

Faith and Rock Creek Lutheran Churches
February 18 10:30AM
WRDN 1430AM/107.3FM
Facebook Live @faithandrockcreek
Pastor Bethany Walker



Today's radio broadcast is sponsored by Jean Hermann In honor of my awesome friend Tracy Rosemeyer

Welcome and Announcements

Centering Prayer

Confession and Forgiveness

Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Holy God, we confess that we are caught in the snares of sin and cannot break free on our own. Throughout human history ungodly things have been done in your name by people who claim to follow Jesus. We keep score in our hearts. We turn hurts into hatred. We forget to turn to you in prayer. For all these things and for the sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.

Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life everlasting. Through ✝ Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Amen.

Opening Hymn

Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross ELW 335

Jesus keep me near the cross, there's a precious fountain; free to all, a healing stream flows from Calv'ry's mountain.

In the cross, in the cross be my glory ever, till my ransomed soul shall find rest beyond the river.

Near the cross, a trembling soul, love and mercy found me; there the bright and morning star sheds its beams around me.

In the cross, in the cross be my glory ever, till my ransomed soul shall find rest beyond the river.

Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes before me; help me walk from day to day with its shadow o'er me.

In the cross, in the cross be my glory ever, till my ransomed soul shall find rest beyond the river.

Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hoping, trusting ever till I reach the golden strand just beyond the river. In the cross, in the cross be my glory ever, till my ransomed soul shall find rest beyond the river.

Greeting

Prayer of the Day

Give us wisdom to draw closer to you in prayer, O God. **Help us to ask hard questions of our faith. Help us to be open to new understandings. Make us impatient with superficial faith and the everyday hypocrisies we have grown used to. Help us to settle for nothing less than wholehearted devotion so that we may walk by faith and not just talk about it. Join us on the journey, Holy One, as we learn to pray again to you in Jesus' name. Amen.**

Children's Message

Centering Song [Bless the Lord, O My Soul](#)

Welcome the Word

The glory of these forty days, we celebrate with songs of praise; Through Christ, the Word, all things were made, himself has fasted and has prayed. Then grant O God, that we may too, return in fast and prayer to you; Our spirits strengthen with your grace, and give us joy to see your face.

Scripture Reading

Matthew 5:1-16

Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them.

The Beatitudes He said: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. 12 Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you. Salt and Light “You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

“You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

Praise to the Lord the Almighty LBW 543

Praise to the Lord the Almighty the King of creation. O my soul praise him for he is your health and salvation

Let all who hear now to his temple draw near joining in glad adoration

Praise to the Lord who over all things is wondrously reigning and as on wings of an eagle uplifting sustaining

Have you not seen all that is needful has been sent by his gracious ordaining

Praise to the Lord who will prosper your work and defend you. Surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you Praise to the Lord who will prosper your work and defend you. Surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you

Praise to the Lord oh let all that is in me adore him

All that has life and breath come now with praises before him

Let the amen sound from his people again gladly forever adore him

Apostles' Creed

Prayers of the People

Lord Listen to Your Children Praying WOV 775

Peace

Offering

Doxology

Offering Prayer

Jesus, we draw close to you in prayer. **You are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name. Amen.**

Words of Consecration

“Written by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, ‘Hold Fast to What Is Good’”

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right and good to give you thanks and praise, O God, because from the beginning, you invited us on a journey with you, a journey of wonders and miracles, a journey of healing and joy, a journey of mystery and prayer, a journey full of life and love. And so in thanks and praise we join our voices in the song of the angels and saints, who forever sing to you, as we say these words:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might

Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is your son, O God, our Savior Jesus Christ, who joined us on our journey, who was so full of grace and truth that we cannot help but follow him. When his path went back to you, you sent us your Spirit to continue alongside us, to empower and inspire us to continue to be your people. To remind us that on the night in which he was betrayed our Lord Jesus took bread, broke it, gave thanks and gave it to his disciples saying “take and eat this is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” Again after supper Jesus took the cup and gave thanks and gave it for all to drink saying “this cup is the new covenant in my blood which is shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this in remembrance of me.” Now we pray that the same Spirit will be among us, and among these elements of bread and wine, that our ordinary meal will become our sacred feast, to nourish us for the next part of the journey. As we break bread together, as we drink from the same cup, unite us as people who are grateful for the journey, for each other’s company, and for your guiding presence. Hear us as we are bold to say together the prayer that Jesus taught us

The Lord's Prayer

Communion Distribution

Post Communion Blessing

Post Communion Prayer

Giver of every gift, you are our daily bread. At this table you have fed and nourished us with your grace. Strengthen us to be your prayerful people for a weary yet hopeful world. Amen.

Blessing

God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you, ✚ bless you and remain with you always. Amen.

Sending Hymn

For the Beauty of the Earth LBW 561

For the beauty of the earth, For the glory of the skies, For the love which from our birth. Over and around us lies

'Lord of all, to Thee we raise. This our joyful hymn of praise. For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night,

Hill and vale and tree and flow'r, Sun and Moon and stars of light

'Lord of all, to Thee we raise. This our joyful hymn of praise.

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child. Friends on earth and friends above for all gentle thoughts and mild. 'Lord of all, to Thee we raise.

This our joyful hymn of praise. For each perfect gift of thine to our race so freely given.

Graces human and divine flow'rs of earth and buds of heav'n.

'Lord of all, to Thee we raise. This our joyful hymn of praise.

For thy church that evermore lifteth holy hands above,

Offering up on every shore her pure sacrifice of love.

'Lord of all, to Thee we raise. This our joyful hymn of praise.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Remember to pray. God hears you.

Thanks be to God!