



LORD, HAVE MERCY

**Our Savior Ev. Lutheran Church & School
Grafton, WI
April 3, 2025**

LORD, HAVE MERCY

FOR FAILING TO LIVE WITH INTEGRITY

We use the word “integrity” to refer to something being in good condition. So, we talk about the structural integrity of a building or of a ship’s hull. We mean those things are “sound” and “whole.” We use “integrity” in reference to people too. Generally, if we speak of someone having integrity, we mean that there’s a wholeness to their character. Their morals are sound. If someone lives with integrity, it is not simply that they talk and behave decently. We would say the reason their behavior is proper is because their values and desires are proper.

The first six Commandments deal with our relationships with others: God and our fellow man. The final four Commandments get at the question of personal integrity. When someone steals, lies, or covets, it is a clear indication that their values and desires are highly improper. Such a person lacks honesty, empathy, and contentment. They say and do bad things because they *are* bad, not “sound and whole.” It is harsh, yet unfailingly true. Thus, when we break one of these Commandments, it is pointless to make excuses. Let us simply cry out, “Lord, have mercy, for failing to live with integrity!” And let us trust the Christ, who died so that we might be made “sound and whole.”

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Presiding:
Organist:

Pastor Samelson
Bob Klug

Pastor: Jonathan Fischer
Principal: Philip Krueger
Church Office: Lisa Skogstad
School Office: Jill Klug

pastorfischer@oursaviorgrafton.org
pkruieger@oursaviorgrafton.org
oslcs@oursaviorgrafton.org
osls@oursaviorgrafton.org



1332 Arrowhead Rd, Grafton, WI
OurSaviorGrafton.org
Church 262-377-6363
School 262-377-7780

From High Atop the Mount

CW 635: stanzas 1, 10-13, 3



A From high a - top the mount where Mo - ses stands,
7th I will not stand for la - zi - ness or greed;
8th I know pre - cise - ly what your words in - tend,
9th You shall not cov - et that which oth - ers own;



thro' cloud and storm the voice of God is heard:
no form of steal - ing will es - cape my eyes.
for truth and lie can both a - like de - fame.
all that is theirs has come to them from me.



“I am the LORD, and these are my com - mands.
My o - pen hand will give you all you need
Speak well of all and read - i - ly de - fend
Your gen - u - ine con - tent - ment will be shown



In all you do, o - bey my ev - 'ry word.”
so you can help as oth - ers' needs a - rise.
your neigh - bor's rep - u - ta - tion and good name.
by help - ing them re - tain their prop - er - ty.

10th Another's spouse, employee, trusted friend—
let none of these become your heart's desire.
Encourage them to faithfully attend
to all that their vocations may require.

B Your life, O Christ, is counted as our own;
our guilt was crucified in none but you.
In keeping your commands our love is shown—
now work within us both to will and do.

Stand

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

Who made heaven and earth.

Brothers and sisters in Christ, during the days of Lent, we fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of God.

The time of Lent reminds us that to know Christ and the power of his resurrection, we must also know the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death.

As disciples of the Lord Jesus, we are called to struggle against everything that leads us away from love of God and neighbor. I invite you, therefore, to confess your sins, ask our Father for forgiveness, and commit yourselves to this struggle.

Confession

CW 652: stanza 1



1 For what we have done and left un - done we fall on your
count - less mer - cies. For sins that are known and
those un - known we call on your name so ho - ly.
For en - vy and pride, for clos - ing our eyes; for

scorn - ing our ver - y neigh - bor. In
 thought, word, and deed we've failed you, our King; how
 deep - ly we need a Sav - ior. *Refrain I*
Refrain I
 Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy
 on us. Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy,
 Lord, have mer - cy on us.

Absolution

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, does not desire the death of sinners but rather that they turn from their wickedness and live. Therefore, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son U and of the Holy Spirit.

During these days of Lent, let us implore God to give us renewal and his Holy Spirit. May we continue to abide in the true faith and at the last be received by him through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Lord, Have Mercy

CW 652: stanza 2



(2 For) what you have done, your life of love you per - fect - ly



lived, we praise you. Though tempt - ed and tried, you



fixed your eyes; you fin - ished the work God gave you.



And there on the tree, a King a - mong thieves, you



bled for a world's be - tray - al. You



loved to the end, our mer - ci - ful friend; how



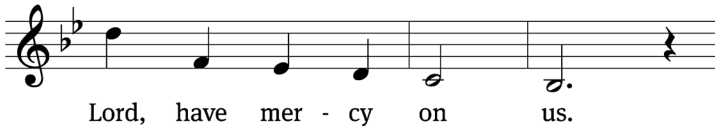
pure and for - ev - er faith - ful.



Refrain I
Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy



on us. Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy,



Prayer

Lord God, we thank you for this day of grace now drawing to a close. Stay with us, and warm our hearts with your forgiving love in Christ. By your Word keep our faith burning brightly, that we may walk in the light of your presence through the darkness of this world. Come and bless us as we worship you – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Proverbs 6:12-19

A troublemaker and a villain,
who goes about with a corrupt mouth,
who winks maliciously with his eye,
signals with his feet
and motions with his fingers,
who plots evil with deceit in his heart—
he always stirs up conflict.

Therefore disaster will overtake him in an instant;
he will suddenly be destroyed—without remedy.

There are six things the Lord hates,
seven that are detestable to him:
haughty eyes,
a lying tongue,
hands that shed innocent blood,
a heart that devises wicked schemes,
feet that are quick to rush into evil,
a false witness who pours out lies
and a person who stirs up conflict in the community.

Second Reading

1 Timothy 6:6-10

But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

Passion Reading

Luke 23:1-25

Then the whole assembly rose and led him off to Pilate. And they began to accuse him, saying, “We have found this man subverting our nation. He opposes payment of taxes to Caesar and claims to be Messiah, a king.”

So Pilate asked Jesus, “Are you the king of the Jews?”

“You have said so,” Jesus replied.

Then Pilate announced to the chief priests and the crowd, “I find no basis for a charge against this man.”

But they insisted, “He stirs up the people all over Judea by his teaching. He started in Galilee and has come all the way here.”

On hearing this, Pilate asked if the man was a Galilean. When he learned that Jesus was under Herod’s jurisdiction, he sent him to Herod, who was also in Jerusalem at that time.

When Herod saw Jesus, he was greatly pleased, because for a long time he had been wanting to see him. From what he had heard about him, he hoped to see him perform a sign of some sort. He plied him with many questions, but Jesus gave him no answer. The chief priests and the teachers of the law were standing there, vehemently accusing him. Then Herod and his soldiers ridiculed and mocked him. Dressing him in an elegant robe, they sent him back to Pilate. That day Herod and Pilate became friends—before this they had been enemies.

Pilate called together the chief priests, the rulers and the people, and said to them, “You brought me this man as one who was inciting the people to rebellion. I have examined him in your presence and have found no basis for your charges against him. Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us; as you can see, he has done nothing to deserve death. Therefore, I will punish him and then release him.”

But the whole crowd shouted, “Away with this man! Release Barabbas to us!” (Barabbas had been thrown into prison for an insurrection in the city, and for murder.)

Wanting to release Jesus, Pilate appealed to them again. But they kept shouting, “Crucify him! Crucify him!”

For the third time he spoke to them: “Why? What crime has this man committed? I have found in him no grounds for the death penalty. Therefore I will have him punished and then release him.”

But with loud shouts they insistently demanded that he be crucified, and their shouts prevailed. So Pilate decided to grant their demand. He released the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, the one they asked for, and surrendered Jesus to their will.

My Song is Love Unknown

CW 397

Sermon

LORD, HAVE MERCY – For Failing to Live with Integrity

Space is provided for you to take notes during the sermon.

Confession of Faith

from the Small Catechism

The Seventh Commandment: You shall not steal.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God that we do not take our neighbor’s money or property, or get it by dishonest dealing, but help him to improve and protect his property and means of income.

The Eighth Commandment: You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, or give him a bad name, but defend him, speak well of him, and take his words and actions in the kindest possible way.

The Ninth Commandment: You shall not covet your neighbor's house.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God that we do not scheme to get our neighbor's inheritance or house, or obtain it by a show of right, but do all we can to help him keep it.


The Tenth Commandment: You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, workers, animals, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God that we do not force or entice away our neighbor's spouse, workers, or animals, but urge them to stay and do their duty.

Offering

Our Savior's ministries are supported by the joyful and generous gifts of her members. If you are not a member of Our Savior, please do not feel obligated to give an offering. It is our privilege and pleasure to serve you with God's Word today. You may make your gift in the following ways:

Give In person	The offering is collected during each service.
Give with the App	Download the <i>Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement</i> app. Search near me and select "Our Savior Evangelical Lutheran".
Give Online	Oursaviorgrafton.org/give 

Prayers

In peace let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For the leaders of our synod and district, for all pastors in Christ, for all who are servants of the Church, and for all the people of God, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For all who govern our nation and for all public servants, that they may be upheld and strengthened for every good deed, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:
Lord, have mercy.

For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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.

Blessings

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

Amen.

Now Rest beneath Night's Shadow

CW 794

Acknowledgments

From High Atop the Mount Text: © 2021 Michael D. Schultz, admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 714932 Tune: © 1990 Estate of Alfred M. Smith. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 714932.

Lord, Have Mercy Text and tune: © Common Hymnal Publishing/10000 Fathers, admin. IntegratedRights.com. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 714932.