"**

Now have I found consolation,  
Comfort in my tribulation, Balm to heal the troubled soul.  
God, my shield from ev'ry terror,  
Cleanses me from sin and error,  
Makes my wounded spirit whole.

### **SERMON "When We'd Rather Go On A Cruise" Jonah 1:1-17**

**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)*

### **PRAYERS**

Pastor: in peace, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For the peace from above, and for our salvation,  
let us pray to the Lord,

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord,

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For this holy house, and for all who offer here  
their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord,

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For the health of creation, for abundant harvests  
that all may share, and for peaceful times, let us  
pray to the Lord,

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For public servants, the government, and those  
who protect us; for those who work to bring  
peace, justice, healing, and protection in this and  
every place, let us pray to the Lord,

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For those who travel, for those who are sick and

suffering, and for those who are in captivity, let us pray to the Lord,

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For deliverance in the time of affliction, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord,

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: Giving thanks for all who have gone before us and are at rest, rejoicing in the communion of all the saints, we commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to you,

**People: through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

### **PARTING PRAYER**

Pastor: O Lord, support us all the day long of this troubled life, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes and the busy world is hushed, the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then, in your mercy, grant us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at last, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

### **BENEDICTION**

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Pastor: The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, keep our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus.

**People: Amen.**

### **HYMN #632 "O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee"**

Preacher	Pastor Gregg Stanton
Lector	Laurel Privatt
Acolyte	MacKenzie Ricard
Organist	Roger Gottschalk
Soloist	Pastor Emeritus Thomas Hinz
Music Coordinator	Kim Woller