



## March 6, 2024 - Fourth Midweek Lenten Service

### Words That Last Forever

“Words That Last Forever “ is the theme for our Midweek Lenten Services. We will listen to Jesus as He speaks from the cross 2000 years ago. And we will ponder the meaning of His words for our own lives in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

### John 19:25-27 “Behold”

#### Welcome

**Hymn:** “With Words That Last Forever” (*Melody LSB 449*)

**With words that last forever you speak in richest grace,  
Lord Jesus Christ, my Savior, upon your cross disgraced.  
With open ears I listen, with open mind believe,  
With open heart embrace you: I, Lord, your words receive.**

**“Forgiveness” granted sinners, and “Paradise, today!”  
“Behold your son, your mother!” to family you say.  
The air is split with anguish in your “Forsaken” cry,  
As “Thirsty,” work “Accomplished,” in “Father’s hands” you die.**

**Pray, sanctify the silence with which I contemplate  
Your boundless love for sinners, your sacrifice so great,  
Till at the tomb I waken to your new word for me:  
These words, not last, but lasting, shall ring eternally!**

#### Approaching the Word—Responsive Litany

**Pastor:** Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.

**People:** **“Behold your son.... Behold your mother.”**

**Pastor:** The word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved, it is the power of God.

**People;** **“Behold your son.... Behold your mother.”**

**Pastor:** The Lord sent out his word and healed them, and delivered them from destruction.

**People:** **“Behold your son.... Behold your mother.”**

**Pastor:** The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth.

**People:** **“Behold your son.... Behold your mother.”**

**Pastor:** “The word that goes forth from my mouth shall not return to me empty,” says the Lord.  
“It shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.”

**People:** **“Behold your son.... Behold your mother.”**

## Prayer of the Day

Pastor: O God our Father, your love for sinners is boundless, sparing not even your only begotten Son as a sacrifice for sin. So motivate us by your grace and our Brother's selfless love for us that we may be bold to carry on the family name. We are sons and daughters of the God of grace. Make us gracious ... and graceful. Through the same Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## First Reading: 1Timothy 5:1-8

Do not speak harshly to an older man, but speak to him as to a father, to younger men as brothers, to older women as mothers, to younger women as sisters—with absolute purity. Honor widows who are really widows. If a widow has children or grandchildren, they should first learn their religious duty to their own family and make some repayment to their parents; for this is pleasing in God's sight. The real widow, left alone, has set her hope on God and continues in supplications and prayers night and day; but the widow who lives for pleasure is dead even while she lives. Give these commands as well, so that they may be above reproach. And whoever does not provide for relatives, and especially for family members, has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## Responsive Psalm Psalm 27:1, 3-10, 13-14

Pastor: The Lord is my light and my salvation; I will fear no one.

**People: The Lord protects me from all danger; I will never be afraid.**

Pastor: I have asked the Lord for one thing; one thing only do I want:

**People: to live in the Lord's house all my life, to marvel there at his goodness, and to ask for his guidance.**

Pastor: In times of trouble he will shelter me.

**People: He will keep me safe in his temple and make me secure on a high rock.**

Pastor: So I will triumph over my enemies around me.

**People: With shouts of joy I will offer sacrifices in his temple; I will sing, I will praise the Lord.**

Pastor: Hear me, Lord, when I call to you! Be merciful and answer me!

**People: When you said, "Come worship me," I answered, "I will come, Lord." Don't hide yourself from me.**

Pastor: Don't be angry with me; don't turn your servant away.

**People: You have been my help; don't leave me, don't abandon me, O God, my Savior.**

Pastor: My father and mother may abandon me,

**People: but the Lord will take care of me.**

Pastor: I know that I will live to see the Lord's goodness in this present life.

**People: Trust in the Lord. Have faith, do not despair. Trust in the Lord.**

## Gospel Reading: John 16:16-24

Jesus continued, "A little while, and you will no longer see me, and again a little while, and you will see me." Then some of his disciples said to one another, "What does he mean by saying to us, 'A little while, and you will no longer see me, and again a little while, and you will see me'; and 'Because I am going to the Father'?" They said, "What does he mean by this 'a little while'? We do not know what he is talking about." Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him, so he said to them, "Are you discussing among yourselves what I meant when I said, 'A little while, and you will no longer see me, and again a little while, and you will see me'? Very truly, I tell you, you will weep and mourn, but

the world will rejoice; you will have pain, but your pain will turn into joy. When a woman is in labor, she has pain, because her hour has come. But when her child is born, she no longer remembers the anguish because of the joy of having brought a human being into the world. So you have pain now; but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you. On that day you will ask nothing of me. Very truly, I tell you, if you ask anything of the Father in my name, he will give it to you. Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be complete.”

**Pastor:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

**Theme Hymn:** “Our Savior Speaks in Love” (*sung to LSB melody 431*)

**Our Savior speaks in love To sinners in their need.  
Oh, hear the message from above; His gracious promise heed.**

**To Mary, looking on, “Behold your son,” he says.  
“Behold your mother”; thus on John Love’s burden gently lays.**

**Our Savior speaks; may we Give heed to ev’ry word,  
And grace be given faithfully To trust what we have heard.**

**Sermon:** John 19:25-27 “Behold” Pastor Jake Sletten

**Hymn:** LSB 423 “Jesus, Refuge of the Weary”

## **Offerings**

### **Prayers:**

**Pastor:** In Jesus Christ, God is with us, Emmanuel. We are never alone. Gathered together in his name, let us join in fervent prayer:

**People:** **Lord, make us mindful of one another.**

**Pastor:** That this congregation and the Christian Church throughout the world may prove itself to be a fellowship of sisters and brothers, united in faith and hope and love, concerned about the welfare of all, let us join in fervent prayer:

**People:** **Lord, make us mindful of one another.**

**Pastor:** That people and nations may not live selfishly but in communities and in the context of the global village God provides for us as our home, let us join in fervent prayer:

**People:** **Lord, make us mindful of one another.**

**Pastor:** That we may become instruments of help and healing for all who in their sickness or distress find themselves in need of kindly companionship, let us join in fervent prayer:

**People:** **Lord, make us mindful of one another.**

**Pastor:** And that even in the midst of tears and loss, our eyes may be fixed on our heavenly home, our steps guided by the life-giving Spirit of God, and our hearts refreshed by the sweet hope of a blessed reunion with those we love, let us join in fervent prayer:

**People:** **Lord, make us mindful of one another. Amen.**

### **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.

### **Benediction**

**Pastor:** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you his peace. You have been welcomed into the family of God.

**People:** Amen.

### **Hymn:** LSB 427 "In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

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