



**MORRISON
ZION
LUTHERAN**
Wisconsin Evangelical
Lutheran Synod

Our mission is to
Glorify God
as we
Gather
around the Gospel
to help people
Grow
in the **Gospel**
and
Go
with the **Gospel**

Welcome! We thank
God that you have
joined us at worship
today.

Restrooms are
located in the
basement. Hearing
loop headphones and
Large Print Hymnals
are available from an
usher.

If your children need
to leave worship,
please take them to
the basement. A TV
broadcasts the service
in the basement.

Today we gather
together in the
presence of God. He is
present among us in a
special way through
his Word and
Sacrament. We
acknowledge our sin
and rejoice in the good
news of forgiveness
through the life and
death of Christ. This is
the focus of our
worship.

March 12, 2025
Lenten Midweek 2



LORD, HAVE MERCY

FOR OUR INCESSANT IDOLATRY

If a loved one needed serious heart surgery, would you prefer a first-year medical student to perform the operation, or would you rather it be a seasoned doctor who has done that surgery two-thousand times? How about if you were accused of a serious crime you didn't commit? Would you be content with a legal intern defending you? Or might you want a more experienced, skilled attorney? You want the person who will best care for you. So, apply that reality to the First Commandment.

When God tells us not to have any other gods, our sinful nature's first inclination is to think it is because God is a narcissist who craves the attention. That is projecting what we are often like onto him. But God commands us to have no other gods, not because he seeks attention, but because he knows there is no one who loves us as much as he does. . . no one who can care for us anywhere close to as well as he can. It is he, by an infinite margin, who can best care for us. Therefore, when we love or trust anyone or anything else more than God, the sin doesn't simply offend him. It is incredibly self-destructive. As we begin our worship series on the Ten Commandments, by the Spirit teach us to say, "Lord, have mercy, for our incessant idolatry."

Stand

M: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C: Who made heaven and earth.

M: Brothers and sisters in Christ, during the days of Lent, we fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of God.

The time of Lent reminds us that to know Christ and the power of his resurrection, we must also know the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death.

As disciples of the Lord Jesus, we are called to struggle against everything that leads us away from love of God and neighbor. I invite you, therefore, to confess your sins, ask our Father for forgiveness, and commit yourselves to this struggle.

C: We confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and action, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. We deserve you present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Jesus, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Hymn

Sweet the Moments, Rich in Blessing CW 400:1-2



1 Sweet the mo - ments, rich in bless - ing, which be -
2 Here we rest in won - der, view - ing all our



fore the cross we spend, life and health and
sins on Je - sus laid; here we see re -



peace pos - sess - ing from the sin - ner's dy - ing friend.
demp - tion flow - ing from the sac - ri - fice he made.

Text: James Allen, 1734–1804; alt. Walter Shirley, 1725–1786
Tune: Erbaulicher Musicalischer Christen-Schatz, Basel, 1745, alt.
Text and tune: Public domain

M: Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, does not desire the death of sinners but rather that they turn from their wickedness and live. Therefore, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son U and of the Holy Spirit.

During these days of Lent, let us implore God to give us renewal and his Holy Spirit. May we continue to abide in the true faith and at the last be received by him through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Hymn

Sweet the Moments, Rich in Blessing CW 400:4-5



3 Here we find the dawn of heav - en while up -
4 Oh, that, near the cross a - bid - ing, we may
5 Lord, in lov - ing con - tem - pla - tion fix our



on the cross we gaze, see our tres - pass -
to the Sav - ior cleave, naught with him our
hearts and eyes on you till we taste your



es for - giv - en, and our songs of tri - umph raise.
hearts di - vid - ing, all for him con - tent to leave!
full sal - va - tion and your un - veiled glo - ry view.

Be seated

THE WORD

Passion History

Luke 22:1-38

Even as the disciples demonstrated sinful pride and scandalous betrayal, Jesus demonstrates mercy, instituting the Lord's Supper for the forgiveness of sins.

¹Now the Festival of Unleavened Bread, called the Passover, was approaching, ²and the chief priests and the teachers of the law were looking for some way to get rid of Jesus, for they were afraid of the people. ³Then Satan entered Judas, called Iscariot, one of the Twelve. ⁴And Judas went to the chief priests and the officers of the temple guard and discussed with them how he might betray Jesus. ⁵They were delighted and agreed to give him money. ⁶He consented, and watched for an opportunity to hand Jesus over to them when no crowd was present.

⁷ Then came the day of Unleavened Bread on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. ⁸ Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, “Go and make preparations for us to eat the Passover.”

⁹ “Where do you want us to prepare for it?” they asked.

C: ¹⁰ **He replied, “As you enter the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you.**

M: Follow him to the house that he enters, ¹¹ and say to the owner of the house,

C: **“The Teacher asks: Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?”**

M: ¹² He will show you a large room upstairs, all furnished. Make preparations there.”

C: ¹³ **They left and found things just as Jesus had told them. So they prepared the Passover.**

M: ¹⁴ When the hour came, Jesus and his apostles reclined at the table. ¹⁵ And he said to them, “I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. ¹⁶ For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God.”

¹⁷ After taking the cup, he gave thanks and said, “Take this and divide it among you. ¹⁸ For I tell you I will not drink again from the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.”

¹⁹ And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me.”

²⁰ In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you. ²¹ But the hand of him who is going to betray me is with mine on the table. ²² The Son of Man will go as it has been decreed. But woe to that man who betrays him!” ²³ They began to question among themselves which of them it might be who would do this.

²⁴ A dispute also arose among them as to which of them was considered to be greatest. ²⁵ Jesus said to them, “The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those who exercise authority over them call themselves Benefactors. ²⁶ But you are not to be like that. Instead, the greatest among you should be like the youngest, and the one who rules like the one who serves. ²⁷ For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one who is at the table? But I am among you as one who serves. ²⁸ You are those who have stood by me in my trials. ²⁹ And I confer on you a kingdom, just as my Father conferred one on me, ³⁰ so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom and sit on thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

³¹ “Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift all of you as wheat. ³² But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers.”

C: ³³ **But he replied, “Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death.”**

M: ³⁴ Jesus answered, “I tell you, Peter, before the rooster crows today, you will deny three times that you know me.”

³⁵ Then Jesus asked them, “When I sent you without purse, bag or sandals, did you lack anything?”

C: “Nothing,” they answered.

M: ³⁶ He said to them, “But now if you have a purse, take it, and also a bag; and if you don’t have a sword, sell your cloak and buy one. ³⁷ It is written: ‘And he was numbered with the transgressors’; and I tell you that this must be fulfilled in me. Yes, what is written about me is reaching its fulfillment.”

³⁸ The disciples said, “See, Lord, here are two swords.”
“That’s enough!” he replied.

Grades 5-6 (11 am)

1 Drawn to the cross, which you have blessed
with healing gifts for souls distressed,
to find in you my life, my rest,
Christ crucified, I come.

2 How well you know my griefs and fears,
your grace abused, my misspent years;
so now to you with contrite tears,
Christ crucified, I come.

Text: Genevieve M. Irons, 1855–1928, alt.
Text: Public domain

Drawn to the Cross CW 808

3 Wash me and take away each stain;
let nothing of my sin remain.
For cleansing through your cross and pain,
Christ crucified, I come.

4 To pledge my labor willingly,
which shall so sweet a service be
that angels well might envy me,
Christ crucified, I come.

Reading

Isaiah 44:6-11

God gave us the First Commandment because he knows all idols are worthless, completely unable to help us in any way.

⁶“This is what the Lord says—

Israel’s King and Redeemer, the Lord Almighty:
I am the first and I am the last;
apart from me there is no God.

⁷ Who then is like me? Let him proclaim it.

Let him declare and lay out before me
what has happened since I established my ancient people,
and what is yet to come—
yes, let them foretell what will come.

⁸ Do not tremble, do not be afraid.

Did I not proclaim this and foretell it long ago?
You are my witnesses. Is there any God besides me?
No, there is no other Rock; I know not one.”

⁹ All who make idols are nothing,
and the things they treasure are worthless.

Those who would speak up for them are blind;
they are ignorant, to their own shame.

¹⁰ Who shapes a god and casts an idol,
which can profit nothing?

¹¹ People who do that will be put to shame;
such craftsmen are only human beings.

Let them all come together and take their stand;
they will be brought down to terror and shame.

Hymn

From High Atop the Mount CW 635



A From high a - top the mount where Mo - ses stands,
1st Your high - est love and trust be - long to me;
2nd My name shall not be used to curse or swear;
B Your life, O Christ, is count - ed as our own;



thro' cloud and storm the voice of God is heard:
to these no oth - er god has an - y right.
it is for seek - ing me in trou - bled days,
our guilt was cru - ci - fied in none but you.



“I am the LORD, and these are my com - mands.
Not health or wealth or self or fam - i - ly
for bring - ing your con - cerns to me in prayer,
In keep - ing your com - mands our love is shown—



In all you do, o - bey my ev - 'ry word.”
but I a - lone shall be your chief de - light.
for sound - ing forth your thank - ful - ness and praise.
now work with - in us both to will and do.

Text: Michael D. Schultz, b. 1963

Tune: Alfred M. Smith, 1879–1971

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Tune: © 1990 Estate of Alfred M. Smith. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 725297

Reading

Colossians 3:16

St. Paul teaches that idolatry is more than bowing down to a statue of wood or gold. It is greedily loving anything more than we love God.

¹Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. ³For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

⁵Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. ⁶Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. (NIV)

Devotion

Lord Have Mercy: For our Incessant Idolatry

1st and 2nd Commandments

Offering

Stand

Please sign the friendship register located in your pew.

Guests please don't feel a necessity to give an offering today. *"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver"* (2 Corinthians 9:7).

Confession of Faith

from the Small Catechism

M: The First Commandment:

C: You shall have no other Gods

M: What does this mean?

C: We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things.

M: The Second Commandment:

C: You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.

M: What does this mean?

C: We should fear and love God that we do not use his name to curse, swear, lie, or deceive, or use is superstitiously, but call upon God's name in every trouble, pray, praise, and give thanks.

Prayer

Benediction

M: 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.

C: Amen.

Be Seated

Hymn

All Praise to God Who Reigns Above CW 603:1,5



1 All praise to God who reigns a - bove, the God of
5 All who con - fess Christ's ho - ly name, to God give



all cre - a - tion, the God of won - ders, pow'r, and
praise and glo - ry! Let all who know his pow'r pro -



love, the God of our sal - va - tion! With heal - ing
claim a - loud the won - drous sto - ry! All i - dols



balm my soul he fills, the God who ev - 'ry sor - row
un - der foot be trod— The Lord is God! The Lord is



stills: To God all praise and glo - ry!
God! To God all praise and glo - ry!

Text: Johann Jacob Schütz, 1640–1690, abr.; tr. composite
Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570–1615
Text and tune: Public domain