

**BULLETIN FOR TRINITY MARBURG, ST JOHN'S MINDEN,
OUR SAVIOUR LOWOOD.**

4th Sunday in Lent 11th March 2018.

Closed Communion

The A.E.L.C upholds the historical, biblical and Lutheran practice of closed communion. Therefore we ask that only A.E.L.C members come forward for communion.

John 3:14-21.

Hymns: 347, 368, 271, 54, 295, 437.

Introit: Psalm 107:1-9.

- P Give thanks to the LORD! For He is good.
C **For His mercy endures for ever.**
P Let the people whom the LORD has redeemed proclaim that
C **He has redeemed them from the hand of the oppressor,**
P and has gathered them from the other lands, from the east
and from the west,
C **from the north and from the south!**
P They wandered around the desolate wilderness
C **without finding a city where they could live.**
P They were hungry and thirsty.
C **Their souls grew faint inside them.**
P When they cried out to the LORD in their trouble,
C **He used to deliver them from their afflictions.**
P He led them on a straight road
C **that they might go to a city where they could live.**
P Let them give thanks to the LORD for His mercy,
C **and for His wonderful deeds to the descendants of Adam!**
P For He satisfied their withered souls
All: **and filled their hungry souls with good things.**

Collect: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though 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 forever. **Amen.**

Old Testament: Numbers 21:4-9.

Epistle: Ephesians 2:1-10.

Gospel: John 3:14-21.

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

The text for the sermon is the Gospel heard before, John 3:14-21 .

14 As Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, 15 so that everyone who believes in Him may have eternal life. 16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him might not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God has not sent His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world may be saved through Him. 18 The person who believes in Him is not condemned, but the person who does not believe has already been condemned, because he has not believed in the name of God's only Son. 19 This is the verdict, that the Light has come into the world, but people have loved darkness rather than the Light, because they have been doing evil. 20 For everyone who does wrong hates the Light and does not come to the Light, in order that his deeds may not be exposed. 21 However, he who practises the truth comes to the Light, that his deeds may be plainly seen to have been done in God."

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

NUMBERS 21:4-9

THE FIERY SERPENTS.

V. 4. And they journeyed from Mount Hor by the way of the Red Sea, southward, along the western border of Edom, through the Wilderness of Paran, **to compass the land of Edom**, whose dominion extended almost to the Elanitic Gulf, the eastern arm of the Red Sea; **and the soul of the people was much discouraged**, filled with impatience, **because of the way**. To turn back once more, after reaching the boundary of the Land of Promise, imposed too great a strain upon their trust in God. **V. 5. And the people spake against God and against Moses**, not rebelling openly, but murmuring against the divine guidance and the leading of Moses, **Wherefore have ye brought us up out of Egypt to die in the**

wilderness? **For there is no bread, neither is there any water; and our soul loatheth this light bread,** the manna. The Hebrew brings out the peevishness of the complaint: "For not is there bread, and not is there water, and our soul feels nausea over this miserable bread." They saw before them only a hopeless existence, an endless desert journey, ending with a miserable death in the midst of the dreary wastes. V. 6. **And the Lord sent fiery serpents among the people,** whose bite filled the wound with a burning venom, very deadly, **and they bit the people,** who were unable to rid themselves of the plague; **and much people of Israel died.** V. 7. **Therefore the people came to Moses and said, We have sinned, for we have spoken against the Lord and against thee;** the punishment which the Lord visited upon them worked a knowledge of their sins in them, brought them to repentance. **Pray unto the Lord that He take away the serpents from us. And Moses prayed for the people,** assumed the role of mediator, as he had done so often. V. 8. **And the Lord said unto Moses,** in a command which was adapted to the situation and was of great typical significance, **Make thee a fiery serpent,** cast a figure which is an exact reproduction of one, **and set it upon a pole,** like a standard; **and it shall come to pass that every one that is bitten, when he looketh upon it, shall live.** The reference is, of course, not to a casual glance, which even an unbelieving Israelite might cast upon the figure, but to the look of faith resting upon the divine promise. For such a look was an acknowledgment of sin, a longing for deliverance from its penalty, and a trusting in the means appointed by God for healing. V. 9. **And Moses made a serpent of brass,** as much in form and appearance like the fiery serpents as possible, **and put it upon a pole. And it came to pass that, if a serpent had bitten any man, when he beheld the serpent of brass,** that is, if he looked at it with the faith which the occasion required, **he lived.** It was because the Israelites, with their sin, tempted Christ, that they were destroyed by the serpents, 1 Cor. 10, 9. And, on the other hand, because they had faith in the promises of God, they were healed. Note that the figure made by Moses was a type of Christ, John 3, 15. 16. God sent His Son in the form of our sinful flesh, but without sin. And Christ, the Holy One of God, was lifted up on the cross to expiate the sin of all mankind, which lay upon Him. No matter who it is among sinful men, if he but looks upon the crucified Christ in faith, he will not perish, but have everlasting life.

>Divine Service 18th March [Violet.]

9am St John's Minden HC

Readings : Psalm 119:9-16

5th Sunday in Lent

Old Testament: Jeremiah 31:31-34

Epistle: Hebrews 5:1-10

LSB Hymns: 435, 430, 847, 857, 619, 895.

Gospel: Mark 10:32-45.

> Just a reminder to those who have copies of the LSB hymnal to bring them to the Minden Service' to help out with numbers..

>Divine Service 25th March [RED]

9am Our Saviour Lowood HC

Readings: Psalm 31:9-16

PALM SUNDAY

Old Testament: Zechariah 9:9-12

Epistle: Philippians 2:5-11

Hymns: 169, 86, 306, 361, 292, 511.

Gospel: John 12: 20-43.

>Divine Service 29th March [White]

7pm Trinity Marburg HC

Readings: Psalm 118:12-19

Holy [Maundy]Thursday

Old Testament: Exodus 24:3-11

Hymns: 71, 295, 331, 73, 289, 162.

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 10:16-17

Gospel: Mark 14:12-26

> Next Mid week Bible Study Thursday the 15th of March at 10am at Pastor's house 9 Macadamia Dr Lowood in the nice air conditioning with a bring and share morning tea.

> LOWOOD AGM SATURDAY 17th 6pm at the CHURCH.

> Confirmation Class is on every Friday afternoon at MARBURG 4.15pm to start by 4.30 except Good Friday and School Holidays.

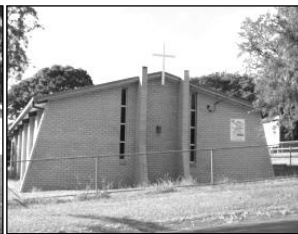
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