



Unity Sunday

February 25th, 2024

Welcome to Northdale Lutheran! We are so glad you are joining us to proclaim what God has done and to sing his praises. Here the Lord also comes to us and strengthens us with his mighty Word. Take a moment to meet and greet those around you! Also:



- ❖ Restrooms are in the entrance and through the nursery hallway.
- ❖ Handicapped accessible restroom facilities are located through the nursery hallway and back in the preschool area.
- ❖ To help keep the sanctuary as a quiet place of worship and meditation and for your convenience, a Nursing Mother's Room is available in the back of the sanctuary. This is a private place for nursing mother's and infant children if needed during worship. Please ask an usher if you have need of assistance.
- ❖ There are "Busy Bags" available for young children. They are hanging on the wall next to the organ. Parents - Please keep the busy bags clean and in order before hanging them back up.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Opening Hymn, CW #517

Praise the One Who Breaks The Darkness

Please Stand

Invocation

M: In the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

M: Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

C: **Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.**

M: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

C: **Almighty and merciful Father,**

We have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.

We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.

We have done those things that we should not have done,

and we have not done those things that we should have done.

Have mercy on us, Lord!

Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,

according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

M: God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Please Be Seated

Song of Praise, Psalm 63

In The Morning I Will Sing

Refrain

In the morn-ing I will sing, I will
sing glad songs to you, I will sing glad songs of praise to
you. I will sing glad songs of praise to you.

O God, you are my God; for you I long; for you my soul is thirsting.

My body pines for you like a dry, weary land without water.

So I gaze on you in the sanctuary to see your strength and your glory. (Refrain)

For your love is better than life, my lips will speak your praise.

So I will bless you all my life, in your name I will lift up my hands.

My soul shall be filled as with a banquet, my mouth shall praise you with joy. (Refrain)

On my bed I remember you. On you I muse through the night,

for you have been my help; in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.

My soul clings to you; your right hand holds me fast. (Refrain)

Prayer of the Day

Dear Heavenly Father, as we gather this morning in your name, we give thanks for your many blessings upon our church and our ministries. As a family in Christ, continue to grant us harmony, unity of faith, and love for one another, that your Word of salvation may be proclaimed in every home and to every soul. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, your only Son, our Savior. Amen.

The Passion History Reading

(Taken from the 4 Gospels – Matthew, Mark, Luke, John)



In Gethsemane - The Mount of Olives

When Jesus had finished praying, and they had sung a hymn, he went out as usual to the Mount of Olives, and the disciples followed him.

Then Jesus told them, "This very night you will all fall away on account of me, for it is written: 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.' But after I have risen, I will go ahead of you into Galilee.

Peter replied, "Even if all fall away on account of you, I never will."

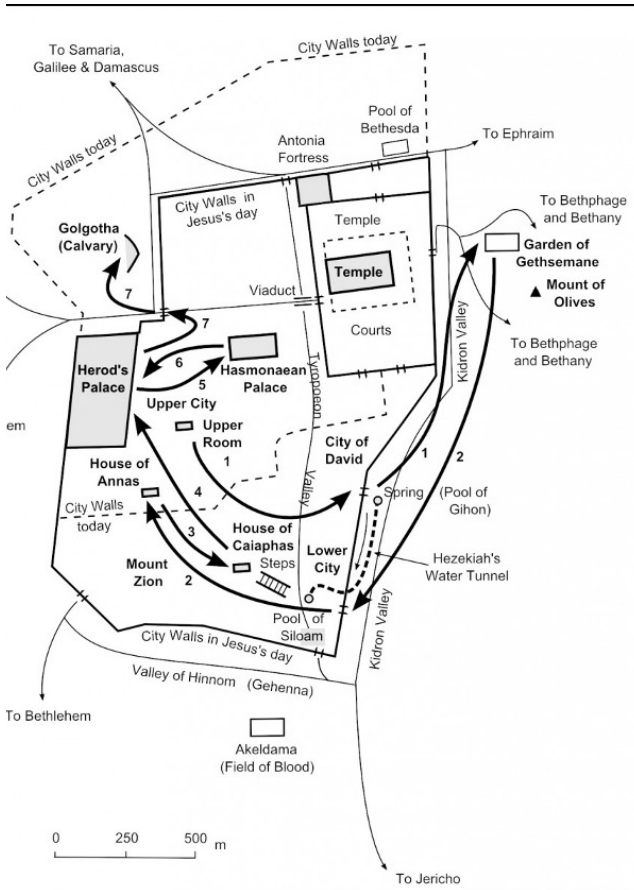
"I tell you the truth," Jesus answered, "today—yes, tonight—before the rooster crows twice you yourself will disown me three times."

But Peter insisted emphatically, "Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you." And all the others said the same.

Then Jesus went with his disciples and crossed the Kidron Valley. On the other side there was an olive grove, a place called Gethsemane. Jesus and his disciples went into it. Now Judas, who betrayed him, knew the place, because Jesus had often met there with his disciples.

On reaching the place, Jesus said to his disciples, "Sit here while I go over there and pray. Pray so that you will not fall into temptation." He took Peter, James, and John along with him and he began to be sorrowful and troubled. Then he said to them, "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me." He withdrew about a stone's throw, knelt down, and fell on the ground and prayed that if possible the hour might pass from him. "Abba, Father," he said, "everything is possible for you. Take this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will. Not my will, but yours be done."

When he rose from prayer and went back to his disciples, he found them asleep, exhausted from sorrow. "Simon," he said to Peter, "Are you asleep? Could you men not keep watch with me for one hour? Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak."



He went away a second time and prayed, "My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done."

When he came back, he again found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy. They did not know what to say to him. So he left them and went away a third time, saying the same thing. An angel from heaven appeared to him and strengthened him. And being in anguish, he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground.

Returning to the disciples the third time, he said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? Look, the hour is near, and the Son of man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, let us go! Here

comes my betrayer!"

While Jesus was still speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, arrived, guiding a detachment of soldiers and some officials of the chief priests and Pharisees. They were carrying torches, lanterns, and weapons. With him was a large crowd armed with swords and clubs. Judas was leading them.

Jesus, knowing all that was going to happen to him, went out and asked them, "Who is it you want?"

"Jesus of Nazareth," they replied.

"I am he," Jesus said. Judas the traitor was standing there with them. When Jesus said, "I am he," they drew back and fell to the ground.

Again, he asked them, "Who is it you want?"

And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth."

"I told you that I am he," Jesus answered. "If you are looking for me, then let these men go." This happened so that the words he had spoken would be fulfilled: "I have not lost one of those you gave me."

Now the betrayer had arranged a signal with them. "The one I kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away." Going at once to Jesus, Judas approached Jesus to kiss him and said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" and kissed him.

Jesus asked him, "Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss? Friend do what you came for."

Then the men stepped forward, seized Jesus, and arrested him. When Jesus' followers saw what was going to happen, they said, "Lord, should we strike with our swords?" Simon Peter reached for his sword, drew it out and struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his right ear. The servant's name was Malchus.

"No more of this! Put your sword back into its sheath," Jesus said to him, "for all who draw the sword will die by the sword. Shall I not drink the cup my Father has given me to drink? Do you think I cannot call on my Father, and he will at once put at my disposal more than twelve legions of angels? But how then, would the Scriptures be fulfilled that say it must happen in this way?" And Jesus touched the man's ear and healed him.

At that time Jesus said to the arresting crowd, "Am I leading a rebellion, that you have come out with swords and clubs to capture me? Every day I sat in the temple courts teaching, and you did not lay a hand on me. But this is your hour—when darkness reigns! This has all taken place that the words of the prophets might be fulfilled." All the disciples deserted him and fled.

Children's Devotion

At this time, we invite all our young people to come forward to hear a special message prepared just for them.

*Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee;
let the water and the blood, from thy riven side which flowed,
be of sin the double cure: cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.*

*Not the labors of my hands can fulfill thy law's demands;
could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever flow,
all for sin could not atone; thou must save and thou alone.*

*Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to thy cross I cling;
naked, come to thee for dress, helpless, look to thee for grace;
foul, I to the fountain fly; wash me, Savior, or I die.*

*While I draw this fleeting breath, when mine eyelids close in death,
when I soar to worlds unknown, see thee on thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee.*

Sermon

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

¹Now about the gifts of the Spirit, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. ²You know that when you were pagans, somehow or other you were influenced and led astray to mute idols. ³Therefore I want you to know that no one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, “Jesus be cursed,” and no one can say, “Jesus is Lord,” except by the Holy Spirit.

⁴There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. ⁵There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. ⁶There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work.

⁷Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. ⁸To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, ⁹to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, ¹⁰to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines.

United In Christ!

1. United in His Grace
2. United in His Mission

Congregational Hymn

Hymn of Compassion

Congregation joins singing the refrain

*There is an everlasting kindness You lavished on us
When the radiance of heaven came to rescue the lost
You called the sheep without a shepherd to leave their distress
For your streams of forgiveness and the shade of Your rest*

*And with compassion for the hurting, You reached out Your hand
As the lame ran to meet You and the dead breathed again
You saw behind the eyes of sorrow and shared in our tears
Heard the sigh of the weary, let the children draw near.*

**Refrain: What boundless love, what fathomless grace
You have shown us, O God of compassion
Each day we live, an offering of praise
As we show to the world Your compassion**

*We stood beneath the cross of Calvary and gazed on Your face
At the thorns of oppression and the wounds of disgrace
For surely, You have borne our suffering and carried our grief
As You pardoned the scoffer and showed grace to the thief. **Refrain***

*How beautiful the feet that carry this gospel of peace
To the fields of injustice and the valleys of need
To be a voice of hope and healing, to answer the cries
Of the hungry and helpless with the mercy of Christ. **Refrain***

Please Stand

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there 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.

Please Be Seated

Offering

The members of Northdale Lutheran joyfully give our offerings to the LORD in response to the many ways he has blessed us.

Online giving is now set up and available through our membership software entitled Breeze. You can give through Breeze two ways: 1) You can give by texting "Give" to (813) 652-0408. 2). You can go to <https://northdale.breezechms.com/give/online>. You can certainly ask if you have any questions.



Please Stand

Prayer of the Church

Blessing

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.

Amen.

Please Be Seated

Hymn, CW #731

How Good It Is

Announcements:

Choir Practice

Join us as we prepare some anthems for Unity Sunday and the upcoming Easter Season!
A dinner is provided at 6:00pm.

Monday, March 4th at 6:00pm

Idols We Never Knew We Had!

Beginning March 3rd we will begin a new Sunday morning Bible Study taking a look at the things that get in the way of our life with God. Somethings might surprise you! Join us at 9:30am in the Church sanctuary.

Bible Information Class

A new Bible Information Class has begun on Tuesday nights at 7:00pm. This class is for those wanting to know more about what we teach and believe here at Northdale Lutheran Church. This Tuesday night course is open to all, runs for 1 hour each Tuesday night, and babysitting is provided. Talk with Pastor Guse for more information.

WELS International Youth Rally 2024

This summer, teens from our churches all over the nation will descend upon Colorado State University under the theme, "From The Mountaintops!" There is a display on the back entryway table along with more information. **If you are/have a teenager who would like to consider going, please sign up on the "Interest List" on the back table,** there is no money or commitment needed at this time, just interest on this amazing event!

Youth Summer Camps

Every summer our churches in the South Atlantic District of our WELS Synod put on camps to gather our youth for worship, faith, and friendships. We have *Camp South* in Covington, GA (3rd - 8th grade), the *Amazing Race* in Orlando, FL (9th - 12th grade), and every other year the *International Youth Rally* (8th -12th grade). These events are such wonderful opportunities for our youth to gather and to grow in their Christian faith. ***
To make sure every youth who wants to go - can go, there are donation envelopes on the back table to help us all subsidize the cost for our families.

Congregational Work Day - Saturday, March 23rd!

Mark your calendars now to set aside this morning to come and help with our Spring cleaning. There is much to do both inside and out, and something for everyone! Come give a few hours as we beautify our campus for the Easter and Spring seasons. Church Workday begins at 8:00am.

"Prayers For".....

"I urge then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession, and thanksgiving be made for all people." (1 Timothy 2:1) As a body of Christ, we can show our love by praying for one another. Please submit all your prayer requests to the church office - office@northdalelutheran.org

Congregational Prayers: **Werner Family** as their aunt Trudy Werner was taken home to heavenly glory this past week. **World Peace** as the Ukraine - Russia war hits 2 years and the war in Gaza hits 4 months. ***For Those Shut-in:*** **Paul Ulbricht** at Concordia Village, **Jean Schofer** at Arden Courts, **Bob & Joyce Jarvis** at Concordia Village, **Grace Ballieu** at Accordia Woods Assisted Living, **Fred Lawrence** at home. ***Continued Prayers:*** **Frankie Gardner** under treatment for a tumor in the her liver, **Linda Mosakowski** under treatment for ovarian cancer, **Don Publitz** under treatment for blood clots and weakened health, **Pedro Mendez Sr** under treatment for heart issues, **Amanda Smayling** for continued health through pregnancy. ***Prayers for the Kingdom:*** **Peace Lutheran Church**, Trinity FL continuing to call to fill their pastoral vacancy, **Bay Pines Lutheran Church**, Seminole FL continuing to call to fill teaching vacancies.

Serving Today

Music: 8:30/10:30 - D. Roemhildt

Ushers: 8:30 - Busch

10:30 - Smayling/Schebel

Serving Next Week

Music: 8:30/10:30 - D. Roemhildt

Ushers: 8:30 - Koren

10:30 - Mosakowski