

BEARING FRUIT

† *Soli Deo Gloria* †

“Truth Be Told”

Duet

Opening Hymn “When in the Hour of Deepest Need” LSB 615

v.1-3

- 1 When in the hour of deepest need
We know not where to look for aid;
When days and nights of anxious thought
No help or counsel yet have brought,
- 2 Then is our comfort this alone
That we may meet before Your throne;
To You, O faithful God, we cry
For rescue in our misery.
- 3 For You have promised, Lord, to heed
Your children’s cries in time of need
Through Him whose name alone is great,
Our Savior and our advocate.

† PREPARATION †

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

CONFESSION

From 1 John 1:8-9 and John 20:19-23.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God’s Word and self-examination.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, 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 neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment.

For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, 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.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Lent Anthem “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-race;
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!**

† **WORD** †

THE SALUTATION AND THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

LEVITICUS 19:13-18

¹³“You shall not oppress your neighbor or rob him. The wages of a hired servant shall not remain with you all night until the morning. ¹⁴You shall not curse the deaf or put a stumbling block before the blind, but you shall fear your God: I am the LORD.

¹⁵“You shall do no injustice in court. You shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great, but in righteousness shall you judge your neighbor. ¹⁶You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not stand up against the life of your neighbor: I am the LORD.

¹⁷“You shall not hate your brother in your heart, but you shall reason frankly with your neighbor, lest you incur sin because of him. ¹⁸You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE READING

JAMES 2:8-20

¹Every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. ²He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. ³Because of this he is obligated to offer sacrifice for his own sins just as he does for those of the people. ⁴And no one takes this honor for himself, but only when called by God, just as Aaron was.

⁵So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him,

“You are my Son,
today I have begotten you”;

⁶as he says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever,
after the order of Melchizedek.”

⁷In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was

able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. ⁸Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. ⁹And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him, ¹⁰being designated by God a high priest after the order of Melchizedek.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

LENTEN VERSE

P 157

**All 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.**

GOSPEL READING

JOHN 15:1-14

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 15th chapter.

C **Glo-ry to You, O Lord.**

³²And they were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking ahead of them. And they were amazed, and those who followed were afraid. And taking the twelve again, he began to tell them what was to happen to him, ³³saying, "See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death and deliver him over to the Gentiles. ³⁴And they will mock him and spit on him, and flog him and kill him. And after three days he will rise."

³⁵And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came up to him and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." ³⁶And he said to them, "What do you want me to do for you?" ³⁷And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." ³⁸Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?" ³⁹And they said to him, "We are able." And Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink, and

with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized, ⁴⁰but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.” ⁴¹And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John. ⁴²And Jesus called them to him and said to them, “You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. ⁴³But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

APOSTLE’S CREED

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

**And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father
Almighty.**

**From thence 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.**

SERMON HYMN “A LAMB GOES UNCOMPLAINING FORTH” LSB 438

- 1 A Lamb goes uncomplaining forth,
 The guilt of sinners bearing
And, laden with the sins of earth,
 None else the burden sharing;
Goes patient on, grows weak and faint,
To slaughter led without complaint,
 That spotless life to offer,
He bears the stripes, the wounds, the lies,
The mockery, and yet replies,
 “All this I gladly suffer.”
- 2 This Lamb is Christ, the soul’s great friend,
 The Lamb of God, our Savior,
Whom God the Father chose to send
 To gain for us His favor.
“Go forth, My Son,” the Father said,
“And free My children from their dread
 Of guilt and condemnation.
The wrath and stripes are hard to bear,
But by Your passion they will share
 The fruit of Your salvation.”
- 3 “Yes, Father, yes, most willingly
 I’ll bear what You command Me.
My will conforms to Your decree,
 I’ll do what You have asked Me.”
O wondrous Love, what have You done!
The Father offers up His Son,
 Desiring our salvation.
O Love, how strong You are to save!
You lay the One into the grave
 Who built the earth’s foundation.
- 4 Lord, when Your glory I shall see
 And taste Your kingdom’s pleasure,
Your blood my royal robe shall be,
 My joy beyond all measure!
When I appear before Your throne,

Your righteousness shall be my crown;
With these I need not hide me.
And there, in garments richly wrought,
As Your own bride shall we be brought
To stand in joy beside You.

SERMON “BEARING FRUIT” PASTOR SCHMIDT

ANTHEM “Create In Me” p 192

**Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God,
and re-new a right spir-it with-in me.
Cast me not a-way from Thy pres-ence,
And take not Thy ho-ly Spir-it from me.
Re-store un-to me the joy of Thy Sal-va-tion,
and up-hold me with Thy free spir-it. A-men.**

OFFERING

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

LORD’S PRAYER

C 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

P 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 T give you
peace.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN “WHEN IN THE HOUR OF DEEPEST NEED” LSB 615 v.4-6

- 4 And so we come, O God, today
And all our woes before You lay;
For sorely tried, cast down, we stand,
Perplexed by fears on ev’ry hand.
- 5 O from our sins, Lord, turn Your face;
Absolve us through Your boundless grace.
Be with us in our anguish still;
Free us at last from ev’ry ill.
- 6 So we with all our hearts each day
To You our glad thanksgiving pay,
Then walk obedient to Your Word,
And now and ever praise You, Lord.

**The Worship Service Lent
March 24th, 2021**

Preacher	Rev. Joshua Schmidt
Liturgist	Rev. Michael Redeker
Organist	Marilyn Smith
Acolyte	Brielle Krizman
Videographer	Jeremy Skoog
Solo	James VanFossan, & Fritz Nuffer

Bearing Fruit

Discussion Notes:

God Loves:

In the message we learned that God bears fruit through our lives.

We are the laborers in God's harvest that Jesus is praying will make a difference in the world. When we live in spiritual community we discover that healing happens because life is better together.

That's why at Messiah we emphasize the need to gather in groups so people can know others and be known. They are the best ministry vehicle for Bible Study, community, and personalized prayer.

1. Who is someone that has brought you healing when you've been isolated, depressed, jobless, afraid, or broken?
2. Which of the Fruit of the Spirit were they exhibiting?
3. How will you be a laborer in God's harvest, discipling others with the fruits of the Spirit?

Love Others:

1. What is your happiest memory from your life? Who were you with and what were you doing?
2. What is something you look forward to doing in the future and who will you do it with?
3. As you think about your future, do you goals to work on? What is something you can do right now?

Serve World:

1. What area of your life needs some healing right now?
2. Which of the Fruit of the Spirit would be most helpful to apply in the healing process (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, or self-control)?
3. As we've journeyed through this series, what is God calling you to do?

Let's demonstrate the fruits of the Spirit in our community!

Challenge yourself to do two random acts of kindness for strangers and consider supporting local businesses in your neighborhood (suggestions below).

1. Leave your extra change at the cash register.
2. Send a thank-you note to one of the following: the staff at your local police or fire station, teachers and school administration, grocery store workers, pharmacy workers, hospitals, care facilities, servers, etc.

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