

SEXAGESIMA (about 60 days) - Grace is passively received.

Sunday, February 20, 2022, 9:30 a.m.
Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church, Altamont, IL



Rev. Marcus Manley

Elder: Matt Putnam

Organist & Choir Director: Dean Manuel

Crucifer: Kingston Koester; Acolyte: Garrett Flood; Book Bearer: Easton Caraway

Ushers: Jeff Alwardt, Steve Flood, Ronnie Putnam

Preservice Music

Ring of Bells

Prelude - LIEBSTER JESU, WIR SIND HIER - Setting by: Jim Vyhanek

✠ **DIVINE SERVICE, Setting Three** ✠
LSB p.184-202

Please stand and face the processional cross at the entrance of the nave.

Processional Hymn LSB #904 Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

p.184-185

SERVICE OF THE WORD

p.186-193

Introit for Sexagesima

Psalm 44:1-2, 7-8; antiphon: vv. 23, 25a, 26a (respond with the words in bold)

Awake! Why are you sleeping, | O Lord?*

Rouse yourself! Do not reject us for- | ever!

For our soul is bowed down | to the dust.*

Rise up; come | to our help!

O God, we have heard with our ears, our fathers have | told us,*

what deeds you performed in their days, in the | days of old:

you with your own hand drove out the nations, but them you | planted;*

you afflicted the peoples, but them you | set free.

But you have saved us | from our foes*

and have put to shame those who | hate us.

In God we have boasted con- | tinually,*

and we will give thanks to your name for- | ever.

Awake! Why are you sleeping, | O Lord?*

Rouse yourself! Do not reject us for- | ever!

For our soul is bowed down | to the dust.*

Rise up; come | to our help!

♪ **The Gloria Patri**

p. 186-189

♪ **Kyrie**

During Lent, the Gloria in Excelsis is omitted

♪ **Salutation**

Collect for Sexagesima

P: Let us pray: O God, the strength of all who put their trust in You, mercifully grant that by Your power we may be defended against all adversity; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: ♪ Amen**

Please be seated

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 55:10-13

¹⁰“For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven
and do not return there but water the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.
¹²“For you shall go out in joy
and be led forth in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall break forth into singing,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall make a name for the LORD,
an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.”

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Ministry of Music – “Steadfast Love” – *choir with soloist Amy Manley*

Epistle Reading: 2 Corinthians 11:19-12:9

¹⁹For you gladly bear with fools, being wise yourselves! ²⁰For you bear it if someone makes slaves of you, or devours you, or takes advantage of you, or puts on airs, or strikes you in the face. ²¹To my shame, I must say, we were too weak for that!

But whatever anyone else dares to boast of—I am speaking as a fool—I also dare to boast of that. ²²Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they Israelites? So am I. Are they offspring of Abraham? So am I. ²³Are they servants of Christ? I am a better one—I am talking like a madman—with far greater labors, far more imprisonments, with countless beatings, and often near death. ²⁴Five times I received at the hands of the Jews the forty lashes less one. ²⁵Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I was adrift at sea; ²⁶on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brothers; ²⁷in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure.

²⁸And, apart from other things, there is the daily pressure on me of my anxiety for all the churches. ²⁹Who is weak, and I am not weak? Who is made to fall, and I am not indignant?

³⁰If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness. ³¹The God and Father of the Lord Jesus, he who is blessed forever, knows that I am not lying. ³²At Damascus, the governor under King Aretas was guarding the city of Damascus in order to seize me, ³³but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall and escaped his hands.

¹I must go on boasting. Though there is nothing to be gained by it, I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord. ²I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows. ³And I know that this man was caught up into paradise—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows— ⁴and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter. ⁵On behalf of this man I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. ⁶Though if I should wish to boast, I would not be a fool, for I would be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think more of me than he sees in me or hears from me. ⁷So to keep me from being too elated by the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from being too elated. ⁸Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. ⁹But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

The “alleluias” are omitted during “Gesima” Sundays and Lent.

Holy Gospel: Luke 8:4-15

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the eighth chapter.

C: ♪ **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

⁴When a great crowd was gathering and people from town after town came to [Jesus], he said in a parable: ⁵“A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell along the path and was trampled underfoot, and the birds of the air devoured it. ⁶And some fell on the rock, and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. ⁷And some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up with it and choked it. ⁸And some fell into good soil and grew and yielded a hundredfold.” As he said these things, he called out, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

⁹And when his disciples asked him what this parable meant, ¹⁰he said, “To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God, but for others they are in parables, so that ‘seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand.’

¹¹Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. ¹²The ones along the path are those who have heard. Then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. ¹³And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root; they believe for a while, and in time of testing fall away. ¹⁴And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. ¹⁵As for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patience.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: ♪ **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

Nicene Creed

Please be seated

Hymn of the Day LSB #655 Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word



Sermon Text: Luke 8:4-15 Title: "Story Fruit"

1. Jesus' parables are _____, and more than _____.
2. Jesus' parables are stories of the _____ of the kingdom of heaven.
3. Others _____ the stories but do not _____ the secrets.

JESUS PARABLE IS THE STORY OF YOUR LIFE.

4. You are forewarned so the secret will not be snatched, dried, choked, but _____.
5. Jesus telling the parable is what makes the secret _____, and the fruit _____.

Please stand

♪ **Offertory**

p. 192-193

Please be seated

Offering

Please stand as the offering plates are brought forward during the offering hymn

Offering Hymn #781 We Give Thee But Thine Own v. 1 & 2

Please stand

Prayer of the Church

Response after each petition of the prayer:

P: Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

♪ **Preface - ♪ Sanctus - ♪ Lord's Prayer -**

♪ **The Words of Our Lord - ♪ Pax Domini - ♪ Agnus Dei**

p. 194-198

Please be seated

Distribution

LSB #622 Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared

stz. 1 - choir

stz. 2 - 3 - congregation

stz. 4 - 5 - choir

stz. 6, 7 & 8 - congregation



LSB #585 Lord Jesus Christ, with Us Abide

LSB #587 I Know My Faith Is Founded

Please stand

♪ **Nunc Dimittis - ♪ Thanksgiving**

♪ **Benedicamus - ♪ Benediction**

p. 199-202

Please be seated

Announcements

Please stand

Recessional Hymn LSB #923 Almighty Father, Bless the Word

Face the cross as it leads us to live in Christian faith (Mt. 16:24; 1 Cor. 2:2).

Postlude