

Third Sunday in Lent
Saturday, March 2, 2024 – 5:30 p.m.
Sunday, March 3, 2024 – 8:00 a.m.



Welcome!

To our guests and visitors:

We are glad that you are here with us today!

If you have no church home, why don't you consider joining us? Please speak to Pastor Parrish after the service and enjoy a special gift for visiting with us today!

Entrance Hymn: To Your Temple, Lord I Come

LSB 981

1. To Your temple, Lord I Come,
For it is my worship home.
This earth has no better place,
Here I see my Savior's face.
2. I through Him am reconciled.
I through Him become Your child.
Abba, Father, give me grace
In Your courts Your love to trace.
3. While Your glorious praise is sung,
Touch my lips, unloose my tongue
That my joyful soul may bless
Christ the Lord, my righteousness.
4. While the prayers of saints ascend,
God of love, to mine attend.
Hear me, for Your Spirit pleads;
Hear, for Jesus intercedes.
5. While I listen to Your Law,
Fill my soul with humble awe
Till Your Gospel bring to me
Life and immortality.
6. While Your ministers proclaim
Peace and pardon in Your name,
Through their voice, by faith, may I
Hear You speaking from the sky.
7. From Your house when I return,
May my heart within me burn,
And at evening let me say,
"I have walked with God today."

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: God invites us to gather in His name.

People: We are gathered to worship and praise.

Pastor: Our heavenly Father's house is a house of prayer for all the nations.

People: He gathers people from every corner of the earth to sing His praises.

Pastor: We listen to God's Word.

People: We hear the message proclaimed of Christ crucified.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Though this is a house of prayer, we do not always honor God's house as we should. Still, our heavenly Father is merciful, and He invites us ever into His house to ask for forgiveness.

Pastor: Heavenly Father,

People: we have sinned against You and against our neighbors. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Disrupt our sinfulness. Forgive us, renew us, and restore us, on account of Jesus. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy sent Jesus into our world, not only to disrupt our sinfulness but also to forgive us by His death and resurrection. 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.

People: Amen. We are forgiven because of Christ crucified.

Prayer of the Church

Pastor: 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.

People: **Amen.**

Hymn My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less LSB 575:1,3

1 My hope is built on nothing less
 Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
 No merit of my own I claim
 But wholly lean on Jesus' name. **Refrain**

ref On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
 All other ground is sinking sand.

3 His oath, His covenant and blood
 Support me in the raging flood;
 When ev'ry earthly prop gives way,
 He then is all my hope and stay. **Refrain**

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 20:1-17

And God spoke all these words:

²“I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

³“You shall have no other gods before me.

⁴“You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below.

⁵ You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, ⁶ but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷ “You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name. ⁸ “Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. ⁹ Six days you shall labor and do all your work, ¹⁰ but the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your male or female servant, nor your animals, nor any foreigner residing in your towns.

¹¹ For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy. ¹² “Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³ “You shall not murder.

¹⁴ “You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵ “You shall not steal.

¹⁶ “You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

¹⁷ “You shall not covet your neighbor’s house. You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or his male or female servant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

The Epistle Reading

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

¹⁸ For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written: “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise; the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate.” ²⁰ Where is the wise person? Where is the teacher of the law? Where is the philosopher of this age?

Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe. ²² Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, ²³ but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴ but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

²⁵ For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength. ²⁶ Brothers and sisters, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth.

²⁷ But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. ²⁸ God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are, ²⁹ so that no one may boast before him. ³⁰ It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption. ³¹ Therefore, as it is written: “Let the one who boasts boast in the Lord.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

John 2:13-22

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 2nd chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹³ When it was almost time for the Jewish Passover, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴ In the temple courts he found people selling cattle, sheep and doves, and others sitting at tables exchanging money. ¹⁵ So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple courts, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables.

¹⁶ To those who sold doves he said, “Get these out of here! Stop turning my Father’s house into a market!” ¹⁷ His disciples remembered that it is written: “Zeal for your house will consume me.”

¹⁸ The Jews then responded to him, “What sign can you show us to prove your authority to do all this?” ¹⁹ Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days.” ²⁰ They replied, “It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?” ²¹ But the temple he had spoken of was his body. ²² After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they believed the scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Sermon Hymn

Built on the Rock

LSB 645

1 Built on the Rock the Church shall stand
Even when steeples are falling.
Crumbled have spires in ev’ry land;
Bells still are chiming and calling,
Calling the young and old to rest,
But above all the souls distressed,
Longing for rest everlasting.

- 2 Surely in temples made with hands
 God, the Most High, is not dwelling;
High above earth His temple stands,
 All earthly temples excelling.
Yet He who dwells in heav'n above
Chooses to live with us in love,
 Making our bodies His temple.
- 3 We are God's house of living stones,
 Built for His own habitation.
He through baptismal grace us owns
 Heirs of His wondrous salvation.
Were we but two His name to tell,
Yet He would deign with us to dwell
 With all His grace and His favor.
- 4 Here stands the font before our eyes,
 Telling how God has received us.
The altar recalls Christ's sacrifice
 And what His Supper here gives us.
Here sound the Scriptures that proclaim
Christ yesterday, today, the same,
 And evermore, our Redeemer.
- 5 Grant, then, O God, Your will be done,
 That, when the church bells are ringing,
Many in saving faith may come
 Where Christ His message is bringing:
"I know My own; My own know Me.
You, not the world, My face shall see.
 My peace I leave with you. Amen."

**Sermon
Offering**

Wrath-worthy

John 2:13-22

Prayer of the Church

Pastor: On our hearts imprint Your image,

People: blessed Jesus, King of grace.

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, lead Your church on earth to be a house of prayer for all the nations. Disrupt our petty preferences and cultural bias so that we might welcome people from every nation, language, and background. On our hearts imprint Your image,

People: blessed Jesus, King of grace.

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, as You delivered the people out of slavery in Egypt and taught them how to live as Your people, so teach us to live according to Your righteous instructions so that we may live peacefully with You and our neighbors. On our hearts imprint Your image,

People: blessed Jesus, King of grace.

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, You are well acquainted with grief and death. Bring Your comfort to all those who are suffering in grief, [*especially* . . .]. Point them to the hope that in Your Father's house are many rooms and that You have gone to prepare a place for us. On our hearts imprint Your image,

People: blessed Jesus, King of grace.

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, intercede for all those struggling with relationship issues, whether in friendships, family dynamics, marital struggles, or relationships within the church. We pray that You would bring repentance, forgiveness, and reconciliation in the midst of such struggle. On our hearts imprint Your image,

People: blessed Jesus, King of grace.

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, send Your strength to all missionaries, [*especially* . . .]. Embolden them to preach the power of Your cross. Encourage them in their service by the same message they proclaim that You have died and are risen for us and our salvation. On our hearts imprint Your image,

People: blessed Jesus, King of grace.

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, look with favor upon all who are sick, injured, and recovering, [*especially . . .*]. Have mercy upon them and restore them to health according to Your good and gracious will. On our hearts imprint Your image,

People: blessed Jesus, King of grace.

Pastor: Lord Jesus, we commend all of these people and situations into Your hands, for You have promised to hear our prayers and intercede for us, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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

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

pg 163

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

Agnus Dei

pg 163

- C** Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Distribution Hymn

In The Cross of Christ I Glory

LSB 427

- 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.

Post-Communion Collect

- Pastor:** We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this Meal. Keep us steadfast in the true faith, ever hearing and proclaiming Christ crucified for all; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- People:** **Amen.**

Benediction

Pastor: 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.
People: Amen.

Closing Hymn

How Firm A Foundation

LSB 728

- 1 How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!
What more can He say than to you He has said
Who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?
- 2 “Fear not! I am with you, O be not dismayed,
For I am your God and will still give you aid;
I’ll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.
- 3 “The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose
I will not, I will not, desert to his foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I’ll never, no never, no never, forsake!
- 4 “When through fiery trials your pathway will lie,
My grace, all-sufficient, will be your supply.
The flames will not hurt you; I only design
Your dross to consume and your gold to refine.
- 5 “Throughout all their lifetime My people will prove
My sov’reign, eternal, unchangeable love;
And then, when gray hairs will their temples adorn,
Like lambs they will still in My bosom be borne.”