

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
Lohman (Stringtown), Missouri
Phone (573) 782-3191 Cell: (573) 818-2112
Brian Whittle, Pastor
Email: stjohnstringtown@gmail.com
Website: www.stjohnstringtown.org
Facebook: fb.me/stjohnstringtown/

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I HAVE SINNED

Our Lord Jesus Christ is the subject of all the Scriptures, both the Old and New Testaments. But some passages say puzzling and seemingly impossible things about Him. Consider Psalm 41:4: “O LORD, be gracious to me; heal me, for I have sinned against You.” David, the writer of this psalm, was indeed a sinner who needed God’s gracious forgiveness. How puzzling it is that we would apply this confession of sin to our sinless Lord! But Paul writes, “For our sake He made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God” (2 Corinthians 5:21). In your Baptism, your sinless Jesus has joined Himself to you and has fulfilled all the words that testify of Him.

OPENING SENTENCES

LSB, p. 229

P O Lord, open my lips,
C and my mouth will declare Your praise.

P Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
C make haste to help me, O Lord.

C Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.
Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation.

PSALM

Psalm 25:1–2a, 4–6, 8

- P** To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul.
- C** **O my God, in You I trust; let me not be put to shame.**
- P** Make me to know Your ways, O LORD; teach me Your paths.
- C** **Lead me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation; for You I wait all the day long.**
- P** Remember Your mercy, O LORD, and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.
- C** **Good and upright is the LORD; therefore He instructs sinners in the way.**

PSALM

Psalm 41

- P** Blessed is the one who considers the poor!
- C** **In the day of trouble the LORD delivers him;**
- P** the LORD protects him and keeps him alive; he is called blessed in the land;
- C** **You do not give him up to the will of his enemies.**
- P** The LORD sustains him on his sickbed; in his illness You restore him to full health.
- C** **As for me, I said, “O LORD, be gracious to me; heal me, for I have sinned against You!”**
- P** My enemies say of me in malice, “When will he die and his name perish?”
- C** **And when one comes to see me, he utters empty words, while his heart gathers iniquity; when he goes out, he tells it abroad.**
- P** All who hate me whisper together about me; they imagine the worst for me.
- C** **They say, “A deadly thing is poured out on him; he will not rise again from where he lies.”**
- P** Even my close friend in whom I trusted, who ate my bread, has lifted his heel against me.
- C** **But You, O LORD, be gracious to me, and raise me up, that I may repay them!**
- P** By this I know that You delight in me: my enemy will not shout in triumph over me.
- C** **But You have upheld me because of my integrity, and set me in Your presence forever.**

Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting! Amen and Amen.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

HYMN

“Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed” (*LSB* 437)

+ Readings +

READING

2 Samuel 12:15b–23

P A reading from Second Samuel, the twelfth chapter.

^{15b}The LORD afflicted the child that Uriah’s wife bore to David, and he became sick. ¹⁶David therefore sought God on behalf of the child. And David fasted and went in and lay all night on the ground. ¹⁷And the elders of his house stood beside him, to raise him from the ground, but he would not, nor did he eat food with them. ¹⁸On the seventh day the child died. And the servants of David were afraid to tell him that the child was dead, for they said, “Behold, while the child was yet alive, we spoke to him, and he did not listen to us. How then can we say to him the child is dead? He may do himself some harm.” ¹⁹But when David saw that his servants were whispering together, David understood that the child was dead. And David said to his servants, “Is the child dead?” They said, “He is dead.” ²⁰Then David arose from the earth and washed and anointed himself and changed his clothes. And he went into the house of the LORD and worshiped. He then went to his own house. And when he asked, they set food before him, and he ate. ²¹Then his servants said to him, “What is this thing that you have done? You fasted and wept for the child while he was alive; but when the child died, you arose and ate food.” ²²He said, “While the child was still alive, I fasted and wept, for I said, ‘Who knows whether the LORD will be gracious to me, that the child may live?’” ²³But now he is dead. Why should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he will not return to me.”

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

READING

1 Peter 2:19–25

P A reading from First Peter, the second chapter.

¹⁹This is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. ²⁰For 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. ²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in His steps. ²²He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in His mouth. ²³When 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. ²⁴He 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. ²⁵For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

READING

John 1:29–32

P A reading from St. John, the first chapter.

²⁹The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! ³⁰This is He of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks before me, because He was before me.’ ³¹I myself did not know Him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that He might be revealed to Israel.” ³²And John bore witness: “I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on Him.”

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

LENT RESPONSORY

LSB, p. 231

SERMON

HYMN

“Upon the Cross Extended” (*LSB* 453)

+ CANTICLE +

ANTIPHON

LSB, p. 231

MAGNIFICAT

LSB, p. 231

Presentation of Offering

+ PRAYER +

KYRIE

LSB, p. 233

C Lord, have mercy;
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy.

LORD’S PRAYER

LSB, p. 233

COLLECTS

P O Lord, hear my prayer.

C And let my cry come to You.

P O Lord, our God, we ask You with our whole heart to forgive our sins and wipe out our errors. Direct our actions and, by the indwelling of Your Spirit, purify our consciences and sanctify our hearts so that, forgiven and renewed, we may serve You and walk in Your ways; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

C I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

P O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICAMUS

LSB, p. 234

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

LSB, p. 234

P The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C Amen.

HYMN

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” (*LSB* 426)