

# CONTRAST

LENTEN EPISTLE  
WORSHIP SERIES



## THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT CONTRAST

*Old Self/New Self*



# Today's Worship

Jesus calls us from sinful selfishness to selfless service. We can view the world from the perspective of selfishness or selflessness. Our old self, the sinful nature selfishly puts self before all and leads to favoritism, pride and envy. Our new self, through faith, however, means repentance, despairing of self, trusting in Christ's substitutionary sacrifice, and leading lives of selfless service modeled after our Savior who came not to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for us.

**Weekly Memory Passage:** Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

*(Romans 8:1)*

## The Season of Lent

The word Lent comes from an Old English word for Spring (*lengten*), the time of the year when the days grow longer. For the last 1,700 years, the Church has set aside the 40 days between Ash Wednesday and Easter as a time of special preparation. It is a time of repentance and renewal. During Lent, our rejoicing is muted as we remember our Lord's suffering and death. But it is with a purpose: we know that the Lord who died took up his life again on Easter Sunday morning. So our 40 days of Lent are ones lived in the certain hope of the resurrection.

	March 1	Adam/Christ
	March 8	Works/Faith
	March 15	Darkness/Light
	March 22	Old Self/New Self
	March 29	Death/Life
	April 5	Exaltation/Humility (Palm Sunday)

## SERVICE OF THE WORD

*This service offers the congregation a form of worship that focuses on the proclamation of God's Word.  
Believers respond to this divine gift with prayer, praise, and thanksgiving.*

### OPENING HYMN

#### Upon the Cross Extended

*Christian Worship (Red) 113*



1 Up - on the cross ex - tend - ed, See, world, your Lord sus -  
2 How God at our trans - gres - sion To an - ger gives ex -  
3 'Tis I who should be smit - ten, My doom should here be  
4 A crown of thorns you're wear - ing, My shame and scorn you're  
5 Your cords of love, my Sav - ior, Bind me to you for -



pend - ed; Your Sav - ior yields his breath. The Prince of  
pres - sion, How loud his thun - ders roll, How fear - ful -  
writ - ten: Bound hand and foot in hell. The fet - ters  
bear - ing That I might ran - somed be. My bonds-man,  
ev - er; I am no long - er mine. To you I



life from heav - en Him - self has free - ly giv - en  
ly he smites him, How sore - ly he re - quites him—  
and the scourg - ing, The floods a - round you surg - ing,  
ev - er will - ing, My place with pa - tience fill - ing,  
glad - ly ten - der All that my life can ren - der



To shame and blows and bit - ter death.  
All this your suf - f'rings teach my soul.  
'Tis I who have de - served them well.  
From sin and guilt has made me free.  
And all I have to you re - sign.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76, abr.; tr. John Kelly, 1833–90, alt.

Tune: O WELT, ICH MUSS DICH LASSEN (776 778) Heinrich Isaac, c. 1450–1517, alt.

**M:** The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**C:** And also with you.

## CONFESSION OF SINS

**M:** We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

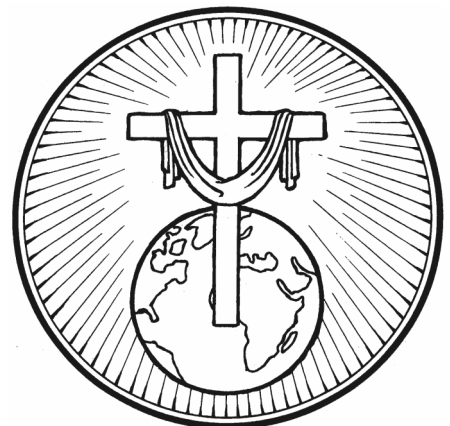
**C:** **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

**M:** God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

**C:** Amen.

## PRAYER AND PRAISE

**M:** In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.



## OH, TASTE AND SEE

C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are  
they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -  
ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -  
ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -  
ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.  
Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

The musical score is written on six staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Almighty God, we confess that we deserve to be punished for our evil deeds. But we ask you graciously to cleanse us from all sin and to comfort us with your salvation; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

# THE WORD

## FIRST LESSON: Genesis 37:1-11

### *The selfishness of Jacob's sons*

Jacob lived in the land where his father had stayed, the land of Canaan. <sup>2</sup>This is the account of Jacob's family line. Joseph, a young man of seventeen, was tending the flocks with his brothers, the sons of Bilhah and the sons of Zilpah, his father's wives, and he brought their father a bad report about them. <sup>3</sup>Now Israel loved Joseph more than any of his other sons, because he had been born to him in his old age; and he made an ornate robe for him. <sup>4</sup>When his brothers saw that their father loved him more than any of them, they hated him and could not speak a kind word to him. <sup>5</sup>Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers, they hated him all the more. <sup>6</sup>He said to them, "Listen to this dream I had: <sup>7</sup>We were binding sheaves of grain out in the field when suddenly my sheaf rose and stood upright, while your sheaves gathered around mine and bowed down to it." <sup>8</sup>His brothers said to him, "Do you intend to reign over us? Will you actually rule us?" And they hated him all the more because of his dream and what he had said. <sup>9</sup>Then he had another dream, and he told it to his brothers. "Listen," he said, "I had another dream, and this time the sun and moon and eleven stars were bowing down to me." <sup>10</sup>When he told his father as well as his brothers, his father rebuked him and said, "What is this dream you had? Will your mother and I and your brothers actually come and bow down to the ground before you?" <sup>11</sup>His brothers were jealous of him, but his father kept the matter in mind.

M: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.



## **SECOND LESSON: Romans 8:1-10**

### ***Set free to live in the Spirit***

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, <sup>2</sup>because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death. <sup>3</sup>For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in the flesh, <sup>4</sup>in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. <sup>5</sup>Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. <sup>6</sup>The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup>The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. <sup>8</sup>Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God. <sup>9</sup>You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ. <sup>10</sup>But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness.

M: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL: Matthew 20:17-28**

### ***Jesus and Zebedee's sons***

<sup>17</sup>Now Jesus was going up to Jerusalem. On the way, he took the Twelve aside and said to them, <sup>18</sup>"We are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and the teachers of the law. They will condemn him to death <sup>19</sup>and will hand him over to the Gentiles to be mocked and flogged and crucified. On the third day he will be raised to life!" <sup>20</sup>Then the mother of Zebedee's sons came to Jesus with her sons and, kneeling down, asked a favor of him. <sup>21</sup>"What is it you want?" he asked. She said, "Grant that one of these two sons of mine may sit at your right and the other at your left in your kingdom." <sup>22</sup>"You don't know what you are asking," Jesus said to them. "Can you drink the cup I am going to drink?" "We can," they answered. <sup>23</sup>Jesus said to them, "You will indeed drink from my cup, but to sit at my right or left is not for me to grant. These places belong to those for whom they have been prepared by my Father." <sup>24</sup>When the ten heard about this, they were indignant with the two brothers. <sup>25</sup>Jesus called them together and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them.

<sup>26</sup>Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, <sup>27</sup>and whoever wants to be first must be your slave — <sup>28</sup>just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ.

## HYMN OF THE DAY

### The Lamb

*Christian Worship Supplement (Blue) 714*



1 The Lamb, the Lamb, O Fa - ther, where's the  
 2 The Lamb, the Lamb, One per - fect fi - nal  
 3 The Lamb, the Lamb, As way - ward sheep their  
 4 He sighs, he dies, He takes my sin and  
 5 He rose, he rose, My heart with thanks now

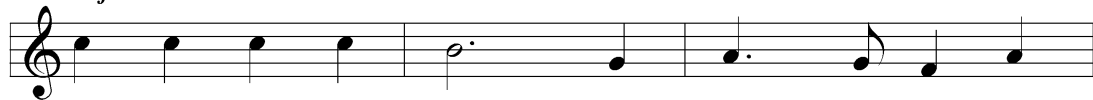


sac - ri - fice? Faith sees, be - lieves God  
 of - fer - ing. The Lamb, the Lamb, Let  
 shep - herd kill So still, his will, On  
 wretch - ed - ness. He lives, for - gives, He  
 o - ver - flows. His song pro - long 'Til

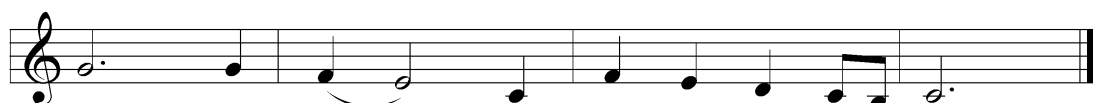


will pro - vide the Lamb of price!  
 earth join heav'n his praise to sing.  
 our be - half the law to fill.  
 gives me his own right - eous - ness.  
 ev - 'ry heart to him be - long.

#### *Refrain*



Wor - thy is the Lamb whose death makes me his



own! The Lamb is reign - ing on his throne.

*As the Lord provided for Abraham a sacrifice in place of his son Isaac, so also he lovingly provides for us his own Son, Jesus, the perfect Lamb of God sacrificed for the sins of the world.*

Tune: WINTER (48 48 and Refrain)  
 Text, Tune: Gerald P. Coleman, b. 1953 © 1987 Birnamwood Publications (ASCAP),  
 a division of MorningStar Music Publishers, Inc. All rights reserved. Used by permission.



SERMON.....Pastor Troy Schreiner

Text: Romans 8:1-10

### Selfish? Or Selfless?

## CONFESSION OF FAITH FOR LENT

This is what the Bible teaches and, therefore, what we believe.

We believe in Jesus Christ; He is the true God from all eternity — almighty, all-knowing, present in all places. He is a man from Nazareth — weak in the flesh, fearful of future sorrow, tortured by pain. He was tempted like us, yet like we will never know. But he triumphed over temptation; he refrained from his full might and glory; he submitted humbly to the Father's will; he chose death, to give us life. We believe that our sins anger God, each one of them: big and small, public and private, those that hurt others, those that don't appear to hurt anyone, those we don't even remember.

We believe that Jesus lived and died for the sins of the world. He resisted every temptation; he reached out in love, to anyone in need; he remained pure in every thought, not just to be a good person, not just to be a good example, but to be mankind's perfect Savior and Substitute, to live the Law in our place, so that the Law will not condemn us. He submitted to shame; he suffered unjust punishment; he sacrificed Himself, not to prove a point, not just to show us how to obey, but to take mankind's sentence for sin, as our perfect Savior and Substitute. He is our sure hope and salvation.

This is what the Bible says; therefore, this is what we believe. Amen.

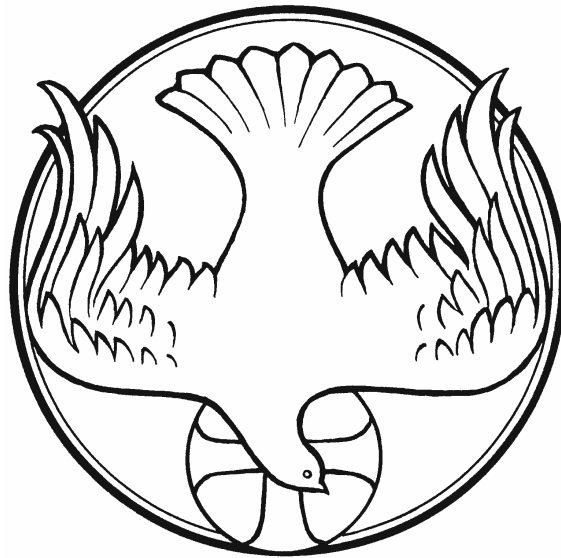
## OFFERING

Victory can receive offerings electronically through our secure website: [victorylutheran.org](http://victorylutheran.org).  
Simply click on the "Give" tab at the top right corner of the site.

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

### 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.



### FINAL HYMN

**Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us**

*Christian Worship (Red) 486*

*(Hymn printed on next page of worship folder)*

1 Lord of glo - ry, you have bought us With your  
2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give you Glad - ly,  
3 Won - drous hon - or you have giv - en To our  
4 Yes, the sor - row and the suf - f' rings Which on  
5 Lord of glo - ry, you have bought us With your

life - blood as the price, Nev - er grudg - ing for the  
free - ly, of your own. With the sun - shine of your  
hum - blest char - i - ty In your own mys - te - rious  
ev - 'ry hand we view Chan - nels are for gifts and  
life - blood as the price, Nev - er grudg - ing for the

lost ones That tre - men - dous sac - ri - fice,  
good - ness Melt our thank - less hearts of stone  
sen - tence, "You have done it un - to me."  
of - f' rings Due by sol - emn right to you,  
lost ones That tre - men - dous sac - ri - fice.

And with that have free - ly giv - en Bless - ings  
Till our cold and self - ish na - tures, Warmed by  
Can it be, O gra - cious Mas - ter, That you  
Right of which we may not rob you, Debt we  
Give us faith to trust you bold - ly, Hope, to

count - less as the sand To th' un - thank - ful and the  
you, at length be - lieve That more hap - py and more  
need what we can do, Say - ing by your poor and  
may not choose but pay Lest that face of love and  
stay our souls on you; But, oh, best of all your

e - vil With your own un - spar - ing hand.  
bless - ed 'Tis to give than to re - ceive.  
need - y, "Give as I have giv' n to you"?  
pit - y Turn from us a - noth - er day.  
gra - ces, With your love our love re - new.

Text: Eliza S. Alderson, 1818–89, alt.

Tune: HYFRYDOL (87 87 D) Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–87.

**M:** O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

**M:** Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

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.**