



***“Our Savior’s Faithfulness;  
Our Call to Faithfulness!”***

***Open Bible Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Oxford, FL***

***March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019***

**NOTES ON TODAY'S SERVICE:** Even though he was rejected by many, the Christ was resolute on his journey to redeem us.

**WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS AND VISITORS THIS MORNING!** We are honored by your presence and invite you to return to worship with us again. If you do not have a church home, consider making ours – yours! If you would like more information about Open Bible Lutheran, please feel free to speak to Pastor Schulz or to one of the Greeters. You may reach Pastor Schulz at 989-525-5514. Or go to our web site: [www.openbiblelutheranchurch.com](http://www.openbiblelutheranchurch.com).

**FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE**

**Restrooms** can be found on the right side of the Welcome Center and the left side of the new fellowship hall.



**Personal Hearing Assistance Devices** are available. Ask an usher.

Also “The Hearing Loop System” is installed. Please turn you hearing aid or cochlear implant to “T” (Telephone.)

**Please silence** all cell phones, personal and other electronic devices. Thank you.

**Applause:** Please refrain from any applause during the service.

**Photos:** Please refrain from taking any pictures during the service.

**Personal Prayers for Worship** can be found on pages 10 and 11 in the front of the hymnbook.

We have 3 Large Print Hymnals available, please ask an usher for a copy.  
Return at the end of the service.

**Lord's Supper Practice:** *In I Corinthians 10:16, it tells us that we who are one body, are one loaf in communion. What that means is that we share a unity in what we believe from God's Word when we take communion. If you are a guest, we would like to have an opportunity to speak with you first to see if what you believe from the Scriptures is the same as what we believe. If it is the same, then we welcome you to join us for the Lord's Supper. Also, we are demonstrating love by asking you to refrain from the Lord's Supper until we have a chance to talk with you. In I Corinthians 11:27, we are told that the Lord's Judgment comes upon those who eat or drink in an unworthy manner. We want to protect you from that possibly happening to you. So, give our pastor a call, and he will come by to discuss our practice of close communion.*

✝ For respect of those who use the sanctuary for meditation before the service, please refrain from any unnecessary noise once the pre-service music has begun. ✝

*Prelude: “O Dearest Jesus” by Kevin J. Sadowski, arranger  
(Herzliebster Jesu, CW117)*

## **SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT**

**OPENING HYMN: #452 "Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus"**

**+ We Prepare Our Hearts for Worship +**

**P:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**C:** And also with you.

### **CONFESSION OF SINS**

**P:** God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

**C:** **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

**P:** God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** Amen.

### **PRAYER AND PRAISE**

**LORD HAVE MERCY *Kyrie***

**P:** For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.



P: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.



P: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.



P: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:



## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray:

Almighty God, you see that we have no power to defend ourselves. Guard and keep us both outwardly and inwardly from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

### THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Jeremiah 26:8-15

(page 1185)

*The prophet Jeremiah courageously spoke God's indictment upon Jerusalem for its disobedience. The city would be desolate and deserted. If they would only reform their ways, however, the Lord would relent. But their hearts were hard and they opposed God's appeal.*

But as soon as Jeremiah finished telling all the people everything the Lord had commanded him to say, the priests, the prophets and all the people seized him and said, "You must die! Why do you prophesy in the Lord's name that this house will be like Shiloh and this city will be desolate and deserted?" And all the people crowded around Jeremiah in the house of the Lord.

When the officials of Judah heard about these things, they went up from the royal palace to the house of the Lord and took their places at the entrance of the New Gate of the Lord's house. Then the

priests and the prophets said to the officials and all the people, "This man should be sentenced to death because he has prophesied against this city. You have heard it with your own ears!"

Then Jeremiah said to all the officials and all the people: "The Lord sent me to prophesy against this house and this city all the things you have heard. Now reform your ways and your actions and obey the Lord your God. Then the Lord will relent and not bring the disaster he has pronounced against you. As for me, I am in your hands; do with me whatever you think is good and right. Be assured, however, that if you put me to death, you will bring the guilt of innocent blood on yourselves and on this city and on those who live in it, for in truth the Lord has sent me to you to speak all these words in your hearing." **NIV**



**THE PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 42-43** All three lessons feature the Lord's call to faithfulness. For the most part his call is rejected. Yet Christ continues to be faithful in his calling to give his life to save us. The Psalm reminds us that the blessed ones are those who hope in the LORD.

### Psalm 42-43

*Refrain*



*Psalm Tone*



- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. As the deer pants for streams of <u>w</u> ater,      | so my soul pants for <u>y</u> ou, O God.                    |
| 2. My soul thirsts for God, for the <u>l</u> iving God. | Where can I go to <u>m</u> eeet with God?                   |
| 3. Why are you downcast <u>O</u> my soul?               | Why so disturbed with <u>i</u> n me?                        |
| 4. Put your <u>h</u> ope in God,                        | for I will yet praise him, my Savior <u>a</u> nd my<br>God. |

*Refrain*

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 5. Send forth your light and your truth, let<br>them <u>g</u> uide me;   | let them bring me to the place <u>w</u> here you<br>dwell. |
| 6. Then will I go to the altar of God, my joy<br>and <u>m</u> y delight. | I will praise you with the harp, O <u>G</u> od, my<br>God. |

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
As it was in the beginning,**

**and to the Holy Spirit,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

*Refrain*

**THE EPISTLE LESSON: Philippians 3:17-4:1  
(page 1770)**

*With a message similar to Jeremiah and the Lord himself, St. Paul urges the Philippian believers to follow his example and warns against what he calls living “as an enemy of the cross of Christ”. Through St. Paul Christ appeals to us today in the midst of a world destined for destruction. We are already citizens of heaven through Christ and eagerly wait for his return.*

Join with others in following my example, brothers, and take note of those who live according to the pattern we gave you. For, as I have often told you before and now say again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

Therefore, my brothers, you whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, that is how you should stand firm in the Lord, dear friends! **NIV**

**VERSE OF THE DAY**

**C: Jesus humbled himself and became obedient to death, even death on a cross.**

**THE GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 13:31-35**

**(page 1571)**

(Please stand out of reverence for Christ)

*Jesus was threatened from many directions, yet his love for sinners will take him to Jerusalem where many prophets had been martyred. He doesn't fear for himself, but laments that this city, which had been so blessed by God, had rejected his appeals of love and deliverance.*

At that time some Pharisees came to Jesus and said to him, "Leave this place and go somewhere else. Herod wants to kill you." He replied, "Go tell that fox, 'I will drive out demons and heal people today and tomorrow, and on the third day I will reach my goal.' In any case, I must keep going today and tomorrow and the next day—for surely no prophet can die outside Jerusalem! "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing! Look, your house is left to you desolate. I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.'" **NIV**



**HYMN OF THE DAY: CW#473 "Savior, I Follow On"**



**SERMON: Luke 13:31-35**  
**"Marvel at His March to Jerusalem"**  
**1. It was Unstoppable**  
**2. It was Unappreciated**  
***Pastor Mark Schulz***

**NICENE CREED** (Please Stand)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**THANK OFFERING** *The members of Open Bible congregation have joined together to do the Lord's work in this city and around the world. Visitors need not feel obligated to participate in this offering that supports our church's ministry, but you are welcome to do so. Guests may fill out a registration form found in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate.*

*Offertory: "Great is Thy Faithfulness" by William Runyon/Schrader*  
Ladies Ensemble: Judy Anderson, Carol Benrud, Judy Hainen,  
Jeanette Kellam, Pam Johnson, Karen Pearson, Stacy Vance

*1. Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;  
There is no shadow of turning with thee;  
Thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not,  
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.*

*2. Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,  
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above  
Join with all nature in manifold witness  
To thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.*

**REFRAIN:**

*Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
All I have needed thy hand hast provided—  
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!*

*3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
Thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! REFRAIN*

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**P:** Almighty God, your love for your world in rebellion moved you to sacrifice your own Son to redeem us. O Lord Jesus Christ, you endured the rejection of friend and foe alike so that you could be the Savior we desperately need. O Holy Spirit, you are grieved by a world that resists your testimony, yet you continue to offer this salvation to the world through the Gospel message. Faithful God of salvation, forgive us, your own people, when we resist you by indifference and disobedience.

**C: Make us faithful even when faithfulness and self-denial come at great cost to us.**

**P:** Bless your church throughout the world with faithful pastors, teachers and leaders who love your word and teach it faithfully in all circumstances. Rise up, O God, and defend your word in a world where it is mocked. Send forth the Gospel to all continents and nations so that all may hear of the salvation Christ has purchased for us. Where missionaries cannot go, bless outreach efforts carried on through printed literature, the internet and the witness of believers like Dr. Patrick, who is sharing Christ with thousands in a Muslim country.

**C: Help us to sense how serious you are about saving the lost so that we are inspired to make sacrifices in our lives and make the work of the Gospel a number One Priority.**

**P:** Behold your world, O Creator, tortured by violence and warfare, calamity and catastrophe. Protect and rescue all who are in the path of storms. Bring peace to the nations, especially the Middle East. Protect our armed forces there and elsewhere in the world. Comfort their families who anxiously await their safe return.

**C: O Lord our God, in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help.**

**P:** Lord, you are our hope and strength. Be close to all who are alone, rejected, unemployed, grieving, in pain, or struggling with serious illness. Give courage and hope especially to our brothers and sisters for whom we pray in this hour:

*(Silent prayers and intercessions)*

Now, eternal God and Father, keep us in the saving faith and so enable us to overcome all things through our Lord Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray:

## **LORD'S PRAYER (Contemporary)**

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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

## THE SACRAMENT

**Gluten free wafers** are served to the first table on the right. Those desiring a gluten free wafer please come forward to the right side of the Communion rail during the singing of **O Christ, Lamb of God**.

*Guests and visitors please read the note about our Communion Practice on the page 2.*

P: The Lord be with you.



C: **And al - so with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.



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

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.



C: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**



## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, “Drink from it all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.



**O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD** *Agnus Dei*

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you  
take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.  
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; grant us your peace. A - men.

**DISTRIBUTION**

**"Aria" by J.S. Bach**  
**Fred Hainen, violin**

**CW # 315 "Here, O Lord, I See You Face to Face"**



## THANKSGIVING

### THANK THE LORD



C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud - ly bear his name.



He re-news his prom-is - es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

P: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another.  
Serve the Lord with gladness.  
The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.



C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

**CLOSING HYMN: CWS # 449 “Children of the Heavenly Father”**

Postlude: “Erhalt uns, Herr” by Johann Christoph Bach/Burkhardt (CW282)  
**Please join us for Fellowship following the service.**

Acknowledgements:

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Please listen to our Radio Ministry on Sunday's at 103.5 "The Shepherd." Our time slot is 11:05 – 11:30am.

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“Growing in Christ through the Word, making His Salvation Known”  
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)  
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