

Joy of Christ Lutheran Church

Third Sunday in Lent

March 7, 2021

MUSIC PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME

GATHERING PRAISE SONG

IN THE CROSS OF CHRIST I GLORY

RED BOOK #324

In the cross of Christ I glory, tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time.
All the light of sacred story gathers round its head sublime.

When the woes of life o'ertake me, hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
never shall the cross forsake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.

When the sun of bliss is beaming light and love upon my way,
from the cross the radiance streaming adds more luster to the day.

Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure, by the cross are sanctified;
peace is there that knows no measure, joys that through all time abide.

Text: John Bowring, 1792-1872

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CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
the keeper of the covenant,
the source of steadfast love,
our rock and our redeemer.

Amen.

God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

Silence is kept for reflection

Fountain of living water,

pour out your mercy over us.

Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free.

Rebuild what we have ruined

and mend what we have torn.

Wash us in your cleansing flood.

Make us alive in the Spirit

to follow in the way of Jesus,

as healers and restorers of the world you so love.

Amen.

Beloved, God's word never fails.

The promise rests on grace:

by the saving love of Jesus Christ,

the wisdom and power of God,

your sins are ☩ forgiven, and God remembers them no more.

Journey in the way of Jesus. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Response: **Amen.**

LESSONS

FIRST READING: Exodus 20: 1-17

A reading from Exodus.

¹God spoke all these words:

²I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me.

⁴You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

¹²Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³You shall not murder.

¹⁴You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵You shall not steal.

¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 19

¹The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork.

²**One day tells its tale to another,
and one night imparts knowledge to another.**

³Although they have no words or language,
and their voices are not heard,

⁴**their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world,
where God has pitched a tent for the sun.**

⁵It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

⁶**It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; nothing is hidden from its burning heat.**

⁷The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul;
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

⁸**The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.**

⁹The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever;
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

¹⁰**More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold,
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.**

¹¹By them also is your servant enlightened,
and in keeping them there is great reward.

¹²**Who can detect one's own offenses?
Cleanse me from my secret faults.**

¹³Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me;
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

¹⁴**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight,
O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.**

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1: 18-25

A reading from First Corinthians.

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Return to the Lord

RED BOOK, pg. 151

Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

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GOSPEL: John 2: 13-22

Announcement Response: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, “Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!”

¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, “Zeal for your house will consume me.” ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, “What sign can you show us for doing this?” ¹⁹Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” ²⁰The Jews then said, “This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?” ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

Response: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN’S SERMON & BLESSING

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

JESUS KEEP ME NEAR THE CROSS

RED BOOK #335

Jesus, keep me near the cross, there's a precious fountain;
free to all, a healing stream flows from Calv'ry's mountain.

Refrain

In the cross, in the cross be my glory ever;
till my ransomed soul shall find rest beyond the river.

Near the cross, a trembling soul, love and mercy found me;
there the bright and morning star sheds its beams around me. **Refrain**

Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes before me;
help me walk from day to day with its shadow o'er me. **Refrain**

Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hoping, trusting ever,
till I reach the golden strand just beyond the river. **Refrain**

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820-1915
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THE NICENE CREED

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 truly 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 with the Father and the Son is
worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic 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.

PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

After the petition: **Hear us, O God. ...**

The Congregation responds: ... **Your mercy is great. Amen.**

PEACE Response: **And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPECIAL MUSIC OFFERING: **Winnie Thomas, Landon Ohta, Travis Ohta**

RESPONSE: **The Queen's Prayer**

‘O kou aloha no Aia i Ka Lani,
A ‘o kou ‘oia‘io, He hemolele ho‘i.

Nolai la e ka Haku, Ma lalo Kou ‘e heu,
Ko makou maluhia. A mau loa aku no. Amene

Translation:

Your loving mercy is as high as Heaven
And your truth, so perfect.

And so, O Lord protect us beneath your wings
And let peace be our portion. Now and forever more. Amen

BLESSING OF THE OFFERING:

Faithful God, we give you thanks for all the generous hearts. Bless them and their gifts for your
glory. We thank that you walk beside us in desert places, and you meet us in our hunger with
bread from heaven. Accompany us in this meal, that we may pass over from death to life
with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful
God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare
with joy for the paschal feast, that renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of
your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

HOLY, HOLY

Purple Book, #62

Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores you!

My heart is glad to say the words: you are holy, Lord

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THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (spoken)

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.

LAMB OF GOD

JESUS, LAMB OF GOD

PURPLE BOOK, #76

Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is your name;
Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is your name.

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ADMINISTERING OF THE HOLY COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of steadfast love,
at this table you gather your people into one body for the sake of the world.
Send us in the power of your Spirit, that our lives bear witness to the love that has made us new
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING *The Congregation responds: Amen.*

SENDING SONG

WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS

RED BOOK #803

When I survey the wondrous cross on which the prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss and pour contempt on all my pride.
Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the death of Christ, my God;
all the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.
See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?
Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small;
love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748
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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

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