

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 11, 2018 9:30 am



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH



*Making known
by Word and Action
the Healing Presence of God
in Christ Jesus with Us
and with the World.*

Immanuel's Mission



 Immanuel
Lutheran
Church

Welcome to Immanuel
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Divine Service ~ Setting 3

The Fourth Sunday in LENT

March 11, 2018 – 9:30 am

WELCOME to all guests and members; we are glad that you are here to worship with us and hope you will return often as *our friends in Christ!*



If you were to conduct a survey on a congregation's favorite passages from Scripture, both today's Epistle and Holy Gospel would likely end up among the most loved, and rightly so. Both of these sets of verses get to the heart of what the faith is all about. They get to heart of what it is that makes Christianity different from all other world religions—things like grace, love, and sacrifice. These big two passages are “*For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not*

your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast” (Ephesians 2:8–9) and “*For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.*” (John 3:16) These are verses that we should read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest!



PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN “Today Your Mercy Calls Us”

LSB 915



1 To - day Your mer - cy calls us To wash a - way our sin.
 2 To - day Your gate is o - pen, And all who en - ter in
 3 To - day our Fa - ther calls us; His Ho - ly Spir - it waits;
 4 O all - em - brac - ing Mer - cy, O ev - er - o - pen Door,



How - ev - er great our tres - pass, What - ev - er we have been,
 Shall find a Fa - ther's wel - come And par - don for their sin.
 His bless - ed an - gels gath - er A - round the heav'n - ly gates.
 What should we do with - out You When heart and eye run o'er?



How - ev - er long from mer - cy Our hearts have turned a - way,
 The past shall be for - got - ten, A pres - ent joy be giv'n,
 No ques - tion will be asked us How of - ten we have come;
 When all things seem a - gainst us, To drive us to de - spair,



Your pre - cious blood can wash us And make us clean to - day.
 A fu - ture grace be prom - ised, A glo - rious crown in heav'n.
 Al - though we oft have wan - dered, It is our Fa - ther's home.
 We know one gate is o - pen, One ear will hear our prayer.

Please stand...

INVOCATION AND OPENING SENTENCES

P In the Name of the Father and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit. **C** Amen.

P O Lord, throughout these forty days

C You prayed and kept the fast;

P Inspire repentance for our sin,

C And free us from our past. Amen.



CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins
unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ to
grant us forgiveness. Our help is in Name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

We kneel... We take a moment of silence to reflect on our sins and need for the Savior.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

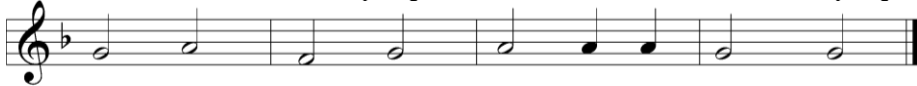
C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and
iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved
Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry
for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your
boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter
sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be
gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained
servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the
stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins
in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C** Amen.

Please stand... **KYRIE** “Lord, Have Mercy”



C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

HYMN OF PRAISE is omitted during Lent

THE SALUTATION AND COLLECT PRAYER



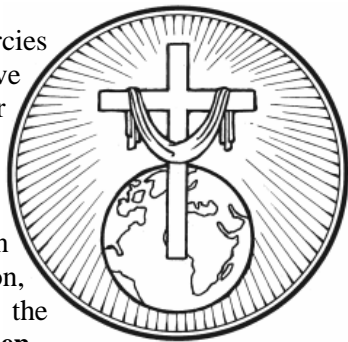
P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

P Let us pray:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C** Amen.



Please be seated...

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Numbers 21:4-9

L The Old Testament Reading for The Fourth Sunday in Lent is from Numbers, chapter twenty-one.

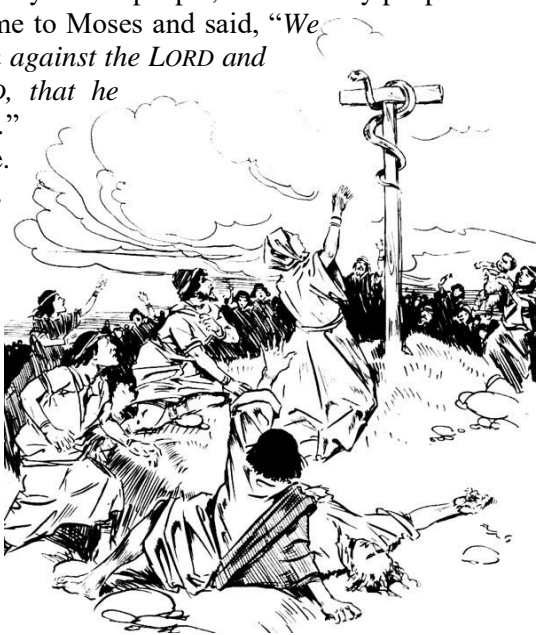
From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. ⁵And the people spoke against God and against Moses, “*Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food.*” ⁶Then the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. ⁷And the people came to Moses and said, “*We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and against you. Pray to the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us.*”

So Moses prayed for the people.

⁸And the LORD said to Moses, “*Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live.*” ⁹So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.



EPISTLE

Ephesians 2:1–10

L The Epistle is from Ephesians, chapter two.

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins ²in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience — ³among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. ⁴But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, ⁵even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ — by grace you have been saved — ⁶and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹not a result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand... **ALLELUIA** is omitted during Lent

HOLY GOSPEL

st John 3:14–21

P The Holy Gospel according to st John, the third chapter.



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] “As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up,

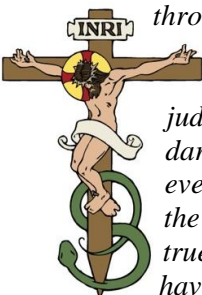
¹⁵ that whoever believes in Him may have eternal life. ¹⁶ For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him. ¹⁸ Whoever believes in Him is not condemned, but

whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the Name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹ And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰ For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. ²¹ But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his deeds have been carried out in God.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.



Please be seated...

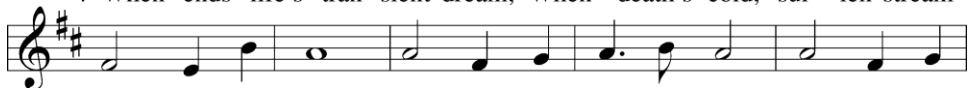
SERMON HYMN

“My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

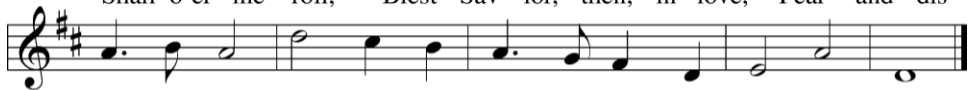
LSB 702



1 My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
2 May Thy rich grace im - part Strength to my faint - ing heart;
3 While life's dark maze I tread And griefs a - round me spread,
4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, When death's cold, sul - len stream



Sav - ior di - vine. Now hear me while I pray; Take all my
My zeal in - spire! As Thou hast died for me, Oh, may my
Be Thou my guide; Bid dark - ness turn to day, Wipe sor - row's
Shall o'er me roll, Blest Sav - ior, then, in love, Fear and dis -



guilt a - way; O let me from this day Be whol - ly Thine!
love to Thee Pure, warm, and change-less be, A liv - ing fire!
tears a - way, Nor let me ev - er stray From Thee a - side.
trust re-move; O bear me safe a - bove, A ran - somed soul!

SERMON

“The Gospel on a Pole!”

- I. The Story Begins with *Poles, Snakes, Complainers, and Sin*
- II. The Story Continues with *God's Mercy, Grace, and Love*
- III. The Story Culminates with *the Cross and God's gift of Eternal Life*

HYMN OF RESPONSE *“Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service”* **LSB 848**



848 Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service

1 Lord, whose love through hum - ble ser - vice Bore the weight of
 2 Still Your chil - dren wan - der home - less; Still the hun - gry
 3 As we wor - ship, grant us vi - sion, Till Your love's re -
 4 Called by wor - ship to Your ser - vice, Forth in Your dear

hu - man need, Who up - on the cross, for - sak - en,
 cry for bread; Still the cap - tives long for free - dom;
 veal - ing light In its height and depth and great - ness,
 name we go, To the child, the youth, the a - ged,

Of - fered mer - cy's per - fect deed, We, Your ser - vants, bring the
 Still in grief we mourn our dead. As, O Lord, Your deep com -
 Dawns up - on our quick - ened sight, Mak - ing known the needs and
 Love in liv - ing deeds to show; Hope and health, good - will and

wor - ship Not of voice a - lone, but heart, Con - se -
 pas - sion Healed the sick and freed the soul, Use the
 bur - dens Your com - pas - sion bids us bear, Stir - ring
 com - fort, Coun - sel, aid, and peace we give, That Your

crat - ing to Your pur - pose Ev - 'ry gift that You im - part.
 love Your Spir - it kin - dles Still to save and make us whole.
 us to tire - less striv - ing, Your a - bun - dant life to share.
 ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom May Your mer - cy know and live.

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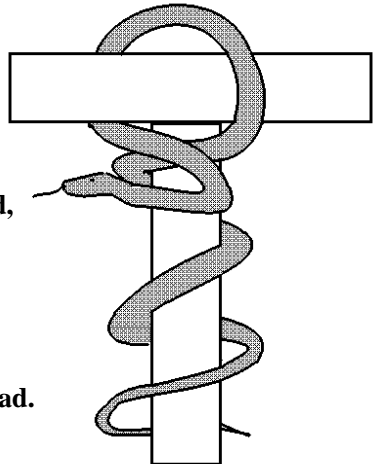
BLANKET BLESSING *Blessing of Blankets made for Lutheran World Relief*
{Announcement about our Women's Guild blanket project}

- P** Today in the Name of our compassionate Savior, we give thanks for women like the Biblical Dorcas who use their willing hands to give comfort and life's necessities to those in need.
- C** **We thank you, Father, for Dorcas of old and the women who follow in her footsteps, using their time, money, and hands to craft blankets for Lutheran World Relief.**
- P** To you, Merciful Lord, we give thanks for all the faithful women who, alone in their homes or in small groups, cut, sew, or tie colorful fabric to create warm blankets, and especially as they come together as women of faith to share Your love with others.
- C** **Lord, we ask Your blessings for these women as they create their labors of love.**
- P** Lord, Source of all Comfort, we express our gratitude for the caring women who gather in homes and in churches to quilt, tie, or bind.
- C** **We thank you and ask You to bind our hearts in love for the people these blankets will comfort in times of stress.**
- P** Father, we now dedicate this rainbow of blankets to the glory of God as ask that You shower blessings upon the people of many colors who will use them for warmth, for shelter, and for sustaining life.
- C** **Lord, teach us, also, to use our talents to reach out to the world's downtrodden people.**
- P** Jesus, we ask that You continue to bless the work of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League and Lutheran World Relief.
- C** **Bless their work, O Lord, and may it draw people to You and Your Amazing Grace.**
- P** For to You, O Lord, is the glory forever and ever. **C** **Amen.**

Please stand...

CREED *The Apostles' Creed*

- P** We profess our faith together...
- C** **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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

(Each petition concludes:

"let us pray to the Lord:"

Congregational response:

"Lord, have mercy!")

SHARING THE PEACE

(We greet one another in the Name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation / unity of the Spirit.)

Please be seated as music begins...

OFFERING / MUSICAL OFFERING

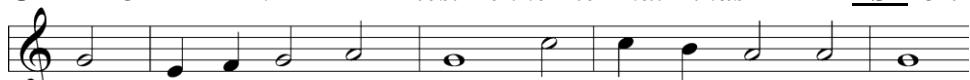
(As the Offering is gathered, please sign the attendance folder near the center aisle and pass to the person sitting next to you.)

Please stand...

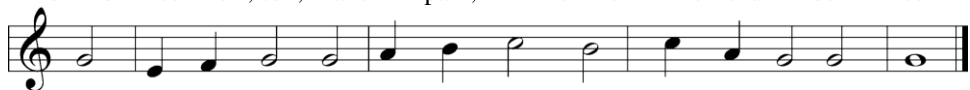
OFFERTORY HYMN

"Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

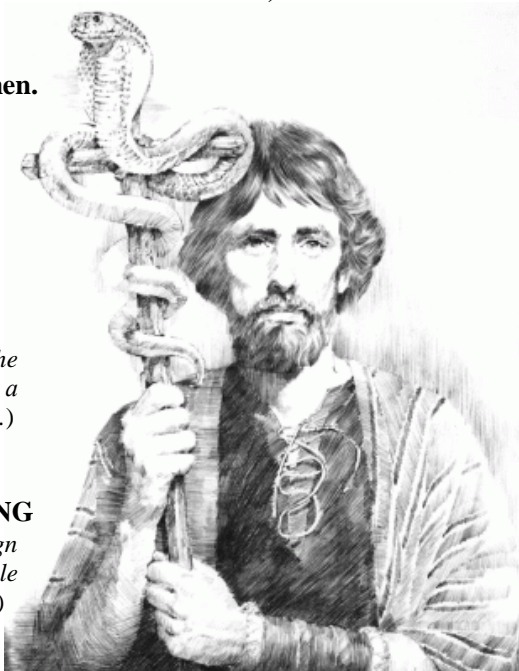
LSB 649



| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------|-------|------|--------|--------|--------|-----|--------|------|---------|------|----------|
| 1 | Blest | be | the | tie | that | binds | Our | hearts | in | Chris - | tian | love; |
| 2 | Be - | fore | our | Fa - | ther's | throne | We | pour | our | ar - | dent | prayers; |
| 3 | We | share | our | mu - | tual | woes, | Our | mu - | tual | bur - | dens | bear, |
| 4 | When | here | our | path - | ways | part, | We | suf - | fer | bit - | ter | pain; |
| 5 | From | sor - | row, | toil, | and | pain, | And | sin | we | shall | be | free |



The fel - low - ship of kin - dred minds Is like to that a - bove.
 Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, Our com-forts and our cares.
 And of - ten for each oth - er flows The sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
 Yet, one in Christ and one in heart, We hope to meet a - gain.
 And per - fect love and friend-ship reign Through all e - ter - ni - ty.



THE LORD'S 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.

CLOSING COLLECT

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, out of love for the world You sent Your only Son to be lifted up on the cross. Grant that we would believe in Him unto eternal life, that we would be rescued from the poison of sin and death; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

SALUTATION AND BENEDICAMUS

P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

P Bless we the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

CLOSING SENTENCES AND BENEDICTION

P Be with us through this season, Lord,

C And all our earthly days,

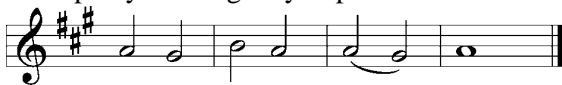
P That when the final Easter dawns,

C We join in heaven's praise. Amen.

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.



HYMN OF THE DAY “God Loved the World So That He Gave” **LSB** 571 →

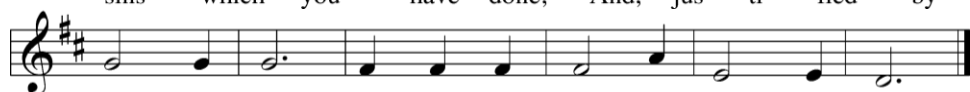
POSTLUDE



1 God loved the world so that He gave His on - ly
 2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, Who was made
 3 God would not have the sin - ner die; His Son with
 4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son For - gives all



Son the lost to save, That all who would in
 flesh and suf - fered death; All then who trust in
 sav - ing grace is high; His Spir - it in the
 sins which you have done; And, jus - ti - fied by

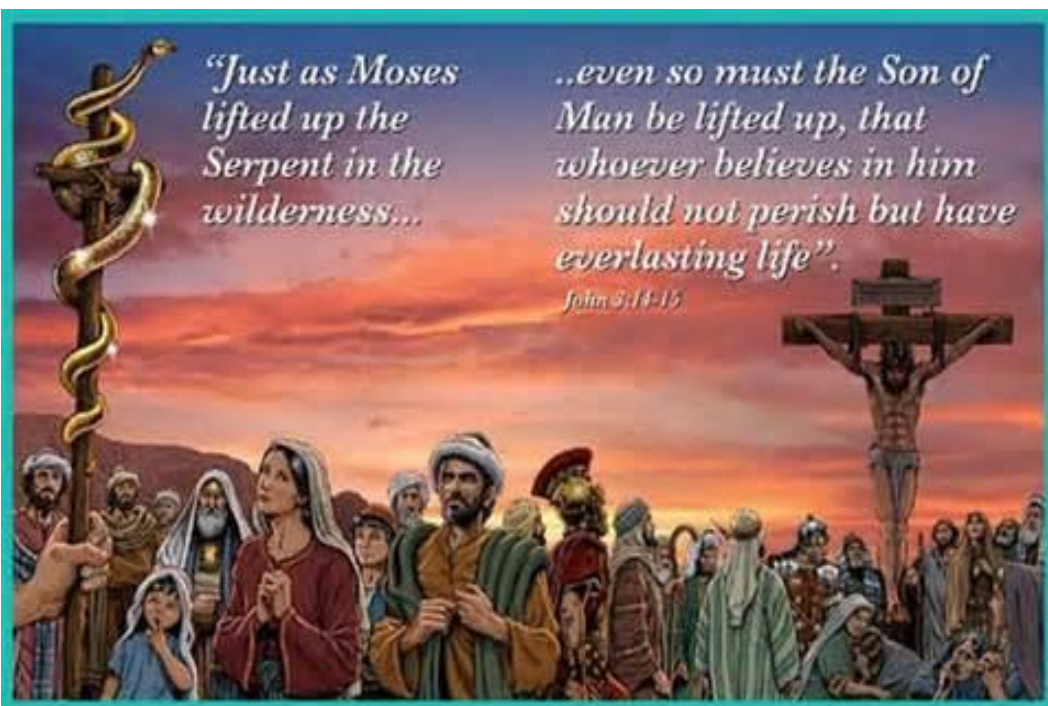


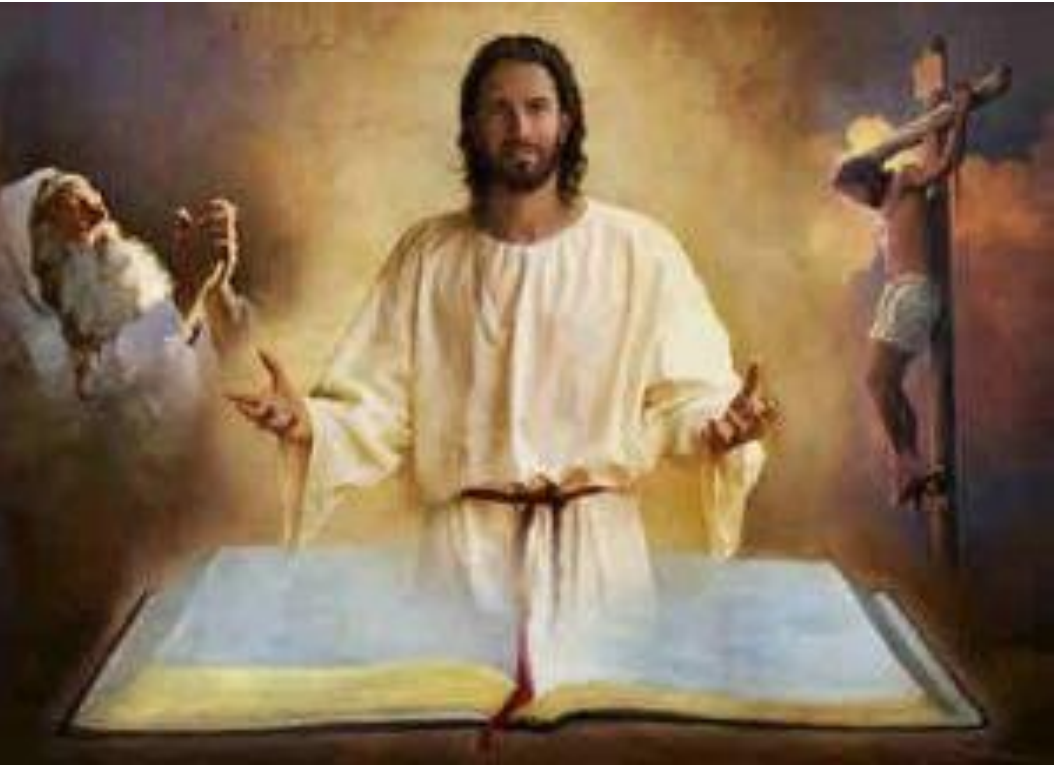
Him be - lieve Should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
 Him a - lone Are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.
 Word de - clares How we in Christ are heav - en's heirs.
 Je - sus' blood, Your Bap - tism grants the high - est good.

5 If you are sick, if death is near,
 This truth your troubled heart can cheer:
 Christ Jesus saves your soul from death;
 That is the firmest ground of faith.

6 Glory to God the Father, Son,
 And Holy Spirit, Three in One!
 To You, O blessèd Trinity,
 Be praise now and eternally!

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