

# BACK TO BASICS

*Midweek Lenten  
Services Around  
the Catechism*

March 8, 2023  
Apostles' Creed



**FAITH . DISCIPLESHIP . COMMUNITY**  
**THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD**

The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd  
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The Rev. Alejandro Mejia, Interim Pastor  
The Rev. William Gohl, Interim Associate Pastor

*Lent has traditionally been a time of repentance and renewal. In our Lenten observance on these Wednesday evenings, we will concentrate on five great themes of Luther's Small Catechism for our lessons and sermons. Our service order will be centered around the Ten Commandments as our guide and light to a life in loving response to the Gospel of our Lord.*

P = Presiding Minister    A = Assisting Minister    C = Congregation

## Prelude

## Evening Prayer

*Leader or Assistant*  
Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world,

*All*  
the light no darkness can o - ver - come.

*Leader or Assistant*  
Stay with us now, for it is evening,

*All* *Leader or Assistant*  
and the day is al - most over. Let your light scat - ter the darkness,

*All*  
and shine within your peo - ple here.

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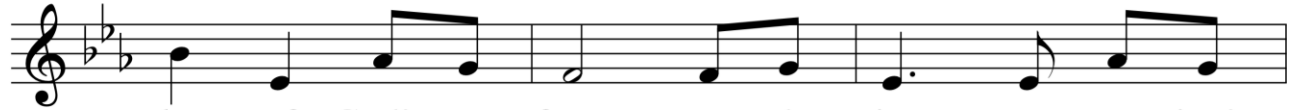
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# Hymn of Light

*All*



1. Joy - ous light of heav'n - ly glo - ry, lov - ing  
2. In the stars that grace the dark - ness, in the  
3. You who made the heav - en's splen - dor, ev - 'ry



glow of God's own face, you who sing cre - a - tion's  
blaz - ing sun of dawn, in the light of peace and  
danc - ing star of night, make us shine with gen - tle



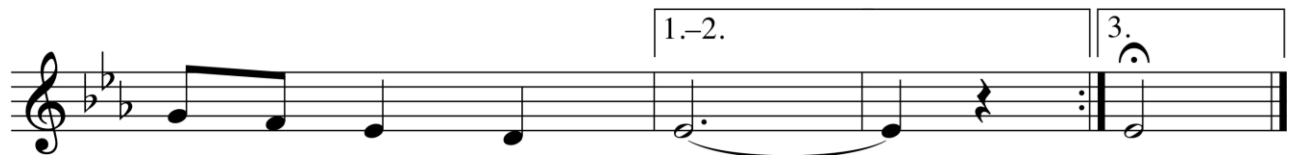
sto - ry, shine on ev - 'ry land and race. Now as  
wis - dom, we can hear your qui - et song. Love that  
jus - tice, let us each re - flect your light. Might - y



eve - ning falls a - round us, we shall raise our songs to  
fills the night with won - der, love that warms the wea - ry  
God of all cre - a - tion, gen - tle Christ who lights our



you. God of day - break, God of shad - ows, come and  
soul, love that bursts all chains a - sun - der, set us  
way, lov - ing Spir - it of sal - va - tion, lead us



light our hearts a - new.  
free and make us whole.  
on to end - less day.

## Prayer

**A** *Come and let us walk in the light of the Lord! God will teach us of faithful ways,*

**C** **We will walk in the paths of the Lord!**

**A** *Show your servants your works, O Lord;*

**C** **And their children your glory.**

**A** *Let your merciful kindness be upon us,*

**C** **As we put our trust in you.**

**A** *Not to us, O Lord, not to us,*

**C** **But to your name be the praise.**

**A** *Lord, hear our prayer,*

**C** **And let our cry come to you.**

## Exhortation

**P** *Friends in Christ, we are created to experience joy in communion with God, to love one another, and to live in harmony with creation. But our sinful rebellion separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, so that we do not enjoy the life our creator intended. As disciples of the Lord Jesus, we are called to struggle against everything that leads us away from love of God and neighbor. Repentance, fasting, prayer, and works of love --the discipline of Lent -- help us to wage our spiritual warfare. Let us therefore turn to the Word of God this night. For the Word of God contains the Law and the Gospel and is the light before our eyes. The Gospel is God's gracious promise to us as his beloved children. It shows us all that He has done for us, in Israel and in Jesus Christ, for the forgiveness of sins and for newness of life. Christ makes us his own and heirs of his kingdom. The Law, on the other hand, represents what God expects of us in the response of our lives as we live in loving service to his will.*

**C** **The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart. The commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to our eyes.**

## The Decalogue

**A** *God spoke these words, and said: I am the Lord your God. You shall have no other gods,*

**C** **Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this commandment.**

**P** *You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.*

**C** **Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this commandment.**

**A** *Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.*

**C** **Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this commandment.**

**P** *Honor your father and mother.*

**C** **Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this commandment.**

**A** *You shall not kill.*

**C** **Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this commandment.**

**P** *You shall not commit adultery.*

**C** **Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this commandment.**

**A** *You shall not steal.*

**C** **Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this commandment.**

**P** *You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.*

**C** **Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this commandment.**

**A** *You shall not covet.*

**C** **Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this commandment.**

## The Law of Love

- P** *Jesus summarized the Decalogue into two great commandments: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And the second is like it; You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets."*
- C** **The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart. The commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to our eyes. Amen.**

### Lesson

1 John 1:1-7

- A** *A reading from first John. <sup>1</sup>We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life — <sup>2</sup>this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us — <sup>3</sup>we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.*

*<sup>5</sup>This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup>If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; <sup>7</sup>but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.*

- A** *The word of the Lord.*
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel**

John 14:1-7

**P** *The Holy Gospel according to John the fourteenth chapter.*

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

*<sup>1</sup>Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. <sup>2</sup>In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup>And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. <sup>4</sup>And you know the way to the place where I am going." <sup>5</sup>Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" <sup>6</sup>Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup>If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."*

**P** *The Gospel of the Lord.*

**C** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

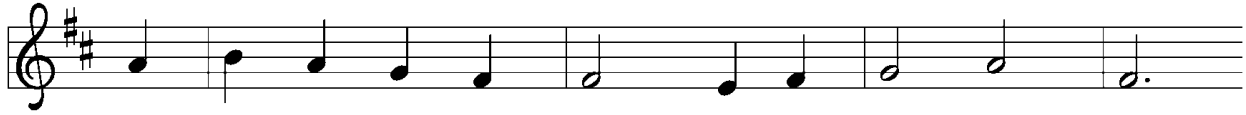
## **Meditation**

The Rev. Bill Gohl

*Please stand, as you are able.*



1 Lord, take my hand and lead me up - on life's way;  
2 Lord, when the tem - pest ra - ges, I need not fear;  
3 Lord, when the shad - ows length - en and night has come,



di - rect, pro - tect, and feed me from day to day.  
for you, the Rock of A - ges, are al - ways near.  
I know that you will strength - en my steps toward home,



With - out your grace and fa - vor I go a - stray;  
Close by your side a - bid - ing, I fear no foe,  
then noth - ing can im - pede me, O bless - ed Friend!



so take my hand, O Sav - ior, and lead the way.  
for when your hand is guid - ing, in peace I go.  
So, take my hand and lead me un - to the end.

*During the hymn, the offerings will be presented and the Table prepared*

**A** *Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.*

*A brief silence.*

*After each portion of the prayers:*

**A** *Merciful God,*

**C** **receive our prayer.**

*The prayers conclude:*

**P** *We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior.*

**C** **Amen.**



**P** *The peace of Christ be with you always.*

**C** **And also with you.**

*After sharing the peace, please remain standing.*

**P** *The Lord be with you.*

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** *Lift up your hearts.*

**C** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**P** *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

**C** **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**P** *Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.*

*In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.*

*Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.*

*Send now your Holy Spirit upon these gifts and into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in this holy supper. All honor and glory is yours, almighty God, in the church, forever and ever.*

**C** **Amen.**

**P** *Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:*  
**C** **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.**

**P** *The Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world.*  
**C** **Thanks be to God.**

*Please be seated.*

*We welcome to the table all who proclaim Jesus is truly present in the bread and the wine.  
 (Note: should you prefer, we also offer gluten free wafers and grape juice.)*

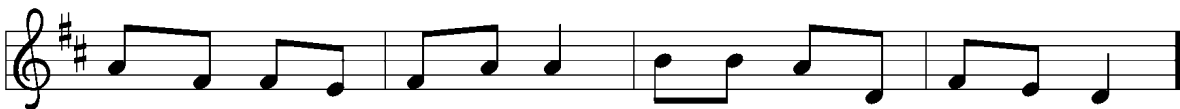
**Communion Hymn**

*Jesus Loves Me!*

No. 595



1 Je - sus loves me! this I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so;  
 2 Je - sus loves me! he who died heav - en's gates to o - pen wide;  
 3 Je - sus loves me! he will stay close be - side me all the way;



lit - tle ones to him be - long, they are weak, but he is strong.  
 he will wash a - way my sin, let his lit - tle child come in.  
 when at last I come to die, he will take me home on high.

*Refrain*



Yes, Je - sus loves me, yes, Je - sus loves me,



yes, Je - sus loves me, the Bi - ble tells me so.

*After all have communed, please stand, as you are able.*

**P** *The body of our Lord Jesus Christ, and his precious blood, strengthen us and keep us together in grace.*

**C** **Amen.**

**A** *Let us pray. Lord, we thank you that you have taught us what you would have us believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit, for the sake of Jesus Christ, to keep your Word in pure hearts, that we may be strengthened in faith, perfected in holiness, and comforted in life and in death.*

**C** **Amen.**

**P** *Our almighty and merciful God: Father, + the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us now and forever*

**C** **Amen.**



1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.  
2 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;  
3 I need thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;  
4 I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;  
5 Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes,



The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.  
earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;  
what but thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?  
ills have no weight, and tears no bit - ter - ness.  
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;



When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,  
change and de - cay in all a - round I see;  
Who like thy - self my guide and stay can be?  
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?  
heav'n's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee;



help of the help - less, oh, a - bide with me.  
O thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.  
Through cloud and sun - shine, oh, a - bide with me.  
I tri - umph still, if thou a - bide with me!  
in life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

**A** *Let us bless the Lord.*

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**