



## BLESSED SACRAMENT LUTHERAN CHURCH

“See her humility as well as her faith! For he had called the Jews ‘children,’ but she was not satisfied with this. She even called them ‘masters,’ so far was she from grieving at the praise of others. She said, ‘Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.’ Behold her wisdom!” — St. John Chrysostom, The Gospel of Matthew, Homily 52.3

Dear Saints,

*Second Sunday in Lent* 28 Feb. 2021

This Sunday is the second Sunday of Lent, called *Reminiscere* Sunday from the Introit *Reminiscere miserationum tuarum Domine*, which in English can be rendered: “Remember, O Lord, Thy compassions and Thy mercies, which are from the beginning, lest at any time our enemies rule over us: deliver us O God of Israel, from all our tribulations.”

If you want to make sense out of the Readings we have during Lent there’s a couple things you should know. Historically the season of Lent is a time of catechesis and instruction for those coming to know Christ. Preparing to receive the new life of Baptism and the Holy Supper of our Lord for the first time. Which would then take place at the Easter Vigil. Lent was and is a time of careful training and catechesis. In military terms, you might just call the season of Lent – Basic Training. And what better way to start training than to meet the enemy and know who you’re up against. So the first Sunday of Lent, last week, introduces the newbies, the new Christians to the devil. Helps them see that there really is an enemy out there. An enemy hell-bent on destroying their faith in Christ. So last week we all learned about our defense, where our strength comes from, which is the Word of God. Which alone, has the power to defeat and drive out this enemy.

This Second Sunday in Lent, however, deals with a different phenomenon in the Christian life. An experience which seasoned Christians know very well. That the Christian life is not for sissies. It’s no walk through the roses. It’s hard. It’s difficult and it’s dangerous. Often like a wrestling match – fighting, violently sometimes, with the promises of god. And sometimes it seems as though God himself is our adversary.

God often appears to be our adversary, who wrestles with us, like he did with Jacob. But know this! God does not wrestle with his enemies! He only wrestles with those whom he loves. All fathers who love their children wrestle with their little ones. They make them believe they are losing and at the last minute, they let themselves be pinned down, and those children walk away stronger.

And so it is with the Lord, He only wrestles with the children whom he loves. For He Himself lets Himself be pinned to a cross, that your prayers would never be ignored.

**Reminiscere.** 28 Feb. Color: Purple. Processional 791; Kyrie; Hymn of the Day 427; Psalm 121 chanted responsively during distribution; Distribution Hymn: 430; Post-Communion Canticle: Nunc Dimittis; Recessional 801. Sermon: St. Matt. 15.21-28 "Politically Incorrect God."

**Second Mid-week in Lent:** Wednesday @ 5:30 pm, 3 March. Setting: Evening Prayer *LSB* 243, chanted (unaccompanied). Holy Communion, Divine Service setting IV. Closing hymn: 532. Sermon: St. Mark 11.27-33, "The Questioning."

**Oculi.** 7 Mar. Color: Purple. Procession: 814; Kyrie; Hymn of the Day: 577; Psalm 4 chanted responsively during distribution; Distribution Hymn, 629; Post-Communion Canticle: Nunc Dimittis; Recessional: 700. Sermon: Jer 26.1-15 "Not Gonna Like This."

Feb. 28	Second S. in Lent (Reminiscere)	Gen 32:22-32	Psalm 121	1 Thess. 4:1-7 or Rom. 5:1-5	Matt. 15:21-28
Mar. 7	Third S. in Lent (Oculi)	Ex. 8:16-24 or Jer. 26:1-15	Psalm 136:1-16 or Psalm 4	Eph. 5:1-9	Luke 11:14-28

**Resource:** Pastor had an article published with 1517 this week titled, "Why God Works Through Words" @ <https://www.1517.org/articles/why-god-works-through-words>.

\* The best Christian podcast, Issues Etc., posts new segments each day, along with the daily radio Bible study: The Word of the Lord Endures Forever, with LCMS pastor Will Weedon.

**Catechesis.** Sunday catechesis for all from 1400 - 1445. "Final Thoughts on the Liturgy." Next Sunday: We begin a new 16-part series, "Where Heaven and Earth Meet."

**UPCOMING:** (1) Mid-week Lenten Mass 5:30pm throughout Lententide.  
(2) Confirmation Catechesis 4:30pm Wednesday throughout Lent.  
(3) Pastor w/USMC 27-28 Feb, but presiding at Mass on the 28th.  
(4) First acolyte training session: On a Friday night in March TBD (Bombaros have house guests and obligations the next three weekends.)  
(5) Our Bishop, The Rev. Dr. Jamison Hardy, will be visiting Blessed Sacrament in April. He will preach while Pastor Bombaro serves as the Celebrant.

Gratefully yours in Christ Jesus,  
Pastor John