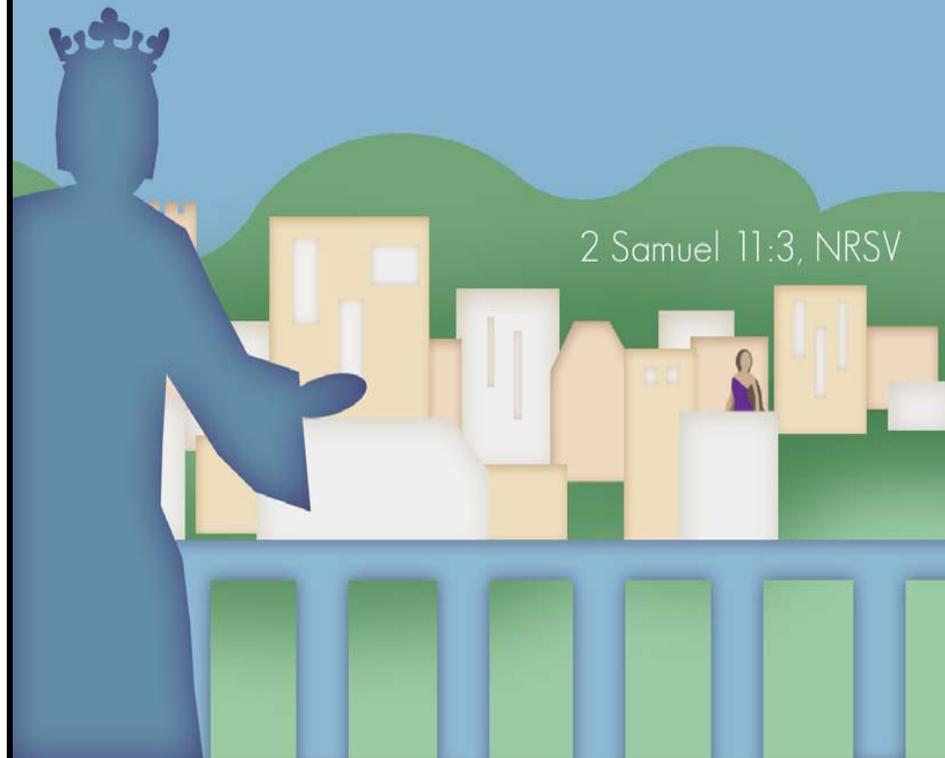


WHAT DAVID  
HAD DONE  
WAS EVIL IN  
THE EYES OF  
THE LORD.



2 Samuel 11:3, NRSV



**OUR REDEEMER**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

## **“Deliver Us from the Evil Around Us and Within Us!”**

February 12, 2023  
Sixth Sunday in Epiphany

Sunday Worship 9:30 am  
Christian Education: 11:00 am

James N. Proeber, Pastor  
Wisconsin Synod

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### **Welcome to Our Redeemer**

When we consider all the Scriptures have recorded about our Savior, our only conclusion is: “Oh, how great is your compassion!” In his compassion, Jesus became our brother. In his compassion, Jesus took upon himself the obligation of the obeying the law. In his compassion, Jesus endured the shame and mockery of the cross. It is because of all Jesus has done and endured that we put our confidence in him for our rescue from the evil we see in our hearts, in our lives, and in the world around us, and it is why pray, “deliver us from evil.”

### **For Parents with Small Children**

There are children’s activity folders available in the basket by the front door. Please pick one up, if needed. There are restrooms and a video monitor in the fellowship hall. As you leave the church, go through the double doors.

## **The Order of Worship**

### **Pre-Service Music**

#### **Call to Worship**

P: Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD is dawning upon you. Look, darkness covers the earth, and deep darkness covers the peoples, but the LORD will dawn upon you, and his glory will be seen over you.

**Opening Hymn**

“Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me”  
*Christian Worship 389*

**God Places His Name on Us**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the peace of the Holy Spirit be with you always.

**C: And also with you!**

**The Confession of Sins**

P: From the Large Catechism we have come to know: “Christ himself entrusted absolution to his Church and commanded us to absolve one another from our sins. So if there is a heart that feels its sin and desires consolation, it has here a sure refuge when it hears in God’s Word that through a fellow human being, God absolves a person from sin.”

In the name of our God and Savior to whom all hearts are open and from whom no secrets are hidden.

**C: O Lord, hear my prayer, listen to my cry for mercy,  
and in your faithfulness, come to my relief.  
Do not bring your servant into judgment,  
for no one living is righteous before you.  
Answer me quickly, O Lord; my spirit fails.  
Do not hide your face from me,  
for I have put my trust in you.  
Show me the way I should go,  
for to you I lift up my soul.  
Teach me to do your will, for you are my God.**

P: O Lord, it is because of your faithfulness and undeserved love that we humbly confess our sins.

**C: Almighty God, merciful Father, I, a troubled and repentant sinner, confess that I have sinned against you with my thoughts, my words, and my actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I**

**am distressed by the sins that trouble me and am deeply sorry for them.**

### **The Absolution**

**P:** Jesus assures his people, “if you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven.” His death paid for the guilt of your sins and the sins of the whole world. Do you believe this?

**C: Yes, I believe.**

**P:** Because of the promise of our Savior Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Be assured that you are a dear child of God and an heir of eternal life.

**C: O Lord, my God, I called to you for help, and you answered me. I thank you for the love you have shown me in Jesus Christ, my Savior. Through him you have rescued me from the guilt of my sin and given me the peace of forgiveness. Help me fight against every temptation, correct whatever wrongs I can, and serve you and those around me with love and good works. In Jesus’ name, I pray. Amen!**

### **Song of Praise**

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



**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.

### Prayer for the Day

P: O gracious Lord, you have given us your will and Word to guide us in this life. We know the things we are to do. We also know the things we are forbidden to do. Sadly, we allow our flesh to confuse us, and we fall. How blessed we are that you do not deal with us according to our sin. Instead, you show mercy and compassion which leads us to repent and seek your forgiveness. Give us an extra measure of your Holy Spirit so we can resist temptation and overcome the devil’s attacks. We can also walk joyfully on the path you have set before us, and which leads to heaven. There we will praise you together with your Son and the Spirit—our true and gracious God.



C: A — — — — men.

### The Lessons from God’s Word

*“The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak!”*

#### Old Testament

*2 Samuel 11:1–17, 26–27*

<sup>1</sup>Springtime arrived, the time when kings go out to war. David sent Joab out with his officers and with all Israel. They ravaged

the Ammonites and besieged Rabbah. But David stayed in Jerusalem.

<sup>2</sup>One evening David had gotten up from his couch and was walking around on the roof of the palace. From the roof he saw a woman bathing. The woman was very good looking. <sup>3</sup>David sent to inquire about the woman, and he was told, “Isn’t this Bathsheba daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite?”

<sup>4</sup>David sent messengers to bring her. She came to him, and he lay down with her. (She had been purifying herself from her ceremonial uncleanness.) She then returned to her house.

<sup>5</sup>The woman became pregnant, so she sent a message and told David, “I am pregnant.”

<sup>6</sup>David sent a message to Joab, “Send Uriah the Hittite to me.” So Joab sent Uriah to David,<sup>7</sup> and Uriah came to him.

David asked how Joab and the troops were doing, and how the war effort was going. <sup>8</sup>Then David said to Uriah, “Go down to your house and wash your feet.”

When Uriah went out from the palace, the king sent a gift to him. <sup>9</sup>But Uriah slept at the entrance to the palace with all the servants of his master. He did not go down to his own house.

<sup>10</sup>David was informed, “Uriah has not gone down to his house.” So David said to Uriah, “Haven’t you come a long distance? Why didn’t you go down to your house?”

<sup>11</sup>Uriah said to David, “The ark and Israel and Judah are living in shelters, and my master Joab and the servants of my master are camped on the bare ground in the open countryside. Should I go to my house to eat and to drink and to lie down with my wife? By your life, as surely as you live, I will not do such a thing.”

<sup>12</sup>Then David said to Uriah, “Stay here today also. Tomorrow I will send you back.” So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day and the next. <sup>13</sup>David summoned him, and Uriah ate as his guest, and David got him drunk. But in the evening he went and slept on his mat where the servants of his master were. He did not go to his own house.

<sup>14</sup>In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab, and he sent it in the hands of Uriah. <sup>15</sup>In the letter he wrote, “Station Uriah oppo-

site the fiercest fighting. Then withdraw from behind him so that he will be struck down and die.”

<sup>16</sup>So when Joab was besieging the city, he assigned Uriah to a place where he knew that the enemy’s strongest warriors were.

<sup>17</sup>The men of the city came out and fought against Joab, and some of the troops of David fell. Uriah the Hittite also died.

<sup>26</sup>The wife of Uriah the Hittite heard that her husband was dead, so she mourned for her husband. <sup>27</sup>When her mourning was completed, David sent for her and brought her to his house, and she became his wife. She gave birth to a son for him. But what David had done was evil in the eyes of the LORD.

**Psalm for the Day**

*Psalm 119 b*

*Refrain*

Lord, you have the words of  
ev - er - last - ing life.

*Psalm tone*

\*

Teach me, O LORD, to follow | your decrees; \*  
then I will keep them | to the end.

Give me understanding, and I will | keep your law, \*  
and obey it with | all my heart.

Direct me in the path of | your commands, \*  
for there I | find delight.

***Refrain***

Turn my eyes away from | worthless things; \*

preserve my life according | to your Word.

Fulfill your promise to your | servant, \*  
so that you | may be feared.

How I long for your | precepts!  
Preserve my life in your | righteousness.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son, \*  
and to the Holy | Spirit;  
as it was in the be- | ginning, \*  
is now, and will be forever | Amen.

*Refrain*

Lord, you have the words of  
ev - er - last - ing life.

*Psalm tone*

ev - er - last - ing life.

### Epistle

*1 Thessalonians 4:1–12*

Therefore, beyond this, brothers and sisters, just as you received instruction from us about how you are to walk so as to please God (as indeed you are doing), we ask and urge you in the Lord Jesus that you do so even more. <sup>2</sup>To be sure, you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus. <sup>3</sup>Indeed, this is God's will: that you be sanctified, namely, that you keep yourselves away from sexual immorality. <sup>4</sup>He wants each of you to learn to obtain a wife for yourself in a way that is holy and honorable, <sup>5</sup>not in lustful passion like the heathen, who do not know God. <sup>6</sup>No one is to overstep and take advantage of his brother in this matter, because the Lord is an avenger in all these

things, just as we said previously and solemnly testified to it. <sup>7</sup>For God did not call us for uncleanness, but in sanctification. <sup>8</sup>Consequently, whoever rejects this is not rejecting a man, but the God who gives you his Holy Spirit.

<sup>9</sup>Concerning brotherly love, there is no need to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God, with the result that you love one another. <sup>10</sup>In fact, you are doing so toward all the brothers throughout Macedonia. But we encourage you, brothers, to do this even more, <sup>11</sup>and to make it your ambition to live a quiet life, to mind your own business, and to work with your own hands, just as we instructed you. <sup>12</sup>Do this so that you are conducting yourselves decently toward outsiders and are not lacking anything.

**Alleluia!**

P: LORD, do not rebuke me in your anger. Do not discipline me in your wrath. Be merciful to me, LORD, for I am fading away. Heal me, LORD, for my bones are trembling, and my soul is terrified. Save me because of your mercy.



C: Al— le— lu— ia! Al— le— lu— ia! Al— le— lu— ia!



These words are writ — ten that we may be—lieve that



Je—sus is the Christ, the Son — of God.



Al— le— lu— ia! Al— le— lu— ia! Al— le— lu— ia!

## Gospel

*Matthew 5:21-37*

<sup>21</sup>“You have heard that it was said to people long ago, ‘You shall not murder, and whoever murders will be subject to judgment.’ <sup>22</sup>But I tell you that everyone who is angry with his brother without a cause will be subject to judgment, and whoever says to his brother, ‘*Raca*,’ will have to answer to the Sanhedrin. But whoever says, ‘You fool!’ will be in danger of hell fire.

<sup>23</sup>“So if you are about to offer your gift at the altar, and there you remember that your brother has something against you, <sup>24</sup>leave your gift there in front of the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother. Then come and offer your gift.

<sup>25</sup>“If someone accuses you, reach an agreement with him quickly, while you are with him on the way. Otherwise your accuser may bring you to the judge, and the judge may hand you over to the officer, and you will be thrown into prison. <sup>26</sup>Amen I tell you: You will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

<sup>27</sup>“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery,’ <sup>28</sup>but I tell you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. <sup>29</sup>If your right eye causes you to fall into sin, pluck it out and throw it away from you. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. <sup>30</sup>If your right hand causes you to fall into sin, cut it off and throw it away from you. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.

P: This is the Word of our God.



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

## Hymn of the Day

“Lord, to You I Make Confession”

*Christian Worship 302*

**Sermon**

*2 Samuel 11:26*

**“Evil in the Eyes of the Lord”**

Evil is what we do and try to hide  
Evil must be uncovered and removed

**The Confession of Faith**

*(we unite in the words of the Apostles’ Creed)*

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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 is seated  
at the right hand of God the Father almighty;  
from there 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.**

**Thanksgiving & Prayer**

**Prayer for the Lord’s Blessing**

*Special Prayers and Requests*

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**C: Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,**

**your kingdom come,  
your will be done on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power  
and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen.**

**Hymn**

“Jesus, Sinners Does Receive”  
*Christian Worship 304*

**Closing Prayer**

P: O gracious Lord, we pray, deliver us from evil. As we pray, we not only recognize the evil which is so prevalent in this world, we also see the evil in our hearts. Do not only keep evil from us, but also forgive us when we are controlled by evil. Purify us from every thought, every word, and every deed which is not in keeping with your gracious, good will. Send us your Holy Spirit, and through the message of Jesus work powerfully in us, so that we rejoice in your Word and live according to your will—all to the glory of your blessed name. For you are our true, blessed, gracious, and faithful God—who lives and rules as Father, Son, and Spirit—throughout all eternity.



C: A ——— men.

**The Benediction**

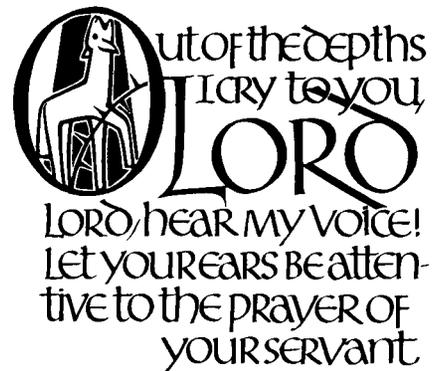
P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace; live in harmony with one another; serve the Lord in gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you;



power as God before he begins his journey to Calvary. As we join the apostles on the mountain top, we can rejoice in what we learn: Jesus is true God and true Man, and perfectly equipped to be our Savior.

- Christian Education will be offered and will turn our attention to the words of Peter's eyewitness testimony of the Transfiguration. When we couple these with the Old Testament prophet's message, we have an unmistakable and reliable truth upon which we can build our hope for heaven.



### Thank You

To Al Todd for serving as the Hymnsoft operator; to Josh Schueler and Jim Everson for controlling the audio and video for the live stream; to Sue Proeber for providing flowers for the altar—to the glory of God and in thanks for his undeserved love and forgiveness; and to Margaret Brown and Caroline Pettus for serving refreshments following the worship service.



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