

**Making Change – Change of Circumstances**

*We move from elementary to middle school, or from our hometown to a new community. We lose a job, or gain a child, or accomplish a goal, or relinquish a dream. Through it all, we learn to give thanks to God in all circumstances.*

**DIALOGUE**

For all our blessings, we give thanks to the Lord.  
**God is our rock and salvation, a help in times of plenty.**  
 With all our burdens, we pray to the Lord.  
**God is our rock and salvation, a help in times of need.**  
 In all our celebrations, we sing praise to the Lord.  
**God is our rock and salvation, a help in times of joy.**  
 With all our grief, we cry to the Lord.  
**God is our rock and salvation,**  
 a help in times of sorrow.  
 We will not fear, though the earth should change.  
**God is our rock and salvation; thanks be to God!**

**GATHERING HYMN**

**Jesus is a Rock in a Weary Land**

**ELW 333**

*Refrain – All*



Je - sus is a rock in a wea - ry land, a wea - ry land, a  
 wea - ry land; my Je - sus is a rock in a  
 wea - ry land, a shel - ter in the time of storm.

*Leader or All*

1 No one can do like Je - sus, not a  
 2 When Je - sus was on earth, . . . . . the . .  
 3 Yon - der comes my Sav - ior, him . .

mum-bling word he said; he went walk - ing down to Laz-  
 flesh was ver - y weak; . . he took a towel and gird-  
 whom I love so well; . . he has the palm of vic -

*Refrain*

- a - rus' grave, and he raised him from the dead.  
 ed him - self and he washed his dis - ci - ples' feet.  
 - to - ry and the keys of death and hell.

## **GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## **PRAYER**

O God our rock and salvation, you walk with us through all the ups and downs of life. Whatever our circumstances, bring us closer to you. Teach us to rejoice in the good times, find hope through the bad times, and always place our trust in you. In Jesus' name we pray.

## **PSALM 103:1-5, 13-18**

<sup>1</sup>Bless the LORD, O my soul,  
and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

<sup>2</sup>**Bless the LORD, O my soul,  
and do not forget all his benefits**

<sup>3</sup>who forgives all your iniquity,  
who heals all your diseases,

<sup>4</sup>**who redeems your life from the Pit,  
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,**

<sup>5</sup>who satisfies you with good as long as you live  
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

<sup>13</sup>**As a father has compassion for his children,  
so the LORD has compassion for those who fear him.**

<sup>14</sup>For he knows how we were made;  
he remembers that we are dust.

<sup>15</sup>**As for mortals, their days are like grass;  
they flourish like a flower of the field;**

<sup>16</sup>for the wind passes over it, and it is gone,  
and its place knows it no more.

<sup>17</sup>**But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting  
on those who fear him, and his righteousness to children's children,**

<sup>18</sup>to those who keep his covenant  
and remember to do his commandments.

## **READING 1 THESSALONIANS 5:12-14**

<sup>12</sup>But we appeal to you, brothers and sisters, to respect those who labor among you, and have charge of you in the Lord and admonish you; <sup>13</sup>esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves. <sup>14</sup>And we urge you, beloved, to admonish the idlers, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with all of them.



1 How clear is our vo - ca - tion, Lord, when once we heed your call  
 2 But if, for - get - ful, we should find your yoke is hard to bear;  
 3 We mar - vel how your saints be - come in hin - dranc - es more sure;  
 4 In what you give us, Lord, to do, to - geth - er or a - lone,



to live ac - cord - ing to your word and dai - ly learn, re - freshed, re - stored,  
 if world - ly pres - sures fray the mind and love it - self can - not un - wind  
 whose joy - ful vir - tues put to shame the ca - sual way we wear your name,  
 in old rou - tines or ven - tures new, may we not cease to look to you,



that you are Lord of all and will not let us fall.  
 its tan - gled skein of care: our in - ward life re - pair.  
 and by our faults ob - scure your pow'r to cleanse and cure.  
 the cross you hung up - on, all you en - deav - ored done.

**GOSPEL: LUKE 12:22-34**

The holy gospel according to Luke the 12<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>22</sup>He said to his disciples, "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. <sup>23</sup>For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. <sup>24</sup>Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! <sup>25</sup>And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? <sup>26</sup>If then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about the rest? <sup>27</sup>Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. <sup>28</sup>But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you — you of little faith! <sup>29</sup>And do not keep striving for what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. <sup>30</sup>For it is the nations of the world that strive after all these things, and your Father knows that you need them. <sup>31</sup>Instead, strive for his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.

<sup>32</sup>Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. <sup>33</sup>Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. <sup>34</sup>For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the  
 2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .  
 3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a  
 4 Though the na - tions rage from . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the  
 work great . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the  
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your  
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.  
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.  
 jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . from his throne.  
 liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my  
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to  
 The hun - gry poor shall . . weep no more, for the  
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my  
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the  
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry  
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?  
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



*Refrain*  
 My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

## PRAYERS

O God our help, you walk with us through all of life's changes.

**Grant us strength, patience, wisdom, and understanding.**

O God our hope, you come to us in the life, death, and resurrection of Christ.

**Show us your salvation, and lead us in the way of the cross.**

O God our shelter, you enfold us like a mother hen gathering her chicks.

**Watch over all who are sick, grieving, lonely, and in need this day.**

O God our home, you claim us as your beloved children.

**Lord, remember us when you come into your kingdom.**

*Here other prayers may be offered.*

All this we ask through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

## OFFERING

### OFFERING PRAYER

Steadfast God, you bless us amid all the changes and chances of life. Grant us servant hearts, that we may feed the hungry and welcome the stranger in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## BLESSING

The Lord of peace give you peace at all times and in all ways.

In the name of the Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit.

## SENDING HYMN

### Though the Earth Shall Change

ACS 1035



Though the earth shall change, though the moun-tains trem-ble,



though the wa - ters rage, you, God, are here.



Though the na - tions war, though the peo - ples bat - tle,



though the em - pire fal - ters, we will not fear.

## DISMISSAL

Go now in peace, for nothing can separate you from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

## **Midweek Lenten Worship**

<b>March 1, 7PM</b>	<b>Redeemer Lutheran Church, Jersey City</b>
<b>March 8, 7PM</b>	<b>Bethany Lutheran Church, Jersey City</b>
<b>March 15, 7PM</b>	<b>Christ Our Saviour Lutheran Church, Jersey City</b>
<b>March 22, 7PM</b>	<b>Trinity Lutheran Church, Jersey City</b>
<b>March 29, 7PM</b>	<b>Grace Lutheran Church, Jersey City</b>