

2 CORINTHIANS 12:9

*My Grace is
sufficient
for you*

*My power is
made perfect
in weakness*

*That the power
of Christ may
rest upon me*

Sexagesima Sunday, February 23, 2025

DIVINE SERVICE

Order of Worship: Liturgy Setting Four

Opening Hymn 823: May God Bestow on Us His Grace

Confession and Absolution (page 203)

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Introit:

P: Awake! Why are you sleeping, O Lord? Rouse yourself! Do not reject us forever! For our soul is bowed down to the dust. Rise up; come to our help! O God, we have heard with our ears, our fathers have told us, what deeds you performed in their days, in the days of old: you with your own hand drove out the nations, but them you planted; you afflicted the peoples, but them you set free. But you have saved us from our foes and have put to shame those who hate us. In God we have boasted continually, and we will give thanks to your name forever.



C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

P: Awake! Why are you sleeping, O Lord? Rouse yourself! Do not reject us forever! For our soul is bowed down to the dust. Rise up; come to our help!

Kyrie (page 204)

Collect of the Day:

O God, the strength of all who put their trust in You, mercifully grant that by Your power we may be defended against all adversity; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 55:10-13

10 “For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, 11 so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it. 12 “For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. 13 Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall make a name for the Lord, an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.”

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Let your enemies know that you alone, whose name is the LORD, are the Most High over all the earth. O my God, make them like whirling dust, like chaff before the wind.

Epistle Lesson: 2 Corinthians 11:19-12:10

19 For you gladly bear with fools, being wise yourselves! 20 For you bear it if someone makes slaves of you, or devours you, or takes advantage of you, or puts on airs, or strikes you in the face. 21 To my shame, I must say, we were too weak for that! But whatever anyone else dares to boast of—I am speaking as a fool—I also dare to boast of that. 22 Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they Israelites? So am I. Are they offspring of Abraham? So am I. 23 Are they servants of Christ? I am a better one—I am talking like a madman—with far greater labors, far more imprisonments, with countless beatings, and often near death. 24 Five times I received at the hands of the Jews the forty lashes less one. 25 Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I was adrift at sea; 26 on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brothers; 27 in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure. 28 And, apart from other things, there is the daily pressure on me of my anxiety for all the churches. 29 Who is weak, and I am not weak? Who is made to fall, and I am not indignant? 30 If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my

weakness. 31 The God and Father of the Lord Jesus, he who is blessed forever, knows that I am not lying. 32 At Damascus, the governor under King Aretas was guarding the city of Damascus in order to seize me, 33 but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall and escaped his hands. 12 I must go on boasting. Though there is nothing to be gained by it, I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord. 2 I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows. 3 And I know that this man was caught up into paradise—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows— 4 and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter. 5 On behalf of this man I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses— 6 though if I should wish to boast, I would not be a fool, for I would be speaking the truth; but I refrain from it, so that no one may think more of me than he sees in me or hears from me. 7 So to keep me from becoming conceited because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from becoming conceited. 8 Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. 9 But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. 10 For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Tract

O God, you have rejected us, broken our defenses; you have been angry; oh, restore us. You have made the land to quake; you have torn it open; repair its breaches, for it totters. That your beloved ones may be delivered, give salvation by your right hand and answer us!

Gospel Lesson: Luke 8:4-15

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 8th chapter.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

4 And when a great crowd was gathering and people from town after town came to him, he said in a parable, 5 “A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell along the path and was trampled

underfoot, and the birds of the air devoured it. 6 And some fell on the rock, and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. 7 And some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up with it and choked it. 8 And some fell into good soil and grew and yielded a hundredfold.” As he said these things, he called out, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.” 9 And when his disciples asked him what this parable meant, 10 he said, “To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God, but for others they are in parables, so that ‘seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand.’ 11 Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. 12 The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. 13 And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root; they believe for a while, and in time of testing fall away. 14 And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. 15 As for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patience.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles Creed (page 206)

Hymn of the day 765: **God Moves in a Mysterious Way**

Sermon: 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

“My grace is sufficient for you.”

1. Our Weakness
2. The Power of God

Offering Hymn 756: **Why Should Cross and Trial Grieve Me**

Prayer of the Church

Closing Hymn 923: **Almighty Father, Bless the Word**



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Organist Helen Kirschstein
Usher Michael Ude

Regular Schedule

Divine Worship 9:00 am
Sunday School 10:15 am (singing)
Bible Class 10:20 am

CALL NEWS

Pastor Cory Drehle of Berea Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls, SD, has returned the call to Faith Lutheran Church, Manchester, MO. <> Pastor Johnathan Schnose of Bethel Ev. Lutheran Church, Morris, MN, has received the call to Faith Lutheran Church, Manchester, MO. <> Sam Naumann of Eau Claire, WI, has accepted the call to Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Loveland, CO.<> Pastor David Pfeiffer of Holy Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, West Columbia, SC, has returned the call to St. Stephen Lutheran Church and School, Mountain View, CA. <> Pastor Caleb Schaller of Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI, has received the call to Grace Lutheran Church, Valentine, NE, Peace Lutheran Church, Mission, SD, and St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church, White River, SD. <> Pastor George Dummann of Salem Lutheran Church, Eagle Lake, MN, has accepted the call to Faith Lutheran Church, New Ulm, MN, to serve as their pastor along with his current call.



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