

**5TH SUNDAY IN LENT
DIVINE SERVICE III
MARCH 26, 2023 9:00 A.M.**

PRELUDE

PRAYER ON ENTERING CHURCH: *“LORD, I love the habitation of Your House and the place where Your Glory Dwells. In the multitude of Your Tender Mercies prepare my heart that I may enter Your House to worship and confess Your Holy Name; through Jesus Christ, my God and LORD.”* (145)

BEFORE WORSHIP: *“O LORD, our Creator, Redeemer, and Comforter, as we come together to worship You in Spirit and in Truth, we humbly pray that You would open our hearts to the preaching of Your Word so that we may Repent of our sins, Believe in Jesus Christ as our only Savior, and Grow in Grace and Holiness. Hear us for His sake, Amen.”* (146)

OPENING HYMN *“Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good”* [LSB 819]

1.

**Sing praise to God, the Highest Good, The
Author of creation,
The God of Love Who understood
Our need for His Salvation.
With healing Balm our souls He fills
And ev’ry faithless murmur stills:
To God all Praise and Glory!**

2.

**What God’s Almighty Pow’r has made, In Mercy
He is keeping.
By morning glow or evening shade
His eye is never sleeping.
Within the Kingdom of His Might
All things are Just and Good and Right: To God
all Praise and Glory!**

3.

**We sought the LORD in our distress;
O God, in Mercy hear us.
Our Savior saw our helplessness
And came with Peace to cheer us.
For this we thank and praise the LORD, Who is by
one and all adored: To God all Praise and Glory!**

4.

**He never shall forsake His Flock,
His Chosen Generation;
He is their Refuge and their Rock,
Their Peace and their Salvation.
As with a mother’s tender hand,
He leads His Own, His Chosen Band: To God all
Praise and Glory!**

5.

**All who confess Christ’s Holy Name, Give God the Praise and Glory.
Let all who know His Pow’r proclaim Aloud the Wondrous Story.
Cast ev’ry idol from its throne, For God is God, and He alone:
To God all Praise and Glory!**

✠ SERVICE OF CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION ✠

INVOCATION *(Please Stand)* [LSB: pg. 184]

P In the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

EXHORTATION [LSB: pg. 184]

P Beloved in the LORD! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the Name of our LORD Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the Name of the LORD.
C Who made heaven and earth.

*[Hebrews 10:22]
Psalm 124:8*

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the LORD,
C And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Psalm 32:5

CONFESSION OF SINS [LSB: pg. 184]

P O Almighty God, Merciful Father,
C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless Mercy and for the sake of the Holy, Innocent, Bitter Sufferings and Death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be Gracious and Merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

ABSOLUTION [LSB: pg. 185]

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the Grace of God unto 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. Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen. John 20:19-23

☩ SERVICE OF THE WORD ☩

INTROIT:



- P** Precious in the sight | of the LORD*
 is the death | of His saints.
- L** I love the LORD, because | He has heard*
 my voice and my pleas for | Mercy.
- P** Because He inclined His | ear to me,*
 therefore I will call on Him as long | as I live.
- L** The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid | hold on me;*
 I suffered distress and | anguish.
- P** Then I called on the Name | of the LORD:*
 "O LORD, I pray, deliv- | er my soul!"
- L** For You have delivered my | soul from death,*
 my eyes from tears, my feet from | stumbling.
- C** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and
 ever shall be, world without end. Amen

GLORIA PATRI ≈ *Glory be to the Father* [LSB: pg. 186]

- C** (Sung) Glory be to the Father and to the Son
 and to the Holy Ghost;
 as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ever shall be, world without end, Amen.

KYRIE ≈ *LORD, Have Mercy* [LSB: pg. 186]

- C** (Sung) LORD, have Mercy upon us.
 Christ, have Mercy upon us.
 LORD, have Mercy upon us.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS ≈ *(During Lent the Gloria in Excelsis is omitted.)* [LSB: pg. 187]

SALUTATION & COLLECT [Pg. 189]

- P** (Sung) The LORD be with you. 2 Timothy 4:22
C (Sung) 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.** (Please be seated)

OLD TESTAMENT: *Ezekiel 37:1-14*

"¹The hand of the LORD was upon me, and He brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. ²And He led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. ³And He said to me, 'Son of man, can these bones live?' And I answered, 'O LORD GOD, You know.' ⁴Then He said to me, 'Prophesy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the Word of the LORD. ⁵Thus says the LORD GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD.' ⁷So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together,

bone to its bone. ⁸And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. ⁹Then He said to me, 'Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the LORD GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.' ¹⁰So I prophesied as He commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army. ¹¹Then He said to me, 'Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are clean cut off.' ¹²Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the LORD GOD: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O My People. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. ¹³And you shall know that I Am the

LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O My People. ¹⁴ And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in

your own land. Then you shall know that I Am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the LORD."

A This is the Word of the LORD.

C Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL:

R [O come, let us fix our eyes on] | Jesus,*
the Founder and Perfecter | of our Faith,
Who for the Joy that was set before Him endured the Cross, despis- | ing the shame,*
and is seated at the right hand of the | Throne of God.

NEW TESTAMENT: *Romans 8:1-11*

¹There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²For the Law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. ³For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending His Own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴in order that the Righteous requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶To set the mind on the flesh is

death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is Life and Peace. ⁷For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's Law; indeed, it cannot. ⁸Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to Him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is Life because of Righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of Him Who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He Who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit Who dwells in you."

A This is the Word of the LORD.

C Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA VERSE (During Lent the ALLELUIA is omitted) [LSB: pg. 190]

HOLY GOSPEL: *John 11:1-45* (Please Stand)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eleventh chapter.
C Glory be to thee, O LORD.

¹Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ²It was Mary who anointed the LORD with ointment and wiped His feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. ³So the sisters sent to Him, saying, 'LORD, he whom you love is ill.' ⁴But when Jesus heard it He said, 'This illness does not lead to death. It is for the Glory of God, so that the Son of God may be Glorified through it.' ⁵Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. ⁶So, when He heard that Lazarus was ill, He stayed two days longer in the place where He was. ⁷Then after this He said to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judea again.' ⁸The disciples said to Him, 'Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone You, and are You going there again?' ⁹Jesus answered, 'Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. ¹⁰But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him.' ¹¹After saying these things, He said to them, 'Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken Him.' ¹²The disciples said to Him, 'LORD, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover.' ¹³Now Jesus had spoken of His death, but they thought that He meant taking rest in sleep. ¹⁴Then Jesus told them plainly, 'Lazarus has died, ¹⁵and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.' ¹⁶So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, 'Let us also go, that we may die with Him.' ¹⁷Now when Jesus came, He found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, ¹⁹and many of the Jews had come to Martha

and Mary to console them concerning their brother. ²⁰So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met Him, but Mary remained seated in the house. ²¹Martha said to Jesus, 'LORD, if You had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²But even now I know that whatever You ask from God, God will give You.' ²³Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' ²⁴Martha said to Him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.' ²⁵Jesus said to her, 'I Am the Resurrection and the Life. Whoever believes in Me, though he die, yet shall he live, ²⁶and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?' ²⁷She said to Him, 'Yes, LORD; I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, Who is coming into the world.' ²⁸When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private, 'The Teacher is here and is calling for you.' ²⁹And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to Him. ³⁰Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met Him. ³¹When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³²Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw Him, she fell at His feet, saying to Him, 'LORD, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' ³³When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled. ³⁴And he said, 'Where have you laid him?' They said to him, 'LORD, come and see.' ³⁵Jesus wept. ³⁶So the Jews said, 'See how He loved him!' ³⁷But some of them said, 'Could not He

Who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?’³⁸ Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it.³⁹ Jesus said, ‘Take away the stone,’ Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to Him, ‘LORD, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days.’⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, ‘Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the Glory of God?’⁴¹ So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up His eyes and said, ‘Father, I thank You that You

have heard Me.⁴² I knew that You always hear Me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that You sent Me.’⁴³ When He had said these things, He cried out with a loud voice, ‘Lazarus, come out.’⁴⁴ The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, ‘Unbind him, and let him go.’⁴⁵ Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what He did, believed in Him.”

P This is the Gospel of our LORD.

C Praise be to thee, O Christ.

NICENE CREED *(Please Stand)* [LSB: pg. 191]

L We confess our Christian Faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one LORD Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by Whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our Salvation came down from Heaven and was Incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was Crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He Suffered and was Buried. And the third day He Rose again according to the Scriptures and Ascended into Heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with Glory to Judge both the living and the dead, whose Kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the LORD and Giver of Life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is Worshiped and Glorified, Who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in One Holy Christian and Apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the Remission of sins, and I look for the Resurrection of the dead and the Life Φ of the world to come. Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY *“Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense”* [LSB 741]

1.
Jesus Christ, my Sure Defense
And my Savior, now is living!
Knowing this, my confidence
Rests upon the Hope here given,
Though the night of death be fraught
Still with many _ an anxious thought.

2.
Jesus, my Redeemer, lives;
Likewise I to life shall waken.
He will bring me where He is;
Shall my courage then be shaken?
Shall I fear, or could the Head
Rise and leave His members dead?

3.
No, too closely I am bound
By my Hope to Christ forever;
Faith's strong hand the Rock has found,
Grasped it, and will leave it never; Even death
now cannot part From its LORD the trusting heart.

4.
I am flesh and must return
To the dust, whence I am taken;
But by faith I now discern
That from death I shall awaken
With my Savior to abide
In His Glory, at His side.

5.
Glorified, I shall anew
With this flesh then be enshrouded;
In this body I shall view
God, my LORD, with eyes unclouded;
In this flesh I then shall see
Jesus Christ eternally.

6.
Then take comfort and rejoice,
For His members Christ will cherish.
Fear not, they will hear His voice;
Dying, they will never perish;
For the very grave is stirred
When the trumpet's blast is heard.

7.
Laugh to scorn the gloomy grave
And at death no longer tremble;
He, the LORD, Who came to save
Will at last His Own assemble.
They will go their LORD to meet,
Treading death beneath their feet.

8.
O, then, draw away your hearts
From all pleasures base and hollow;
Strive to share what He imparts
While you here His footsteps follow.
As you now still wait to rise,
Fix your hearts beyond the skies!

SERMON

OFFERTORY [LSB: pg. 192]
Psalms 51:10-12

C *(Sung)* Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy Salvation, and uphold me with Thy Free Spirit. Amen.

OFFERING & MUSICAL OFFERING..... [LSB: pg. 193]

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH *[I Timothy 2:1-4]* [LSB: pg. 193]

END OF VIDEO FEED

LORD'S PRAYER [LSB: 162]

P LORD, remember us in Your Kingdom and teach us to pray ...

C **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.**

P Heavenly Father, God of all Grace, Govern our hearts that we may never forget Your Blessings but steadfastly thank and praise You for all Your goodness in this life until, with all the Saints, we praise You Eternally in Your Heavenly Kingdom; through Jesus Christ, our LORD,

C Amen.

BENEDICTION [LSB: pg. 166]

P The Grace of our LORD Jesus Christ and the Love of God
And the Communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C Amen.