



St Paul Ev. Lutheran Church-Blue Point Lenten Midweek Service March 7, 2018

Welcome to St Paul Ev. Lutheran Church

Prayer before Service-O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church, that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Opening Hymn424
Order of Vespers.....pg 229
Psalm 40 (Responsively whole verse by whole verse)

Old Testament Lesson-Isaiah 64:1-9

Oh, that You would rend the heavens! That You would come down!

That the mountains might shake at Your presence—

As fire burns brushwood, As fire causes water to boil—

To make Your name known to Your adversaries,

That the nations may tremble at Your presence!

When You did awesome things for which we did not look,

You came down,

The mountains shook at Your presence.

For since the beginning of the world

Men have not heard nor perceived by the ear,

Nor has the eye seen any God besides You,

Who acts for the one who waits for Him.

You meet him who rejoices and does righteousness,

Who remembers You in Your ways.

You are indeed angry, for we have sinned—

In these ways we continue; And we need to be saved.

But we are all like an unclean thing,

And all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags;

We all fade as a leaf, And our iniquities, like the wind,

Have taken us away.

And there is no one who calls on Your name,

Who stirs himself up to take hold of You;

For You have hidden Your face from us,

And have consumed us because of our iniquities.

But now, O LORD, You are our Father;

We are the clay, and You our potter;

And all we are the work of Your hand.

Do not be furious, O LORD, Nor remember iniquity forever;

Indeed, please look—we all are Your people!

Epistle Lesson-Romans 7:15-25

For what I am doing, I do not understand. For what I will to do, that I do not practice; but what I hate, that I do. If, then, I do what I will not to do, I agree with the law that it is good. But now, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells in me. For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) nothing good dwells; for to will is present with me, but how to perform what is good I do not find. For the good that I will to do, I do not do; but the evil I will not to do, that I practice. Now if I do what I will not to do, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells in me.

I find then a law, that evil is present with me, the one who wills to do good. For I delight in the law of God according to the inward man. But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? I thank God—through Jesus Christ our Lord!

Gospel Lesson-Luke 22:24-62

Now there was also a dispute among them, as to which of them should be considered the greatest. And He said to them, “The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them, and those who exercise authority over them are called ‘benefactors.’ But not so among you; on the contrary, he who is greatest among you, let him be as the younger, and he who governs as he who serves. For who is greater, he who sits at the table, or he who serves? Is it not he who sits at the table? Yet I am among you as the One who serves.

“But you are those who have continued with Me in My trials. And I bestow upon you a kingdom, just as My Father bestowed one upon Me, that you may eat and drink at My table in My kingdom, and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.”

And the Lord said, “Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat. But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to Me, strengthen your brethren.”

But he said to Him, “Lord, I am ready to go with You, both to prison and to death.”

Then He said, “I tell you, Peter, the rooster shall not crow this day before you will deny three times that you know Me.”

And He said to them, “When I sent you without money bag, knapsack, and sandals, did you lack anything?” So they said, “Nothing.”

Then He said to them, “But now, he who has a money bag, let him take it, and likewise a knapsack; and he who has no sword, let him sell his garment and buy one. For I say to you that this which is written must still be accomplished in Me: ‘And He was numbered with the transgressors.’ For the things concerning Me have an end.”

So they said, “Lord, look, here are two swords.” And He said to them, “It is enough.”

Coming out, He went to the Mount of Olives, as He was accustomed, and His disciples also followed Him. When He came to the place, He said to them, “Pray that you may not enter into temptation.”

And He was withdrawn from them about a stone’s throw, and He knelt down and prayed, saying, “Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done.” Then an angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him. And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. Then His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground.

When He rose up from prayer, and had come to His disciples, He found them sleeping from sorrow. Then He said to them, “Why do you sleep? Rise and pray, lest you enter into temptation.”

And while He was still speaking, behold, a multitude; and he who was called Judas, one of the twelve, went before them and drew near to Jesus to kiss Him. But Jesus said to him, “Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?”

When those around Him saw what was going to happen, they said to Him, “Lord, shall we strike with the sword?” And one of them struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his right ear.

But Jesus answered and said, “Permit even this.” And He touched his ear and healed him.

Then Jesus said to the chief priests, captains of the temple, and the elders who had come to Him, “Have you come out, as against a robber, with swords and clubs? When I was with you daily in the temple, you did not try to seize Me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness.”

Having arrested Him, they led Him and brought Him into the high priest’s house. But Peter followed at a distance. Now when they had kindled a fire in the midst of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. And a certain servant girl, seeing him as he sat by the fire, looked intently at him and said, “This man was also with Him.”

But he denied Him, saying, “Woman, I do not know Him.”

And after a little while another saw him and said, “You also are of them.” But Peter said, “Man, I am not!”

Then after about an hour had passed, another confidently affirmed, saying, “Surely this fellow also was with Him, for he is a Galilean.”

But Peter said, “Man, I do not know what you are saying!” Immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed. And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how He had said to him, “Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times.” So Peter went out and wept bitterly.

Sermon Hymn.....766 vs 1-4, 9

Sermon

Text: Matthew 6; Luke 22; Romans 7

Theme: Thy Will be Done

I. We desire that God’s Will be done in our lives

II. So we pray boldly against the devil, the world, and our sinful nature

III. And God keeps us faithful

Canticle.....934

Offering

Prayers

Benediction

Closing Hymn.....453

Lenten Services continue with services, on March 14th, at 7 PM with Holy Communion. The theme is “The Lord’s Prayer in the Lord’s Passion”

Lenten Midweek, March 7, Thy Will be Done

Lenten Midweek, March 14, Give Us this day our daily bread

Lenten Midweek, March 21, Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us

Maunday Thursday, March 29, Lead us not into temptation

Good Friday, March 30, But deliver us from evil

Easter Sunday, April 1, For Thine is the Kingdom, and the Power, and the Glory, forever and ever. Amen!

Former Lutheran Hour speaker Reverend Gregory Seltz and

Congressman John Shimkus will team up to discuss “The Two Kingdoms and the role of a Christian in the Political Process” at the upcoming Lutheran Layman’s League Annual Meeting Mar 17. St John’s Congregation of Champaign will host the meeting. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend. More details and registration information will be forthcoming. Please put the date on your church and personal calendars. Reverend Seltz is now Executive Director of Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty (LCRL) in Washington DC and Shimkus was a Lutheran School teacher before going into Congress.

Bethesda Lutheran Communities helps people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in 13 states through a variety of programs. To learn more about the programs and to support them go to www.BethesdaLutheranCommunities.org. Brenda Scarbeary will be here on Sunday, March 11, to make a presentation to Sunday school and the congregation about the work of Bethesda.

There will be a benefit for Pam (Berg) Kopley on Sunday, April 8 from 11 AM to 2 PM at the Carriage Inn Event Center. There will be a meal by Deb’s Catering, Bake Sale, Raffle held throughout the benefit. Pam was diagnosed with a cancerous brain tumor in August

2017. Money raised will help with Pam’s medical expenses. Tickets may be purchased at the Cobblestone Inn, People’s Bank, or Immanuel Lutheran Church office. Donations of pies and other baked good are much appreciated. Check bulletin board for more info.

The Altamont and Effingham/Shelby LWML Zones will be hosting a Joy Workshop featuring Katie Schuermann, on Tuesday, April 24 at 6:30 PM at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Altamont. All ladies of the congregation are invited to a salad supper, bible study and fellowship. Please RSVP by April 12. Sign up sheet on the bulletin board.

35th Annual Hog Roast at Zion Lutheran Church, Altamont, Sunday, March 18, 4:30PM. Menu: BBQ Pork, baked beans, baked potato, chips, applesauce, desserts & pies. Cost is free-will donation with proceeds 1/2 to Lutheran Care Center and 1/2 to 125th Anniversary Fund for Zion. Bulk BBQ Pork will be available for sale.

Prayers-For Keith Meier who is undergoing treatment for cancer; For Cheryl Burks who is recovering from back surgery; for Cherie Hammer, who is recovering from surgery this week;

Those serving
Preacher-Rev David Speers
Organist-Lucille Klitzing

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The 3rd Petition

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

What does this mean?

The good and gracious will of God is done even without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may be done among us also.

How is God’s will done?

God’s will is done when He breaks and hinders every evil plan and purpose of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature, which do not want us to hallow God’s name or let His kingdom come; and when He strengthens and keeps us firm in His Word and faith until we die. This is His good and gracious will.

Luther, Martin. Luther's Small Catechism with Explanation (ESV) (Kindle Locations 2428-2433). Concordia Publishing House. Kindle Edition.

From CFW Walther, The Proper Distinction Between Law and Gospel

“Young ministers who are still without great experience frequently make this mistake. They desire to make an impression on their people and rouse them out of their natural security. They imagine that, in order to prevent hypocrites from regarding themselves as Christians, they cannot

raise the demands which they make upon those who are Christians too high. However, here is a point where the minister must be careful not to go beyond the Word of God, or by reason of his zeal he will inflict awful harm on the souls of his hearers. Alas! Christians are in many respects quite different from the descriptions, bona-fide descriptions, at that, which are given of them in sermons. The minister wants to rouse his people and warn them against self-deception. However, that cannot be his ultimate aim. His ultimate aim must be to lead his hearers to the assurance that they have forgiveness of sins with God, the hope of the future blessed life, and confidence to meet death cheerfully. Any one who does not make these things his ultimate aim is not an evangelical minister. For this reason he must be careful, for God's sake, not to say: "Any one who does this or that is not a Christian," unless he is quite sure of his ground. Frequently a Christian may act in a very unchristian manner.

"Rom. 7:18 Paul says: I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) dwelleth no good thing; for to will is present with me, but how to perform that which is good I find not. It is plain that in this passage the apostle describes a Christian. How a person becomes a Christian he had described before. Next, he proceeded to show how a Christian ought to walk and to please God. **In the section of his epistle from which the above passage is taken he begins to discuss the doctrine of spiritual tribulations in which Christians frequently are merged, in order to comfort them. He describes a Christian as a double being. The true Christian, he says, always desires what is good, but frequently he does not accomplish it. Now, then, if a preacher describes a Christian in such a manner as to deny that, unless he accomplishes all that is good, he does not really will what is good, the description is unbiblical. To will what is good is the main trait of a Christian. Frequently he does not progress beyond the good will to do something. Before he is aware of it, he has gone astray; the sin within him has come forth, and he is ashamed of himself. But for that reason he has not by any means fallen from grace.**

Walther, C. F. W., Dau, W. H. T., & Eckhardt, E. (2000). The proper distinction between law and gospel: 39 evening lectures (electronic ed., pp. 308–309). Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House.

[Scripture taken from the New King James Version. Copyright 1979, 1980, 1982 by Thomas Nelson, Inc. Used by permission. All rights reserved.]