

+The Fifth Sunday in Lent+

April 3, 2022 | 10:15 am



The Parable of the Wicked Tenants

The Divine Service

Liturgy Note: throughout the season of Lent, we will pray Divine Service Setting IV, a setting with less chanting and more speaking, to highlight the solemn and penitential nature of the season, thereby to aid our Lenten observance.

The following may be prayed before the Divine Service:

O LORD, I love the habitation of your house,
and the place where your glory dwells. *Ps. 26:8*

As a deer pants for flowing streams,
so pants my soul for you, O God. *Ps. 42:1*

For a day in your courts is better
than a thousand elsewhere.
I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God
than dwell in the tents of wickedness. *Ps. 84:10*

Almighty God, heavenly Father, I will come into thy house in the multitude of thy mercy and in thy fear will I worship toward thy holy temple. Lead me, O Lord, in thy righteousness; make thy way straight before my face. Make me to go in the path of thy commandments, for thou art the God of my salvation. Amen.

When the bells ring, stand and face the cross.

Opening Hymn | 420 Christ, the Life of All the Living

Confession and Absolution

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

The Service of the Word

Introit (spoken)

Psalm 3:3–6; antiphon: v. 8

Salvation belongs to the LORD;
your blessing be on your people!

But you, O LORD, are a shield about me,
my glory, and the lifter of my head.

**I cried aloud to the LORD,
and he answered me from his holy hill.**

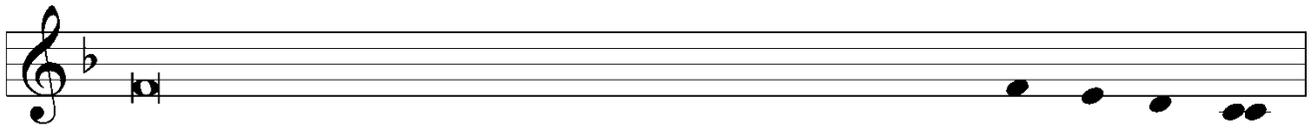
I lay down and slept;
I woke again, for the LORD sustained me.

**I will not be afraid of many thousands of people
who have set themselves against me all around.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Salvation belongs to the LORD;
your blessing be on your people!

Kyrie



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

A 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.



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

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



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

A Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

The Old Testament

Isaiah 43:16–21

¹⁶Thus says the LORD,
who makes a way in the sea,
a path in the mighty waters,
¹⁷who brings forth chariot and horse,
army and warrior;
they lie down, they cannot rise,
they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:
¹⁸“Remember not the former things,
nor consider the things of old.
¹⁹Behold, I am doing a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.
²⁰The wild beasts will honor me,
the jackals and the ostriches,
for I give water in the wilderness,
rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people,
²¹the people whom I formed for myself
that they might declare my praise.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

The Epistle

Philippians 3:4b–14

If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more:
⁵circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a
Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as
to righteousness, under the law blameless. ⁷But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for

the sake of Christ. ⁸Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— ¹⁰that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

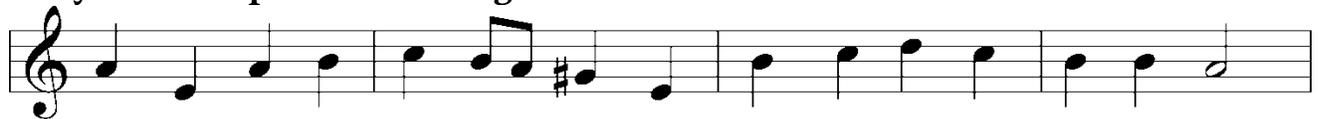
¹²Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

422 On My Heart Imprint Your Image



On my heart im - print Your im - age, Bless - ed Je - sus, King of grace,



That life's rich-es, cares, and plea-sures Nev - er may Your work e-rase;



Let the clear in - scrip-tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,



Is my life, my hope's foun - da - tion, And my glo - ry and sal - va - tion!

Holy Gospel

Luke 20:9–20

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twentieth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

⁹[Jesus] began to tell the people this parable: “A man planted a vineyard and let it out to tenants and went into another country for a long while. ¹⁰When the time came, he sent a servant to the tenants, so that they would give him some of the fruit of the vineyard. But the tenants beat him and sent him away empty-handed. ¹¹And he sent another servant. But

they also beat and treated him shamefully, and sent him away empty-handed. ¹²And he sent yet a third. This one also they wounded and cast out. ¹³Then the owner of the vineyard said, ‘What shall I do? I will send my beloved son; perhaps they will respect him.’ ¹⁴But when the tenants saw him, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir. Let us kill him, so that the inheritance may be ours.’ ¹⁵And they threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. What then will the owner of the vineyard do to them? ¹⁶He will come and destroy those tenants and give the vineyard to others.” When they heard this, they said, “Surely not!” ¹⁷But he looked directly at them and said, “What then is this that is written:

‘The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone’?

¹⁸Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces, and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him.”

¹⁹The scribes and the chief priests sought to lay hands on him at that very hour, for they perceived that he had told this parable against them, but they feared the people. ²⁰So they watched him and sent spies, who pretended to be sincere, that they might catch him in something he said, so as to deliver him up to the authority and jurisdiction of the governor.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

back cover of hymnal

Sit

Hymn of the Day | 430 My Song Is Love Unknown

Sermon

P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus unto life everlasting!

Stand

The Prayer of the Church

The Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 208

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. At Your command, Abraham prepared to offer his son Isaac as a sacrifice on the mountain; yet, in mercy You provided a ram as a substitute. We give You thanks that on Calvary You spared not Your only Son but sent Him to offer His life as a ransom for many. As we eat and drink His body and blood, grant us, like Abraham our father, to trust in Your promise now fulfilled in Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei | 434 Lamb of God, Pure and Holy

st. 1



1 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, Who on the cross didst suf - fer,



Ev - er pa-tient and low - ly, Thy - self to scorn didst of - fer.



All sins Thou bor - est for us, Else had de-spair reigned o'er us:



Have mer - cy on us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!

Sit

Distribution

Holy Communion at St. Paul

Our congregation confesses the bodily presence of Jesus Christ in the Sacrament of the Altar. To care for those who are about to receive the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, the Altar is open to those baptized Christians who repent of their sins, have been catechized in the Faith, and are members of our congregation, another congregation of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, or of another Church body with whom we are in fellowship. If you have not communed in a year or are visiting, please speak with one of our Pastors before communing today.

Distribution Hymn | 429 We Sing the Praise of Him Who Died

Distribution Hymn | 431 Not All the Blood of Beasts

Distribution Hymn | 421 Jesus, Grant That Balm and Healing

Stand

The Dismissal

P The holy body and precious blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in the one true faith unto life +everlasting! Depart in peace. **Amen.**

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 211

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus

LSB 212

A Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

P 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.

Hymn to Depart | 433 Glory Be to Jesus

The Service is ended. Depart in peace!

Announcements

St. Paul

Voters' Assembly. Our original date of April 26 now conflicts with the Wyneken Association meeting. **The dates of elders, council, and voters meeting are moved to April 18 and 19.** Please mark your calendars and plan to be in attendance if you are a voting member. Thank you.

Lenten Midweek Services, and Lenten Suppers. One more Wednesday (4/6), we will observe a midweek service of Lent with a service at 7PM and a supper at 5:45PM. *There is no Lenten Supper for Holy Week.* The Midweek Series for this year's Lent is called *God's Three Estates: Our Place in the World—the Family, the State, and the Church.* This Wednesday, the meal will be served by Susie Ehlerding, Kris Nussbaum, Connie Jeffrey, and Sue Buuck.

Individual Confession/Absolution will be offered through the Sundays in Lent at 6:30-7:30am. For those sins that you know and feel in your heart, come and hear the Absolution pronounced. No appointment is needed—enter when the person before you leaves. Pastor is bound by his office to never divulge the sins confessed, but to pronounce God's Absolution in obedience to God's command, the forgiveness of sins, as from God himself. You are invited to avail yourself of this holy practice throughout the Church year, by appointment with Pastor (260-226-0375).

Noodles. The Ladies Aid would like to thank all the faithful noodlemakers who made 376 lbs. of noodles last Thursday and Friday, as well as those who set up Wednesday morning and then after the meal Wednesday evening, and finally those who cleaned up on Saturday. We are blessed to serve our community in this way, and for the many helping hands who make noodles possible!

Easter breakfast. We will host our Easter breakfast from **7:30—8:30am on Easter morning 4/17** and we could use your help! The youth and confirmands of St. Paul will be serving, but we would be grateful to have you bring a breakfast casserole, pastry (cinnamon rolls, etc.), fruit bowl, or whatever you have in mind. There is a sign up sheet in the narthex for help with the Easter breakfast in the narthex. Free-will offering will go to support the youth/confirmands of St. Paul.

Gently Used/Bake Sale. St. Paul Ladies' Aid is happy to put on our Gently Used and Bake sale. **Friday, April 22 from 8am-4pm and Saturday, April 23 from 8-11am.** \$2/bag on Saturday. We will also have homemade baked goods and noodles for sale. Thank you for spreading the word!

Flowers. Anyone interested in donating flowers throughout the year, place your name on the chart in the narthex and contact a Ladies' Aid committee member assigned to that month for assistance. These flowers will be placed on the altar on the Sunday requested.

Office of Deacon. We are going to install an informal, three-month rotation of four assistant deacons for winter (January to March 15), four assistant deacons for Spring (March 15 to the Sunday prior to Memorial Day), two assistant deacons for summer (Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day weekend) and four assistant deacons for fall (Sunday after Labor Day to the end of the year). *If you think you would be able and willing to help your Church for this part-time, limited three month stretch of time, please talk to Pr. Yeager.*

Youth

Middle School Youth Events

April 10 (Palm/Passion Sunday); 5:30-8:30 p.m. – *The Passion of the Christ*

Chris and Tina Caston will again host a movie night at their home (1988 E. 900 N.; Decatur, IN 46733). In connection with the start of Holy Week on that day, Palm/Passion Sunday, we will be viewing *The Passion of the Christ*. Parents and youth please note: This film contains extended, frightening, and intense scenes of graphic violence and gore, and has been rated R by the MPAA for such sequences. The pastors will be in attendance to answer any questions or lead discussion following the film. **Please note the start time of 5:30 p.m.**

April 17; Easter Day – Easter Breakfast

Each congregation customarily has a youth-sponsored Easter breakfast. Details will be provided by your church if applicable. Please take advantage of this opportunity to serve.

High School Youth Activities

April 3; 6:30-8:30 p.m. – Gathering at Parsonage 1

April 10 (Palm/Passion Sunday); 5:30-8:30 p.m. – *The Passion of the Christ* (see above)

April 17; Easter Day – Easter Breakfast (see above)

April 24; 6:30-8:30 p.m. – Wyneken Service Night

Wyneken

The **Spring Association Meeting** for Wyneken Memorial Lutheran School is scheduled for Tuesday, April 26 @ 7pm at the St. John Bingen Parish Hall. Please plan to attend.

1st Grade Teacher. We thank God for the faithful service of Miss Abby Springer over the last three years. May our gracious Lord bless Miss Springer, who will leave the current grade one position at the end of the school year to pursue other interests. The Board of Education extended this open teaching position to Mrs. Amber Oedewaldt. We rejoice that Mrs. Oedewaldt has accepted this position and look forward to having her as part of our Wyneken family in the 2022-2023 school year! Mrs. Oedewaldt currently serves as a third grade teacher at Holy Cross Lutheran School in Fort Wayne and resides in Decatur with her husband, Rev. Zach Oedewaldt (Associate Pastor at Zion, Decatur). We pray blessings upon her service here and look to warmly welcome her.

2022-2023 School Year **Enrollment Forms** were mailed over spring break. If you have not yet received your forms, please call the school office right away. Enrollment forms are to be returned to the school *no later than April 11*. There is a \$100 late fee for enrollment forms returned to the school after April 11. ***Preschool has a maximum class size of 12 students per class.* Prekindergarten has a maximum *class size of 14 students* per morning and afternoon class. The Preschool and Prekindergarten programs fill up fast so do not delay in returning an application for enrollment once you receive one.

Wyneken PTL Meeting – Monday, April 4 @6:30pm: This is the final meeting of the school year. Please plan to join us as we set a budget and make plans for the 2022-2023 school year. Your ideas are always welcome!

Congratulations! We celebrate with Ms. Rebecca Klenke (resource teacher) for 45 years of service, Mrs. Julie Smith (grade 4 teacher) with 15 years of service, and Mrs. Courtney Butcher (2nd grade teacher) with 10 years of service in the teaching ministry. We also give thanks to God for Cheryl Reinking (Wyneken Childcare and business assistant) for 5 years of faithful service. Praise be to our Lord and Savior for devoted teachers and staff who serve at Wyneken!

Do you have a love for children? The **Wyneken Child Care** has some part-time positions open. If interested, please contact Christine Cornett, Director, at 639-6064.

District, Synod, Other

POE Fire Dept. Sausage and Pancake Brunch, Sunday, April 10, 9-1pm at Poe Firestation. Adults \$8, Children 6-12 \$4, children under 6 eat free. Carry out available. All proceeds will go to purchasing a Life Pak 15 monitor for our Ambulance.

Lutherhaven. There are programs for kindergarten all the way through High School, as well as some time for the whole family! Register online at www.lutherhaven.org or call for more information 636.7101.

Last Supper Drama Group. Scott Marbach is a member of the Last Supper Drama group of Ft. Wayne and plays St. Thomas. For information about schedule and events, check out the website for the Last Supper Drama Group: lastsupperdramafw.simplesite.com.

**A MIDWEEK SERIES
FOR THE SEASON OF LENT:**

God's Three Estates

Our place in the World: the Family, the State, and the Church

**Join us for the midweek Lenten Series
Wednesdays at 7PM**

***+A supper will precede each midweek service at 5:45PM+*
(With the exception of Ash Wednesday and Holy Week).**

The schedule is as follows:

Ash Wednesday | March 2, 7PM
Divine Service with the Imposition of Ashes

Lent Midweek 1 | March 9, 7PM | Vespers
God's Three Estates: an Introduction

Lent Midweek 2 | March 16, 7PM | Divine Service
Divine Hierarchies and Love

Lent Midweek 3 | March 23, 7PM | Vespers
The Estate of the Family

Lent Midweek 4 | March 30, 7PM | Divine Service
The Estate of the State

Lent Midweek 5 | April 6, 7PM | Vespers
The Estate of the Church

Holy Week & Easter

Maundy Thursday, April 14, 7PM

Good Friday, April 15, 7PM

Easter Sunrise, April 16, 6AM

Easter Breakfast, April 16, 7:30-8:45AM

Easter Day, April 16, 9AM

The Parable of the Wicked Tenants

There is a vineyard owner, who is God. His vineyard is Israel. There are farmers whom the vineyard owner hires to work in his absence as he goes away. The farmers are the religious leaders of Israel. And the servants whom the vineyard owner sends to collect the fruit of the vineyard are the prophets, whom God sends again and again into Israel to call the people to repentance. But the most striking feature is that after all these servants are killed, and before the Vineyard Owner makes the determination that he will destroy these tenants, take the vineyard from them and give it to others, he says, “*What shall I do? I will send my beloved Son.*”

It’s also important that we know *when* Jesus is speaking this parable. Jesus is close to the cross and the empty tomb. It’s Tuesday of Holy Week. Jesus is in the temple teaching. He had just come into the Holy City, two days before, in the Triumphal entry on Palm Sunday. He is teaching the crowds in the temple courtyard only a few days before his death. But the religious leaders of the people of Israel—the Chief Priests and Scribes—are also there, listening in, with hostile intentions. And he tells the Parable of the Wicked Tenants specifically against them. It is, for them, a Parable of Law, because these religious leaders are the very wicked tenants in the parable who soon, would reject, throw out, and kills the Vineyard Owner’s Son.

The irony is this very Parable is self-fulfilling prophecy. It is the thing that causes them go and do what Jesus said they would do. It says in verse 19, “*They sought to lay hands on him at that very hour, because they perceived that he had told this parable against them.*” They knew what Jesus meant. They knew they were the bad guys in the story, the wicked tenants, who soon, would fall under God’s judgment. They stood in a long line of religious leaders who killed the prophets, and who would finally kill the Son. So again, the religious leaders know they are the targets in this parable. The story itself, is one of the main things that causes them to hate Jesus, and seek his life in the days that are about to follow. Again, it is for them, this Parable is Law, Judgment. But it is important that we know it is not only a Parable of Law and Judgment. And, it is not even *mainly* a Parable of Law and Judgment. It is a Parable of God’s grace.

Fundamentally, this Parable is not about the wicked tenants. It’s about the Vineyard Owner. A Vineyard Owner who has a vineyard that he loves, that he provides for, that he will never give up, whatever the cost. What’s the surprise in this parable? You wouldn’t send another servant, and then another. That would be foolish. You’ve heard the phrase, fool me once, shame on you. Fool me twice, shame on me. This owner allows himself to be fooled, again and again, until he sends his dearest treasure, his beloved Son, whom he has to know will meet the same fate as all of the servants who went before him. And when the Son is cast out of the vineyard and killed, that is a picture of Christ’s crucifixion and death which takes place outside the city walls of Jerusalem. But then Jesus quotes Psalm 118, “*The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.*” This is Christ’s resurrection, his exaltation, his ascension where he is reigning at the right hand of the Father. God will build his Church on Christ’s saving death. He will make Christ’s sacrifice on the cross the foundation of saving faith. If this Stone falls on you on the Last Day, it will crush you eternally. If, however, you fall on this Stone now and are broken to pieces in contrition and humble faith in Jesus, your heavenly Father will make you a living stone to be eternally built upon the Rock who is Christ.

