

Historic Lessons for *Oculi* the 3rd Sunday in Lent

Old Testament

II Samuel 22:1-7 NIV David sang to the LORD the words of this song when the LORD delivered him from the hand of all his enemies and from the hand of Saul. 2 He said: "The LORD is my Rock, my Fortress and my Deliverer; 3 my God is my Rock, in whom I take refuge, my Shield and the Horn of my Salvation. He is my Stronghold, my Refuge and my Savior - from violent men You save me. 4 I call to the LORD, Who is worthy of praise, and I am saved from my enemies. 5 "The waves of death swirled about me; the torrents of destruction overwhelmed me. 6 The cords of the grave coiled around me; the snares of death confronted me. 7 In my distress I called to the LORD; I called out to my God. From His temple He heard my voice; my cry came to His ears.

Epistle

Ephesians 5:1-9 Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children 2 and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. 3 But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people. 4 Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving. 5 For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person - such a man is an idolater - has any inheritance in the Kingdom of Christ and of God. 6 Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God's wrath comes on those who are disobedient. 7 Therefore do not be partners with them. 8 For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light 9 (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth).

Gospel

Luke 11:14-28 Jesus was driving out a demon that was mute. When the demon left, the man who had been mute spoke, and the crowd was amazed. 15 But some of them said, "By Beelzebub, the prince of demons, He is driving out demons." 16 Others tested Him by asking for a sign from Heaven. 17 Jesus knew their thoughts and said to them: "Any kingdom divided against itself will be ruined, and a house divided against itself will fall. 18 If Satan is divided against himself, how can his kingdom stand? I say this because you claim that I drive out demons by Beelzebub. 19 Now if I drive out demons by Beelzebub, by whom do your followers drive them out? So then, they will be your judges. 20 But if I drive out demons by the finger of God, then the Kingdom of God has come to you. 21 "When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own house, his possessions are safe. 22 But when someone stronger attacks and overpowers him, he takes away the armor in which the man trusted and divides up the spoils. 23 "He who is not with Me is against Me, and he who does not gather with Me, scatters. 24 "When an evil spirit comes out of a man, it goes through arid places seeking rest and does not find it. Then it says, 'I will return to the house I left.' 25 When it arrives, it finds the house swept clean and put in order. 26 Then it goes and takes seven other spirits more wicked than itself, and they go in and live there. And the final condition of that man is worse than the first." 27 As Jesus was saying these things, a woman in the crowd called out, "Blessed is the mother who gave You birth and nursed You." 28 He replied, "Blessed rather are those who hear the Word of God and obey it."

3-Year Gospel (Sermon Text)

John 2.13-22 When it was almost time for the Jewish Passover, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. 14 In the temple courts he found men selling cattle, sheep and

doves, and others sitting at tables exchanging money. 15 So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple area, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. 16 To those who sold doves he said, "Get these out of here! How dare you turn my Father's house into a market!" 17 His disciples remembered that it is written: "Zeal for your house will consume me." 18 Then the Jews demanded of him, "What miraculous sign can you show us to prove your authority to do all this?" 19 Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days." 20 The Jews replied, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?" 21 But the temple he had spoken of was his body. 22 After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they believed the Scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken.

TLH #154

4. *Thus might I hide my blushing face
While His dear Cross appears,
Dissolve my heart in thankfulness,
And melt mine eyes to tears.*
5. *But drops of grief can ne'er repay
The debt of love I owe;
Here, Lord, I give myself away,
'Tis all that I can do. A-men.*

OSL OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH OSL

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BIBLE CLASS 8:30 AM WORSHIP 9:30 AM FELLOWSHIP 10:45 AM

✱ Rev. Andrew R. Burmeister 863-430-5859 ✱ Organ: A.R. Burmeister

March 4th 8th, 2018 ✱ Lent-3 – Oculi ☹☹ Faith by Sight

TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER: If you are new to the area or Our worship and have never communed with us before, please speak with the pastor before Communing. If you are not currently a member of an ELS or WELS congregation, we ask that you please **wait to take Communion until you can speak with our pastor.** Out of Christian love and consideration to you the guest, we want you to have the opportunity to learn what our church teaches about the Bible and Sacraments before you unite with us in taking Holy Communion. Thank you for your understanding. God bless your Worship

OUR ORDER OF WORSHIP On silver liturgy sheets or red hymnal at **p.15&ff.**

Service	TLH# (vv)	...First Line
Invocation Hymn	2 (7v)	To Thy Temple I Repair
<i>Psalm 91</i>	-91- "3v"	<i>Be With Me LORD When I Am in Trouble 7</i>
Hymn of the Day	258 (5v)	Lord of Our Life and God of Our Salvation
<i>Offertory Verse</i>	154 (5v)	<i>Sing v4-5 Was it for crimes that I had done</i>
Distribution Hymn	151 (7v)	Christ, the Life of All the Living
Closing Hymn	45 (5v)	Now the Hour of Worship O'er

Suggested Bible readings for the weekdays after the 3rd Sunday in Lent

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Numbers22:2-41	Num.23:1-30	Num.24:1-13	Num. 27:12-23	Deut. 5:1-33	Deut. 8:1-20
Luke 18:15-30	Luke 19:1-40	Luke20:1-21:4	Luke21:37-22:38	Luke22:39-71	Luke 23:1-25

PROPERs for OCULI ☹☹ SUNDAY 3rd of LENT MARCH 4TH

INTROIT Mine eyes are ever toward the Lord, for He shall pluck my feet out of the net. Turn to me, and have mercy upon me; for I am desolate and afflicted. To You, O Lord, I lift up my soul. O my God, I trust in You; let me not be ashamed. ...from Psalm 25

GLORIA (SUBSTITUTE) VERSES *Alas! And Did My Savior #154 verses 1&2*

**1. *Alas! and did my- Savior bleed, And did my Sovereign die?
Would He devote that Sacred Head For such- a worm as I?***

**2. *Was it for crimes that- I had done He groaned upon the Tree?
Amazing pity, grace unknown, And love- beyond degree! A-men.***

COLLECT We beseech You, Almighty God, look upon the hearty desires of Your humble servants, and stretch forth the right hand of Your majesty to be our defense against all our enemies; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives, and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit... **C: J A - -men.**

GRADUAL C: Arise, O Lord! Let not man prevail; let the heathen be judged in Your sight. When my enemies are turned back, they will fall and perish at Your presence.

...from Psalm 141

SCRIPTURE LESSONS: (printed on outside back page of the bulletin)

O.T. II Samuel 22:1-7 David sang this psalm to God, *A Mighty Fortress.*

Epi. Ephesians 5:1-9 "Be imitators of God" - Live as children of light.

Gos. Luke 11:14-28 Jesus is stronger than Beelzebub & expels a demon.

Psalm 91 Refrain: *Be with me Lord, when I am in trouble; Be with me Lord, I pray*

1. You who dwell in the shelter of the LORD Most High, Who abide in the shadow of our God. Say to the LORD: "My Refuge and Fortress, the God in whom I trust."

Refrain C: J Be with me LORD, when I am in trouble; Be with me LORD, I pray.

2. No evil shall befall you, no pain come near, For His angels stand close by your side. Guarding you always and bearing you gently, Watching over your life.

Refrain C: J Be with me LORD, when I am in trouble; Be with me LORD, I pray.

3. Those who cling to the LORD live secure in His love, Lifted high those who trust in His Name. Call on the LORD, He will never forsake you, He will bring you salvation and joy. **C: J BE WITH ME LORD, WHEN I AM IN TROUBLE; BE WITH ME LORD, I PRAY.**

PRAYER REQUESTS: Member or Relation Pray for...

Sue Smith (Bev Foster)	Sue battling pancreas & liver growths. Sad but faithful!
Jim & Elma Hendricks	LORD's will be done. Both at home. Jim's BP spikes
Dee Kurczewski (David)	Dee was in hospital after falls. Back home, rehabbing
Jon Sawyer (Andrea)	Jon Sr back home from rush to TGH. Now care plan
James Vanesky & Delores Platt	Delores & Jim at home. Both doing rehab
June Weyenberg	June out of (LRMC) hospital and in ??? rehab (knee surgery)

Volunteers	Today	Next Sunday
Greeters	Bev & Don Wienke	Bev Foster & Joe Thacker
Treaters/Wed	Volunteer / Volunteer	Volunteer / Volunteer

Statistics	Last week	Year to date / Avg.
Sunday Attendance/ L.S. / Wed.	25 / - / 11	27 / 23
Bible Class Attendance Sun/Wed	6 / XX	8 / 8
Sunday Offering for LORD Sun/W	\$. / \$.	YTD Total \$.

Calendar of Events		
Today Sunday 4th	8:30 am	Bible Study Heb. 13 JC, Whose Kin We Are
Oculi ☹☹ Sunday	9:30 am	Divine Worship (W/ Holy Communion)
3rd Sunday in Lent	11:00 am	Fellowship, Coffee ... Please stay & talk
Wednesday 3/7	4:30, 5:15, 6	Lent3-W Vespers; 5:15 Soup; 6 Bible Study
Thursday 3/8	1:30 pm	OSL March Council Meeting at church
Saturday 3/10	10 - 2 pm	FWMS Florida ELS Mission Rally at OS Naples
Next Sunday 3/11	8:30 am	Bible Study Heb. 13 JC, Whose Kin We Are
Laetare ☺ Sunday	9:30 am	Divine Worship (No Holy Communion)
4th Sunday in Lent	10:45 ff...	Fellowship, Coffee ...Please stay & talk

March 4 ELS Centennial: Proclaim the Wonders God Has Done: 1918-2018



The precipitous event which led to the reorganization of the Norwegian Synod as the ELS occurred in 1917 when a merger of Norwegian Lutheran church bodies occurred. The issue under discussion from 1912-1917, as it was in the 1880s, was the teaching that **Salvation is completely a gift of God's grace in Jesus Christ.** This is not a small matter or a fine point in doctrine but a question of the central Biblical teaching of justification by grace alone. The minority that later formed the ELS sought to uphold this teaching in the face of impending merger with those who taught differently.

✱ Basket for **OSLLadies** (for Missions & Charities) is at rear of church & is free will.

OCULI LENT3(B) John 2:13-22 “PUTTING IN PEW-TIME” 03.04.18 OS

INTRODUCTION (The) Passover was a time when people would have been coming from all over the land of Israel to celebrate the Passover meal and make sacrifices. The Law said that if you had to travel a long way, you could buy your sacrificial animal in Jerusalem instead of lugging it along with you. That's what the animal sellers were doing in the temple courtyard. They were **providing a “service” for out of town pilgrims**. And the moneychangers were there to exchange out of town currency for temple currency. Again, **providing a service for out-of-towners**.

J. SEES SOMETHING DIFFERENT But Jesus saw something besides a convenience. He saw the **temple, His Father's house**, being turned into an emporium, a place of business. They were turning the temple, a place of worship, the sacramental sign of God's presence, into a mall.

TODAY TOO **Not that this doesn't go on today.** You've probably seen or heard the reports yourself. Churches laid out like shopping malls with sprawling campuses and food courts. Some even have a Starbucks franchise right on the premises so you can grab a quick latte before services. The reasoning goes that **we're a mall-oriented, marketing-driven culture that responds to advertising and pitch**. So we have to market Jesus to the masses, much the way we market **toilet paper and beer**. And don't kid yourself, there's gold aplenty to be mined in the **business of religion**. The Roman church that sold indulgences to grant time off from purgatory wasn't the first or the last attempt to tap into the vast “motherlode” of religion. **Religion is booming business** (then and) today.

FEEL-GOOD I won't call it “Christian,” because much of it has very little to do with Christianity. **Feel good about yourself. Atone for your own sins** by your own sacrifices. Or at least learn to cope with them. Have a well-balanced life. Learn some tried and true principles for successful living. Hear some great motivational speakers. Take in some inspirational music, to the tune of your choice. All for a price. The sacrifice sellers and the money changers haven't gone away. They've just changed their bill of goods to accommodate the market.

TRANSACTION/S Behind it all is **the business of transaction, dealing with God**. It's at the heart of all religion, the idea that we need to do something to atone for our sins and to get on God's good side. It's the notion that God has done His part and now He's waiting around **for us to do our part**. It's the idea, implicit in **WWJD** wristbands or books like the **Prayer of Jabaz**, which would surely be on the moneychangers' best seller list, that there is a way, other than death and Resurrection in Jesus, to have a life with God.

LI'L IS GOOD We think that a **little religion is good** - good for our kids, good for morals, good for society. We put a **little coat of religious shellac** on things - say a little prayer, read a little Bible verse, check in at church once in a while to see if we've missed anything. We cut deals with God, big and small. “*Lord, if you do just get me out of this jam, I'll clean up my life, become a better person, pray every day, whatever.*” We learn it at an early age - “*Lord, please help me with this exam I didn't study for; I promise to be a better student.*” (Who says there isn't prayer in schools?) Or, “*Lord, please fix our marriage that we've neglected for twenty years; we promise to do better.*”

OTHERS TOO **We lead others into this** business of transaction, even if we don't mean to. You can **RUIN Baptism and the Lord's Supper** by doing them

as though they were something **you have to do** in order to be saved. You can turn church-going into a saving work. Even the question, “*Sister(/Brother), are you saved?*” implies transaction. It means, “*Sister, have **you done this or prayed that to get in on salvation.***” We hop, skip, and jump our way through the hoops of religious duties and obligations. And when people find out they don't have to go to church to be saved, they stop coming to church, because they've been going for all the wrong reasons.

DEAD=DEAD! The big mistake in all this is the failure to recognize that **we are dead as dead can be in sin and Adam's death and cannot do anything about it**. And the problem is that we think we can, or we think that we have done it. But I've got news for you. But first, **bad news**. There's nothing you can do to make yourself pleasing to God, to make you any less of a sinner than you are, and to raise yourself from the dead. The dead can't do anything except be dead. And now I have some **Good News: Jesus has done everything that needs to be done for your salvation** by dropping dead on the **Good, dark Friday** and taking you and the world along for the ride in His death. Baptism and the Lord's Supper are not something added onto His death, something you have to do in order to be saved. Nor is faith something you do to make Jesus your personal Lord and Savior. He is and always has been your Savior.

SACR'S 4 U! **Baptism** is God's way of telling you that personally so that you might experience it for yourself. **The Supper** of Jesus' Body and Blood another way of telling you that personally that His death and life are at work in you. He is your food and drink. And faith simply trusts what He tells you, namely, that even though you are dead in yourself, you are alive to God in Jesus.

END of ALL RELIGION Let me put it bluntly: **Jesus' death on the Cross and His Resurrection from the dead on the Third Day is the ‘End of all religion.’ Period**. Not only is religion wrongheaded, it's a waste of time. If you're trying to cut a deal with God and make up for your sin, forget it. He isn't dealing. He's **out of the religion business**. That's what Jesus was up to in the temple. Cleaning house on religion. Turning the tables on transaction. Do you remember what happened in the temple the moment Jesus died? The curtain in the temple that walled off the most holy place, was torn in two, from top to bottom. It's as though God took the whole business of religion, and tore it up.

TRUE RELIGION God declaring His own religion, the one He Himself invented, finished, **fulfilled. Caput. Done to death**. Don't take my word for it. Listen to how the book of **Hebrews** handles it. Reading from **Hebrews, chapter 10:(1-11)**

“For since the Law has but a shadow of the good things to come instead of the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices which are continually offered year after year, make perfect those who draw near. Otherwise, would they not have ceased to be offered? If the worshipers had once been cleansed, they would no longer have any consciousness of sin. But in these sacrifices (that is, the sacrifices in the temple), there is a reminder of sin year after year. For it is impossible that the blood of bulls and goats should take away sins. Consequently, when the Christ came into the world, He said, ‘Sacrifices and offerings thou has not desired, but a body hast thou prepared for Me; in burnt offering and sin offerings thou hast taken no pleasure. ... Every priest stand daily at his service, offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. But when Christ had offered for all time a single Sacrifice for sins, He sat down at the Right Hand of God.’”

TRUE TEMPLE *"Destroy this temple," Jesus said, "and in three days I will raise it up again."* **He's talking about His death and Resurrection.** That's where the action is. The people are outraged. What's he talking about? We've been working on this temple for forty-six years and he's going to rebuild it in three days? What, is he nuts? **NO - He's the True Temple, the Place of True Worship, the ultimate Sacrament.** His Body - born of Mary, crucified on Calvary, raised from the dead, and glorified at the Right Hand of God - that Body of Jesus is the meeting place where **God and humanity are at peace**, the place where God **forgives**, **hears prayer**, **blessees**, **raises** the dead, **gives us a foretaste** of Heaven on earth.

BODY of CHRIST = The body of Christ is **not a building. The Church is not a building.** (Really) We have buildings because its easier than meeting in someone's living room. We call them churches only because of the meeting that takes place in them. **The Church is the body of Christ**, and each of you are **members of that Body**, Baptized into Jesus' death, included in His Victory, living in His Resurrection even now by faith.

END of...**Jesus is the end of sacrifice**, the **end of religion**. I know what you're thinking. We do religious things, don't we? We have services, we sing hymns, we pray. **We're "religious," aren't we?!** Yes, in a way, but "unreligiously."

PEW-TIME We gather together as the church and do some religious things, **not** in order to be saved, as though getting up on Sunday morning and **putting in our "pew time"** ensures a slot in Heaven. We're here together this morning **because we are saved in the death of Jesus**, and because God in His grace has given us to recognize our salvation and has provided a temple to worship Him, a temple **not built with hands**, but rather the body of Jesus. And we celebrate our salvation in Jesus before the whole world as sign to the world, **lifting the cup of Salvation and calling on the Name of the Lord.**

(ONLY) ONE WAY What needs to be done for the world's salvation **has been done** in the death of Jesus. There is nothing for us to do but drop dead, trust Jesus, enjoy the ride, and invite others to drop dead with us. There is **no sacrifice for sin except** One dead Jesus on a Cross, and there is **no way to God** other than the One Way God Himself provided in the death of His Son. And there is **no temple**, except the Temple of Jesus' Body, a Temple that you and I have been **built into as living stones.**

"OH YEAH" **The disciples remembered what Jesus said** that day. They remembered how the prophet **Zechariah** had said that a day was coming when God would come to purify His temple. They remembered the psalm of David which said that zeal for the Lord's house would consume Him. And, reflecting on everything, **they trusted the Scripture and the Word Jesus spoke. You could do no better** this morning, than to leave here trusting the Scripture, which speaks of Christ's death and Resurrection, and believing the Word of Jesus spoken to you here - **"I forgive you all of your sins."** **"This is My Body given for you."** **"This is My Blood shed for you."**

CONCLUSION **You have all the temple you need - the Body of Jesus.** You're a part of it. Your **Baptism** tells you so. Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up. He did it. And He will raise you up too, just as surely as He is risen from the dead. **Who needs religion when you have Jesus? I. JESUS' N, Amen.**
SDG

Possible Prayer of the Church ✕ OCULI 3rd Sunday in Lent 8 March 4th, 2018

*Knowing that this house is to be a House of Prayer, let us bring now before God our Father our petitions this day. (Possible) **Brief silence***

Heavenly Father, make us to hallow Your name, both here in this place through pure and right teaching and also in our lives as we live as Your dear children according to Your Word. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Grant that Your kingdom would come speedily, that forgiveness would be proclaimed throughout the world and that mercy would be shown. Bless the relief agencies of the Synod as they bring the comfort of Your kingdom to those who are suffering dreadfully. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bring about Your good and gracious Will. Bless all those You have given authority in our government, that they would rightly break and hinder the plans of the wicked but reward and encourage that which is righteous and good. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Teach us to be wise and generous with the daily bread that You provide for us, for You are generous to us so that we might be generous to others. Defend us from all greed, and make us to remember that our security is not in our wealth but in Your abundant care. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

As You know how Satan and sin set us against each other, fill us with Your love and forgiveness, that we would be quick to forgive others and be defended from grudges, disdain and animosities that would blind us to the love You have even for those who are our enemies. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Defend us from temptation, good Lord, for Satan is crafty and ever finds new ways to lead us astray. Make us to cling to Your Word at all times, giving us the Holy Spirit, that we would be kept steadfast in the faith and share in Christ's victory. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Deliver Your servants from all evils of body and soul. Provide for those who are lacking. Grant endurance to those who suffer from any affliction, *[including Your dear children **OSL 8 Prayer List**.]*

PRAYER REQUESTS:	Member or Relation	Pray for...
Sue Smith (Bev Foster)	Sue battling pancreas & liver growths.	Sad but faithful
Jim & Elma Hendricks	LORD's will be done. Both at home. Jim's BP spikes	
Dee Kurczewski (David)	Dee was in hospital after falls. Back home, rehabbing	
Jon Sawyer (Andrea)	Jon Sr back home from rush to TGH. Now care plan	
James Vanesky & Delores Platt	Delores & Jim at home. Both doing rehab	
June Weyenberg	June out of (LRMC) hospital and in ??? rehab (knee surgery)	

and if it is Your will, speedily restore them to health. Keep us all together in the ark of Your Church until the last hour comes and we know Your deliverance in full. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

The Kingdom belongs to Your Son, Christ Jesus, who makes us partakers of His glory and power in His own body and blood in His Supper. Grant that all who are called to this Supper today would give a glad amen to all the gifts that He gives to us here. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We know that these petitions are pleasing to You, heavenly Father, and that You hear them for the sake of Christ Jesus, our Lord, who ever lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen. Then, The Lord's Supper, p.24**