



April 6, 2025 - Fifth Sunday in Lent

As We Gather: The sermon series for the Sundays during Lent is entitled, "Words from the Upper Room". In his Gospel John devotes five chapters (John 13-17), almost a fourth of his Gospel, to giving us an account of what happened in that Upper Room as Jesus met with His disciples to celebrate the Passover for the last time. In this series, we will look at some of the words Jesus spoke to His disciples that night and see the timeless messages they have for us as Christ's followers 2,000 years later. Our Theme for today is: "Called Into Friendship".

Welcome

Hymn: LSB 435 "Come To Calvary's Holy Mountain"

Invocation

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

People: Amen.

Confession and Absolution

Pastor: As the Lord God delivered His chosen people from Egyptian slavery through the sea yet on dry ground, and as He delivered His chosen people from their captivity in Babylon of old, so has He now delivered His chosen people to this day from slavery to sin and death through the cross and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ. Remembering that your Holy Baptism is still a present reality today, let us return to the Lord our God in true repentance and faith.

People: **Lord God, we confess that we have sinned against You and have fallen back into our old ways of neglecting You and our love for our neighbor. Create a new heart and spirit within us and make us to be Your new creation by faith in Your Son, Jesus Christ, that we may live under Him and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness both today and forever.**

Pastor: But now thus says the LORD, He who created you and formed you, "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are Mine." Upon this, your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, announce the grace of God to 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.

People: Amen.

Introit

Pastor: Salvation belongs to the LORD; Your blessing be on Your people!

People: **But You, O LORD, are a shield about me, my glory, and the lifter of my head.**

Pastor: I cried aloud to the LORD, and He answered me from His holy hill.

People: **I lay down and slept; I woke again, for the LORD sustained me.**

Pastor: I will not be afraid of many thousands of people who have set themselves against me all around.

All: 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.

People: Salvation belongs to the LORD; Your blessing be on Your people!

Kyrie –Lord, Have Mercy (*Words and music in hymnal page 186*)

All: Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

[During Lent many congregations omit the Hymn of Praise.]

Prayer of the Day

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty God, You have delivered Your chosen people of old from all manner of captivity of body and soul. According to Your promise, make us to be Your chosen people today, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for Your own possession, that we may proclaim Your praises to one another and to the world; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 43:16-21 (*God promises to do a new thing for His people.*)

¹⁶ This is what the LORD says—he who made a way through the sea, a path through the mighty waters, ¹⁷ who drew out the chariots and horses, the army and reinforcements together, and they lay there, never to rise again, extinguished, snuffed out like a wick: ¹⁸ “Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. ¹⁹ See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland. ²⁰ The wild animals honor me, the jackals and the owls, because I provide water in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland, to give drink to my people, my chosen, ²¹ the people I formed for myself that they may proclaim my praise.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading: Philippians 3:8-14 (*Paul reminds us that nothing is as important as knowing Christ.*)

⁸ What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead. ¹² Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading: Luke 20:9-20 (*Jesus tells the parable of the wicked tenants.*)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the twentieth chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

⁹ He went on to tell the people this parable: "A man planted a vineyard, rented it to some farmers and went away for a long time. ¹⁰ At harvest time he sent a servant to the tenants so they would give him some of the fruit of the vineyard. But the tenants beat him and sent him away empty-handed. ¹¹ He sent another servant, but that one also they beat and treated shamefully and sent away empty handed. ¹² He sent still a third, and they wounded him and threw him out. ¹³ "Then the owner of the vineyard said, 'What shall I do? I will send my son, whom I love; perhaps they will respect him.' ¹⁴ "But when the tenants saw him, they talked the matter over. 'This is the heir,' they said. 'Let's kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.' ¹⁵ So they threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. "What then will the owner of the vineyard do to them? ¹⁶ He will come and kill those tenants and give the vineyard to others." When the people heard this, they said, "God forbid!" ¹⁷ Jesus looked directly at them and asked, "Then what is the meaning of that which is written: "'The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone'?" ¹⁸ Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces; anyone on whom it falls will be crushed.' ¹⁹ The teachers of the law and the chief priests looked for a way to arrest him immediately, because they knew he had spoken this parable against them. But they were afraid of the people. ²⁰ Keeping a close watch on him, they sent spies, who pretended to be sincere. They hoped to catch Jesus in something he said, so that they might hand him over to the power and authority of the governor.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise be to You, O Christ.**

Hymn: LSB 770 "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

Sermon: John 15:14-15 "Called Into Friendship"

Nicene Creed:

All: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the Church

Offerings

The Communion Confession

Pastor: The Lord's Supper is God's gift for Christians who are properly taught. In communion, we want people to receive Christ's body and blood for their good. This means that as you come to the Lord's Table you affirm with each communicant that Jesus is your Savior and Lord; and with Lutheran Christians you confess:

All: I recognize and confess that I am a sinner. I repent of my sins and ask God's forgiveness. I believe Jesus Christ is my only Lord and Savior from sin, Satan, and death. I believe that the risen Christ is really present in the Sacrament and, that under the form of bread and wine, I receive His true body and blood for the forgiveness of my sin and the strengthening of my faith and life. (*Augsburg Confession-Article X*)

The Communion Liturgy

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Pastor: 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, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. 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: Holy, Holy Holy (*Words and music in hymnal page 195*)

All: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; heaven and earth are full of Thy glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

The Lord's Prayer

All: 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.

Words of Institution

The Greeting of Peace

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

Agnus Dei: Lamb of God (*Words and music in hymnal page 198*)

All: 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

Distribution Hymns: LSB 618 "I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table"
LSB 547 "The Lamb"

Nunc Dimittis: Song of Simeon (*Words and music in hymnal on page 199*)

All: 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.

Pastor: O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
People: And His mercy endures forever.

Pastor: Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, Almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this sacrament, and we implore You that of your mercy, You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; 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

Pastor: The LORD bless you and keep you. The LORD make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The LORD look upon you with favor and give you peace. *Numbers 6:24–26*

People: (*Sing*) Amen, Amen, Amen.

Closing Hymn: LSB 456 "Were You there"

Portions of the service are from Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 2.
Copyright © 2024 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission

**Church
News**

ANNOUNCEMENTS for Week of April 6, 2025

Grace Lutheran Church 1120 S. Park Ave. Aurora, MO

Church: 417-678-3603 Pastor Ken Lampe Cell: 417-366-3597

pastor@gracelutheranaurora.com

Family for the Week: James Sharp & Brett Arrasmith Families
First Lutheran, Neosho - Rev. Steve Gilmore

Prayers of Peace and Comfort

Prayers of Thanksgiving:

Prayers for Health and Healing:

Complete Prayer List:

Temporary

Doug Bernard – (Cathy Munden's cousin – health and healing)
Bob Brents – (health and healing)
Treaa Bussey – (friend of Pam Bowling – health and healing)
Roger Harris – (Wendy's Dad – health and healing from flu)
Ervin Jung – (cousin of Kathy Holle – health and healing)
Deborah Knotts – (our cleaning lady – health and healing)
Wendy Koenig – (friend of Heidi Costello – health and healing from flu)
Alissa Loveland – (Bob & Rachel Sanford's daughter healing–accident)

Tabitha Packwood – (health & healing)
Steve Parker – (friend of Joanne Michel – health and healing surgery)
Suzanne Parsons – (friend of Sue Doss – health and healing)
Billy Schmells – (friend of Cheryl Lile – health and healing)
Robert Sick – (Ardella Frerich's granddaughter's husband)
Bill Thompson – (health and healing)
Bryan Velasco – (friend of Bernie Thomas – health and healing)
Thomas Williams – (Ruth Stoddard's friend)

Long Term

Diana Bauer – (daughter–in–law of Gladys Bauer – health & healing)
Jami Bauer – (relative of Gladys Bauer – peace and comfort)
Rick Bauer – (Gladys Bauer's son – health and healing from surgery)
Jill Bode – (niece of Rachel Sanford – health & healing, cancer)
Kathy Browne – (friend of Kathy Holle – health and healing)
Jackie Clark – (Micki Gettman's friend – healing from a broken–hip)
Dorthea Dennis – (health and healing)
Steve Doss – (friend of Harold Lampe – health & healing)
Jan Fisher – (daughter of Bill & Joanne Michel – health and healing)
Lois Gaddy – (friend of Gwen Lampe – health and healing)
Gary Gardner – (health and healing)
Jane Goodman – (health & healing)
Betty Gordon – (Health and healing)
Pastor Gary Griffin – (health & healing from cancer)
Vicki Heppard – (relative of Gladys Bauer – health & healing from cancer)

Ron Hicks – (friend of Glenda Enlow – health and healing)
Steve Hilton – (friend of Harold Lampe –health & healing, cancer)
Sheryl Holle – (Kathy Holle's cousin – health & healing, cancer)
Marty Jones – (Bobby Jones' mother – health)
Robbie Krueger – (friend of Kathy Holle)
Marybeth Lamp – (friend of Pam Bowling – health and healing)
Gary Lampe – (Pastor's brother – health and healing)
Pat Michel – (Bill Michel's Sister–In–Law – health & healing)
Larry Moennig – (friend of Harold Lampe – health & healing)
Margaret Seburn – (cousin of Joanne Michel – health and healing)
Ruth Stoddard – (health & healing)
Larry Swart – (friend of Bill Munden – health and healing from cancer)
Koooper Tutten – (Jeeper Meyer's Great–grandson healing)
Barbara Jean Wilson –Friend of Pam Bowling – health and healing)
June Winger – (Sharon Barlow's mother – health & healing)

THIS WEEK

Sunday	Apr. 6th	9:00 am - Happy Half Hour 9:30 am - Fellowship 10:00 am – Service with Communion Free will offering – Today - see below
Monday	Apr. 7th	Braille - 9:00 am & 1:00 pm LWML in Freistatt – 1:30 pm - see below
Wednesday	Apr. 9th	Pastor in Office Lenten Lunch - 12:00 @ Verona Catholic Church Grace Responsible for Lunch – see Pam Pizza – 5:30 pm Service - 6:30 pm – Pastor Jake
Thursday	Apr. 10th	Pastor in Office
Sunday	Apr. 13th	9:00 am - Happy Half Hour 9:30 am - Fellowship 10:00 am – Service
Monday	Apr. 14th	Braille - 9:00 am & 1:00 pm Women's Bible Study in Freistatt – 1:30 pm

Birthdays: Angela Sharp-Apr. 10
Anniversaries: None

April

Greeters

04/06: Gladys Bauer & Cheryl Lile
04/13: Emily Ernest & Sue Doss
04/20: Bill and Joanne Michel
04/27: Charlie and Edee Chambers

Ushers

04/06: Bill Michel
04/13: Rob Springer
04/20: Charlie Chambers
04/27: David Lampe



Portals of Prayer for April-June are now available.

New Member Church Directory: We will be printing a new church directory in April. We will have a proof sheet for review of information. Please review the sheet and make any corrections as needed. You may also text me at 417-489-0413 or email changes to chambers120@gmail.com. Also, if you want a new picture, txt or email a selfie that you wish to include in the directory.

Lenten Lunches started on March 12 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Verona. (212 N 2nd St.)

Wednesday, April 9: Grace Lutheran Church is responsible for serving the meal at the Lenten Lunch on Wednesday, April 9th. The meals are being served at the Catholic Church in Verona. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex for anyone wanting to help with this project. We will need soup, sandwiches and dessert for approximately 50 people. If you have any questions, contact Pam Bowling.

Wednesday, April 9: "Let's Talk About It", Brad & Keri Boettler and Ben Tracy. Doors open at 5:15 pm and Speaking 6:00 pm. Dancer facing our Children OnLine.

LWML will meet April 7 at 1:30 in the chapel. Our guest speaker will be Karen Millsap, a glass artist, from Mt. Vernon. She will be telling us about her work and about the role of the Mt. Vernon Regional Arts Council in our community. Please join us for this interesting program.

The LWML Spring Gathering will be held on Sunday, May 4th, at Stockton, Missouri. Registration begins at 2:30 pm. The gathering begins at 3:00 p.m. If you would like to attend, please let Edith Chambers know by April 15th. Additional information is on the flyer on the bulletin board in the narthex. If you have any questions, ask Edith.

Free Will Offering April 6 (Today): Grace will be taking a freewill offering for Pastor to help with local requests for food, rent, utilities, etc.

Assignment of new pastor calls by Synod will be on April 30th. The service will be broadcast and you will be able to watch on line, Wednesday, the 30th, at 7 p m. <https://Cal.edu/live>
You might want to check in early and get your phone or computer setup before the service.