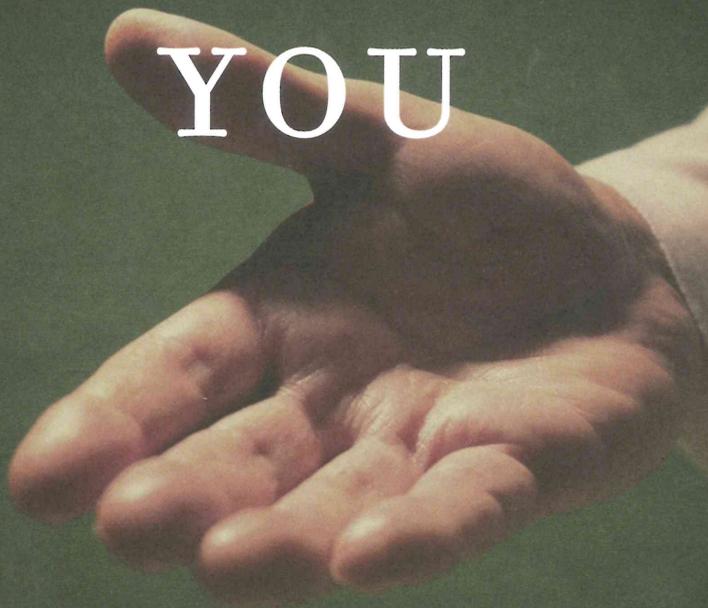


SERMON *on the* MOUNT

Blessed

are

YOU





*“Return, Reconciled,  
Rewarded”*

*Wednesday, February 17, 2021 at 6:30 pm*

## **AS WE GATHER**

As we begin this Lenten season, we once again hear that call to return to the Lord, our God. God says, “Return to Me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments” (Joel 2:12–13). Once again, we return from our wandering to our gracious and merciful God who has paved the way for us to be reconciled to Him through His Son, Jesus. “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 5:20). Because of Jesus, our heavenly Father rewards us with the gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation. We are empowered by the Holy Spirit to live lives of righteous service in His name.

*Please stand for portions of service marked with an asterisk (\*)*

## **PRELUDE**

Carol Krueger, Accompanist

## **✠ PREPARATION ✠**

### **\*INVOCATION**

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

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

### **OLD TESTAMENT READING** *Joel 2:12–19*

**Lector:** “Yet even now,” declares the LORD, “return to Me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments.”

**People:** **Return to the LORD, your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and He relents over disaster.**

Lector: Who knows whether He will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind Him, a grain offering and a drink offering for the LORD your God?

**People: Blow the trumpet in Zion; consecrate a fast; call a solemn assembly; gather the people. Consecrate the congregation; assemble the elders; gather the children, even nursing infants.**

Lector: Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her chamber. Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep and say,

**People: "Spare Your people, O LORD, and make not Your heritage a reproach, a byword among the nations. Why should they say among the peoples, 'Where is their God?'"**

Lector: Then the LORD became jealous for His land and had pity on His people. The LORD answered and said to His people,

**People: "Behold, I am sending to you grain, wine, and oil, and you will be satisfied; and I will no more make you a reproach among the nations."**

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### **\*SALUTATION**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

### **\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts that lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness we may receive from You full pardon and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

### **SPECIAL MUSIC**

*"Remember"*

Adult Choir

### **\*CONFESSIONAL ADDRESS**

Pastor: We are dust, and to dust we shall return. But our God is faithful and just. When we confess our sins, he covers us in his righteousness and gives us new hope.

**People:** Most merciful God, dust is our destiny. We are impure. We are at war against You and our fellow human beings in what we say, in what we think, and in what we do. We have even left undone the good things You gave commanded us to do. We do not deserve the kingdom of heaven. Out of the depths of Your perfect grace, please forgive us for the sins we have committed against You and against one another. Wash us clean and turn our rags into white robes so that we will rise from the dust of ashes to the glory of Your grace. Amen.

**\*PSALM**      *Psalm 51:1–13; antiphon v. 17*

**Pastor:** The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;

**People:** a broken and contrite heart, O God, You will not despise.

**Pastor:** Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love;

**People:** according to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

**Pastor:** Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,

**People:** and cleanse me from my sin!

**Pastor:** For I know my transgressions,

**People:** and my sin is ever before me.

**Pastor:** Against You, You only, have I sinned and done what is evil in Your sight,

**People:** so that You may be justified in Your words and blameless in Your judgment.

**Pastor:** Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me.

**People:** Behold, You delight in truth in the inward being, and You teach me wisdom in the secret heart.

**Pastor:** Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;

**People:** wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

**Pastor:** Let me hear joy and gladness;

**People:** let the bones that You have broken rejoice.

**Pastor:** Hide Your face from my sins,

**People:** and blot out all my iniquities.

**Pastor:** Create in me a clean heart, O God,

**People:** and renew a right spirit within me.

**Pastor:** Cast me not away from Your presence,

**People:** and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.

**Pastor:** Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,

**People:** and uphold me with a willing spirit.

Pastor: Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, and sinners will return to You.

People: **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.**

Pastor: The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;

People: **a broken and contrite heart, O God, You will not despise.**

## SPECIAL MUSIC

“O God, Be Merciful to Me”

Adult Choir

### \*IMPOSITION OF ASHES *Genesis 3:19*

Pastor: Almighty and everlasting God, You spoke to Adam and Eve in the garden and said, “You are dust, and to dust you shall return.” Your people of ancient times wore sackcloth and ashes as a sign of repentance. We remember our sinfulness through the ashes and remember the gracious gift of forgiveness through the cross of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

People: **Amen.**

*The Pastor and assistants receive ashes first, followed by the congregation. Using a Q-tip, the Pastor, or an assistant, places the ashes on the forehead of each person in the sign of the cross, saying:*

*Elder/Pastor: “Dust you are, and to dust you shall return.”*

**People: Amen.**

*After receiving the ashes, each person returns to his or her place in silence. There is no statement of dismissal.*

*(sung during imposition of ashes)*

## HYMN

“Lord Jesus, Think on Me”

LSB 610



1 Lord Je - sus, think on me And purge a - way my sin;  
2 Lord Je - sus, think on me, By anx - ious thoughts op - pressed;  
3 Lord Je - sus, think on me A - mid the bat - tle's strife;  
4 Lord Je - sus, think on me Nor let me go a - stray;  
5 Lord Je - sus, think on me That, when this life is past,



From world - ly pas - sions set me free And make me pure with - in.  
Let me Your lov - ing ser - vant be And taste Your prom - ised rest.  
In all my pain and mis - er - y, O be my health and life!  
Through dark - ness and per - plex - i - ty Point out Your cho - sen way.  
I may the e - ter - nal bright - ness see And share Your joy at last.

## \*ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Our merciful heavenly Father sent His son Jesus, who is righteous, merciful and pure in heart. He is the one who has, by His cross, made peace between evil sinners and a righteous God. Jesus Christ rose from the dust of death to life again so that we are made to live before God in righteousness and purity. It is by His grace that I announce to you the forgiveness of all of your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

## \*LENTEN VERSE

LSB pg. 157

Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for He is gra - cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in  
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

## \*HOLY GOSPEL

*Matthew 5:1-12*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Seeing the crowds, [Jesus] went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him.

And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

“Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

“Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## HYMN OF THE DAY

### *“Jesus Sat with His Disciples”*

LSB 932



1 Je - sus sat with His dis - ci - ples On a  
2 “Bless-ed are the meek and hum - ble, All the  
3 “Bless-ed are God’s sons and daugh - ters, Mak - ing



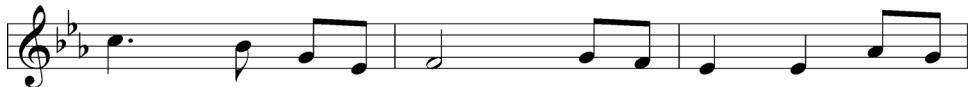
moun - tain - side one day; As the crowds of peo - ple  
earth to them is willed. Those who hun - ger to be  
peace where there is strife. Bless - ed are the per - se -



gath - ered, He be - gan to teach and say:  
ho - ly, They are bless’d and will be filled.  
cut - ed, Who for righ - teous-ness lose life;



“Bless-ed are the poor in spir - it, Heav - en’s  
Yes, the mer - ci - ful are bless - ed, Mer - cy  
Their re - ward is great in heav - en, In the



king - dom they will share. Bless-ed are the sad and  
will to them be shown. And the pure in heart are  
king - dom up a - bove— So be glad to share My



mourn - ing, Joy and com - fort will be theirs.  
bless - ed, They have eyes for God a - lone.  
suf - f’ring And re - joice to know My love.”

## SERMON

*“Blessed Are You”*

Pastor Chris Matthis

### \*CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Nicene Creed

**I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things, visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by Whom all things were made. Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man. And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He shall come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come, Amen.**

### \*LITANY

Pastor: O Lord,

**People: have mercy.**

Pastor: O Christ,

**People: have mercy.**

Pastor: O Lord,

**People: have mercy.**

Pastor: O Christ,

**People: hear us.**

Pastor: God the Father in heaven,

**People: have mercy.**

Pastor: God the Son, Redeemer of the world,

**People: have mercy.**

Pastor: God the Holy Spirit,

**People: have mercy.**

Pastor: Be gracious to us.

**People: Spare us, good Lord.**

Pastor: Be gracious to us.

**People: Help us, good Lord.**

Pastor: By the mystery of Your holy incarnation; by Your holy nativity; by Your baptism, fasting, and temptation; by Your agony and bloody sweat; by Your cross and passion; by Your precious death and burial; by Your glorious resurrection and ascension; and by the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter:

**People: Help us, good Lord.**

Pastor: In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death; and in the day of judgment:

**People: Help us, good Lord.**

Pastor: We poor sinners implore You

**People: to hear us, O Lord.**

Pastor: To prosper the teaching of Your Word; to bless our prayer and meditation; to strengthen and preserve us in the true faith; and to give heart to our sorrow and strength to our repentance:

**People: We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

Pastor: To draw all to Yourself; to bless those who are instructed in the faith; to watch over and console the poor, the sick, the distressed, the lonely, the forsaken, the abandoned, and all who stand in need of our prayer; to give abundant blessing to all works of mercy; and to have mercy on us all:

**People: We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

Pastor: To turn our hearts to You; to turn the hearts of our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers; and graciously to hear our prayers:

**People: We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,

**People: we implore You to hear us.**

Pastor: O God, You desire not the death of sinners, but rather that they turn from their wickedness and live. We implore You to have compassion on the frailty of our mortal nature, for we acknowledge that we are dust and to dust we shall return. Mercifully pardon our sins that we may obtain the promises You have laid up for those who are repentant; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

## **OFFERING**

*“Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” (2 Corinthians 9:7). We give our tithes and offerings to God as an act of worship in gratitude for the gifts He has first given us. If you wish to give electronically using a credit card or automated bank withdrawal, please scan the QR code with your smartphone or visit [www.epiphanylc.org](http://www.epiphanylc.org) and click on GIVE. As good stewards, please use credit wisely.*



*If you wish to mail your gift, send your check to Epiphany Lutheran Church, 550 E. Wolfensberger Rd., Castle Rock, CO 80109.*

**[CLICK HERE TO GIVE ELECTRONICALLY](#)**

## **✠ SACRAMENT ✠**

### **\*PREFACE**

**Pastor:** The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*

**People: And also with you.**

**Pastor:** Lift up your hearts. *Colossians 3:1*

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

**Pastor:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *Psalms 136*

**People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

### **\*PROPER PREFACE**

**Pastor:** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, who has called us to return to You through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who was without sin yet took on our sin so that we might be reconciled to You through His perfect life, death, and resurrection, in order that we might be brought to You with cleansed hearts and renewed spirits to receive our eternal reward. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

## \*SANCTUS

LSB pg. 161



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

## \*THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

LSB pg. 162

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\times$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\times$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## \*PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST *1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20*

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

People: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

## \*LORD'S PRAYER

LSB pg. 162

**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.**

## \*PAX DOMINI

**Pastor:** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**People:** Amen.

## \*THE AGNUS DEI ~ "The Lamb"

LSB 547 vs. 1-4



1 The Lamb, the Lamb, O Fa - ther, where's the sac - ri - fice?  
2 The Lamb, the Lamb, One per - fect fi - nal of - fer - ing.  
3 The Lamb, the Lamb, As way - ward sheep their shep - herd kill  
4 He sighs, He dies, He takes my sin and wretch - ed - ness.



Faith sees, be - lieves God will pro - vide the Lamb of price!  
The Lamb, the Lamb, Let earth join heav'n His praise to sing.  
So still, His will, On our be - half the Law to fill.  
He lives, for - gives, He gives me His own righ - teous - ness.

*Refrain*



Wor - thy is the Lamb whose death makes me His



own! The Lamb is reign - ing on His throne!

Text and tune: © 1987 and 1997 MorningStar Music Publishers. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110019290

## RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord's Supper, also known as Holy Communion or the Eucharist, is celebrated at Epiphany Lutheran Church in the confession and glad confidence that our Lord Jesus Christ gives us His very body and blood "in, with, and under" the bread and wine for

the forgiveness of our sins, and to strengthen our unity with Christ and our Christian brothers and sisters. Our Lord invites to His table those baptized Christians who trust His Word, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive others as He loves and forgives us. Scripture urges us to examine our conscience and belief about Holy Communion before we partake of the Supper (1 Cor. 11:28). Because those who partake of the Lord's Supper unworthily do so to their great harm, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS), and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked first to speak with the Pastor or an Elder. For further study, see Matthew 26:26-29; 5:23-26; 18:15-35; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17; 11:17-34.

Children and uninstructed youth and adults may receive a blessing by crossing their arms over their chest, which is known as the sign of St. Andrew's cross.

White grape juice and gluten free Communion wafers are available for those with alcohol sensitivity or gluten intolerance.

## DISTRIBUTION HYMN

*"Savior, When in Dust to Thee"*

LSB 419



1 Sav - ior, when in dust to Thee Low we bow the a -  
 2 By Thy help - less in - fant years, By Thy life of  
 3 By Thine hour of dire de - spair, By Thine ag - o -  
 4 By Thy deep ex - pir - ing groan, By the sad se -



dor - ing knee; When, re - pen - tant, to the skies  
 want and tears, By Thy days of deep dis - tress  
 ny of prayer, By the cross, the nail, the thorn,  
 pul - chral stone, By the vault whose dark a - bode



Scarce we lift our weep - ing eyes; O, by all Thy  
 In the sav - age wil - der - ness, By the dread, mys -  
 Pierc - ing spear, and tor - turing scorn, By the gloom that  
 Held in vain the ris - ing God, O, from earth to



pains and woe Suf - fered once for us be - low, Bend - ing  
 te - rious hour Of the in - sult - ing tempt - er's pow'r, Turn, O  
 veiled the skies O'er the dread - ful sac - ri - fice, Lis - ten  
 heav'n re - stored, Might - y, re - as - cend - ed Lord, Bend - ing



from Thy throne on high, Hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!  
 turn a fa - v'ring eye; Hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!  
 to our hum - ble sigh; Hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!  
 from Thy throne on high, Hear our pen - i - ten - tial cry!

Text and tune: Public domain

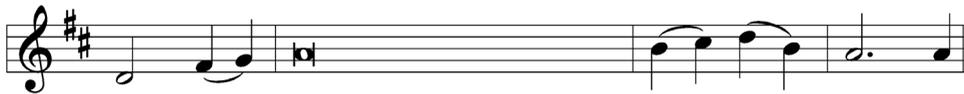
### \*POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

**Pastor:** Let us pray. We thank You, almighty God, for calling us to return to You, reconciling us through the sacrifice of Your one and only Son, Jesus Christ, and rewarding us with forgiveness, life, salvation, and Your continual presence. Thank You for nourishing our bodies and souls with Your Son's body and blood that was given and shed for us. Empower us by Your Spirit to live lives of service to You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People:** Amen.

### \*POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE ~ *Song of Simeon*

LSB pg. 199



Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-



cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,



which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,



a light to light - en the Gen - tles and the glo - ry of Thy



peo-ple Is - ra-el. Glo - ry be to the Father and  
to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### \*BENEDICTION *(Numbers 6:24-26)*

Pastor: People of God, who have returned and are reconciled and rewarded, receive the blessing of our Lord.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

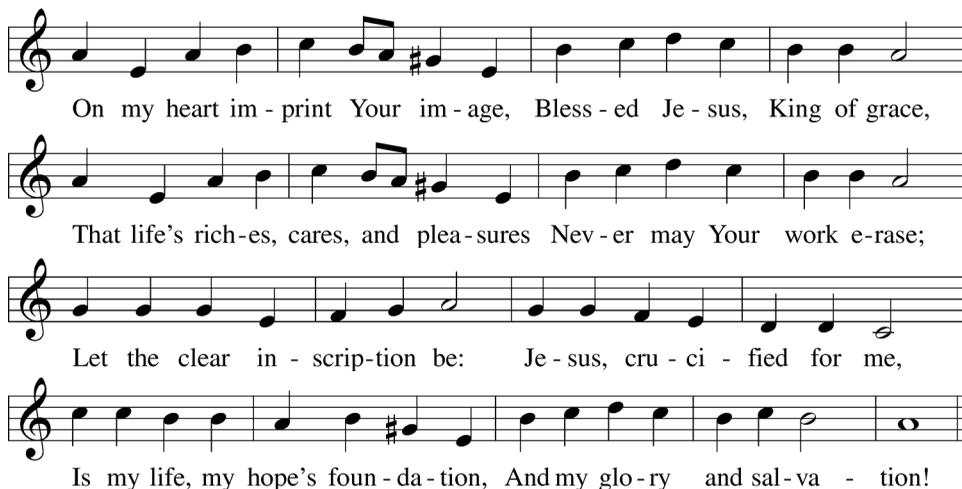
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✕ give you peace

People: **Amen.**

### \*CLOSING HYMN

*"On My Heart Imprint Your Image"*

LSB 422



On my heart im - print Your im - age, Bless - ed Je - sus, King of grace,  
That life's rich-es, cares, and plea-sures Nev - er may Your work e-raise;  
Let the clear in - scrip-tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,  
Is my life, my hope's foun - da - tion, And my glo - ry and sal - va - tion!

*Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 2. Copyright © 2020 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission*

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## Midweek Lenten Services (all begin at 6:30 pm)

February 24<sup>th</sup> – Prayer and Fasting – Rev. John Larson

March 3<sup>rd</sup> – Salt and Light – Rev. Chris Matthis

March 10<sup>th</sup> – Do Not Worry – Rev. John Larson

March 17<sup>th</sup> – Judge Not – Rev. Chris Matthis

March 24<sup>th</sup> – Build on the Rock – Rev. John Larson

## Holy Week Services

April 1<sup>st</sup>, 7:00 pm – Maundy Thursday (with Holy Communion)

April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 7:00 pm – Good Friday Service

April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5:00 pm – Easter Service (with Communion)

April 4<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 am & 9:30 am & 11:00 am –

Resurrection Sunday (with Holy Communion)



## Epiphany Lutheran Church of Castle Rock, Colorado

550 E. Wolfensberger Rd. + Castle Rock, CO 80109 + Office: 303-688-4435

Website: [www.epiphanylc.org](http://www.epiphanylc.org)

ME SYSTEM LINK: <https://epiphanylc.ccbchurch.com/login.php>

Pastor Chris Matthis + Cell: 303-921-0717

[pastorchris@epiphanylc.org](mailto:pastorchris@epiphanylc.org)

(Pastor available by appointment)

DCE Kristin Schmidt + Cell: 951-775-6134 + Tu-F 8 am - 4 pm

[dce@epiphanylc.org](mailto:dce@epiphanylc.org)

Mrs. Donata Rolf + [office@epiphanylc.org](mailto:office@epiphanylc.org) + Office hours: M-F 8 am – 4 pm

Ms. Mary Wenkheimer, Choir Director + [choir@epiphanylc.org](mailto:choir@epiphanylc.org)

Ms. Debbie Stewart, Accounting Assistant + [accounting@epiphanylc.org](mailto:accounting@epiphanylc.org)



Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

*"We help people become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ"*