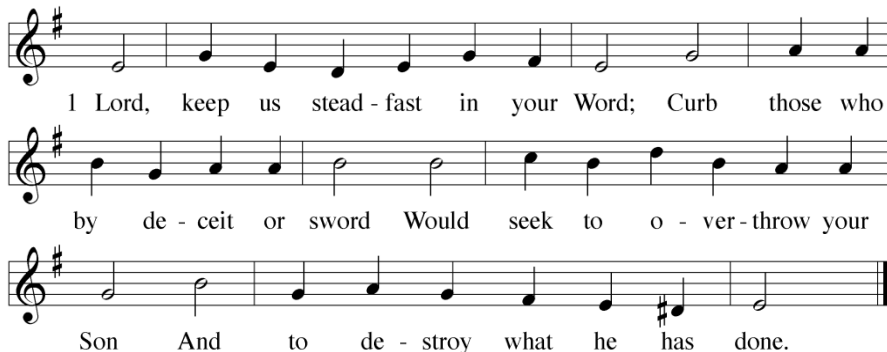


This year in our mid week Lenten worship we look at the Seven Letters to the Seven Churches in Revelation 2-3. In this Jesus shows us characteristics that he wants to see in local congregations. We also see things he wants us to avoid.

Stand

**Hymn**      *Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word* Hymn 203:1



1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in your Word; Curb those who  
by de - ceit or sword Would seek to o - ver - throw your  
Son And to de - stroy what he has done.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. composite.

Tune: ERHALT UNS, HERR (LM) Klug, *Geistliche Lieder zu Wittenberg*, Wittenberg, 1543, alt.

**M:** You have searched me, LORD, and you know me.

**C:** **You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar.**

**M:** You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways.

**C:** **Before a word is on my tongue you, LORD, know it completely.**

**M:** If I say, “Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me,”

**C:** **even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you.**

**M:** Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts.

**All:** **See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.**

From Psalm 7

**Morrison Zion  
Evangelical  
Lutheran Church**

Wisconsin Evangelical  
Lutheran Synod



MORRISON  
**ZION**  
LUTHERAN

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.

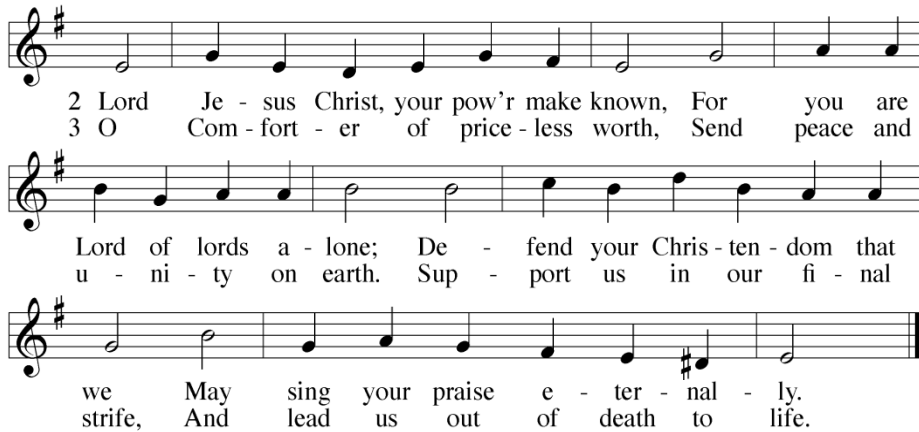
Restrooms are  
located in the  
basement. Hearing  
loop headphones and  
Large Print Hymnals  
are available from an  
usher.

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.

## Hymn

*Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word* Hymn 203:2-3



2 Lord Je - sus Christ, your pow'r make known, For you are  
3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, Send peace and  
Lord of lords a - lone; De - fend your Chris - ten - dom that  
u - ni - ty on earth. Sup - port us in our fi - nal  
we May sing your praise e - ter - nal - ly.  
strife, And lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. composite.

Tune: ERHALT UNS, HERR (LM) Klug, *Geistliche Lieder zu Wittenberg*, Wittenberg, 1543, alt.

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## THE WORD

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### Prayer of the Day

**All: Lord Jesus, coming Judge, keep me ever watchful that I might not stain my garments with sin. Through your Word and Spirit, perfect holiness in my life that the Last Day may find me prepared through repentance and faith. In your name I pray. Amen.**

*Be Seated*

**First Lesson** These people ... honor me with their lips but their hearts are far from me. **Isaiah 29:13-16**

<sup>13</sup> The Lord says:

“These people come near to me with their mouth  
and honor me with their lips,  
but their hearts are far from me.

Their worship of me

is based on merely human rules they have been taught.<sup>[a]</sup>

<sup>14</sup> Therefore once more I will astound these people

with wonder upon wonder;

the wisdom of the wise will perish,

the intelligence of the intelligent will vanish.”

<sup>15</sup> Woe to those who go to great depths

to hide their plans from the LORD,  
who do their work in darkness and think,  
“Who sees us? Who will know?”  
<sup>16</sup> You turn things upside down,  
as if the potter were thought to be like the clay!  
Shall what is formed say to the one who formed it,  
“You did not make me”?  
Can the pot say to the potter,  
“You know nothing”? (New International Version)

## Second Lesson

Wake up! Strengthen what remains

## Revelation 3:1-6

**3** “To the angel of the church in Sardis write:

These are the words of him who holds the seven spirits of God and the seven stars. I know your deeds; you have a reputation of being alive, but you are dead. <sup>2</sup> Wake up! Strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have found your deeds unfinished in the sight of my God. <sup>3</sup> Remember, therefore, what you have received and heard; hold it fast, and repent. But if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what time I will come to you.

<sup>4</sup> Yet you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their clothes. They will walk with me, dressed in white, for they are worthy. <sup>5</sup> The one who is victorious will, like them, be dressed in white. I will never blot out the name of that person from the book of life, but will acknowledge that name before my Father and his angels. <sup>6</sup> Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. (NIV)

**M:** This is what the Spirit says to the churches.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

**Gospel**

Keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come

**Mt 24:42-51**

<sup>2</sup> “Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come. <sup>43</sup> But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>44</sup> So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.

<sup>45</sup> “Who then is the faithful and wise servant, whom the master has put in charge of the servants in his household to give them their food at the proper time? <sup>46</sup> It will be good for that servant whose master finds him doing so when he returns. <sup>47</sup> Truly I tell you, he will put him in charge of all his possessions. <sup>48</sup> But suppose that servant is wicked and says to himself, ‘My master is staying away a long time,’ <sup>49</sup> and he then begins to beat his fellow servants and to eat and drink with drunkards. <sup>50</sup> The master of that servant will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour he is not aware of. <sup>51</sup> He will cut him to pieces and assign him a place with the hypocrites, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. (NIV)

**M:** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C:** Praise be to you, O Christ.

*Be Seated*

# Hymn

# Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray Hymn 472



1 Rise, my soul, to watch and pray; From your sleep a -  
 2 Watch! Let not the wick - ed world With its lies de -  
 3 Watch a - gainst your - self, my soul, Lest with grace you  
 4 But while watch - ing al - so pray To the Lord un -



wak - en! Be not by the e - vil day Un - a -  
 feat you Lest with bold de - cep-tions hurled It be -  
 tri - fle; Let not self your thoughts con - trol Nor God's  
 ceas - ing. God pro - tects you day by day, Strength and



wares o'er - tak - en. For the foe, Well we know, Is a  
 tray and cheat you. Watch and see Lest there be Faith - less  
 mer - cy sti - fle. Pride and sin Lurk with - in, All your  
 faith in - creas - ing, So that still Mind and will Shall u -



har - vest reap - ing While the saints are sleep - ing.  
 friends to charm you Who but seek to harm you.  
 hopes to shat - ter; Heed not when they flat - ter.  
 nite to serve him And for - ev - er love him.

Text: Johann B. Freystein, 1671–1718, abr.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.  
 Tune: STRAF MICH NICHT (76 76 33 66) *Hundert . . . geistlicher Arien*, Dresden, 1694, alt.

## Sermon

## Sardis: Lethargy—Slow Death

## Revelation 3:1-6

Stand

## Prayer of the Church

## **The 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.**

## **Benediction**

**M:** The one who is victorious will ... be dressed in white. I will never blot out the name of that person from the book of life,

**C:** **but will acknowledge that name before my Father and his angels.**  
**<sup>6</sup>Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches.**

**M:** The grace of our Lord Jesus be with God's people. In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** **Amen.**

*Be Seated*

# Hymn

## *Oh, that the Lord Would Guide My Ways* Hymn 462:2-3

2 Or - der my foot - steps by your Word, And  
3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, A

make my heart sin - cere; Let sin have no do -  
strict - er watch to keep; And should I e'er for -

min - ion, Lord, But keep my con - science clear.  
get your way, Re - store your wan - d'ring sheep.

The image shows three staves of musical notation in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/2 time signature. The melody consists of quarter and half notes. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with some words hyphenated across lines. The first line of music has two alternative lyrics, numbered 2 and 3. The second and third lines of music have single lyrics. The piece ends with a double bar line.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, abr., alt.

Tune: EVAN (CM) William H. Havergal, 1793–1870, adapt.