

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

3 March 2024, 10:15 am.

AS WE GATHER

We would not expect a Sunday in Lent to be without confrontation, and the Third Sunday in Lent does not disappoint. Lent is the season of the church year we are most powerfully reminded that our sin sent Jesus to the cross. The penitential character of Lent comes into stark relief this Sunday as the sacred confronts the profane. It isn't a safe, tame, Jesus. In our Gospel today, Jesus, the Holy One of God, confronts the profaning of his Father's house by driving out the money-changers, clearing the temple of all those who have made it a house of trade. Jesus disrupts not just the sinfulness of these practices, showing a different side of Him than we expect to see. He also disrupted the status quo—everyday realities that had come to be accepted in the temple. May Jesus so disrupt our lives where it is needed.

HYMN OF INVOCATION

907 God Himself Is Present

- 1 God Himself is present:
Let us now adore Him
And with awe appear before Him.
God is in His temple;
All within keep silence;
Humbly kneel in deepest rev'rence.
He alone, On His throne
Is our God and Savior;
Praise His name forever!
- 2 God Himself is present:
Hear the harps resounding;
See the hosts the throne surrounding.
"Holy, holy, holy!"
Hear the hymn ascending,
Songs of saints and angels blending.
Bow Your ear, To us here:
Hear, O Christ, the praises
That Your Church now raises.

Living in Grace: Loving God & Serving Others

- 3 Fount of ev'ry blessing,
Purify my spirit,
Trusting only in Your merit.
Like the holy angels,
Worshiping before You,
May I ceaselessly adore You.
Let Your will, Ever still
Rule Your Church terrestrial
As the hosts celestial.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Please stand as you are able.

OPENING SENTENCES

- P** God invites us to gather in His name.
C **We are gathered to worship and praise.**
P Our heavenly Father's house is a house of prayer for all the nations.
C **He gathers people from every corner of the earth to sing His praises.**
P We listen to God's Word.
C **We hear the message proclaimed of Christ crucified.**

INVOCATION

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**
P Dear friends, if we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**

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We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. 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.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT

Psalm 69:14–16; antiphon: v. 9



For zeal for your house has con- | summed me, *
and the reproaches of those who reproach you have fall- | en on me.

Deliver me from sinking | in the mire;*

let me be delivered from my enemies and from the deep | waters.

Let not the flood sweep over me, or the deep swallow me up,*
or the pit close its mouth over me.

**Answer me, O LORD, for your steadfast | love is good;*
according to your abundant mercy | turn to me.**

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

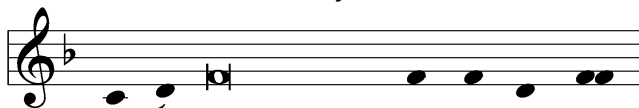
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

For zeal for your house has con- | summed me, *
and the reproaches of those who reproach you have fall- | en on me.

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KYRIE ~ *Lord, Have Mercy*

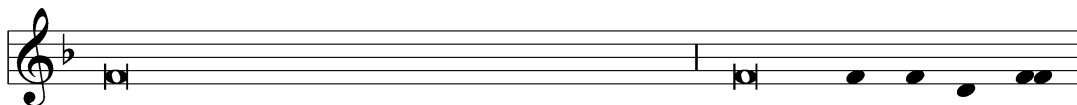
Mark 10:47



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C 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.



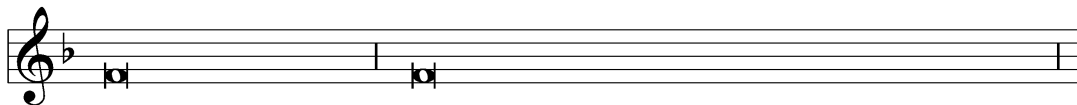
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

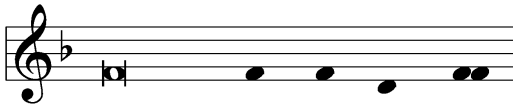


C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise

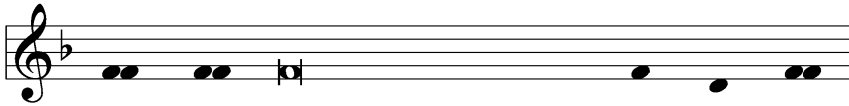
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let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Luke 2:14; John 1:29



A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



C Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:

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



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For You a - lone are the Ho - ly One, You a - lone are the Lord,



You a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

SALUTATION and PRAYER OF THE DAY



P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray. . .

Lord Jesus Christ, in righteousness You disrupted the sinful lives of those in the temple, pointing them to the purpose of Your Father's house. Disrupt our sinful lives so that our church would be a home of prayer for all the nations; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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Please be seated.

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Exodus 20:1-17

David Cink

After the reading:

- L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSIVE READING OF PSALM 19

Pastor Marty

- P** Today's Psalm, Psalm 19, informs our preparation for worship this morning. First, it celebrates the glory of God's creation.

*The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the sky above proclaims His handiwork.*

*Day to day pours out speech,
and night to night reveals knowledge.*

There is no speech, nor are there words, whose voice is not heard.

Their measuring line goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world.

*In them He has set a tent for the sun,
which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber, and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy.*

*Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them,
and there is nothing hidden from its heat.*

- P** Continuing Psalm 19, the psalmist considers God's perfect Law.

*The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul;
the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple;
the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes;
the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever;
the just decrees of the LORD are true, and righteous altogether.
More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold;
sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb.*

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*Moreover, by them is Your servant warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.*

[P] Therefore, we call out.

Who can discern his errors? Declare me innocent from hidden faults.

Keep back your servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me!

Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.

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

EPISTLE: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

René Hutzell

After the reading:

[L] This is the Word of the Lord.

[C] **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand in honor of the Gospel.

GOSPEL: John 2:13-22

[P] The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the second chapter.



[C] Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

After the reading:

[P] This is the Gospel of the Lord.



[C] Praise to You, O Christ.

WHAT WE BELIEVE ~ Nicene Creed

[P] Let us affirm what we believe using 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.**

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**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 ✝ of the world to come. Amen.**

Following the Creed, people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you."— Luke 2:11. Then return to their places and be seated.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Jane Goss

(Kindergarten - 4th grade students are excused to attend Children's Church in the ANNEX)

HYMN OF THE DAY

823 May God Bestow on Us His Grace

- 1 May God bestow on us His grace,
With blessings rich provide us;
And may the brightness of His face
To life eternal guide us,
That we His saving health may know,
His gracious will and pleasure,
And also to the nations show
Christ's riches without measure
And unto God convert them.
- 2 Thine over all shall be the praise
And thanks of ev'ry nation;
And all the world with joy shall raise
The voice of exultation.
For Thou shalt judge the earth, O Lord,
Nor suffer sin to flourish;
Thy people's pasture is Thy Word
Their souls to feed and nourish,
In righteous paths to keep them.

Please stand.

- Δ 3 O let the people praise Thy worth,
In all good works increasing;
The land shall plenteous fruit bring forth,
Thy Word is rich in blessing.
May God the Father, God the Son,
And God the Spirit bless us!
Let all the world praise Him alone,
Let solemn awe possess us.
Now let our hearts say, "Amen!"

TODAY'S MESSAGE *"Free From All . . . Servant to All"*

John 2:13-22

Pastor Marty Tyler

Living in Grace: Loving God & Serving Others

Sermon Notes

Focus Scripture Verse(s)

The Law (Shows Our Sin)

The Gospel (Shows Our Salvation)

Main Point:

What Does This Mean for Me?

Application:

How does what I learned help me share God's Good News?

Please stand as you are able.

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Thank you for your faithful prayers and financial support of Grace Ministries.

Our ability to continue to serve you, the church, and our community is greatly dependent upon our members' willingness to give of their time, talents and treasures. Please remember to support the LORD's church by regularly sending in your tithes and offerings. As the Apostle Paul writes, *"Each one must give as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver"* (2 Corinthians 9:7). If you brought your tithe or offering with you today, you may place them in the special grey box sitting on the table next to the usher's station at the entrance to the sanctuary.

OFFERTORY

707 Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways

- 1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways
To keep His statutes still!
Oh, that my God would grant me grace
To know and do His will!
- 2 Order my footsteps by Thy Word
And make my heart sincere;
Let sin have no dominion, Lord,
But keep my conscience clear.
- 3 Assist my soul, too apt to stray,
A stricter watch to keep;
And should I e'er forget Thy way,
Restore Thy wand'ring sheep.
- 4 Make me to walk in Thy commands—
'Tis a delightful road—
Nor let my head or heart or hands
Offend against my God.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

God has called us as His own, gathered us together, and enlightened us by His Spirit through the Word. Therefore, we bring to Him our prayer and praise, for in all times and in all places, He promises to hear our prayers and to answer them according to His gracious will. Restore us, O Lord,

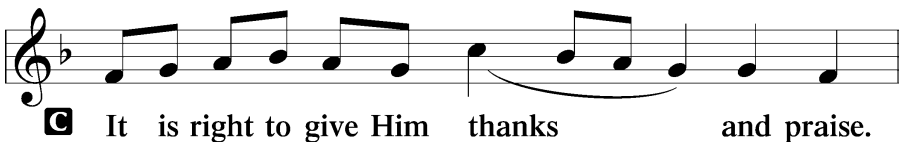
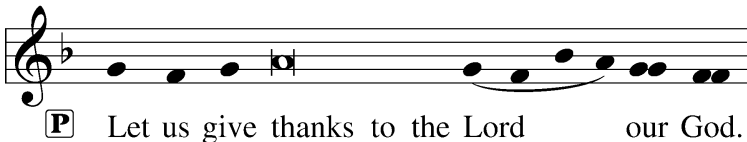
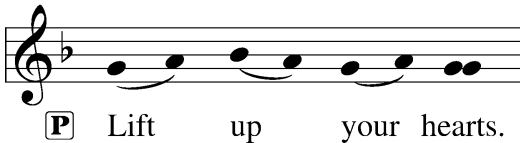
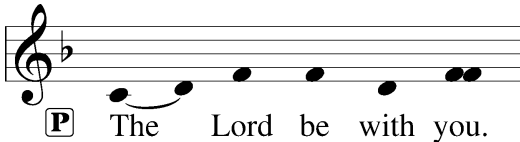
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according to Your promise, and hear the prayers of Your people who cry to You in need.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Holy Communion is a confession of the faith whereby we profess at this altar that our Lord Jesus Christ gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Therefore, any who are not yet instructed, or who are in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, are respectfully asked to refrain from partaking in the meal and instead may come to the altar and receive a blessing, or remain in your pew during distribution, and afterwards speak with the pastor.

PREFACE

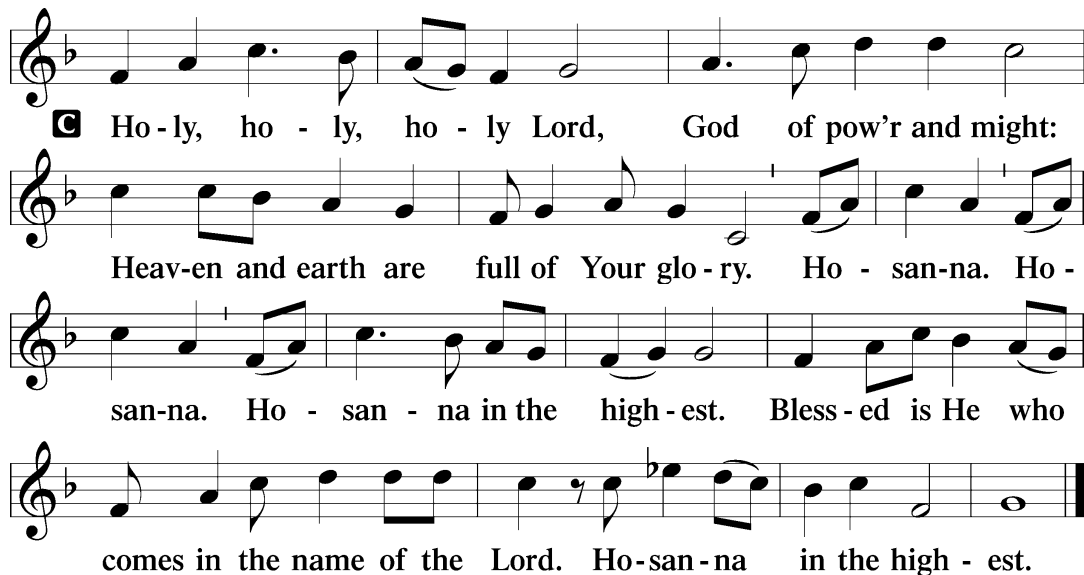


PROPER PREFACE

- P** With hearts emboldened by Your mercy, we come, O Lord, to give You thanks and praise for all Your kindness toward us sinners, who deserved only Your wrath. We rejoice that You delivered up Your own Son to the cross and have forgiven us all our sins by His one, all-sufficient suffering and death. As He is risen from the dead, raise us up from sin and its death to praise Your goodness and worship You with all our hearts, minds, and strength. Recalling the saints of old who have gone before us, we join with their voices and the whole heavenly host, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS ~ *Holy, Holy, Holy*

Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 21:9



C 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.

LORD'S PRAYER

- 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**

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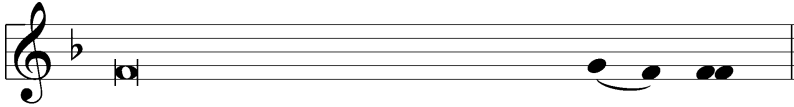
into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

PAX DOMINI ~ Peace of the Lord

John 20:19



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

AGNUS DEI ~ Lamb of God

John 1:29



C 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.

MY CONFESSIONAL PRAYER

I REJOICE in Jesus as my personal Lord and Savior.
I REPENT of all my sins in thought, word, and deed.
I RECEIVE Christ's real body and blood, as well as the bread and wine in this Sacrament.
I RELY on our Savior's promise of forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation given to me through this Holy Supper.

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I REAFFIRM my oneness with fellow communicants in accepting all of Christ's teaching.

I RESOLVE to live a sanctified life by the power of the Holy Spirit.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

427 In the Cross of Christ I Glory

- 1 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.
- 2 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.
- 3 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.
- 4 Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure
By the cross are sanctified;
Peace is there that knows no measure,
Joys that through all time abide.

850 God of Grace and God of Glory

- 1 God of grace and God of glory,
On Your people pour Your pow'r;
Crown Your ancient Church's story;
Bring its bud to glorious flow'r.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
For the facing of this hour,
For the facing of this hour.
- 2 Lo, the hosts of evil round us
Scorn the Christ, assail His ways!
From the fears that long have bound us
Free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage

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For the living of these days,
For the living of these days.

- 3 Cure Your children's warring madness;
Bend our pride to Your control;
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
Rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
Lest we miss Your kingdom's goal,
Lest we miss Your kingdom's goal.
- 4 Save us from weak resignation
To the evils we deplore;
Let the gift of Your salvation
Be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
Serving You whom we adore,
Serving You whom we adore.

622 Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared

- 1 Lord Jesus Christ, You have prepared
This feast for our salvation;
It is Your body and Your blood,
And at Your invitation
As weary souls, with sin oppressed,
We come to You for needed rest,
For comfort, and for pardon.
- 2 Although You did to heav'n ascend,
Where angel hosts are dwelling,
And in Your presence they behold
Your glory, all excelling,
And though Your people shall not see
Your glory and Your majesty
Till dawns the judgment morning,
- 3 Yet, Savior, You are not confined
To any habitation;
But You are present even now
Here with Your congregation.
Firm as a rock this truth shall stand,

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Unmoved by any daring hand
Or subtle craft and cunning.

- 4 We eat this bread and drink this cup,
Your precious Word believing
That Your true body and Your blood
Our lips are here receiving.
This Word remains forever true;
All things are possible with You,
For You are Lord Almighty.
- 5 Though reason cannot understand,
Yet faith this truth embraces:
Your body, Lord, is even now
At once in many places.
I leave to You how this can be;
Your Word alone suffices me;
I trust its truth unfailing.
- 6 Lord, I believe what You have said;
Help me when doubts assail me.
Remember that I am but dust,
And let my faith not fail me.
Your supper in this vale of tears
Refreshes me and stills my fears
And is my priceless treasure.
- 7 Grant that we worthily receive
Your supper, Lord, our Savior,
And, truly grieving for our sins,
May prove by our behavior
That we are thankful for Your grace
And day by day may run our race,
In holiness increasing.
- 8 For Your consoling supper, Lord,
Be praised throughout all ages!
Preserve it, for in ev'ry place
The world against it rages.
Grant that this sacrament may be

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A blessed comfort unto me
When living and when dying.

Please stand.

THANK THE LORD



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray. . .

O God the Father, who sent Your Son into human history so that He could be given over to death as one of us, despised, and in weakness and lowliness, we give thanks that in giving us His body and blood in this Sacrament You have bestowed on us the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation. Accompany us as we leave that we may proclaim Christ crucified to all who do not yet know Your true wisdom, strength, and salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

CLOSING SENTENCES

P I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth.

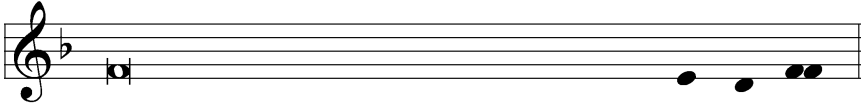
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G My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad.

P The LORD redeems the life of His servants; none of those who take refuge in Him will be condemned.

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24–26



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.



G A - men.

Please be seated.

DISCIPLESHIP CHALLENGE “We Can Use a Little Disruption” *René Hutzell*

L It is always the cross that is decisive. Jesus’ strong reaction to the money-changers can surprise us. Yet this is why Jesus comes this Lenten season; already at this early point in his ministry he is setting the stage for his death and resurrection: “Destroy this temple . . .” This is why the psalmist is not at all uncomfortable closely encountering the Lord; “by [the commandments of the Lord] is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward”; the Lord is “my rock and my redeemer” (Ps 19:11, 14). The cross is why we know that the Lord’s confronting us with our sin is in order to be gracious to all who have gone astray and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of His Word.

- Be in the Word: Read John chapters 2 & 3.
- Consider how the Lord is confronting you in an area of your life where you have gone astray and failed to give over to Him.
- Be doing good works: Reach out to those who have gone astray and are no longer attending church. Call them, send a card, pray for them.

HYMN TO DEPART

853 How Clear Is Our Vocation Lord

HYMN TO DEPART

825 Rise, Shine, You People

- 1 How clear is our vocation, Lord,
When once we heed Your call:
To live according to Your Word
And daily learn, refreshed, restored,
That You are Lord of all
And will not let us fall.
- 2 But if, forgetful, we should find
Your yoke is hard to bear;
If worldly pressures fray the mind,
And love itself cannot unwind
Its tangled skein of care:
Our inward life repair.
- 3 We marvel how Your saints become
In hindrances more sure;
Whose joyful virtues put to shame
The casual way we wear Your name
And by our faults obscure
Your pow'r to cleanse and cure.
- 4 In what You give us, Lord, to do,
Together or alone,
In old routines or ventures new,
May we not cease to look to You,
The cross You hung upon—
All You endeavored done.

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"Be Gracious To Me"

LENTEN MIDWEEK SERIES 2024

2/14 - Ash Wednesday: *Mutual Consideration—Psalm 41:1–2*

2/21 - Midweek 2: *Sustained in Sickness—Psalm 41:3*

2/28 - Midweek 3: *I Have Sinned—Psalm 41:4*

3/07 - Midweek 4: *Soon and Never—Psalm 41:5*

3/14 - Midweek 5: *Empty Words—Psalm 41:6*

3/21 - Midweek 6: *Vindication—Psalm 41:7–8*

3/28 - Maundy Thursday: *My Close Friend—Psalm 41:9*

3/29 - Good Friday: *Be Gracious To Me!—Psalm 41:10*

3/30 - Easter Vigil: *Contradiction—Psalm 41:11*

3/31 - Easter Day: *Because of My Integrity—Psalm 41:12–13*

Written by Erik Rottman, pastor, Grace Lutheran Church, Versailles, Missouri.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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