

## Lent 5

### ‘Surprising Stories of Forgiveness – Zacchaeus’

**Welcome** to all who worship with us tonight. Every year we hold mid-week Lenten Worship Services prior to Easter. These services help us to focus on the Lenten emphasis of Jesus sacrifice for our sins. These services also give us a time during the week to spend time with God’s people in our Lord’s presence.

This Lent, we will focus on “**Surprising Stories of Forgiveness**”, considering how God’s forgiveness through Jesus also reaches us. Once we are forgiven, how do we live as God’s children? Tonight we look at Jesus’ forgiveness for a paralytic man.

#### THE OPENING HYMN

“Lord of All Hopefulness” 738

#### THE VERSICLES

Pastor: The Lord Almighty grant us a quiet night and peace at the last.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: It is good to give thanks to the Lord.

**People: To sing praise to your name, O most High.**

Pastor: To herald your love in the morning.

**People: Your truth at the close of the day.**

(Psalm 92:1-2)

#### THE CONFESSION OF SINS

Pastor: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

**(Silence for reflection)**

Pastor: Holy and Gracious God,

**People: I confess that I have sinned against you this day. Some of my sin I know--the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed. But some is known only to you. In the name of Jesus Christ, I ask forgiveness. Deliver and restore me that I may rest in peace.**

Pastor: By the mercy of God we are redeemed by Jesus Christ, and in Him we are forgiven. We rest now in His peace and rise in the morning to serve Him.

**People: Amen.**

**THE PRAYER (In Unison) Almighty God, Heavenly Father, we are sinners who deny you by our sin and doubt, who hurt others by our selfishness, and who fail ourselves by not leaning on the love and strength which only comes from you. When the desires of life tempt us, show us the greater and deeper joy in Jesus, who is the way and the truth and the life. We ask this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit; one God, now and forever. Amen.**

#### THE SCRIPTURE READINGS

The Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 40:1-8

The Gospel Lesson

Luke 7:36-50

#### THE SERMON HYMN

“Come Unto Me, Ye Weary”

684

**THE MEDITATION ‘Surprising Stories of Forgiveness – Zacchaeus’ Luke 19**

**THE OFFERING**

**THE OFFERTORY “I Am Jesus’ Little Lamb” 740**

**THE PRAYERS**

**Pastor:** Hear my prayer, O Lord.

**People:** Listen to my cry.

**Pastor:** Hide me in the shadow of your wings.

**People:** Keep me as the apple of your eye.

**Pastor:** In righteousness I shall see you.

**People:** When I wake, your presence will give me joy.

**(Luther’s Evening Prayer)I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have graciously kept me this day, and I pray that you would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into your hands I commend myself, my body and soul and all things. Let your Holy Angel be with me that the wicked Foe may have no power over me. Amen.**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**THE GOSPEL CANTICLE**

**Pastor:** Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping, that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.

**People:** Lord, now let your servant go in peace, your word has been fulfilled.

**Pastor:** My own eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared in the sight of every people

**People:** A light to reveal you to the nations and the glory of your people, Israel.

**Pastor:** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

**People:** As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

**Pastor:** Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping,

**People:** That awake we may watch with Christ and asleep we may rest in peace. Amen.

**THE BENEDICTION**

**Pastor:** The Almighty and Merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us.

**People:** Amen.

**THE CLOSING HYMN ‘All Praise to thee, My God, This Night’ 883**

**THE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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**MID WEEK LENTEN FELLOWSHIP MEALS** are offered every Wednesday in Lent. You do not need to bring food, or contribute to come and eat. All Meals are signed up for. However, if you want to help with one of the meals you may help others already committed to serving a meal. THANKS TO the Kym Miller, Mary Jo Lentz, and others who served tonight's meal.

LENT 2010 will focus on the theme, "Surprising Stories of Forgiveness." After seeing Jesus forgive people in his time, we will consider how God's forgiveness through Jesus also reaches us. And we ask the question, "Once we are forgiven, how do we live as God's children?" Here is the schedule for our Mid Week Lenten Worship in 2010.

Ash Wednesday -	Prodigal son Luke 15
February 24	Paralytic – Mark 2
March 3	Doubt – Father – Mark 9
March 10	Zacchaeus Luke 19
March 17	Woman of the City, Luke 7:36 ff
March 24	Peter John 21