

Australian Evangelical Lutheran Church
BETHLEHEM TOOWOOMBA, OUR SAVIOUR LOWOOD, ST JOHN'S AUBIGNY,
ST PAUL'S GREENWOOD, TRINITY MARBURG, TRINITY OAKY
30th March Fourth Sunday in Lent

HYMNS: 53 305 57 (part 1) LSB: 619 LSB: 622 159

INTROIT: Psalm 32

Blessed is the person whose transgression is forgiven and whose sin is covered.

Blessed is the person whose iniquity the LORD does not count against him, and in whose spirit is no deceit.

When I kept silent, my bones were exhausted because of my groaning all day long.

For Your hand lay heavily on me by day and by night. The dry heat of summer overturned my energy.

I acknowledged my sin to You, and I did not hide my iniquity. I said, "I shall confess my rebellious acts to the LORD", and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

For this reason, let every devout person pray to You in a time when You may be found. Surely, in a great flood of water it will not reach him.

You are my hiding place. You will protect me from trouble. You will surround me with rejoicing over deliverance.

"I shall instruct you. I shall teach you in the way that you should go. I shall advise you as My eye watches over you.

Do not be like a horse or mule, which cannot understand. They are adorned with a bit and bridle, to check them, or they will not come near you."

The wicked man will have many pains; but mercy will surround the man who trusts in the LORD.

Rejoice in the LORD and be glad, you righteous; and ring out a shout of joy, all you who are upright in heart!

COLLECT: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and although 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 for ever. Amen.

Welcome to all worshipping with us today!

Pastor Peter Ziebell, Phone 0407583922.

Email him at paziebell@gmail.com or to the church office at ddaelc@gmail.com.

Please notify pastor of anyone who is unwell or in need of a visit.

READINGS: Isaiah 12:1-6 Songs of Praise

2 Corinthians 5:16-21 Christ reconciled the world by exchanging His righteousness for its sin.

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32 The Man welcomes sinners and eats with them.

Isaiah 12:1-6

1 On that day you will say: "I shall praise You, O LORD. Although You have been angry with me, Your anger is turning away, and You are comforting me. 2 Look! God is my Salvation. I shall be confident and not be startled. Indeed, the LORD, the LORD, is my Protection and Might and He has become my Salvation."

3 You will joyfully draw water from the wells of salvation. 4 On that day you people will say: "Praise the LORD! Call on His name! Make His deeds known among the peoples! Proclaim that His name is exalted! 5 Sing to the LORD! For He has done sublime things. Let this be known in all the earth! 6 Rejoice and shout for joy, O inhabitants of Zion! For the Holy One of Israel, who is among you, is great."

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

16 Therefore, from now on we do not regard anyone from a human point of view. Although we once regarded Christ from a human point of view, yet now we no longer regard Him in this way.

17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old things have passed away.

Look! They have become new!

18 However, all things are from God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Christ and has given to us the ministry of reconciliation, 19 that God was in Christ, reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and has committed to us the message of reconciliation. 20 Therefore, we are ambassadors on Christ's behalf, since God, as it were, is making His appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: "Be reconciled to God!" 21 God made Him who did not know sin to be sin for us, that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

1 All the tax-collectors and other sinners were coming to Jesus to hear Him. 2 However, the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled and said, "This Man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

3 He told them this parable:...

11b "A certain man had two sons. 12 The younger one of them asked his father, 'Father, give me my share of the property!' So, he divided his property between them. 13 Not many days later the younger son got together all he had and left home for a distant country and there he wasted his possessions in wild living. 14 When he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. 15 He went and attached himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. 16 He longed to fill up on the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one would give him anything. 17 When he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired men have plenty of bread, and here I am starving to death. 18 I shall get up and go to my father and tell him, "Father, I have sinned against Heaven and against you. 19 I do not deserve to be called your son any longer. Make me one of your hired men!"'

20 “So, he got up and went to his father. While he was still far away, his father saw him and was filled with compassion. He ran, fell on his neck and kissed him. 21 The son told him, ‘Father, I have sinned against Heaven and against you. I do not deserve to be called your son any longer.’ 22 “The father told his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe, the best one, and put it on him! Put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet! 23 Bring the fattened calf, kill it, and let us eat and begin to celebrate! 24 For this son of mine was dead and has come to life again. He was lost and has been found.’ They began to celebrate. 25 “His elder son was in the field. As he was coming in and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. 26 He called one of the servants and asked what this meant. 27 “The servant answered, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has received him back safe and sound.’ 28 “However, the elder brother became angry and would not go in. His father came out and pleaded with him. 29 “However, he answered his father, ‘Look! All these years I have been working like a slave for you and have never disobeyed a command of yours, and yet you have never given me a little goat to celebrate with my friends. 30 However, as soon as this son of yours has come back, who has squandered your property with prostitutes, you have killed the fattened calf for him.’ 31 “The father told him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and everything that I have is yours; 32 but we had to celebrate and be glad. For this brother of yours was dead and has come to life. He was lost and has been found.’”

CHRIST HAS SAVED US BY GIVING HIMSELF AS OUR SACRIFICIAL SUBSTITUTE

Sermon for the 4th Sunday of Lent 2025

Genesis 22:1-18

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

As we continue to move through the Book of Genesis this Lenten Season, the text for our sermon today is Genesis 22:1-18: **¹ After these things, God tested Abraham. God said to him, “Abraham!”**

He replied, “Here I am.”

² God said: “Take your son, your only son, Isaac, whom you love, and go to the region of Moriah! Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall point out to you!”

³ Abraham got up early the next morning and saddled his donkey. He took with him two of his servants and his son Isaac. He cut the wood for the burnt offering. Then he got up and started out for the place about which God had told him. ⁴ On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. ⁵ Then Abraham told his servants: “Stay here with the donkey and let the lad and me go over there, that we may worship! Then we shall come back to you.”

⁶ Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac and he himself carried the burning coals and the knife. The two of them went on together. ⁷ Then Isaac said to his father Abraham, “Father!”

Abraham said, “Here I am, my son.”

Then Isaac said, “Look! We have the fire and the wood where is the lamb for a burnt offering?”

⁸ Abraham answered, “God will provide Himself with a lamb for the burnt offering, my son.”

The two of them went on together. ⁹ When they reached the place about which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and arranged the wood on it. Then he tied up his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. ¹⁰ Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. ¹¹ However, the Angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said: “Abraham! Abraham!”

He replied, “Here I am.”

¹² He said: “Do not lay your hand on the boy! Do not do anything to him! For I know now that you fear God. You have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me.”

¹³ When Abraham looked up, he saw behind him a ram caught by his horns in the thicket. So, Abraham went, took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴ Abraham named that place “The LORD Will Provide.” It is still said today, “On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided.”

¹⁵ The Angel of the LORD called to Abraham from heaven a second time. ¹⁶ He said: “‘I have sworn an oath by Myself,’ declares the LORD, ‘that, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷ I shall certainly bless you. I shall certainly also make your descendants as many as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will possess the city-gates of their enemies. ¹⁸ In your Descendant all the nations of the earth will be blessed, because you have listened to what I have said.’”

Lord God, heavenly Father, sanctify us through Your truth, Your Word is truth.
Amen.

Dear friends in Christ,

When you read your Bible, depending on which translation you read, you will notice section headings once every few paragraphs or so. Section headings and chapter divisions, as we see them in modern Bibles, were not part of the original manuscripts but were added later to aid in navigation and understanding.

For example, the first words of the Bible are, “*In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth*” (Gen. 1:1). But in many modern editions of the Bible, before those first words of Scripture, you’ll see a heading that may say something like “The account of the origin of the earth,” or “The creation of the world” or “The Beginning.”

Of course, since those headings are not part of God’s Word, they are not divinely inspired, some of them will prove more helpful than others. When reading the Bible, it can be helpful to ask yourself what heading you would put over a section you’ve just read.

As we examine today’s text from Genesis, we shall consider what would be a suitable heading for this section of Scripture.

When you open your Bibles to the twenty-second chapter of Genesis, you will find the heading “Abraham Tested” or something similar. That’s a good heading since chapter twenty-two begins with “**After these things, God tested Abraham,**” and Hebrews 11:17 reinforces that when it says, “*By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac....*” And we can see how God’s words to Abraham *did indeed test his faith*. When Abraham was seventy-five years old, God had called him to leave his home and his people and go to a place God would show him. God had promised He would make Abraham a father of many nations and that in him, all the families of the earth would be blessed. Those promises were especially remarkable because, up to that time, Abraham and his wife, Sarah, had been without children. Where would the offspring come from, and through whom would the nations be blessed?

After those hard-to-believe promises came twenty-five years of waiting, and then God gave Abraham and Sarah a son. And God assured Abraham that it would be from the line of that son, Isaac, that God’s promises would be kept—all those descendants as numerous as the stars and God’s blessings to all nations. At last, things seemed to be on track.

Then, God told Abraham, “**Take your son, your only son, Isaac, whom you love, and go to the region of Moriah! Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall point out to you!**”

Abraham was commanded to sacrifice that very son who had himself been given as an answer to God’s promises—and through whose line God had said He would fulfil the rest of His promises. If Abraham were to do as God said, how could God then keep the great promises He had made? Could God be trusted to come through for Abraham and his son? It was indeed a test of faith.

No doubt, Abraham’s faith was tested, but was the testing of Abraham’s faith the main thing God does in this reading? Looking to Abraham himself, it does not appear as though he regarded the testing as the main thing. When Abraham came away from Mount Moriah, he did not say “The Lord has tested me,” but rather,

“**The LORD Will Provide,**” and in our reading, Moses, the author of Genesis, does not comment, “It is said to this day, ‘The Lord tests,’” but rather, “**It is still said today, ‘On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided.**”

This reading begins by saying that God did indeed test Abraham, but taking our lead from Abraham, if you want to get the main point of the reading, *you need to read on and see how God provides*, and that brings us to another heading seen in some Bibles. In some Bibles, you’ll find that these verses have the heading “The Sacrifice of Isaac.”

Now, we can understand how someone may come up with that heading. However, there is a problem here because one of the important points in this reading is that, in fact, Isaac was *not* sacrificed.

And why wasn’t he sacrificed? Because “**The LORD Will Provide.**” Although all life belongs to the LORD and—if the LORD had required it—Abraham was willing to offer his son to the LORD who had first given him, the LORD would not require that. Instead, the LORD told Abraham, “**Do not lay your hand on the boy! Do not do anything to him!**” Instead, He provided a ram to be offered in Isaac’s place. “**When Abraham looked up, he saw behind him a ram caught by his horns in the thicket. So, Abraham went, took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son.**” By this act, the LORD showed his faithfulness to Abraham and saved Isaac by providing a substitute to be sacrificed in Isaac’s place.

So perhaps a heading for this section could build on the statement that the LORD provides by also saying something about *how* He provided that day—that the LORD provided deliverance for Isaac by providing a sacrificial substitute to be given in his place.

We’re getting a bit closer now. But as we look again to our reading, we can see that we still haven’t yet captured the main point.

Turning again to Abraham’s words, notice that he didn’t say, “The LORD *has* provided,” but rather he said, “**The LORD Will Provide.**” In the events of that day, Abraham saw not only what the LORD had done—that He had provided, but he also saw a preview and promise of what the LORD would do—that He *will* provide.

The LORD spoke of that future provision as He said to Abraham, “**because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son,** ¹⁷ **I shall certainly bless you. I shall certainly also make your descendants as many as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will possess the city-gates of their enemies.** ¹⁸ **In your Descendant all the nations of the earth will be blessed, because you have listened to what I have said.”** There was God’s greatest promise to Abraham again. From the line of Abraham and Isaac, a Descendant would come through whom “**all the nations of the earth will be blessed.**” “**The LORD Will Provide.**”

And how would the LORD provide worldwide blessings through that promised Descendant? In much the same way He had provided that day on Mount Moriah. As God had provided for Isaac's deliverance by providing a substitute who would be given in his place, so He would provide blessings for people of all nations by providing a Substitute who would be given in our place. As a ram was provided to take Isaac's place, so a Lamb would be provided to take our place.

Apart from the deliverance our God provides, each of us would face death tied up in the cords of our own sins, and the just judgment for our sins would hang over us like a knife. But instead, the LORD provides a way out. He stops the knife, unlooses the cords of sin that entangle us, and sets us free *as the Lamb of God takes our place.*

And in the most remarkable turn of events, that Lamb whom God provides to be our sacrificial substitute is His own beloved Son, Jesus Christ. The Father who would not require Abraham's son does not withhold His own Son but gives him up for us all.¹

This section of Genesis is not about the sacrifice of Isaac—who, after all, was not sacrificed, and it's about much more than the testing of Abraham. It is partly about God showing His faithfulness to Abraham and saving Isaac by providing a substitute to be sacrificed in his place. But it's also about much more than that. This reading points beyond Mount Moriah to Mount Calvary—where on the mount of the Lord our salvation was provided. For there, on the cross, *Christ has saved us by giving Himself as our sacrificial Substitute.*

Trying to capture what God did on both those mountains, perhaps we could suggest a heading for this section along the lines of “The Lord Saves by Providing a Sacrificial Substitute.”

Or—if, as they say, a picture is worth a thousand words—maybe just placing a cross above this section would be the way to go. Whether in words or in a picture, the important thing is to see that these events took place and were recorded to point us to Christ and the salvation we have in Him.

What John said in his Gospel is also true of this reading, the book of Genesis as a whole, and all Scripture: “*these things have been written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that, believing, you may have life in His name*” (20:31).

In the saving name of Jesus, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. Amen.

¹ Romans 8:32

The peace of God which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Lord, We praise You for all Your loving kindness. We rejoice that You have rescued us from darkness and eternal death, and blessed us with Your love, light, and life. We thank You that You have not punished us as we deserve, or repaid us for our sins. In Your love You have given Your only Son to carry our sins and to suffer for our transgressions, that we may not perish, but have eternal life. We thank You that through Him we can approach Your throne, confident that there we shall find mercy and help in every need. Give us daily joy in Your free forgiveness for all our sins, and in all the endless blessings of the Gospel.

O Lord, You are mindful of the needs of all people. You give daily bread to both the godly and the ungodly alike. We praise and thank you for supplying all our bodily needs. Enable us to use the lives You give and sustain to show forth Your love and care. Grant us the continuing gift of health, that we may serve You with joy through Him who is the bread of life, even Jesus Christ.

Give us opportunities to proclaim the Gospel of Christ to others who do not know it. Keep Your Church in Jesus Christ in the one true faith, by granting it Your Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes down from above, that Your Word may not be bound but have free course and be preached to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, that in steadfast love we may service You and, in the confession of Your name, abide unto the end.

Give wisdom, integrity, and Your direction to all who wield authority, that we may worship and serve You without hindrance, and live in peace and righteousness. Protect us from the influence of wicked people, and preserve us in all dangers.

Give Your strength to all who suffer sickness, pain, disease, or any other trouble of body, mind, or spirit. Enable them to bear their cross with faith in Him who taught us to pray: "Your will be done." In His glorious name, and for His kingdom's sake, we pray these things. Amen.

WEEKLY ARTICLE – **Five Marks of a False Gospel**

The gospel, or "good news," is essentially the revelation of Jesus Christ to the world to reconcile God's people to Himself. Sadly, much perversity masquerades as the gospel, yet it's designed to lead man away from the truth and into a false sense of relationship with the Creator.

Many cults and false religions have arisen contrary to the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints (Jude 1:3), but there are far more subtle attacks on the biblical gospel that, in many cases, go unnoticed, and are poisoning the church today. Let's review five telling marks that a gospel being preached is false.

I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel—not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. Galatians 1:6-7

1.) The gospel exalts man.

This may sound like an obvious one, but sadly, so many preachers today preach a gospel that exalts man. Arminianism is perhaps the most notorious of these. Contrary to Scripture, man is said to have within himself some level of “goodness” to be able to “choose” God. Scripture teaches that man cannot choose God (Romans 3:11) because we are dead in our trespasses and sins (Ephesians 2:1).

Others may teach that God has chosen to save man, not solely according to the purposes of His own will (Eph 1:11), but because of some inherent value in us. Sure, we have some value to God—we are created in His image. We were also created to glorify Him. But Scripture clearly teaches that it is not because of any value or goodness in us that God has chosen to save us; He chose to save us to display His own glory (Romans 9:23).

This mark of a false gospel places our hope in something false—a hope in something other than Christ alone. It places our hope in something within ourselves, and God will not share His glory with any other.

2.) The gospel teaches that you are saved from temporal afflictions.

This is mostly found in the Prosperity, Health and Wealth, and Word of Faith movements. It teaches that when you are saved, you no longer have to suffer from worldly calamities such as poverty, sickness, and disease. Further, it teaches that if you do suffer from these things, that your faith simply isn’t strong enough.

Often, your level of faith is purportedly reflected in how much money you give to the organisation propagating this false teaching. This teaching can certainly lead people astray, giving some who are not truly born again a false sense of security in practices such as tithing. Once again, Christ as the sole object of our faith is diminished and our faith is placed in our good works and is evidenced by our prosperity.

The apostle Paul teaches worldly struggles are not only likely but that God uses them for His glory, in which our purpose is to glorify God. *But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong...* 2 Corinthians 12:10-11.)

3.) Emphasis is placed on the Holy Spirit more than Jesus Christ.

Many charismatic churches teach a gospel that emphasises the work of the Holy Spirit more than the work of Christ. Certainly, the Holy Spirit, equal with the Father and Christ, is worthy of our acknowledgment. But the Work of the Holy Spirit is always to point to Christ and not to Himself (John 16:14-15). Yet these charismatic churches, in many ways, teach that the Holy Spirit is the primary end of our salvation and that it is manifested through signs and wonders performed by those who have “received Him.” This often results in aberrant teachings such as that speaking in tongues is necessary evidence of salvation. Jesus Christ, however, is the

primary end of our salvation. As stated in 2 Corinthians 2:10-11 above, His grace is sufficient. Seeking for signs and wonders, Christ said, is evidence of a wicked and adulterous people (Matthew 16:4).

Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Philippians 2:9-11

4.) It is attractive to the world.

Another sign that a gospel being preached is false is that it is attractive to the world.

Many false gospels contain half-truths and, even in some ways, may sound very much like the gospel. But the world is impatient with the inward work of regeneration and sanctification through Christ. They seek fulfilment through entertainment and other carnal means, which give them a false impression of their own piety. The message of Christ's bloody death on the cross and his endurance of God's wrath is watered down to the point that it is meaningless, while rock bands, laser light shows, and music devoid of any theological substance are echoed throughout the churches that teach this way. In other words, if the world is not offended by the gospel message being preached, it is false.

Scripture teaches that Christ is offensive, even calling Him the "rock of offence (1 Peter 2:8)," and that the gospel is foolish to the world.

For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. 1 Corinthians 1:18

5.) The gospel is not derived from Scripture.

Many false churches teach that Scripture is insufficient to receive the knowledge of the grace of God. This is most prevalent in the Roman Catholic and Orthodox churches. Most cults have some form of this aberrant teaching as well. However, there are plenty of other churches, "evangelical churches," that have strayed from the doctrine of *Sola Scriptura* (Scripture Alone) as well. In recent years, we have seen pastors stray away from the authority of Scripture. This opens the door to all sorts of error, most of it significant and eternally damning.

The Scriptures themselves are the testimony of Christ and His plan of redemption. They are the complete revelation of Jesus Christ sovereignly preserved by the Holy Spirit to teach, reprove, and equip the saints for everything necessary in this life.

There is nothing else that we need to be made complete in Him.

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work. 2 Timothy 3:16-17

Yet, false gospels that are not derived from Scripture always end up being teachings contrary to the biblical gospel. They always end up being gospels of meritorious works as opposed to grace or gospels of some other (co) saviour and (co)redeemer as opposed to Christ alone. They always minimise the exclusivity of Christ as the only Lord and give many false hope in other beliefs and religions.

It is Christ alone who saves and it is Christ alone who is King. If your church is teaching another gospel or if you notice any of these signs of a false gospel in your church, it may be time to move. Don't just sit there and put up with it.

For if someone comes and proclaims another Jesus than the one we proclaimed, or if you receive a different spirit from the one you received, or if you accept a different gospel from the one you accepted, you put up with it readily enough. 2 Corinthians 11:4

Children's Message:

Have you ever done something to make your parents angry? I have. Lots of times, I didn't do what my parents asked. They would tell me to do something, but I wouldn't do it. Perhaps you have been like that too. Maybe your parents have told you to clean up your room, but instead, you go and play with your toys. So maybe they take away the toys you were playing with and make you go to your room and think about your actions.

Now, I hope that after a while of being punished, you realise that you have done something wrong and go to your parents and say, "I'm sorry." And when you do, I am sure they forgive you because they love you. Even when you do the wrong thing and parents have to punish you, when you're sorry, they forgive you.



In our first Bible reading today, from the book of Isaiah, we hear about other people who did the wrong thing, who sinned. This time it wasn't their parents they made angry; it was God. Because God had told Israel what to do. He gave them the Ten Commandments. Do you remember the Ten Commandments? Can you remember the third one? That's right: "Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy." Which meant they were supposed to listen to God's Word. But God's people, Israel, didn't listen to that commandment. They didn't listen to God's Word but ignored Him, His words, and His laws. And that's only one of the commandments they broke. That made God angry. So just like parents would, God punished them. But in that first lesson, we heard God promise He would turn His anger away. Even though His people made Him angry, He was going to forgive them, just like our parents do.

God does the same thing with us! Just like those people in the first lesson, we break God's commandments all the time. But when we come here to church, you know what is one of the first things we usually do? We confess our sins. We say, "God, I'm sorry for breaking Your commandments." And you know what God does? He does the same thing a good mum or dad does; He forgives us. He tells you that for the sake of your Lord Jesus' suffering and death, He forgives you. So even though you've broken God's commandments, He's no longer angry with you; He's forgiven you right here today. Let's thank him for that.

Dear God, thank You for not being angry with me, but forgiving all my sins. Amen.

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

6 April 5 Lent	13 April Palm Sunday	16/17 April Maundy Thursday
8.30am OAK LR (Matthew Sippel) 9.00am TMBA HC 9.00am GRN LR 10.45am AUB HC 9.00am LOWOOD LR	8.30am OAK HC 9.00am TMBA LR (Matthew Sippel) 9.30am AUB LR 10.15am GRN HC 9.00am MARBURG LR	Wednesday 16: 7.30pm TMBA HC Thursday 17: 7.00pm LOWOOD HC
Sunday, 6 April		
READINGS: Isaiah 43:16-21; Philippians 3:4b-14; Luke 20:9-20		
HYMNS: 54 62 170 (157 320) 191		
Sunday, 13 April		
READINGS: Deuteronomy 32:36-39; Philippians 2:5-11; John 12:12-19		
HYMNS: 9 86 733 (7 61) 87		

MID-WEEK of LENT 5 SERVICES

Down's Members – Wednesday, 2 April, Bethlehem Toowoomba, 7.30pm.

Our hymns for our mid-week services will be taken from the *Lutheran Service Book*. If you have a copy, please bring it along. Printed hymn sheets will be provided for those who don't.

HYMNS: 598 423 424

Lowood/Marburg Members – Thurs, 3 April, Our Saviour Lowood, 10.00am.

Matins Service and Bible Study, followed by a shared cuppa.

Wednesday, 2 April. 10.00am. Women's Guild at Bethlehem Toowoomba. Opening devotion: Leanne. Choose a Bible verse from Deuteronomy 20-24. Item of Interest: Favourite perform or talc.

Saturday, 5 April, 7:00pm, Young Adults & Youth (YAY) NOTE CHANGE OF DATE is on at Aubigny, with the hall open from 6:30pm. Please bring your Bible, and a plate to share, for an evening of fun, games, food, and a devotion. Any questions, please contact Matthew at matthewsippelaclc@gmail.com.