



## March 12, 2025 - Second Midweek Lenten Service

### Life Together: A Series of Services for Lent

**As We Gather:** Using texts from 1 Peter this series addresses popular assumptions of postmodernism which we encounter in our daily lives and which question and challenge traditional ideas and values. Through the sermons, we will see that the words which Peter wrote to the first century believers still give us guidance as we deal with the challenges we face today. Tonight's theme is: "Life Is Better in My Hand".

### Welcome

**HYMN:** LSB 440 "Jesus, I Will Ponder Now" vs. 1, 2, 4, & 6

### INVOCATION AND OPENING SENTENCES

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

**People:** Amen.

**Pastor:** He was despised and rejected by mankind;

**People:** **A man of suffering and familiar with pain.**

**Pastor:** Christ suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring us to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit.

**People:** **Therefore, we give glory to God who raised him up and gave us the promise of salvation. Amen.**

### CONFESSION OF SINS

**Pastor:** Let us confess our sins to our gracious and merciful God.

**All:** **Lord of all mercy, we come to you with bowed heads and bended knees seeking your pardon. We confess that we have turned away from the Savior in thought, word and deed. We have sought our own way and forgotten His sacrifice for us. Forgive us, Lord. Strengthen our faith, renew our commitment to Jesus' way, empower us by the Spirit to live the life of faithful witnesses to your love for us in Jesus Christ.**

**Pastor:** At the command of the Savior who offered himself in love for us, I announce to you the full and free forgiveness of all of your sins. May the peace of Christ dwell in your hearts and fill your lives. Amen.

**Scripture Reading:** 1 Peter 2:20-25

<sup>20</sup> For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. <sup>21</sup> For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. <sup>22</sup> He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. <sup>23</sup> When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. <sup>24</sup> He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live

to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. <sup>25</sup> For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Reading of Passion History:** Luke 22:1-13

Now the Feast of Unleavened Bread drew near, which is called the Passover. <sup>2</sup> And the chief priests and the scribes were seeking how to put him to death, for they feared the people. <sup>3</sup> Then Satan entered into Judas called Iscariot, who was of the number of the twelve. <sup>4</sup> He went away and conferred with the chief priests and officers how he might betray him to them. <sup>5</sup> And they were glad, and agreed to give him money. <sup>6</sup> So he consented and sought an opportunity to betray him to them in the absence of a crowd. <sup>7</sup> Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. <sup>8</sup> So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat it." <sup>9</sup> They said to him, "Where will you have us prepare it?" <sup>10</sup> He said to them, "Behold, when you have entered the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him into the house that he enters <sup>11</sup> and tell the master of the house, 'The Teacher says to you, Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' <sup>12</sup> And he will show you a large upper room furnished; prepare it there." <sup>13</sup> And they went and found it just as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn:** LSB 423 "Jesus, Refuge of the Weary"

**Sermon:** 1 Peter 2:20-25 "Life Is Better in My Hand" Pastor Jake Sletten

**Hymn:** LSB 729 "I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus"

**Offerings**

**Prayers**

Pastor: O Lord, we remember this day that life alone is nothing without life together,

**People: and that life together is nothing without life in you.**

Pastor: O Lord, we remember that life in our hands is meaningless, while life in your hands is filled with all good things.

**People: O Father, we commit our spirit to you, our lives are in your hands.**

Pastor: O Father, we commit to you the life of the world. Our world is in your hands.

**People: O Father, we commit to you the church, your people everywhere, and this congregation. Our community is in your hands.**

Pastor: O Father, we commit to your hands the sick and suffering . . . . We commit to your hands those who grieve . . . . We commit all these lives to your gracious mercy.

**People: Our friends are in your hands.**

Pastor: All these burdens and cares, and all that weighs upon our hearts, we lift up to you, from our hands to your hands, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

**People: 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 almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit bless and preserve you.

**People:** Amen.

**Hymn:** LSB 878 "Abide With Me" vs. 1, 2, & 6