

**March 17, 2024**  
**Fifth Sunday in Lent**



**St. Philip's Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**Milwaukee, Wisconsin**

**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent**

**March 17, 2024**

**“St. Philip’s Evangelical Lutheran Church & School”**

[www.stphilipsmilwaukee.com](http://www.stphilipsmilwaukee.com)

Pastor: Raymond Kimbrough

Principal: Jason Schapekahm

**Welcome, Friend!**  
**You Have Come To The Right Place!**  
**Jesus Loves YOU!**

**WELCOME**

Guests and visitors, we invite you to worship with us again in the future.

For more information regarding St. Philip’s Lutheran Church,  
please contact Pastor Kimbrough at 414-263-1373 or 414-254-6093.

For information on our K4 – 8<sup>th</sup> grade Christian day school please contact our  
Principal, Jason Schapekahm at 414-263-7614 or 414-659-4688.

**THEME OF THE DAY – Rethinking Devoted Commitment**

**EXPLANATION OF THE THEME OF THE DAY**

Religious sociologists sometimes divide Christians into two groups: committed Christians and cultural Christians. The former are usually defined as those who are active in a congregation, who pray regularly, who read Scripture, etc. The latter are those individuals who call themselves Christian and perhaps have some Christian beliefs. Yet, they do not strive to live a Christian life. They are not interested in church involvement.

Those definitions are interesting when trying to understand shifts in American Christianity. However, they demonstrate a false assumption about the Christian religion. There is indeed a devoted commitment at the center of Christianity, but it is not man’s commitment to God. Even believers will at times demonstrate lukewarm commitment at best. Instead, at the heart of Christianity we find God’s devotion and commitment to us. It is a devoted commitment so strong that it put God on the cross.

## Opening Hymn – CW #800 How Firm a Foundation

*Stand*

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

### Confession

CW 154

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.  
**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just  
and will forgive us our sins  
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Holy God, gracious Father,**

**I am sinful by nature**

**and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.**

**I have not loved you with my whole heart;**

**I have not loved others as I should.**

**I deserve your punishment both now and forever.**

**But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins**

**with his innocent suffering and death.**

**Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ 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.  
**Amen.**

## **Lord, Have Mercy**

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**

## **The Word**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

## **Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray.

**Eternal God and Father, help us to remember Jesus, who obeyed your will and bore the cross for our salvation, that through his anguish, pain, and death we may receive the forgiveness of sins, victory over the grave, and finally inherit eternal life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*Be seated*

## First Reading

*Isaiah 43:1–7*

<sup>1</sup>But now, this is what the LORD says—  
    he who created you, Jacob,  
    he who formed you, Israel:  
“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;  
    I have summoned you by name; you are mine.  
<sup>2</sup>When you pass through the waters,  
    I will be with you;  
and when you pass through the rivers,  
    they will not sweep over you.  
When you walk through the fire,  
    you will not be burned;  
    the flames will not set you ablaze.  
<sup>3</sup>For I am the LORD your God,  
    the Holy One of Israel, your Savior;  
I give Egypt for your ransom,  
    Cush and Seba in your stead.  
<sup>4</sup>Since you are precious and honored in my sight,  
    and because I love you,  
I will give people in exchange for you,  
    nations in exchange for your life.  
<sup>5</sup>Do not be afraid, for I am with you;  
    I will bring your children from the east  
    and gather you from the west.  
<sup>6</sup>I will say to the north, ‘Give them up!’  
    and to the south, ‘Do not hold them back.’  
Bring my sons from afar  
    and my daughters from the ends of the earth—  
<sup>7</sup>everyone who is called by my name,  
    whom I created for my glory,  
    whom I formed and made.”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm of the Day

*Psalm 121*

Reader: I lift up my eyes to the hills.

**Congregation: Where does my help come from?**

Reader: My help comes from the Lord,

**Congregation: The maker of heaven and earth.**

Reader: He will not let your foot slip.

Congregation: He who watches over you will not slumber.

Reader: Indeed he who watches over Israel,

**Congregation: Will neither slumber nor sleep,**

Reader: The Lord watches over you,

**Congregation: The Lord is your shade at your right hand.**

Reader: The Lord will keep you from all harm,

**Congregation: He will watch over your life.**

Reader: The Lord will watch over your coming and your going.

**Congregation: Both now and forevermore.**

**Reader and Congregation:**

**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.**

## Second Reading

*Hebrews 5:7–9*

<sup>7</sup>During the days of Jesus' life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with fervent cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. <sup>8</sup>Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered <sup>9</sup>and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

## Gospel Acclamation

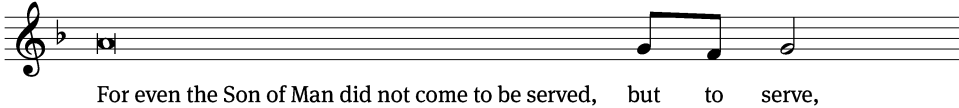
Mark 10:45



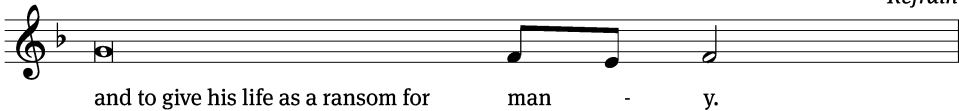
### Refrain



### Tone



### Refrain



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## Gospel

John 12:20–33

<sup>20</sup>Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the festival. <sup>21</sup>They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request. “Sir,” they said, “we would like to see Jesus.” <sup>22</sup>Philip went to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip in turn told Jesus.

<sup>23</sup>Jesus replied, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. <sup>24</sup>Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. <sup>25</sup>Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. <sup>26</sup>Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.

<sup>27</sup>“Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. <sup>28</sup>Father, glorify your name!”

Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and will glorify it again.”  
<sup>29</sup>The crowd that was there and heard it said it had thundered; others said an angel had spoken to him.

<sup>30</sup>Jesus said, “This voice was for your benefit, not mine. <sup>31</sup>Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. <sup>32</sup>And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” <sup>33</sup>He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated*

**Sermon Hymn – CW #715 Let Me Be Yours Forever**

*Please rise for the final stanza.*

**Sermon Text: John 12:20-33, Hebrews 5:7-9, Isaiah 43:1-7**

**Sermon Theme: “The Blessings of Jesus’ Suffering & Death For Us”**

- 1. We have justification. John 12:20-24, 31-33, Hebrews 5:9**
- 2. We have faith. John 12 25-26**
- 3. We have nothing to fear. Isaiah 43:1-5a**

*Stand*



## **Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day he rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **Offering**

*Please place your offerings in the box at the back of church.  
Online giving is also available from our website or click this link:  
<https://members.myeoffering.com/#/landing>.*

## **Prayer of the Church**

Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace.  
**Plant your Word in our hearts, and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.**

Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.

**Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world.**

Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.

**Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the Word and in all godly walks of life.**

Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.

**Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.**

Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture. Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.

**Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.**

Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.

**Grant them your love, and take them into your tender care.**

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

*Silent prayer*

We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you, who now rest from their labors. Console those who are mourning or living with sadness.

**Keep us in the true faith, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven.**

Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again.

**Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

**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.**

*Be seated*

## Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.  
**Amen.**

## Closing Hymn – CW #813 He Will Hold Me Fast

## Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship

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**St. Philip's Evangelical Lutheran Church & School**

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Member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

[www.wels.net](http://www.wels.net)

**Serving at Worship**

**Presiding Minister**

Pastor Raymond Kimbrough

**Liturgy**

Mr. Caleb Hengst

**Organ**

Mrs. Nicole Cottman

**In Our Prayers**

Joyce Vernon

Kitty Henderson

Natasha McCants

Susan Berg

Gabriel Jasper

Phil Scriver – former teacher at St. Philip's

**Next Week: March 24, 2024**

**Piano: Mrs. Claire Vogel**

**Lay Reader: Mr. Thomas McNeal**

## **WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK AT ST. PHILIP'S**

**Wednesday, March 20**

**Lenten Chapel 8:15AM**

**Sunday, March 24**

**Bible Class 9:30AM**

**Worship– 10:30AM**

**Palm Sunday – K4 – 8 Sing for Worship**

### **HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE:**

**Thursday, Marcy 27 – Maundy Thursday Worship w/communion 6:00PM**

**Friday, March 29- Good Friday Worship 6:00PM**

**Sunday, March 31 – Easter Sunday Worship 10:30AM**

## **CALL RECEIVED**

Dear Brothers and Sisters of St. Philip's Lutheran Church,

On Thursday, February 22, I received a call to teach English at Luther High School in Onalaska, WI. Lizette also received a call to teach grades three and four at Christ-St. John's in West Salem. We are humbled by this opportunity to consider a new ministry and ask for your prayers as we now consider where God would have us serve. Although this was not something we were looking for or expecting, we trust the Lord will accomplish his will through this deliberation and it is our prayer he uses this opportunity to bring blessings to each ministry. Please keep our brothers and sisters from the La Crosse area in your prayers just as you continue to pray for one another and the ministry here at St. Philip's.

In His Service,

Jason & Lizette Schapekahm

## **OPEN ENROLLMENT – MARCH 1-20, 2024**

The second open enrollment for St. Philip's Lutheran School and the Milwaukee Parental Choice program for the 2024-2025 school year began March 1, 2024, and will continue through the end of the day on March 20, 2024. St. Philip's Lutheran Church members with children or grandchildren who are between the ages of 4 and 14 are encouraged to contact Mr. Schapekahm, Pastor Kimbrough, Mrs. Allard or any of our teachers for more information. We have seats available at all grade levels and would love to have our congregation children as students at St. Philip's Lutheran School. For more information and/or to set up an appointment to enroll please call Mr. Schapekahm at 414-659-4688 or Mrs. Allard in the school office 414-263-7614.

<https://sms.dpi.wi.gov/ChoiceParent/>

### **Time of Grace Women's Event**

Milwaukee based Time of Grace ministry is offering Unbreakable, a refreshing two-day break, April 26-27, in Waukesha. It's a time for Christian women to gather, build friendships, and learn how to find respite from life's daily struggles by leaning on the God of amazing grace. With God at your side, you are unbreakable! The event will include presentations and breakout sessions from several Time of Grace speakers and writers. Learn more, sign up, and make the \$199 registration payment at [timeofgrace.org](http://timeofgrace.org).

St. Philip's member, Joan Prince will be speaking at this conference.

#### **Gospel-Centered Change: A Blueprint for Our Lives.**

Change is inevitable as we multitask through life. Lasting change happens when we walk with people the way Jesus did and use gospel-centered strategies and examples to focus and demonstrate faith-aligned behavior, regardless of how difficult the change may be. This interactive discussion will highlight examples from the Bible and provide strategies to add to one's everyday blueprint on how to handle and embrace change as empowering and Christ-focused.

<https://give.timeofgrace.org/timeofgrace/womens-event-2024>



### **WLHS Spring Sacred Choral Concert**

Everyone is invited to the Spring Sacred Choral Concert on Sunday, March 24, at 3:00 p.m. under the theme "Of Song, Soul, and Spirit" in the WLHS auditorium. Freshman and A Cappella Choirs, Inspiration, Jubilation, and the newly formed WLHS string ensemble will all perform. General admission seating is available on a first-come-first-served basis, no tickets required.

**St. Philip's Lutheran Church & School**

**Pastor Raymond Kimbrough**

**3012 N Holton Street**

**Milwaukee, WI 53212**

**Church: 414-263-1373**

**Cell Phone: 414-254-6093**

**TO FRIENDS AND VISITORS**

*This is the house of God. In His Name we welcome each and every person. May His Word bring you closer to your Savior, assuring you of the forgiveness of all your sins through Jesus' death and resurrection.*

*If you are without a church home or have recently moved to the area, our pastor will be happy to call on you or answer your questions about church membership. If you are burdened with sorrow or trouble, we invite you to call on the pastor at any time.*

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

*St. Philip's congregation supports and maintains a Christian Day School for the thorough training of the whole child. We want each child to know, not only how to deal with this life, but to know their Savior and prepare for eternal life. The school is called St. Philip's Lutheran School and is located at 3012 N. Holton Street.*

**School Office Phone: 414-263-7614**

**Church Office Phone: 414-263-1373**

**Church Service – 10:30AM**

**Bible Class – 9:30AM**