



**March 26, 2025 - Fourth 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: "I'm Being True to Myself".

**Welcome**

**Call To Worship**

**Pastor:** From our schedule of daily activities, we gather for a time of worship.

**People:** **To be refreshed and renewed before we return to those activities.**

**Pastor:** May this season of Lent be for each of us a time of spiritual nourishment and growth in preparation for our celebration of Easter.

**People:** **May it be a time when we in spirit gather at the foot of the cross to focus our eyes on our Redeemer who was wounded for our transgressions and bruised for our iniquities.**

**All:** **Gracious God we thank You that we can gather each week for our mid-week Lenten Services. May the Season of Lent bring us rich spiritual blessings as we focus our thoughts on our Savior and our life together. In His name, we pray. Amen.**

**Hymn:** LSB 436 "Go to Dark Gethsemane"

**Confession and Absolution**

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

**People:** **O loving Lord and Shepherd, You call us by name as Your own dear sheep. You teach us to recognize Jesus' voice and follow Him. Yet, because of our sinful nature we find it so difficult to listen to You, much less to love and serve You and other people. In fact, we often become stray sheep who do things that are sinful and that are hurtful both to us and the people around me. Forgive us all our sins and help us for Jesus' sake.**

**Pastor:** Hear the Good News. Each one of you is precious to our Suffering Savior. As a faithful Shepherd He has laid down His life for you, and no one will snatch you out of His hand. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Jesus and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** **Amen.**

**Scripture Reading:** 1 Peter 1:22-25

<sup>22</sup> Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, <sup>23</sup> since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God; <sup>24</sup> for All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls, <sup>25</sup> but the word of the Lord remains forever.” And this word is the good news that was preached to you.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Reading of the Passion History:** Luke 22:39-53

<sup>39</sup> And he came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives, and the disciples followed him. <sup>40</sup> And when he came to the place, he said to them, “Pray that you may not enter into temptation.” <sup>41</sup> And he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and knelt down and prayed, <sup>42</sup> saying, “Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done.” <sup>43</sup> And there appeared to him an angel from heaven, strengthening him. <sup>44</sup> And being in agony he prayed more earnestly; and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground. <sup>45</sup> And when he rose from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping for sorrow, <sup>46</sup> and he said to them, “Why are you sleeping? Rise and pray that you may not enter into temptation.” <sup>47</sup> While he was still speaking, there came a crowd, and the man called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He drew near to Jesus to kiss him, <sup>48</sup> but Jesus said to him, “Judas, would you betray the Son of Man with a kiss?” <sup>49</sup> And when those who were around him saw what would follow, they said, “Lord, shall we strike with the sword?” <sup>50</sup> And one of them struck the servant <sup>51</sup> of the high priest and cut off his right ear. <sup>52</sup> But Jesus said, “No more of this!” And he touched his ear and healed him. <sup>53</sup> Then Jesus said to the chief priests and officers of the temple and elders, who had come out against him, “Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs? <sup>53</sup> When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness.”

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn:** LSB 420 “Christ, the Life of All the Living” vs. 1, 2, 3, & 6

**Sermon:** 1 Peter 1:22-25 “I’m Being True to Myself” Pastor Jake

**Hymn:** LSB 422 “On My Heart Imprint Your Image”

**Prayers**

Pastor: O Lord, we remember that the grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of the Lord stands forever.

**People: O Lord, we remember that life alone is nothing without life together, and life together is nothing without life in you.**

Pastor: O Lord, we remember that if we are being true with ourselves, we will know that our true self is found only in you.

**People: O Father, forgive us, for we know not what we do.**

Pastor: O Father, we lay before you this patchwork world: Bind it together with the thread of your truth.

**People: O Father, we lay before you the patchwork church, your people everywhere, and this congregation: Bind us together with the thread of your love.**

Pastor: O Father, we lay before you the sick and suffering . . . . We lay before you those who grieve . . . . We lay all these lives before your gracious mercy:

**People: Bind them together with the thread of your healing.**

Pastor: All these burdens and cares, and all that weighs upon our hearts, we lay before you, so that you might bind us together in faith, hope, and love. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever

**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 grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

**People: Amen.**

**Hymn: LSB 887 "Now the Light Has Gone Away"**