

WADE IN THE WATER

MIDWEEK LENTEN WORSHIP: *The Jabbok*

February 25, 2026 – 7:00 p.m.
St. Matthew Lutheran Church
4101 Washington Street NE
Columbia Heights, MN 55421

+ + +

OPENING MEDLEY:

“Glory Be to Jesus” – Blue Hymnal #98

Glory be to Jesus, Who in bitter pains

Poured for me the life-blood From his sacred veins.

Grace and life eternal In that blood I find;

Blest be his compassion, Infinitely kind.

Blest through endless ages Be the precious stream

Which from endless torment Did the world redeem.

Abel’s blood for vengeance Pleaded to the skies;

But the blood of Jesus For our pardon cries.

Oft as earth exulting Wafts its praise on high,

Angel hosts rejoicing Make their glad reply.

Lift we then our voices, Swell the mighty flood;

Louder still and louder Praise the precious blood.

“There Is An Everlasting Kindness”

Vocals

There is an ev - er - last - ing kind - ness you
lav - ished on us when the ra - diance of
heav - en came to res - cue the lost. You called the
sheep with - out a shep - herd to leave their dis -
tress for your streams of for - give - ness and the

shade of your rest. And with com - pas - sion for the
How beau - ti - ful the feet that
hurt - ing you reached out your hand as the
car - ry this gos - pel of peace to the
lame ran to meet you and the dead breathed a - gain. You saw be - hind the eyes of sor - row and
fields of in - jus - tice and the val - leys of need. To be a voice of hope and healing, to
shared in our tears, heard the sigh of the wea - ry, let the chil - dren draw near. What
an - swer the cries of the hun - gry and helpless with the mer - cy of Christ. What
bound - less love, what fath - om - less grace you have shown us, O God of com -
pass - ion. Each day we live an of - fring - of praise, as we
show to the world your com - pas - sion.

*("There Is An Everlasting Kindness" by Keith and Kristyn Getty and Stuart Townend,
copyright 2009 Thankyou Music, CCLI Lic. #921494.)*

INVOCATION & CONFESSION:

L: When we are baptized into Christ, He reconciles us to Himself. He restores our relationship to Him.

C: **God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself.**

L: Our worship begins the way our reconciled life in Christ begins in baptism: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

L: Lent is a time of reconciliation. Just as Jacob and Esau were brought back into a proper relationship with each other at the shores of the Jabbok River,

C: **God has reconciled us to Himself through the cross of Jesus.**

"Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive" (*sing*)

C: "Forgive our sins as we forgive," You taught us, Lord, to pray;
But You alone can grant us grace To live the words we say.

How can Your pardon reach and bless The unforgiving heart
That broods on wrongs and will not let Old bitterness depart

- L: Let us approach with confidence this One who reconciles us to Himself and confess our need for His saving work in our lives.
- C: **Lord, we have sinned against you and against each other. Our sin is destructive and deadly. We need you to repair what we have broken, to restore what we have destroyed, to bring back what we have banished, to heal what we have poisoned.**

(Time of silence for personal confession)

- P: "God made Him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God." This is our Good News. Christ has taken our sin upon Himself and given us His righteousness. As a called and ordained servant of the Word, it is my joy and privilege to follow Christ's command and forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

(Sing)

- C: **In blazing light Your cross reveals The truth we dimly knew:
What trivial debts are owed to us, How great our debt to You!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

- L: The Lord be with you.
- C: **And also with you.**

- L: Let us pray.
- C: **Almighty God, you have reconciled us to yourself in Christ and have now called us into a ministry of reconciliation. You have made us ambassadors and are making your appeal to the world through us. Empower us to speak and act for you in ways that reconcile, restore and redeem. In the name of Jesus, Amen.**

GREETING TIME

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Genesis 32:3-8, 19-23; 33:1-4

Jacob sent messengers ahead of him to his brother Esau in the land of Seir, the country of Edom. He instructed them: "This is what you are to say to my lord Esau: 'Your servant Jacob says, I have been staying with Laban and have remained there till now. I have cattle and donkeys, sheep and goats, male and female servants. Now I am sending this message to my lord, that I may find favor in your eyes.'" When the messengers returned to Jacob, they said, "We went to your brother Esau, and now he is coming to meet you, and four hundred men are with him." In great fear and distress Jacob divided the people who were with him into two groups, and the flocks and herds and camels as well. He thought, "If Esau comes and attacks one group, the group that is left may escape." He also instructed the second, the third and all the others who followed the herds: "You are to say the same thing to Esau when you meet him. And be sure to say, 'Your servant Jacob is coming behind us.'" For he thought, "I will pacify him with these gifts I am sending on ahead; later, when I see him, perhaps he will receive me." So Jacob's gifts went on ahead of him, but he himself spent the night in the camp. That night Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two female servants and his eleven sons and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. After he had sent them across the stream, he sent over all his possessions. Jacob looked up and there was Esau, coming with his four hundred men; so he divided the children among Leah, Rachel and the two female servants. He put the female servants and their children in front, Leah and her children next, and Rachel and Joseph in the rear. He himself went on ahead and bowed down to the ground seven times as he approached his brother. But Esau ran to meet Jacob and embraced him; he threw his arms around his neck and kissed him. And they wept.

- L: This is the Word of the Lord.
- C: **Lord, have mercy.**

EPISTLE LESSON: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the

world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

(Sing)

C: Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls And bid resentment cease;
Then, bound to all in bonds of love, Our lives will spread Your peace.

MESSAGE: "The Jabbok – The River of Reconciliation"

Part 1: Fishing Francis

"Wade in the Water" – traditional

(The congregation will sing the refrain before and after the verse)

Wade in the wa - ter, Wade in the wa - ter, child - dren;

Wade in the wa - ter, God's gon-na trou-ble the wa - ters. Why don't you

wa - - - ters.

*Verse: Jacob and Esau, brothers by blood
Jacob stole the birthright and his name was mud.
Esau left angry; Jacob afraid,
Then at the Jabbok River: two brothers remade! Why don't you...*

Part 2: Pastor Bill Hugo

CONFESSION OF FAITH: Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.

GATHERING OF THE OFFERINGS

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:

(Prayer response – P: Lord, in your mercy, C: Hear our prayer.)

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.

READING FROM THE PASSION OF OUR LORD

(Time of silence)

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN: “Sun of My Soul, O Savior Dear”

Sun of my soul, O Savior dear, it is not night if you are near.

Oh, may no earth-born cloud arise to hide you from your servant’s eyes.

When the soft dews of kindly sleep my wearied eye-lids gently steep,
Be my last thought how, safe from harm, I rest within my Savior’s arm.

Abide with me from morn till eve, for without you I cannot live;
Abide with me when night is nigh, for without you I dare not die.

If some poor wand’ring child of God
Has spurned today your shepherd’s rod,
Now, Lord, the gracious work begin; let him no more lie down in sin.

Watch by the sick; enrich the poor
With blessings from your boundless store;
Be ev’ry mourner’s sleep tonight, like infant’s slumbers, pure and light.

Come near and bless us when we wake,
As through the world our way we take,
Till in the ocean of your love we lose ourselves in heav’n above.

+ + +

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

Lay Minister: Bob Nehring

Acolyte: Adahlia Eames

Power Point: Robert Eames

Passion Reading: Doug Krant