

THE PARABLES OF LENT

RECEIVE GRACE

THE PARABLE *of the*
workers *in the* vineyard

Welcome to Week Four in The Parables of Lent series of services, which is based on the parable of the workers in the vineyard. In this parable, all workers in a vineyard are given the same pay from the master, no matter how long they have labored.

Opening Hymn: LSB #611 verses 1-4

“Chief of Sinners Though I Be”

Chief of sinners though I be, Jesus shed His blood for me,
Died that I might live on high, Lives that I might never die.
As the branch is to the vine, I am His, and He is mine.

Oh, the height of Jesus' love, Higher than the heav'ns above,
Deeper than the depths of sea, Lasting as eternity!
Love that found me--wondrous thought! Found me when I sought Him not.

Only Jesus can impart Balm to heal the wounded heart,
Peace that flows from sin forgiv'n, Joy that lifts the soul to heav'n,
Faith and hope to walk with God In the way that Enoch trod.

Chief of sinners though I be, Christ is all in all to me;
All my wants to Him are known, All my sorrows are His own.
He sustains the hidden life Safe with Him from earthly strife.

P In this holy season the Son of God humbles himself so that we receive mercy.

C **Humble me once again, O God, that my life would be pleasing and acceptable to you.**

P In this holy season the Son of God reminds us that his heavenly Father provides us with everything we need, though we deserve nothing.

C **Remind me, O God, of the privilege it is to serve in your kingdom and of your grace that provides everything that I need, though it is undeserved.**

P In this holy season the Son of God enters into his Passion and death so that we are exalted.

C **Grant me your grace, O God, that my faith in Jesus would be pleasing and acceptable to you.**

We Sing: (Tune LSB # 685)

Let us listen to our Savior as his parables unfold,
Learning what he has to teach us, bearing fruit a hundredfold.
Workers needed in the vineyard had agreed to work the day,
But when they received their pay, all received as equal wages
From the Master's gracious hand pay that he alone had planned.

Confession and Absolution

P Too often in our selfishness we feel as though we deserve more than we receive. Let us confess the sins of our hearts and lives to our Lord who hears and forgives:

C **Most merciful God, we confess that our very nature is sinful. We do not love you with all our heart, soul, mind and strength. We do not love our neighbors as ourselves. Far too often we feel as though we are slighted and deserve more than we receive. We are mistaken when we think that we ought to make great gain for simply doing what we have been called to do as your children. By our selfishness we have sinned against you and against others in thought, word and deed. Forgive us, most holy God.**

P The Lord Jesus came into this world to take upon himself that which he did not deserve: he took on our suffering and death as a punishment for our sin and selfishness. Because he got what he did not deserve on the cross, we get what we do not deserve: forgiveness, life and salvation. Receive now the priceless gift he paid for: all of your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

We Sing: LSB #611 verse 5

“Chief of Sinners Though I Be”

O my Savior, help afford By Your Spirit and Your Word!
When my wayward heart would stray, Keep me in the narrow way;
Grace in time of need supply While I live and when I die.

Scripture Readings

Old Testament: Isaiah 11:1-9 (Lg. print: 1077; Reg. print: 562)

Epistle: Romans 9:14-18b (Lg. print: 1757; Reg. print: 917)

Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16 (Lg. print: 1533; Reg. print: 801)

Sermon Hymn: Tune LSB #424

We listen as the Word like scattered seed is sown,
For as each parable is heard Christ's kingdom is made known.

Although you tend the vine, and labor all the day,
Should I not pay with what is mine, my grace and love display?

In ev'ry time of need, before the judgment throne,
Your work, O Lamb of God, I'll plead, your merits, not my own.

Sermon

Offering

Special Music: "How Deep the Father's Love For Us" Kelly Bristow

P God, who gives us everything we need, remind us always that it is an honor to serve you and labor in your kingdom. Forgive us for thinking we deserve any of your good gifts, and enable us to appreciate all that you give to us and the blessings you give to others. Master of the kingdom,

C thank you for your grace.

P God, who gives us everything we need, it is your will that all people know you and come to salvation through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Use your Church, and all of her members, to be servants in your kingdom who bring people to faith. Master of the kingdom,

C thank you for your grace.

P God, who gives us everything we need, your kingdom welcomes all those who are weak, ill or suffering. We ask your grace and favor upon all those near and dear to us who are in need of healing. According to your will, give them the gifts they need to be made whole. Master of the kingdom,

C thank you for your grace.

P Amen.

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

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

All: Amen

Closing Hymn: LSB #878 verses 1 and 6

“Abide With Me”

Abide with me, fast falls the eventide.
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.
Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord abide with me

THE PARABLES OF LENT

Lenten service - March 24 at 7:00 pm

Note Schedule changes to Wednesday evening activities:

5:30 – 6:00 pm Family Meal

6:00 – 7:00 pm – OSKids

6:00-6:45 pm – Adult Choir Rehearsal

Confirmation Classes meets at 6:00 pm

Senior Youth meets at 7:00 pm

Holy Week at OSLC

Palm Sunday - March 28

8:15 and 11:00 am - Easter Cantata

9:30 am - OSKids Process with Palms

Maundy Thursday - April 1

5:00-6:30 pm - Soup Supper

7:00 pm -Worship with Holy Communion

Good Friday - April 2

7:00 pm - Worship Service

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