

# WELCOME

July 5, 2026

**Worship Theme**

**SINNERS HAVE  
ALWAYS BEEN SAVED  
BY GRACE APART  
FROM GOOD WORKS**

**Pastor Brian Roloff**



# OPENING HYMN: #558 Salvation Unto Us Has Come (VS.1-2, 9-10)

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V1. Salvation unto us has come  
by God's free grace and favor;  
good works cannot avert our doom,  
they help and save us never.  
Faith looks to Jesus Christ alone,  
who did for all the world atone;  
he is our one Redeemer.



V2.

What God did in his law demand  
and none to him could render  
caused wrath and woe on ev'ry hand  
for man, the vile offender.  
Our flesh has not those pure desires  
the spirit of the law requires,  
and lost is our condition.

V9.

Faith clings to Jesus' cross alone  
and rests in him unceasing;  
and by its fruits true faith is known,  
with love and hope increasing.

For faith alone can justify;  
works serve our neighbor and supply  
the proof that faith is living.

V10.

All blessing, honor, thanks, and praise  
to Father, Son, and Spirit,  
the God who saved us by his grace;  
all glory to his merit!

O triune God in heav'n above,  
you have revealed your saving love;  
your blessed name be hallowed!

# INVOCATION

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*Please stand*

**P:** We gather in the name of the  
Father and of the Son and of the  
Holy Spirit.

**C:** Amen.

# CONFESSION OF SINS

A decorative horizontal line with a central four-pointed starburst or floral ornament.

P: Beloved in the Lord; let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**C:** Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

# ANNOUNCEMENT OF FORGIVENESS

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P: God, our Heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

# PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: O everlasting and faithful God, we give you glory because your mercy does not change. From age to age your grace is freely offered to us sinners, not because of our own goodness, but because of your unlimited kindness poured out on us through Jesus our Savior, who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

C: Amen.

*Please be seated*

# THE WORD

## FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 55:1-7



“Come, all you who are thirsty,  
come to the waters;  
and you who have no money,  
come, buy and eat!  
Come, buy wine and milk  
without money and without cost.

“Why spend money on what is not bread,  
and your labor on what does not  
satisfy?

Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good,  
and your soul will delight in the  
richest of fare.

“Give ear and come to me;  
hear me, that your soul may live.  
I will make an everlasting covenant  
with you,  
my faithful love promised to David.  
See, I have made him a witness to the  
peoples,  
a leader and commander of the  
peoples.

“Surely you will summon nations you  
know not,  
and nations that do not know you  
will hasten to you,  
because of the LORD your God,  
the Holy One of Israel,  
for he has endowed you with  
splendor.”

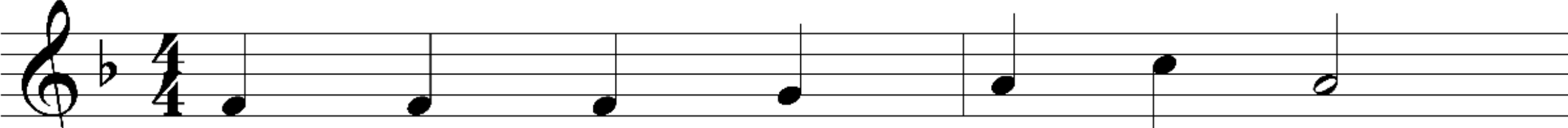
Seek the LORD while he may be found;  
call on him while he is near.

Let the wicked forsake his way  
and the evil man his thoughts.

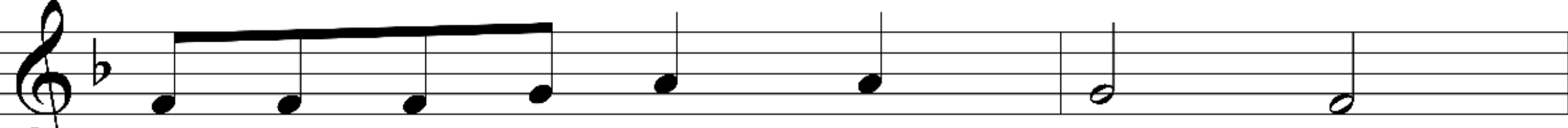
Let him turn to the LORD, and he will  
have mercy on him,  
and to our God, for he will freely  
pardon.

# SUNG RESPONSE:

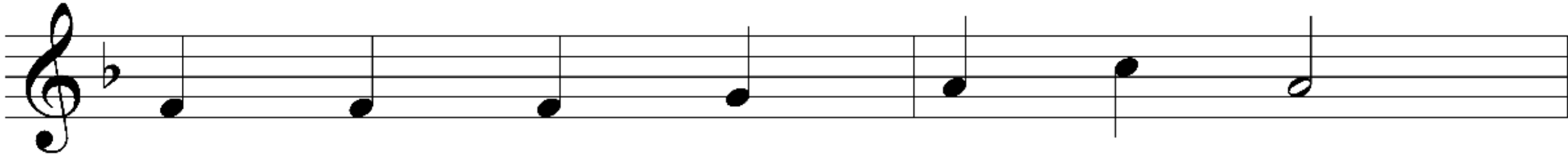
## Nothing But the Blood of Jesus



What can wash a - way my sin?



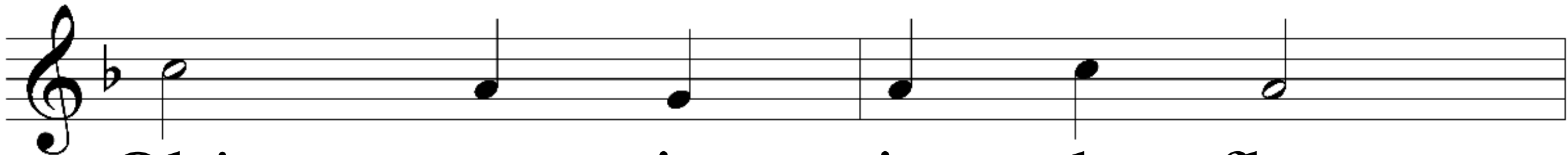
Noth-ing but the blood of Je - sus;



What can make me whole a - gain?



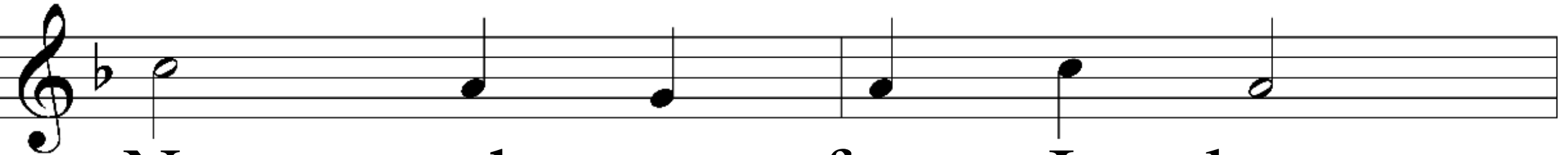
Noth-ing but the blood of Je - sus;



Oh! pre - cious is the flow



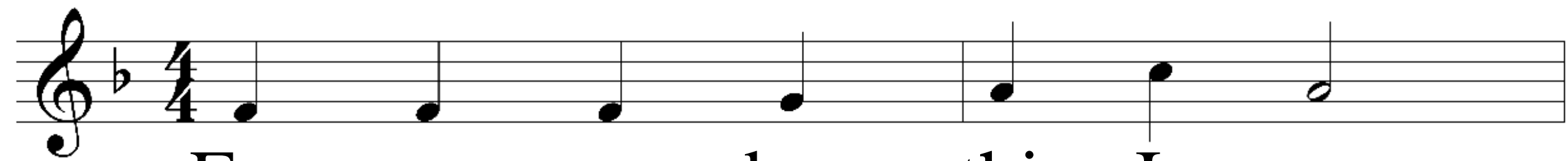
That makes me white as snow;\_\_



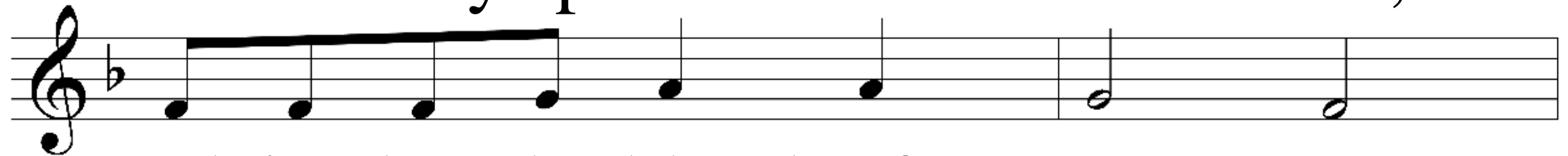
No oth - er fount I know,



Noth-ing but the blood of Je - sus;



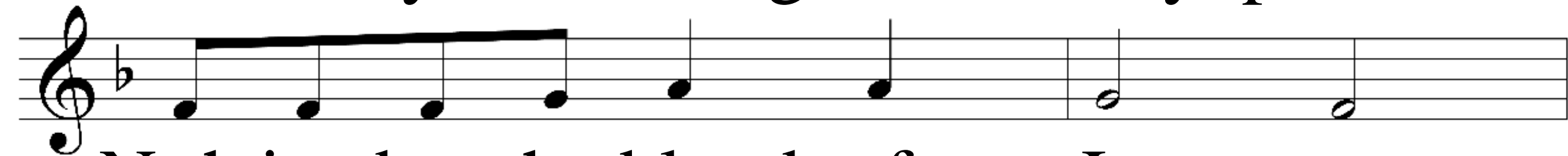
For my par - don this I see,



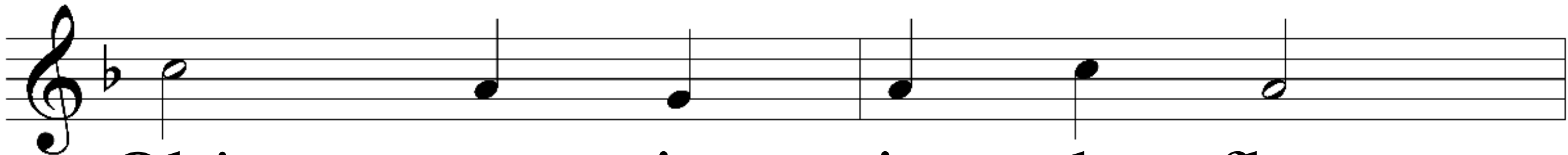
Noth-ing but the blood of Je - sus;



For my cleans-ing, this my plea,



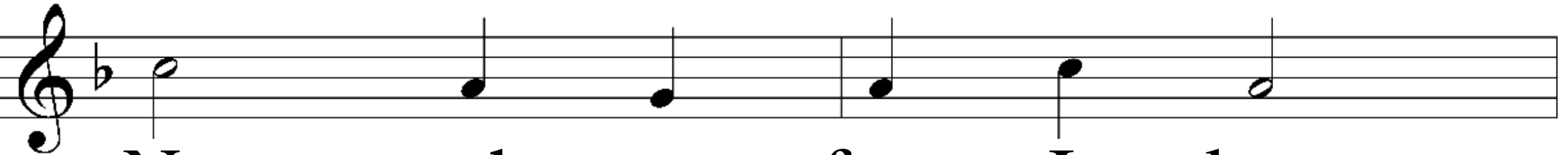
Noth-ing but the blood of Je - sus;



Oh! pre - cious is the flow



That makes me white as snow;\_\_



No oth - er fount I know,



Noth-ing but the blood of Je - sus.

# THE WORD

## SECOND LESSON

John 6:35-40



Then Jesus declared, “I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty. But as I told you, you have seen me and still you do not believe. All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away.

“For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all that he has given me, but raise them up at the last day.

“For my Father’s will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day.”

# NICENE CREED

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We believe in one God, the Father,  
the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is,  
seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

# SERMON HYMN:

#839 Rock of Ages (VS.I-4)

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V1. Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
let me hide myself in thee;  
let the water and the blood,  
from thy riven side which flowed,  
be of sin the double cure;  
cleansing me from its guilt and pow'r.



V2. Not the labors of my hands  
can fulfill thy law's demands;  
could my zeal no respite know,  
could my tears forever flow,  
all for sin could not atone;  
thou must save, and thou alone.

V3. Nothing in my hand I bring,  
simply to the cross I cling;  
naked, come to thee for dress;  
helpless, look to thee for grace;  
foul, I to the fountain fly;  
wash me, Savior, or I die.

V4. While I draw this fleeting breath,  
when mine eyes shall close in death,  
when I soar to worlds unknown,  
see thee on thy judgment throne,  
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
let me hide myself in thee.

# THE WORD

## SERMON TEXT

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Romans 4:1-8,  
23-25



What then shall we say that Abraham, our forefather, discovered in this matter? If, in fact, Abraham was justified by works, he had something to boast about—but not before God. What does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.”

Now when a man works, his wages are not credited to him as a gift, but as an obligation. However, to the man who does not work but trusts God who justifies the wicked, his faith is credited as righteousness. David says the same thing when he speaks of the blessedness of the man to whom God credits righteousness apart from works:

“Blessed are they  
whose transgressions are forgiven,  
whose sins are covered.

Blessed is the man  
whose sin the Lord will never count  
against him.”

[...] The words “it was credited to him” were written not for him alone, but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness—for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification.



We are saved...

By grace alone.

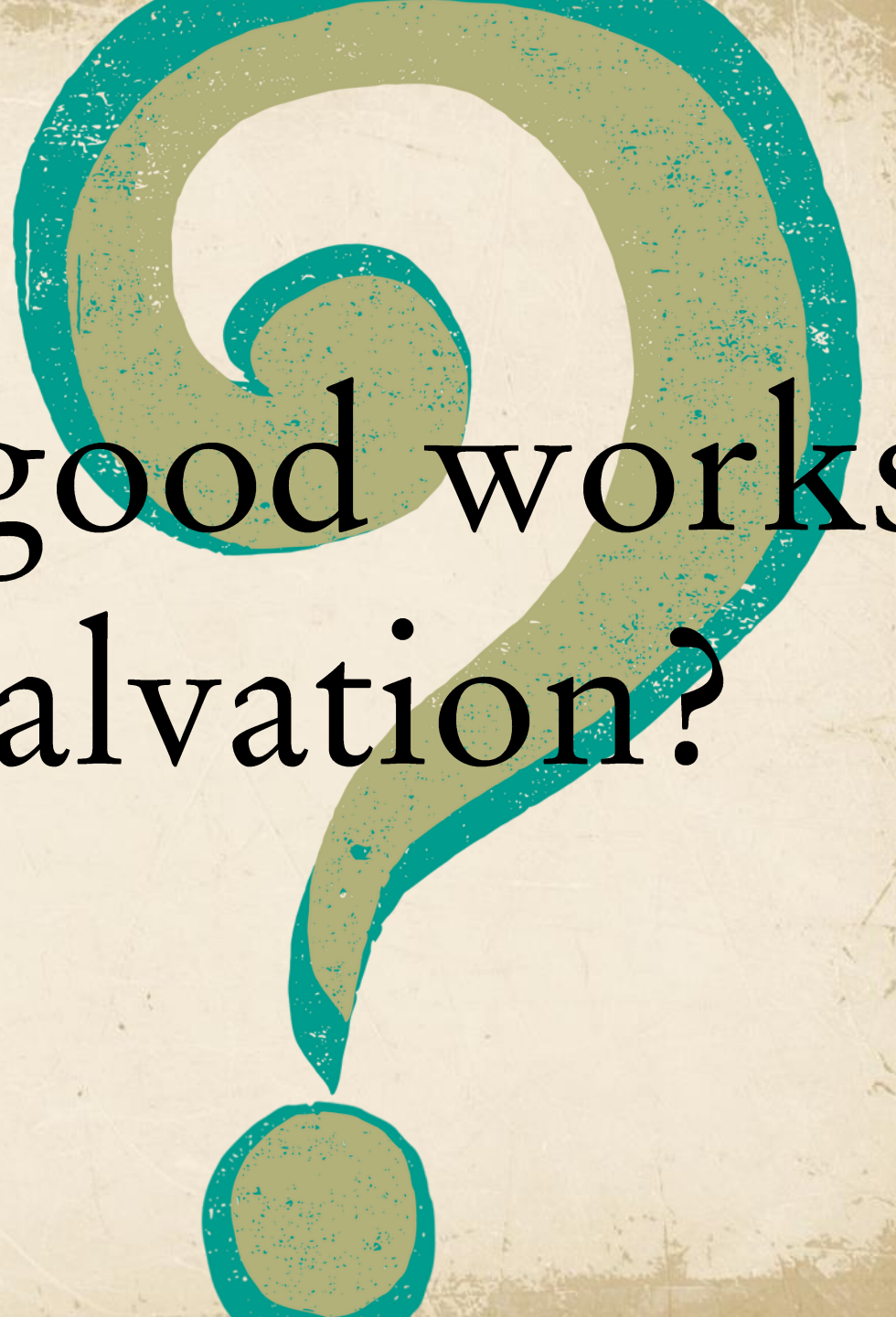
Through faith alone.

In Christ alone.

Found in Scripture alone.



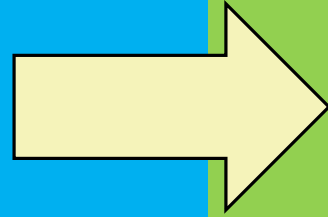
Where do my good works  
fit into my salvation?



# “The Christian Life”

## Justification

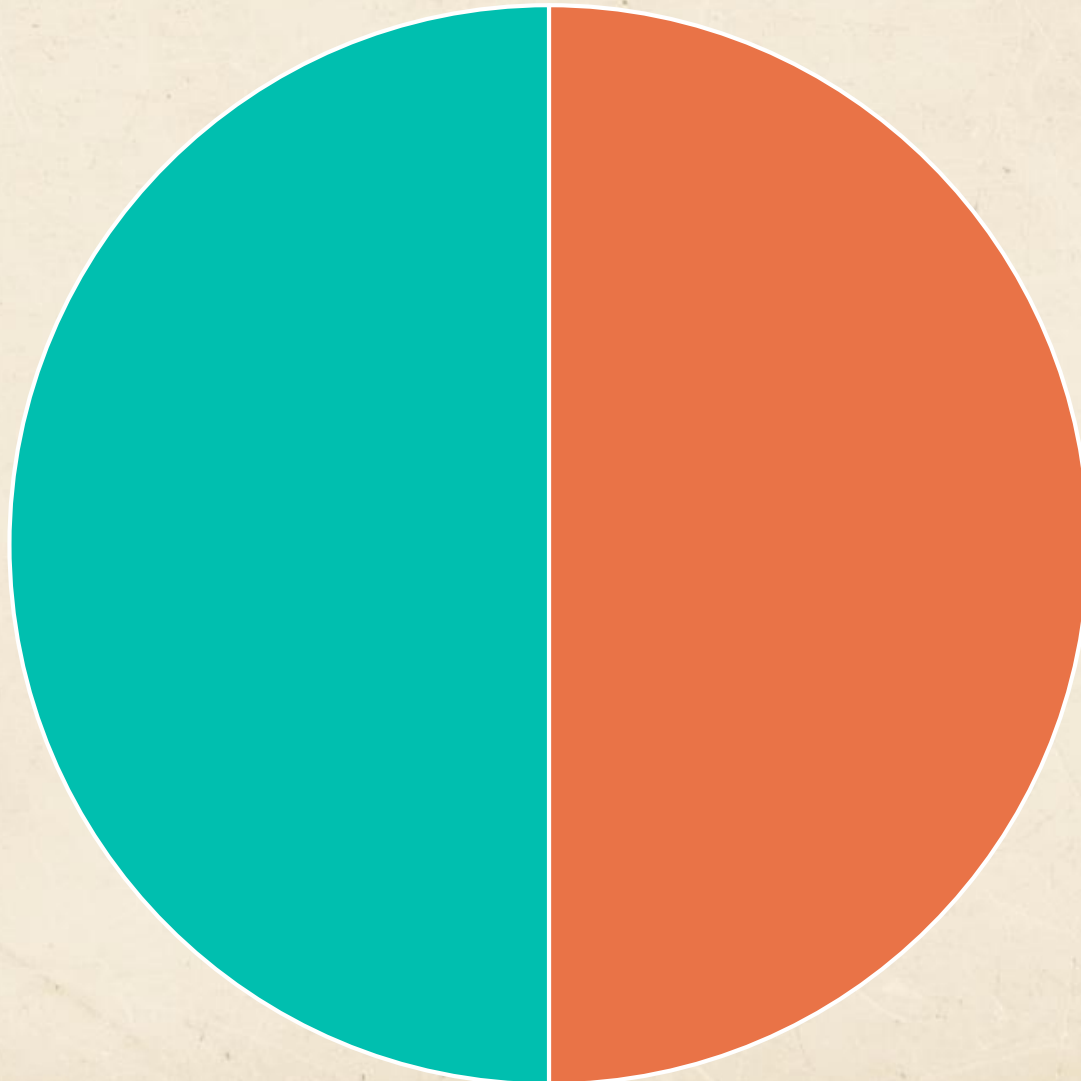
- Forgiveness
- Eternal life
- Heaven



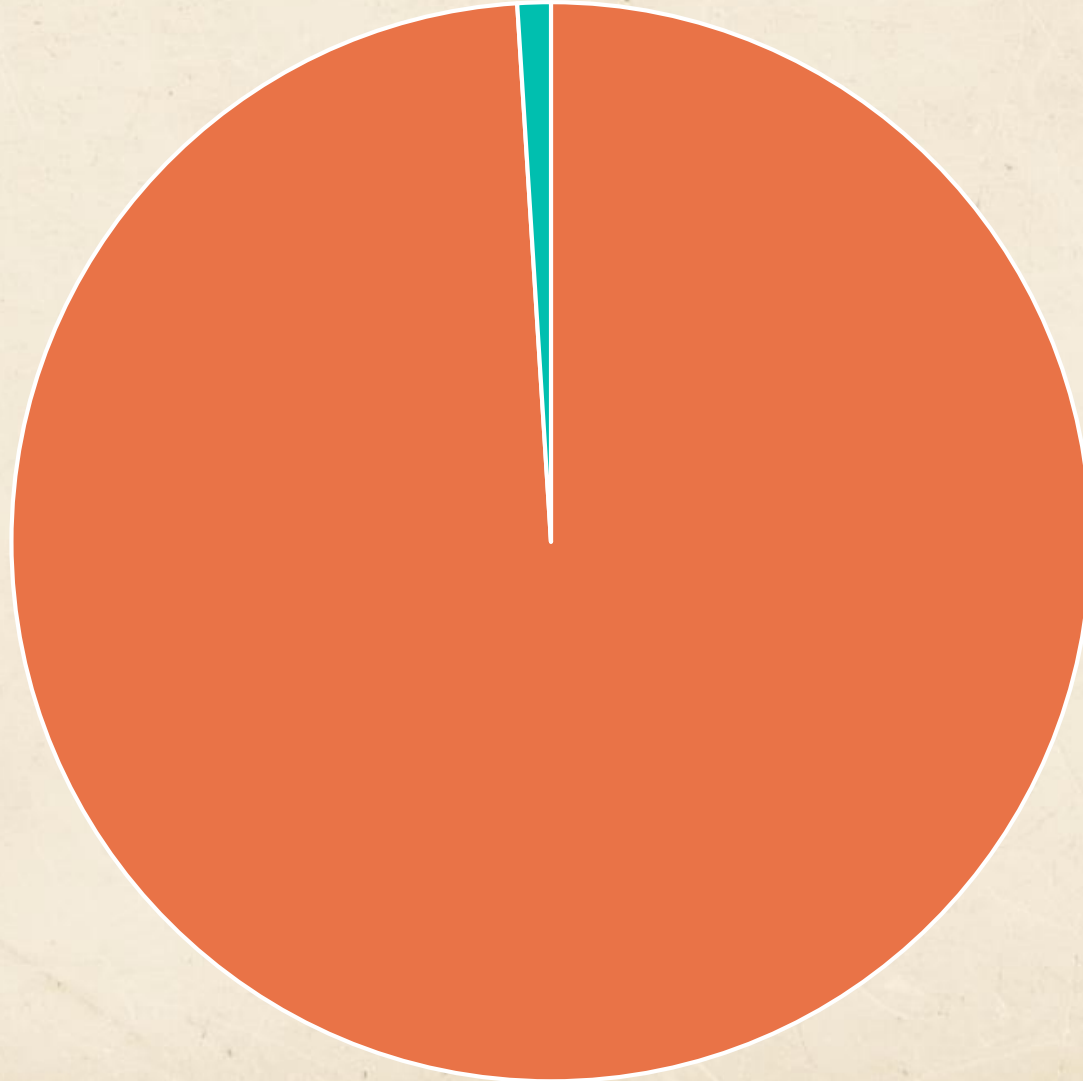
## Sanctification

- Good works
- Resisting sin
- Growing in faith
- Loving God and neighbor

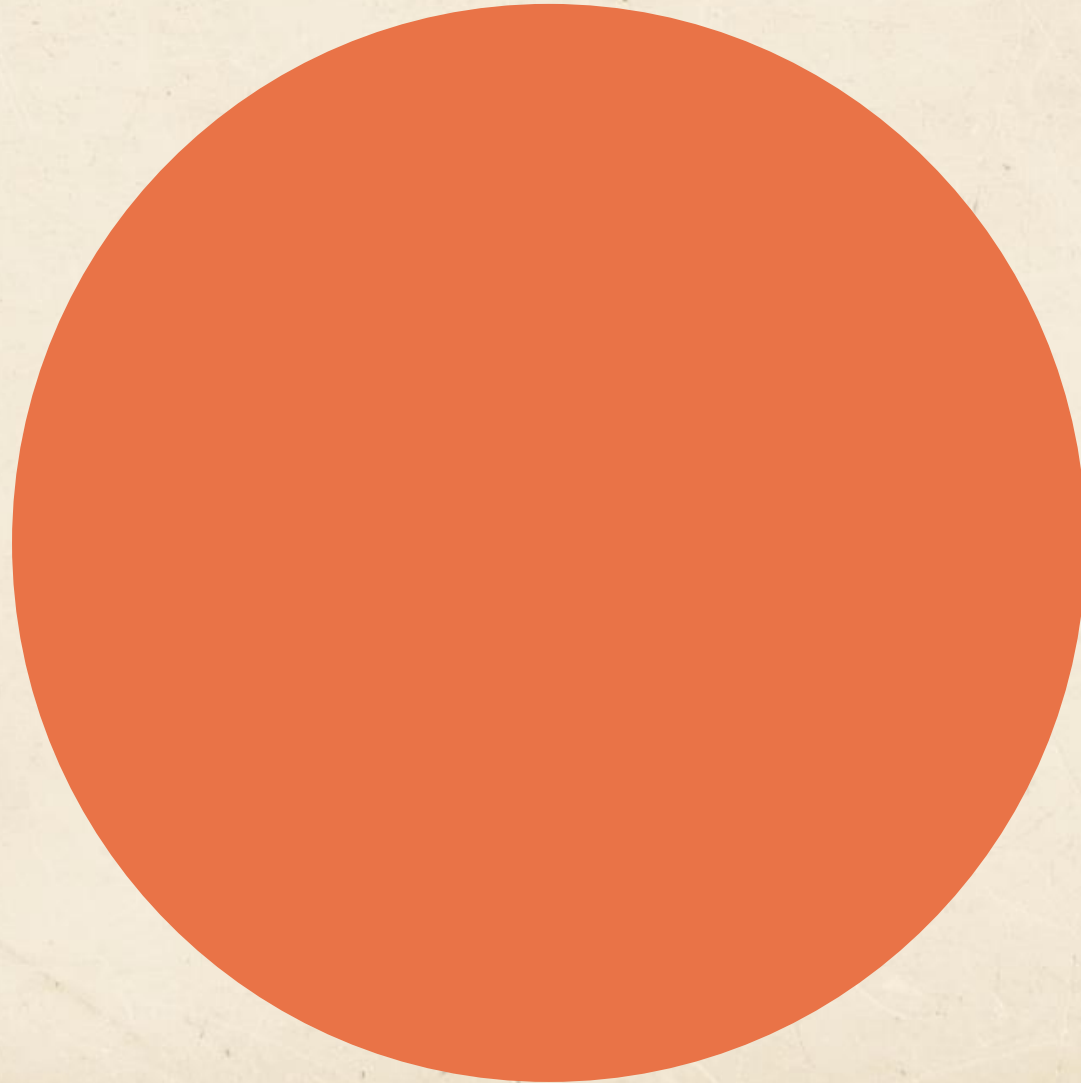
# Roman Catholicism



# Baptists / Evangelicals



# Scripture



# God does not calculate our good works into our justification!

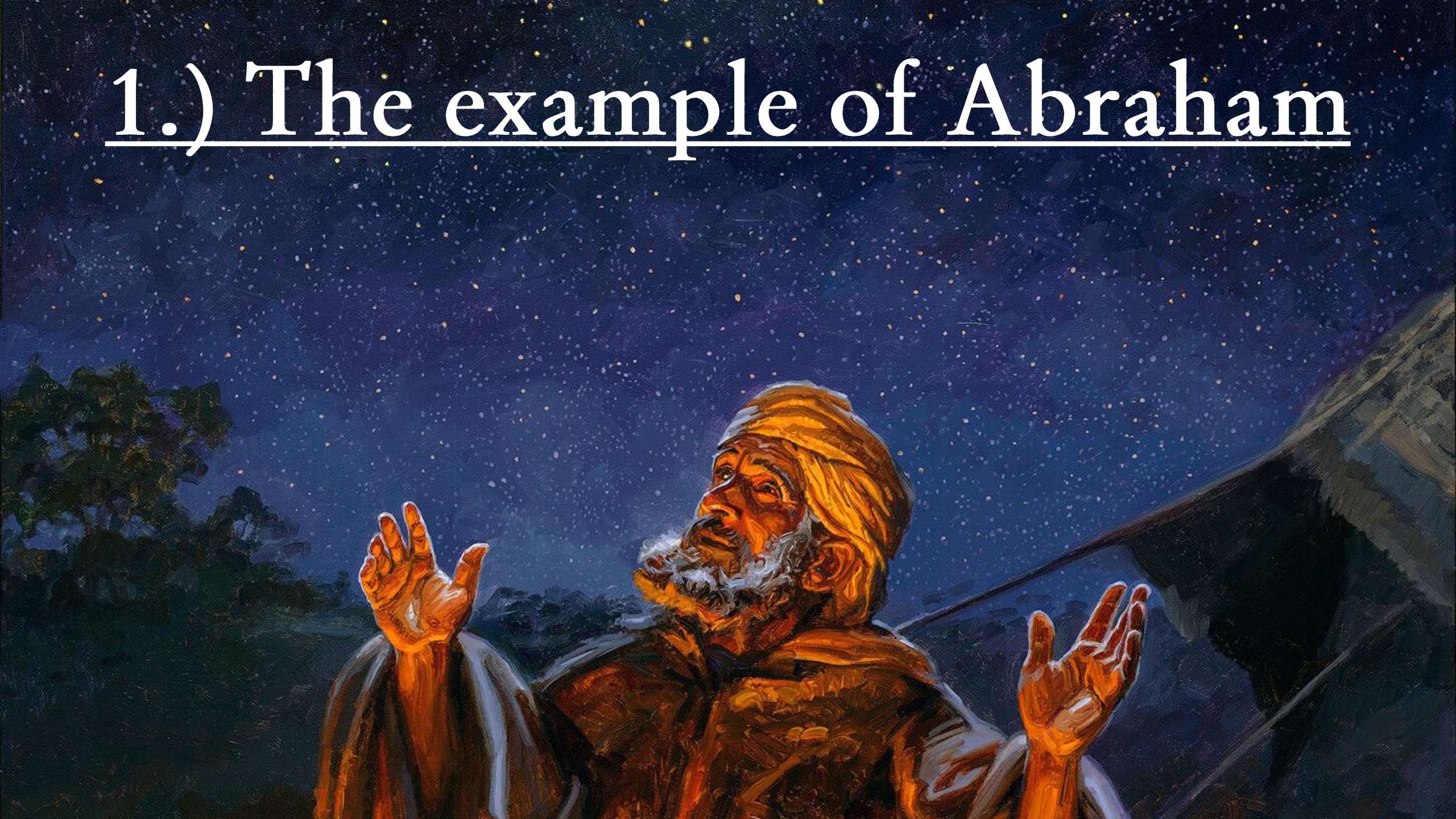
1.) The OT example of Abraham

2.) A quotation from Psalms

3.) The death and resurrection of  
Christ



# 1.) The example of Abraham



What does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.” Now when a man works, his wages are not credited to him as a gift, but as an obligation. However, to the man who does not work but trusts God who justifies the wicked, his faith is credited as righteousness.

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## 2.) A Quotation from Psalms

David says the same thing when he speaks of the blessedness of the man to whom God credits righteousness apart from works:



“Blessed are they  
whose transgressions are forgiven,  
whose sins are covered.

Blessed is the man  
whose sin the Lord will never count  
against him.”

# 3.) The Death and Resurrection of Christ



The words “it was credited to him” were written not for him alone, but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness—for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification.

“My Father’s  
will is that  
everyone who  
looks to the Son  
and believes in  
him shall have  
eternal life, and  
I will raise him  
up at the last  
day.”





**+**

**O**

# Supporting Us...

[2 Corinthians 9:7](#) *Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give... for God loves a cheerful giver.*

***If you feel encouraged to support our ministry you can give electronically today.*** You can also set up recurring offerings automatically just scan the QR.

If you already support us place this card in the offering plate as a sign of your commitment.

***Thanks for your generosity!***



*Give*





# PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- † Birth of Ava Elizabeth Moberg to Brad and Alyssa
- † Our nation at 250 years

# RESPONSIVE PRAYER FOR OUR NATION

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**P:** Lord of the nations, we confess that all we have and enjoy are gifts from your gracious hand and come before you in heartfelt appreciation for our country and its people.

**C:** We thank you for allowing us to worship you in freedom and to proclaim the gospel without fear.

**P:** You have enriched us with the bounties of farm and factory, the beauty of forest and mountain, and the marvels of medicine and science.

**C:** For all these undeserved blessings, we praise and glorify you, O God.

P: Look with favor on our nation and preserve our cherished liberties. Enable our leaders to govern with wisdom, honesty, courage, and justice. Protect those who serve in the arm forces and maintain peace and safety in our communities.

**C: Give us humble hearts that are eager to obey our nation's laws and glad to work together for the common good.**

P: Grant that this national celebration may unite our people and renew our commitment to brotherhood, harmony, and freedom.

C: May we Christians live in peace, honor, and love with our fellow-men, thereby demonstrating that our eternal citizenship is in heaven.

**P:** All these things and whatever else you know that we need, grant us, dear Father, for the sake of him who died for our sins and was raised again for our justification.

**C:** Amen.

# LORD'S PRAYER

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Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

# THE SACRAMENT

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P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: It is good and right so to do.

**P:** It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who preserves his Church to the end of time, when he will come again as king to judge all people and take his own to glory.

**C:** Amen.

# WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

The peace of the Lord be with you always.



# AGNUS DEI: O Christ, Lamb of God



O Christ, Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world;



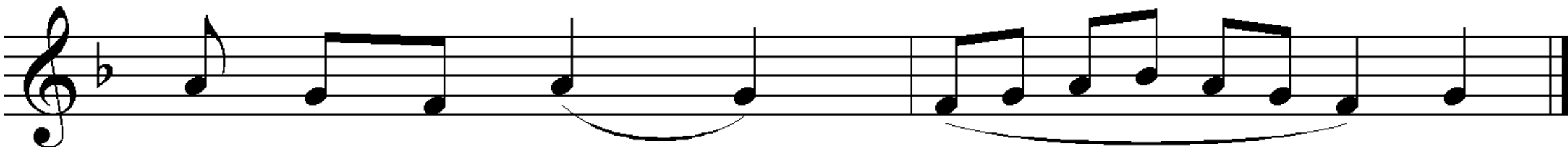
have mer-cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,



You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



O Christ, Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world;



grant us Your peace.

A - - - - men.

# DISTRIBUTION

*Communicant members of Ascension Lutheran and other churches in fellowship in the WELS or ELS are invited to receive the Lord's Supper. If you have never communed with us before, we ask that you first speak with our pastor to learn how you can establish a communing fellowship with us. We are eager to help anyone to take this step.*

*Please Note: The center cups of the individual trays contain white grape juice. Gluten-free wafers are labeled on a separate center tray.*

# DISTRIBUTION HYMN:

#575 By Grace I'm Saved (V.S. 1-5)

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V1.

By grace I'm saved, grace free and boundless;  
my soul, believe and doubt it not.

Why waver at this word of promise?

Has Scripture ever falsehood taught?

So then this word must true remain:

by grace you, too, hall heav'n obtain.



V2.

By grace God's Son, our only Savior,  
came down to earth to bear our sin.

Was it because of your own merit  
that Jesus died, your soul to win?

No, it was grace, and grace alone,  
that brought him from  
his heav'nly throne.

V3.

By grace! O mark this word of promise  
when you are by your sins oppressed,  
when Satan plagues  
your troubled conscience,  
and when your heart is seeking rest.  
What reason cannot comprehend  
God by his grace to you did send.

V4.

By grace to timid hearts that tremble,  
in tribulation's furnace tried,  
by grace, despite all fear and trouble,  
the Father's heart is open wide.

Where could I help and strength secure  
if grace were not my anchor sure?

V5.

By grace! On this I'll rest when dying;  
in Jesus' promise I rejoice,  
for though I know  
my heart's condition,  
I also know my Savior's voice.  
My heart is glad, all grief has flown  
since I am saved by grace alone.

*The Blessings of*  
**The Lord's Supper**

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**RECEIVE FORGIVENESS OF SINS**

**LIFE AND SALVATION**



# PRAYER

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P: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

# BLESSING

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P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace.  
Live in harmony with one another.  
Serve the Lord with gladness.  
The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and  
be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and  
give you peace.

C: Amen.

# CLOSING HYMN:

#774 God Bless Our Native Land (VS.1-2)

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V1. God bless our native land;  
firm may she ever stand  
thro' storm and night!  
When the wild tempests rave,  
Ruler of wind and wave,  
do thou our country save  
by thy great might.



V2. For her our prayers shall rise  
to God above the skies;  
on him we wait.

Thou who art ever nigh,  
guarding with watchful eye,  
to thee aloud we cry:  
God save the state!

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



# CONNECTION CARD



Please take a moment and fill out the info on the connection card, located under the Worship Today button on our app or on our website. There is a tablet in entryway or scan the QR code.

Please fill out and submit.



# Vacation Bible School

## TROPICAL TREK 2024



Jesus Comes to Seek and Save

**JULY 21-23 | 9AM-12PM**

Ascension Lutheran Church | 15870 46th Ave N. Plymouth, MN



**SAVE THE  
DATE**

**CHURCH  
PICNIC**

**NEW  
LOCATION**

# CHURCH PICNIC

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## July 26

*Please bring:*

- your own meat to grill
- side dish or dessert

Grills, charcoal, grilling utensils, paper plates, napkins, plastic ware, bottle water and lemonade will be provided.

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**West Medicine Lake**  
(Shelter 2)

1920 W. Medicine Lake Drive

# THANKS FOR SERVING

- † Pianist: Marcia Michalik
- † Guitar: Jeff Siewert
- † Drums: Eric Olson
- † AV Team
- † Serving: Flock #1 – Tim Russow

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