

WORD ALONE - SOLA SCRIPTURA

Therefore, before the conversion of the human being three are only two efficient causes, the Holy Spirit and God's Word as the instrument of the Holy Spirit, through which God effects conversion. [Formula of Concord, Epitome, II.9]

Midweek Lenten Services 2024 6:30 p.m.

OPENING

P: Behold, now is the acceptable time;

C: now is the day of salvation.

P: Turn us again, O God of our salvation,

C: that the light of your face may shine on us.

P: May your justice shine like the sun;

C: and may the poor be lifted up.

READINGS John 1:1-14

the world.

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. ⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

¹⁶All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

REFLECTION

P: Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets,

C: but in these last days God has spoken to us by the Son.

SONG

Lord Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word ELW #517

- 1. Lord, keep us steadfast in your word; curb those who by deceit or sword would wrest the kingdom from your Son and bring to naught all he has done.
- 2. Lord Jesus Christ, your pow'r make known, for you are Lord of lords alone; defend your holy church, that we may sing your praise eternally.
 - 3. O Comforter of priceless worth, send peace and unity on earth; support us in our final strife and lead us out of death to life.

PRAYERS

- P: O God our help, you walk with us through all of life's changes.
- C: Grant us strength, patience, wisdom, and understanding.
- P: O God our hope, you come to us in the life, death, and resurrection of Christ.
- C: Show us your salvation, and lead us in the way of the cross.
- P: O God our shelter, you enfold us like a mother hen gathering her chicks.
- C: Watch over all who are sick, grieving, lonely, and in need this day.
- P: O God our home, you claim us as your beloved children.
- C: Lord, remember us when you come into your kingdom.
- P: All this we ask through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING

We come forward with our offering to the altar of the Lord. When all are seated, we speak hymn 686:

We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be; all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee. May we thy bounties thus as stewards true receive, and gladly, as thou blessest us, to thee our first fruits give.

BLESSING

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, keep our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

C: Amen.

DISMISSAL

C: We go now in peace, for nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Amen.

The greeting of peace may be shared by all.

In Our Thoughts and Prayers +

Prayers for healing: Jack Martin (gallbladder surgery), Edna Hartman (friend of Pastor Kathy), Sherrill Miller (cancer treatment—Travis Miller family) Butch Feil (recovering from surgery—Guerrero family), Leah Nikont (recovering from surgery), Mary Jo Huelle (recovering from surgery), Drew Selck (Cancer), LuVerne Knoedler (recovering from surgery), Ruth Harris (recovery from a fall), Joni (stage 4 cancer), Kathy Johnson (health issues), William Gibbs (Cancer—Larry Gibbs' brother), Vicki Schmidt (cancer treatment), Patty (cancer—Jim Dorn's sister-in-law).

<u>Prayers for comfort and peace for</u>: Family and friends **Tamara Taylor** (Fran Johson & Barb Tallmon's niece).

Prayers for comfort and safety: **Zeke Chilcott** (deployed—friend of Marissa Wright), **Jeffery Christeleit** (deployed—Brian & Jodi Christeleit's son and Jim & Sheila Miller's grandson).



February 28th, the meal is @ 5:30 pm with worship to follow @ 6:30 pm. This week is Pizza Casserole sponsored by the Choir.