

GOD'S LOVE IS SHOWN



Week 1: Compassionate Love

**1st Sunday in Lent
LBW Setting Two without Communion
Sunday, February 21, 2021**

**Advent Lutheran Church
3232 Washington Road
Augusta, GA 30907
706-860-0439
www.adventaugusta.org**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE **“Prayer from “Judas Maccabeus”** **Handel**
arr. by Nordman

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

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

P Most merciful God,

C we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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 us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the †

C Amen

HYMN

O Lord, throughout These Forty Days

1 O Lord, through - out these for - ty days you
 2 You strove with Sa - tan, and you won; your
 3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet you prayed and
 4 Be with us through this sea - son, Lord, and

prayed and kept the fast; in - spire re - pen - tance
 faith - ful - ness en - dured; lend us your nerve, your
 fixed your mind a - bove; so teach us to de -
 all our earth - ly days, that when the fi - nal

for our sin, and free us from our past.
 skill and trust in God's e - ter - nal word.
 ny our - selves that we may know God's love.
 Eas - ter dawns, we join in heav - en's praise.

Text: based on Claudia F. Hernaman, 1838–1898; para. Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930
 Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davison, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816; arr. Theodore A. Beck, 1929-2003
 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.
 Arr. © 1969 Concordia Publishing House.

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

LITANY

P In the name of the Father,

C Who has compassion on those whom he has created;

P and of the Son,

C Who has compassion on those whom he has redeemed;

P and of the Holy Spirit,

C Who has continual compassion on those in whom he dwells. Amen! Amen! Amen!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray together,

C Lord God, you have compassion on whom you will, and mercy on whom you will. You desire all to believe and to come to a knowledge of the truth. As we reflect on your compassionate love for us today, fill us with your Spirit so that we may have that same compassion for others. Amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST LESSON: ISAIAH 49:8-15

L A reading from Isaiah.

Thus says the Lord: "In a time of favor I have answered you; in a day of salvation I have helped you; I will keep you and give you as a covenant to the people, to establish the land, to apportion the desolate heritages, saying to the prisoners, 'Come out,' to those who are in darkness, 'Appear.' They shall feed along the ways; on all bare heights shall be their pasture; they shall not hunger or thirst, neither scorching wind nor sun shall strike them, for he who has pity on them will lead them, and by springs of water will guide them. And I will make all my mountains a road, and my highways shall be raised up. Behold, these shall come from afar, and behold, these from the north and from the west, and these from the land of Syene." Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth; break forth, O mountains, into singing! For the Lord has comforted his people and will have compassion on his afflicted. But Zion said, "The Lord has forsaken me; my Lord has forgotten me. Can a woman forget her nursing child, that she should have no compassion on the son of her womb? Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you."

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 25:1-10

- L ¹To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.
- C ²**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.**
- L ³Let none who look to you be put to shame; rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.
- C ⁴**Show me your ways, O LORD, and teach me your paths.**
- L ⁵Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.
- C ⁶**Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.**
- L ⁷Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.
- C ⁸**You are gracious and upright, O LORD; therefore you teach sinners in your way.**
- L ⁹You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.
- C ¹⁰**All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.**

SECOND LESSON: ROMANS 9:6-18

- L A reading from Romans.

But it is not as though the word of God has failed. For not all who are descended from Israel belong to Israel, and not all are children of Abraham because they are his offspring,

but “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.” This means that it is not the children of the flesh who are the children of God, but the children of the promise are counted as offspring. For this is what the promise said: “About this time next year I will return, and Sarah shall have a son.” And not only so, but also when Rebekah had conceived children by one man, our forefather Isaac, though they were not yet born and had done nothing either good or bad—in order that God’s purpose of election might continue, not because of works but because of him who calls—she was told, “The older will serve the younger.” As it is written, “Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated.” What shall we say then? Is there injustice on God’s part? By no means! For he says to Moses, “I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion.” So then it depends not on human will or exertion, but on God, who has mercy. For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, “For this very purpose I have raised you up, that I might show my power in you, and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth.” So then he has mercy on whomever he wills, and he hardens whomever he wills.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (SPOKEN)

C **Return to the Lord, your God, who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. (*Joel 2:13*)**

GOSPEL: LUKE 15:11-32

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

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

And Jesus said, “There was a man who had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’ And he divided his property between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.”’” And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. And bring the fattened calf and kill it,

and let us eat and celebrate. For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate. Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.’ But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, ‘Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!’ And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.’”

P The Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON **“Compassionate Love”** **Pastors Peterson**

HYMN

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;
2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me; walk with
3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

me; I want Je - sus to walk with me;
in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me; walk with
when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

me; all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,
when my heart is al - most break - ing,
when my head is bowed in sor - row,

Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me. walk with me.
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

APOSTLES' CREED

P Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

PEACE

P Peace of the Lord be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

OFFERING

The Offering is received and presented at the altar.

OFFERTORY "Offertory on Psalm 25"

**Advent Virtual Choir
composed by Paul Filpus-Luyckx**

OFFERING PRAYER

P Merciful Father,

C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

A brief silence.

P Heavenly Father, your compassion fills us with peace, because we know that it will never end. We humbly ask that you show the world this compassion that they may know you as we do, and may live in your house forever. In your compassionate love,

C Hear our prayer.

P Lord Jesus, our Redeemer and Lord, over and over again you showed compassion to humanity while you were here on earth, ultimately you showed it by dying on the cross so that death, the devil, and hell would never harm us Make us ever thankful that you paid the price we could not pay, so that our thankfulness and praise will resound to the ends of the earth. In your compassionate love,

C Hear our prayer.

P Holy Spirit, fill us with compassion for others that we may give as you have given to us. Turn our hearts toward you and your mercy and grace. Humble us, by your mighty power, that we may cling to Jesus alone for life. In your compassionate love,

C Hear our prayer.

P Lord God, you are the physician of body and soul. We humbly ask that you would heal those who are dealing with illness and injury according to your will. We especially lift before you...and all those we name aloud now or in the silence of our hearts... As they wait upon your healing, work through their struggle to reveal your mighty power and love in their lives. In your compassionate love,

C Hear our prayer.

P In baptism you join us to the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We praise you for all those who have died trusting in your compassionate faithfulness. Bring us with them to the fullness of your reign. In your compassionate love,

C Hear our prayer.

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

C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your Kingdom and teach us to pray,
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. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

BLESSING

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 † give you peace.
C **Amen**

HYMN

Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer

1 Guide me ev - er, great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain where the heal - ing
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land. I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me
 wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me
 fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me

with your pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
 all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer, strong de - liv - 'rer,
 safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs and prais - es, songs and prais - es

feed me now and ev - er - more, ev - er - more, feed me now and ev - er - more.
 shield me with your might - y arm, might - y arm, shield me with your might - y arm.
 I will raise for - ev - er - more, ev - er - more, I will raise for - ev - er - more.

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor Andrea Windsor-Peterson

Pastor Jason Peterson

Organist

Melinda East

Lector

Gina Hammock

This Week's Events:

2/24 6:30pm Zoom Dinner & Fellowship

2/24 7pm Zoom Midweek Lenten Prayer Service

2/25 7:30pm Social Justice Class

2/27 Youth Group Hiking

Sundaysandseasons.com, © 2020 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress.

Readings from Readings for the Assembly © 1995, 1996, 1997 Augsburg Fortress. Citations from the Revised Common Lectionary © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts. Scripture quotations from NRSV Bible, Copyright © 1989,

"Offertory on Psalm 25", music by Paul Filpus-Luyckx. Copyright © 2021 by Paul Filpus-Luyckx. All Rights Reserved. Used by Permission.

Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License number is: SAS103553

One License # 729665-A