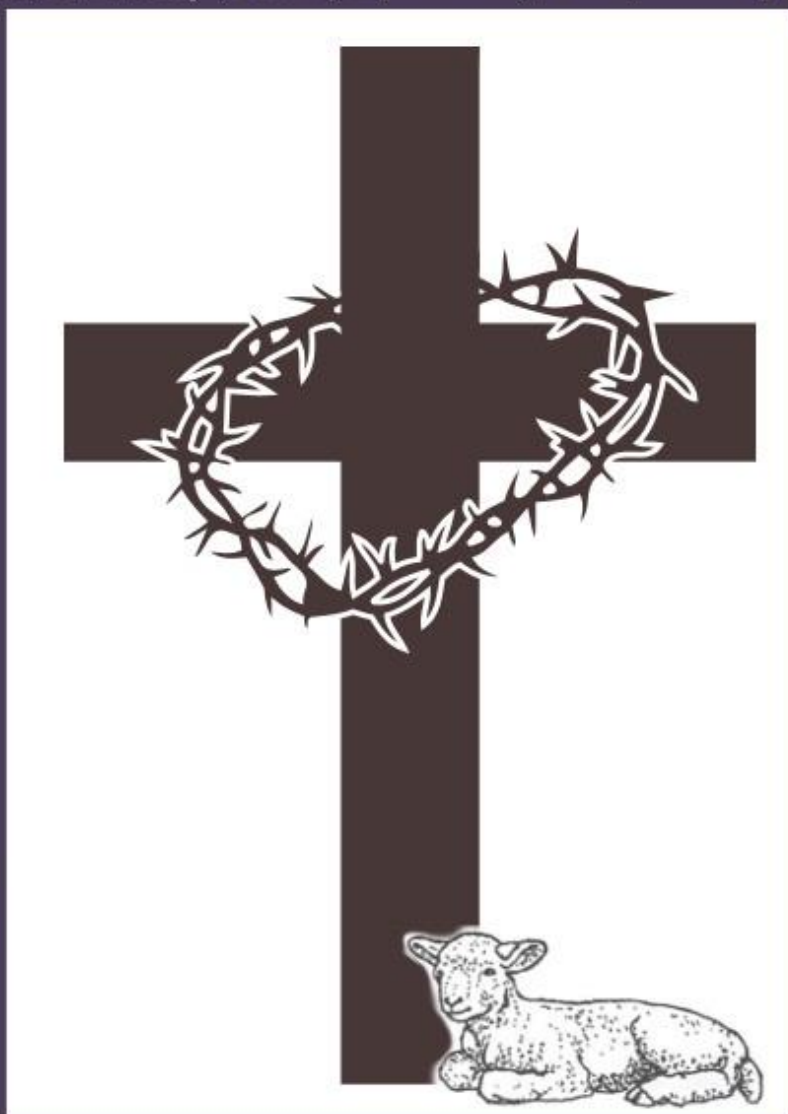


Christ, Our Great High Priest

His Sanctifying Blood ; His All-Sufficient Atonement ; His More Excellent Ministry ; His Sympathizing Compassion ; His True Humanity ; His Advocacy with the Father ; His Excellent Name



Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 4: 14-16



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

LENT 2017



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Opening Hymn:

Opening Liturgy:.....With TLH 156: Not All the Blood of Beasts

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

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sins ...

C: Heavenly Father, in this holy season, we are reminded again of the reality and consequences of our own sin and of our desperate need for help and deliverance. “It is a dreadful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.” Yet, in repentance and faith we come pleading for mercy, looking alone for forgiveness and salvation to the cross of Christ. Help us “approach” Your throne of grace with confidence, “so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”

P: “Christ has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to do away with sin by the sacrifice of Himself. Just as man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment, so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of all people; And He will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for Him.” (Hebrews 9:26-28)

P: “O LORD, our Lord, how excellent is Your name in all the earth.” (Psalm 8:1)

C: “Christ is the brightness of God’s glory and the express image of His Person... being so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.” (Hebrews 1:3a,4)

P: “For Christ bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.” (Is. 53:12b)

C: “Therefore He is able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, because He always lives to intercede for them.” (Hebrews 7:25)

P: “Abraham, I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and the sands on the seashore ... And in your Seed all the nations of the earth will be blessed.” (Genesis 22:17-18)

C: “Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make an atoning sacrifice for the sins of the people.” (Hebrews 2:17)

P: ‘Behold! My servant whom I uphold, My Chosen One in whom I delight ... A bruised reed He will not break, and a smoldering wick He will not snuff out.’ (Isaiah 42:1,3)

C: “For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.” (Hebrews 4:15)

P: "Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel ... I will put my laws in their mind and write them on their hearts... And I will forgive their unrighteousness and remember their sins no more." (Jeremiah 31)

C: "But now Christ has obtained a more excellent ministry, inasmuch as He is also Mediator of a better covenant, which was established on better promises." (Hebrews 8:6)

P: "The LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all." (Isaiah 53:6)

C: "By that heavenly will, we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all." (Hebrews 10:10)

Sing [♩]: Not all the blood of beasts
On Jewish altars slain
Could give the guilty conscience peace
Or wash away the stain.

But Christ, the heavenly Lamb,
Takes all our sins away;
A sacrifice of nobler name
And richer blood than they.



OUR GREAT
High Priest

The Passion Reading:A Harmony of the Gospels

Confession of Faith:Luther's Explanation to the Second Article

C:I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord. He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sin, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and His innocent suffering and death. He did this that I should be His very own, live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in eternal righteousness, innocence, and joy; just as He is risen from death, lives and reigns in eternity. This is most certainly true.

Sermon:See back of bulletin for text and themes

CHRIST, OUR GREAT HIGH PRIEST

Response:TLH 628, st. 3

Sing [♩]: Thou art the great High Priest; Thou hast prepared the feast
Of holy love; And in our mortal pain None calls on Thee in vain;
Help Thou dost not disdain, Help from above.

Post-Sermon Hymn:

Offering, Prayer, & Lord's Prayer (Lord's Supper on Ash Wednesday):

Benediction (by Pastor or Choir):

Closing Hymn:

Please return bulletins for continued use during the Lenten season.

CHRIST, OUR GREAT HIGH PRIEST

His Advocacy with the Father: He Makes Intercession with UsHebrews 7:22-28

²² ... by so much more Jesus has become a surety of a better covenant. ²³ Also there were many priests, because they were prevented by death from continuing. ²⁴ But He, because He continues forever, has an unchangeable priesthood. ²⁵ Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them. ²⁶ For such a High Priest was fitting for us, *who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and has become higher than the heavens;* ²⁷ who does not need daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for His own sins and then for the people's, for this He did once for all when He offered up Himself. ²⁸ For the law appoints as high priests men who have weakness, but the word of the oath, which came after the law, *appoints* the Son who has been perfected forever.

Hymns: TLH 140; TLH 522; TLH 220; TLH 562

Ash Wednesday: March 1, 2017 (Pastor John Hein)

His Excellent Name: The Son of GodHebrews 1:1-6

¹ God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, ² has in these last days spoken to us by *His Son*, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; ³ who being the brightness of *His* glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴ having become so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they. ⁵ For to which of the angels did He ever say: "You are My Son, Today I have begotten You?" And again: "I will be to Him a Father, And He shall be to Me a Son?" ⁶ But when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says: "Let all the angels of God worship Him."

Hymns: TLH 153; TLH 170; WS 721; TLH 555

March 8, 2017 (Pastor David Schierenbeck)

His All-Sufficient Atonement: He was Offered to Bear the Sin of ManyHebrews 9:24-28

²⁴ For Christ has not entered the holy places made with hands, *which are* copies of the true, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us; ²⁵ not that He should offer Himself often, as the high priest enters the Most Holy Place every year with blood of another— ²⁶ He then would have had to suffer often since the foundation of the world; but now, once at the end of the ages, He has appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself. ²⁷ And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment, ²⁸ so Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.

Hymns: TLH 154; TLH 142, st. 1-3,6; TLH 171:1-4, 8; TLH 558

March 15, 2017 (Pastor John Hein)

His Sympathizing Compassion: He is Touched by Our WeaknessesHebrews 4:14-16

¹⁴ Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast *our* confession. ¹⁵ For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all *points* tempted as *we are*, yet without sin. ¹⁶ Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Hymns: TLH 155; TLH 174; WS 723; TLH 552, st. 1-4, 8

March 22, 2017 (Pastor John Hein)

His True Humanity: The Seed of AbrahamHebrews 2:14-18

¹⁴ Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵ and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. ¹⁶ For indeed He does not give aid to angels, but He does give aid to the seed of Abraham. ¹⁷ Therefore, in all things He had to be made like *His* brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things *pertaining* to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted.

Hymns: TLH 157; TLH 172, st. 1-5; TLH 151, st. 1, 4-7; TLH 653

March 29, 2017 (Rev. Paul Fleischer)

His More Excellent Ministry: He Established a New and Better CovenantHebrews 8:6-13

⁶ But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, inasmuch as He is also Mediator of a better covenant, which was established on better promises. ⁷ For if that first *covenant* had been faultless, then no place would have been sought for a second. ⁸ Because finding fault with them, He says: "Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah— ⁹ "not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they did not continue in My covenant, and I disregarded them, says the LORD. ¹⁰ "For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My laws in their mind and write them on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. ¹¹ "None of them shall teach his neighbor, and none his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them. ¹² "For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more." ¹³ In that He says, "A new *covenant*," He has made the first obsolete. Now what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away.

Hymns: TLH 149; TLH 158; WS 722; TLH 554, st. 1-2, 5-6

April 5, 2017 (Rev. Daniel Fleischer)