

Brighton Lutheran Mission



Third Sunday in Lent
Oculi
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brightonlutherans.wordpress.com

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Welcome to Brighton Lutheran Mission!

**May God bless you richly as we
gather together to receive His gifts.**

Please stay behind for a cup of tea or
coffee afterwards.

Holy Communion — A note to visitors

It is our desire that all people receive the body and blood of our Lord at this altar! However, our Lord has told us in His Word that His body and blood, given into our mouths, are powerful and not to be given or received lightly or in a careless way. Therefore, in respecting the Word of the Lord that anyone who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner is doing harm to themselves, and that He desires that all who commune together be truly united in the confession of the truth, we ask that only those who have been instructed in the Lutheran Confessions and are under our pastor's care come forward to receive the Lord's Supper.

All who are visiting us and who desire to commune with us are asked to first speak with our pastor before the service, so that all can make an informed decision about participating with us in our fellowship in this place. *We are not condemning anyone with this practice*; we seek only to follow the Word of the Lord and carry out responsible pastoral care.

Thank you for honouring our beliefs.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Hymn: Lord Jesus, Think on Me

1. Lord Jesus, think on me
And purge away my sin;
From worldly passions set me free
And make me pure within.
2. Lord Jesus, think on me,
by anxious thoughts oppressed;
Let me Thy loving servant be
And taste Thy promised rest.
3. Lord Jesus, think on me
Amid the battle's strife;
In all my pain and misery
Be Thou my Health and Life.
4. Lord Jesus, think on me
Nor let me go astray;
Through darkness and perplexity
Point Thou the heavenly way.
5. Lord Jesus, think on me
That, when this life is past,
I may th'eternal brightness see
And share Thy joy at last.

Synesius of Cyrene (365–414)

Confession and Absolution

Catechism

P The Fourth Commandment

C Honour your father and your mother.

P What does this mean?

C We should fear and love God so that we do not despise or anger our parents and other authorities, but honour them, serve and obey them, love and cherish them.

P The fifth commandment:

C You shall not murder.

P What does this mean?

C We should fear and love God so that we do not hurt or harm our neighbour in his body, but help and support him in every physical need.

P The sixth commandment:

C You shall not commit adultery.

P What does this mean?

C We should fear and love God so that we lead a chaste and decent life in what we say and do, and husband and wife love and honour each other.

Introit (Ps. 25:1–2, 17–18, 20; antiphon: Ps. 25: 15–16)

L My eyes are ever towards the Lord,
for he will pluck my feet out of the net.

C Turn to me and be gracious to me,
for I am lonely and afflicted.

L To you, O LORD,
I lift up my soul.

C O my God, in you I trust; let me not be put
to shame;

let not my enemies exult over me.

L The troubles of my heart are enlarged;
bring me out of my dis- | tresses.

C Consider my affliction and my trouble,
and forgive all my sins.

L Oh, guard my soul, and deliver me!
Let me not be put to shame, for I take
refuge in you.

C ❖ *Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;*

as it was in the beginning,
is now and will be forever. Amen.

L My eyes are ever towards the LORD,
for he will pluck my feet out of the net.

C Turn to me and be gracious to me,
for I am lonely and afflicted.

Kyrie

Salutation and Collect of the Day

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

The Readings

Jesus Overcomes the Strong Man

Jeremiah was charged with speaking evil when he spoke the Word of the Lord (Jer. 26:1-15). So also, Jesus is accused of doing evil when in fact He is doing good. He casts out a demon from a mute man so that he is able to speak (Luke 11:14-28). But some said Jesus did this by the power of Beelzebub, Satan. Like Pharaoh of old, their hearts were hard (Ex. 8:16-24). They did not recognize the finger of God, the power of the Holy Spirit at work in and through Jesus. Jesus is the Stronger Man who overcomes the strong man. He takes the devil's armour of sin and death and destroys it from the inside out by the holy cross. He exorcizes and frees us by water and the Word. We were once darkness, but now we are light in Christ the Lord (Eph. 5:1-9). As children of light, our tongues are loosed to give thanks to Him who saved us.

Old Testament—Exodus 8:16–24

¹⁶Then the LORD said to Moses, “Say to Aaron, ‘Stretch out your staff and strike the dust of the earth, so that it may become gnats in all the land of Egypt.’” ¹⁷And they did so. Aaron stretched out his hand with his staff and struck the dust of the earth, and there were gnats on man and beast. All the dust of the earth became gnats in all the land of Egypt. ¹⁸The magicians tried by their secret arts to produce gnats, but they could not. So there were gnats on man and beast. ¹⁹Then the magicians said to Pharaoh, “This is the finger of God.” But Pharaoh's heart was hardened, and he would not listen to them, as the LORD had said.

²⁰Then the LORD said to Moses, “Rise up early in the morning and present yourself to Pharaoh, as he goes out to the water, and say to him, ‘Thus says the LORD, “Let my people go, that they may serve me. ²¹Or else, if you will not let my people go, behold, I will send swarms of flies on you and your servants and your people, and into your houses. And the houses of the Egyptians shall be filled with swarms of flies, and also the ground on which they stand. ²²But on that day I will set apart the land of Goshen, where my people dwell, so that no swarms of flies shall be there, that you may know that I am the LORD in the midst of the earth. ²³Thus I will put a division between my people and your people. Tomorrow this sign shall happen.’”” ²⁴And the LORD did so. There came great swarms of flies into the house of Pharaoh and into his servants' houses. Throughout all the land of Egypt the land was ruined by the swarms of flies.

Gradual (*Ps. 9:19, 3*)

**☐ Arise, O LORD! Let not man prevail;
let the nations be judged before you!
When my enemies turn back,
they stumble and perish before your
presence.**

Epistle Reading—Ephesians 5:1–9

Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. ²And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. ³But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. ⁴Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving. ⁵For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. ⁶Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. ⁷Therefore do not become partners with

them; ⁸for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true).

Tract (Ps. 123:1–3a)

L To you I lift up my eyes,

O you who are enthroned in the heavens!

C Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master,

so our eyes look to the LORD our God, till he has mercy upon us.

Have mercy upon us, O LORD,
have mercy upon us.

Gospel Reading—Luke 11:14–28

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

C Glory be to You, O Lord.

¹⁴Now [Jesus] was casting out a demon that was mute. When the demon had gone out, the mute man spoke, and the people marvelled. ¹⁵But some of them said, “He casts out demons by Beelzebul, the prince of demons,” ¹⁶while others, to test him, kept seeking from him a sign from heaven. ¹⁷But he, knowing their thoughts, said to them, “Every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and a divided household falls. ¹⁸And if Satan also is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand? For you say that I cast out demons by Beelzebul. ¹⁹And if I cast out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges. ²⁰But if it is by the finger of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. ²¹When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own palace, his goods are safe; ²²but when one stronger than he attacks him and overcomes him, he takes away his armour in which he trusted and divides his spoil. ²³Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters.

²⁴“When the unclean spirit has gone out of a person, it passes through waterless places seeking rest, and finding none it says, ‘I will return to my house from which I came.’ ²⁵And when it comes, it finds the house swept and put in order. ²⁶Then it goes and brings seven other spirits more evil than itself, and they enter and dwell there. And the last state of that person is worse than the first.”

²⁷As he said these things, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to him, “Blessed is the womb that bore you, and the breasts at which you nursed!” ²⁸But he said, “Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to You, O Christ

The Nicene Creed

Hymn: Lord of Our Life

1. Lord of our life, and God of our salvation,
Star of our night, and Hope of every nation,
Hear and receive Thy church's supplication,
Lord God Almighty.
2. See round Thine ark the hungry billows curling!
See how Thy foes their banners are unfurling!
Lord, while their darts envenomed they are
hurling,
Thou canst preserve us.
3. Lord, Thou canst help when earthly armour
faileth;
Lord, Thou canst save when sin itself assaileth;
Lord, o'er Thy rock nor death nor hell
prevaileth;
Grant us Thy peace, Lord.
4. Peace, in our hearts, our evil thoughts assuaging,
Peace, in Thy church, where brothers are
engaging,
Peace, when the world its busy war is waging;
Calm thy foes raging!

Matthäus von Löwenstern (1594–1648)

Sermon

The Offertory

Offering

Prayer of the Church

The Service of the Sacrament

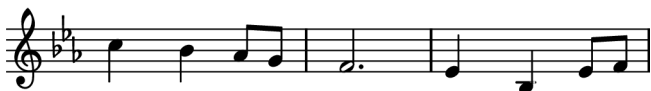
Hymn: Jesus Has Come and Brings Pleasure Eternal



1. Je-sus has come and brings pleas-ure e -
2. Je-sus has come! Now see bonds rent a -



tern - al, Al - pha, O - me - ga, Be -
sun - der! Fet - ters of death now dis -



gin - ning and End; God - head, hu -
solve, dis - ap - pear. See Him burst



man - it - y, u - nion su - per - nal,
through with a voice as of thun - der!



O great Re-deem-er, You come as our
He sets us free from our guilt and our



friend! Heav-en and earth, now pro-
fear, Lifts us from shame to the



claim this great won-der: Je-sus has
place of His hon-our. Je-sus has



come and brings pleas-ure e - tern-al!
come! Hear the roll of God's thun-der!

3. Jesus has come as the mighty Redeemer.
See now the threatening strong one disarmed!
Jesus breaks down all the walls of death's
fortress,
Brings forth the pris'ners triumphant,
unharméd.
Satan, you wicked one, own now your master!
Jesus has come! He, the mighty Redeemer!
4. Jesus has come as the King of all glory!
Heaven and earth, O declare His great pow'r,
Capturing hearts with the heavenly story;
Welcome Him now in this fast-fleeting hour!
Ponder His love! Take the crown He has for
you!
Jesus has come! He, the King of all glory!

IN OUR PRAYERS

ELCE

Redeemer Lutheran Church; Pr. J. Kriger;
Westfield House; Boor family (St. Andrew's); Van
Fossan family; Sonja (Oxford Mission)

The Church of God

Holland Road Baptist Church; Lutherans in Africa,
Pr. James May; Pr. Yousef Nadarkhani

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF CONCORD THE POWER AND PRIMACY OF THE POPE

*The pure Word and Sacraments of our Lord
overcome the work of demons today, even as He
cast them out during His earthly ministry. Any false
doctrine is to be cast out of the Church as the work
of the Antichrist.*

It is clear that the Roman pontiffs, with their
followers, defend godless doctrines and godless
services. And the marks of Antichrist plainly agree

with the kingdom of the pope and his followers. For Paul, in describing Antichrist to the Thessalonians, calls him an enemy of Christ, “Who opposes and exalts himself against every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God” (2 Thessalonians 2:4). He is not speaking about heathen kings, but about someone ruling in the Church. He calls him the enemy of Christ, because he will invent doctrine conflicting with the Gospel and will claim for himself divine authority.

... To be unwilling to be judged by the Church or by anyone else is to make oneself God. ... Paul commands that godless teachers should be avoided and condemned as cursed. And he says, “Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers... What fellowship has light with darkness?” (2 Corinthians 6:14).

... to be called schismatics is a serious matter. But divine authority commands everyone not to be allies and defenders of impiety ... In this, our consciences are excused well enough, for the errors of the kingdom of the pope are clear. Scripture with its entire voice cries out that these errors are a teaching of demons and of Antichrist. ... The doctrine of repentance has been utterly corrupted by the pope and his followers. They teach that sins are forgiven because of the value of our works. Then they tell us to doubt whether the forgiveness takes place. They nowhere teach that sins are forgiven freely for Christ’s sake, and that by this faith we obtain forgiveness of sins.

So they hide Christ’s glory and rob consciences of firm consolation. They abolish true divine services (i.e., the exercises of faith struggling with <unbelief and> despair <concerning the promise of the Gospel>). They have clouded over the doctrine about sin.

paragraphs 39-45

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