

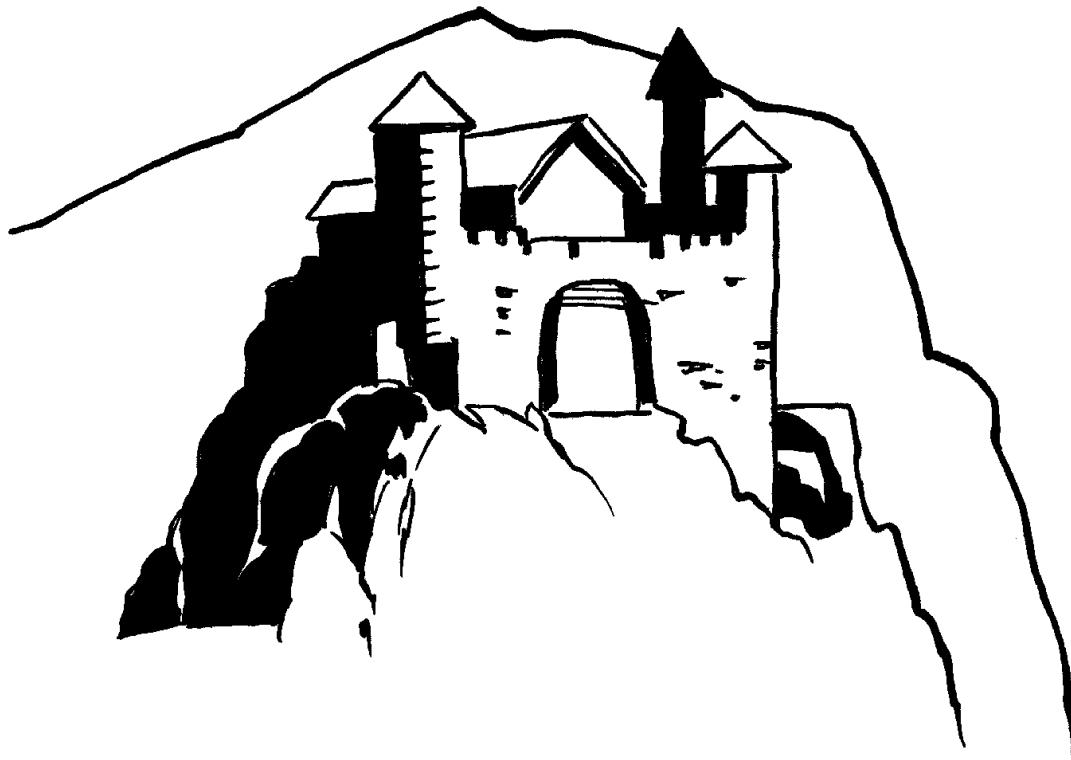


Saint Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Church

New Milford, New Jersey

A Congregation of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

www.smelcnewmilford.org



Reformation Festival

“Luther’s Story, Christ’s Story, Our Story”

Sunday, October 30, 2011

**Saint Matthew's
Evangelical Lutheran
Church**

A New Jersey District
congregation of the Lutheran
Church -
Missouri Synod

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Warren Born
Minister of Music

Christina Rottinger
Secretary
Approx. hours
Tues., Weds.,
THURS 9am-3pm

Our Worship Service

As We Gather This Sunday

Luther's Story, Christ's Story, Our Story

Dr. Martin Luther's hymn: "Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice" is said to be his spiritual autobiography. It tells of his early struggle to please God, whom young Martin saw simply as an angry judge, the view commonly taught by the Christian church of the sixteenth century. Today we will accompany him on his spiritual journey---his discovery of the love of God in Christ Jesus. And it is a good thing that we might share his journey, for it is our autobiography as well. Enlightened by the Holy Spirit of God, each Christian comes to know the saving grace of Christ by faith, that we might be blessed in the light of the loving countenance of God.



Saint Matthew's Mission Statement

We are a congregation of Christians who worship, pray, hear the Word of God, receive the sacraments, give thanks, grow through Christian education, serve others, and witness to God's love because God has commanded it and we believe this. We attempt to follow this commandment at all times and in all aspects of our lives, especially in church where the fellowship of believers is reinforced. We rely on the work of the Holy Spirit to guide our thoughts, words, and deeds in our daily relationships; and to lead us in the use of our time, talent, and treasure.

This Week:
Special Worship Service of Remembrance

Words of Welcome

At this time, Pastor Iovine will outline some parish news and information. For further information on these announcements, please look in the "Saint Matthew's Matters" insert in your bulletin AND on our church's website, www.smelcnewmilford.org and click the "Saint Matthew's Matters" under the "About Us" tab.

Prelude - Pre-Service Prayer & Meditation

↑ Opening Hymn

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God," Lutheran Worship Hymn #297, versus 1-2

A mighty fortress is our God, A sword and shield victorious;
He breaks the cruel oppressor's rod And wins salvation glorious.
The old satanic foe Has sworn to work us woe.
With craft and dreadful might He arms himself to fight. On earth he has no equal.

No strength of ours can match his might. We would be lost, rejected.
But now a champion comes to fight, Whom God Himself elected.
You ask who this may be? The Lord of Hosts is he,
Christ Jesus, mighty Lord, God's only Son, adored. He holds the field victorious.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978

Tune: Martin Luther: 1483-1546

Invocation

P: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C: **Amen.**

Sentences

The Story Begins

P: Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for mercy!
C: **In Your faithfulness answer me, in Your righteousness!**

P: Enter not into judgment with Your servant,
C: **for no one living is righteous before You.**

P: For the enemy has pursued my soul; he has crushed my life to the ground;
C: **he has made me sit in darkness like those long dead.**

P: Therefore my spirit faints within me;

C: **my heart within me is appalled.** Psalm 143:1-4

P: These words of King David resonated with Martin Luther. The church of the fifteenth century, into which he was born, often focused on this image of God as a righteous judge, striking fear into the hearts of many. We also might fear God's judgment, knowing that "no one living is righteous before" God.

Hymn

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God," Lutheran Worship Hymn #297, versus 3-4

Though hordes of devils fill the land All threat'ning to devour us,
We tremble not, unmoved we stand; They cannot overpower us.
Let this world's tyrant rage; In battle we'll engage.
His might is doomed to fail; God's judgment must prevail! One little word subdues him.

God's Word forever shall abide, No thanks to foes, who fear it;
For God himself fights by our side With weapons of the Spirit.
Were they to take our house, Goods honor, child, or spouse,
Though life be wrenched away, They cannot win the day. The Kingdom's ours forever!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978

Tune: Martin Luther: 1483-1546

Sentences

The Story Concludes

P: But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law,

C: although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it---

P: the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ

C: for all who believe. Romans 3: 21-22

P: Young Martin Luther, having tried to please God by his life as a monk, finally discovered in Galatians chapter three that "Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law, for 'the righteous shall live by faith.'" Trust in the salvation won for us by Christ, believe on the Lord, Jesus Christ, and you will be saved.

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Therefore, let us come before our God, who not only judges sin, but is ready as our loving Father to forgive.

(Silence is observed for self-examination.)

P: O most merciful God,

C: we bow before You because Your Law convicts us of sin. We know that we deserve nothing but punishment. But You have sent Your Son, Jesus, to take our place and pay the penalty of our sin with His very life. Though we are unworthy of Your mercy, we call upon You for grace in His name, and for His sake we ask Your forgiveness for all our sins. Send us Your Holy Spirit that we may grow in knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, and guide us to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

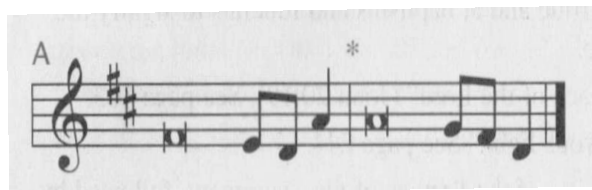
P: For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law. Romans 3: 28

Since you have confessed your sin, believed in Jesus Christ, and asked for God's forgiveness by faith, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, I announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Arise in peace. Your faith has saved you.

C: **Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!**

Introit

Psalm 46:1-7; Antiphon v. 1
We will sing the Introit together



**God is our ref - ' uge and strength*
an ever present help in ' trouble.**

**Therefore we will not fear though the ' earth give way*
and the mountains fall into the heart ' of the sea,**

**Though the water ' roar and foam*
and the mountains quake with their ' surging.**

**There is a river whose streams make glad the cit - ' y of God,*
the holy place where the Most ' High swells.**

**God is within her, she ' will not fall;*
God will help her at ' break of day.**

**Nations are in uproar, ' kingdoms fall;*
he lifts up his voice, the ' earth melts.**

**The Lord Almighty is ' with us;*
the God of Jacob is our ' fortress.**

**Glory be to the Father and ' to the Son*
and to the Holy ' Spirit;**

**as it was in the be- ' ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. ' Amen.**

**God is our ref - ' uge and strength*
an ever present help in ' trouble.**

Kyrie

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud.** Psalm 27:7a

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

C: **Be gracious to me and answer me!** Psalm 27:7b

P: 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: **Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud.**

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

C: **Be gracious to me and answer me!**

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis

From Lutheran Service Book, Divine Service Setting Four



- 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on us and on all Christians. Keep us steadfastly grounded in Your love and grace for forgiveness, life, and salvation,

C: **and by Your Word, guide and keep us at peace in this saving grace;**

P: through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and rules with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

↓ Old Testament

Revelation 14:6-7
(The Glory of God)

L: The First Reading for the Sunday of the Reformation is taken from Revelation, Chapter 14:

Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people. And he said with a loud voice, "Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come, and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water."

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading

Romans 3:19-28
(The Righteousness of God through Faith)

L: The Epistle Reading is taken from Romans, Chapter 3:

Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

↑ Holy Gospel

John 8:31-36
(We are set free from slavery to sin by knowing the truth that we are freed not by our goodness, but by the Son of God.)

P: The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the 8th Chapter:
C: **Glory to You, O Lord!**

So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?"

Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

↓ Hymn of the Day

"Dear Christians, One and All," Lutheran Worship hymnal, #353 --- vs. 1-5

Dear Christians, one and all, rejoice, With exultation springing.
And with united heart and voice And holy rapture singing,
Proclaim the wonders God has done, How his right arm the vict'ry won
What price our ransom cost him!

Fast bound in Satan's chains I lay, Death brooded darkly o'er me,
Sin was my torment night and day; In sin my mother bore me.
But daily deeper still I fell; My life became a living hell,
So firmly sin possessed me.

My own good works all came to naught, No grace or merit gaining;
Free will against God's judgment fought, Dead to all good remaining.
My fears increased till sheer despair Left only death to be my share;
The pangs of hell I suffered.

But God had seen my wretched state Before the world's foundation,
And mindful of his mercies great, He planned for my salvation.
He turned to me a father's heart; He did not choose the easy part
But gave his dearest treasure.

God said to his beloved Son: "It's time to have compassion.
Then go, bright jewel of my crown, And bring to all salvation;
From sin and sorrow set them free; Slay bitter death for them that they
May live with you forever."

Text: Martin Luther, 1483=1545; tr. Richard Massie, 1800-87, alt.

Tune: Etlich Christlich lieder, Wittenberg, 1524

Sermon

Offering

Voluntary

“

↑ Prayer of the Church and the Creed

Our weekly prayers are responsive in nature. At the end of each petition, “Lord, in Your mercy,” is spoken, to which the congregation responds, “Hear our prayer.”

P: Let us confess our faith and seek God's blessings in prayer. What does the First Article of the Apostles' Creed mean?

C: I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them. He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life. He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him. This is most certainly true.

E: Father, we praise You that You are a God of love and mercy. We thank You for all these earthly blessings that we have in abundance by Your grace. And we pray for health and all the things needful. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We pray for those who suffer from mental or physical illness especially [_____]. We pray also for those who lack the basic necessities of life and ask that You would give us renewed commitment and sufficient resources to provide for them in Your name. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

E: What does the Second Article mean?

C: I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

P: We pray, O Lord Jesus, that we may hold fast to the salvation You have won for us, not by virtue of our own, but relying on Your righteousness alone granted to us by faith. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

E: Fill our hearts with Your Gospel, that we may never again fall into the futility of seeking salvation by our works. Make our joy overflow giving bold witness to the world about Your indescribable gift of salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: What does the Third Article mean?

C: I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian Church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers. On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.

E: We praise You, O Holy Spirit, for entering our hearts and creating saving faith in Christ. Guard that faith and preserve us unto everlasting life. So also, guard Your Church, its pastors and leaders that the Gospel may be preached in all its truth and purity. Open the hearts of all who hear Your Word, that they too may be saved. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Finally, we ask that You would give each of us a true reformation of the heart, that our lives may increasingly conform to Your holy will. May our acts of stewardship and mercy generously support the work of Your holy Church. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

E: Into Your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy to do even more than we ask.

C: Amen.

Preface

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.**

Proper Preface

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, David's greater Son who frees us from the slavery of sin and fills us with His love. 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

"Holy, Holy, Holy" -

Sung to the tune from the Lutheran Service Book, Divine Service Setting One, page 161



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer and Words of Institution

P: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

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 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."

Matthew 26: 26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11: 23-26

P: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. 1 Corinthians 11:26

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. Revelation 22:20

P: Lord Jesus Christ, in giving us the gifts of Your body and blood in, with, and under this wine and bread, You remind us of Your life-giving sacrifice on the cross that secured for us eternal salvation. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

The Lord's Prayer

A: 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.

Peace of the Lord

John 20:19

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

P: We share a sign of that peace with one another.

Agnus Dei

"Lamb of God"

Sung to the tune from the Lutheran Service Book, Divine Service Setting One, page 163



The image shows a musical score for the Agnus Dei. It consists of four staves of music in a single system, all written on a treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a square symbol containing the letter 'C', indicating common time. The lyrics are: "Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; grant us peace." The word "grant" is underlined with a horizontal line.

Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

↓ Communion Distribution

Various Hymns

The Lord's Supper will be distributed from the floor of the sanctuar this morning.

↑ Post-Communion Collect

- E: Let us pray: Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood.
- C: **Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end;**
- E: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: **Amen.**

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.**

Closing Hymn

"Dear Christians, One and All," Lutheran Worship hymnal, #353 --- vs. 6-10

The Son obeyed his Father's will, Was born of virgin mother;
And God's good pleasure to fulfill, He came to be my brother.
His royal pow'r disguised he bore, A servant's form, like mine, he wore
To lead the devil captive.

To me he said: "Stay close to me, I am your rock and castle.
Your ransom I myself will be; For you I strive and wrestle;
For I am yours, and you are mine, And where I am you may remain;
The foe shall not divide us.

"Though he will shed my precious blood, Of life me thus bereaving,
All this I suffer for your good; Be steadfast and believing.
Life will from death the vict'ry win; My innocence shall bear your sin;
And you are blest forever.

"Now to my Father I depart, From earth to heav'n ascending,
And heav'nly wisdom to impart, The Holy Spirit sending;
I trouble he will comfort you And teach you always to be true
And into truth shall guide you.

"What I on earth have done and taught Guide all your life and teaching;
So shall the kingdom's work be wrought And honored in your preaching.
But watch lest foes with base alloy The heav'nly treasure should destroy;
This final word I leave you."

Text: Martin Luther, 1483=1545; tr. Richard Massie, 1800-87, alt.
Tune: Etlich Christlich liden, Wittenberg, 1524

Musical Benediction

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Dismissal

Postlude

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