Mt. Pisgah Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

March 3, 2024
Third Sunday in Lent



2606 Chimney Rock Road—Hendersonville, NC 28792 Church Phone 692-7027 Preschool Phone 698-5900

> Church E-mail: mtpisgahlcms@gmail.com Website: www.mtpisgahlutheran.com

Church Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00 PM M-TH 9:00 AM—1:00 PM on Friday



We are delighted to have you worship with us today. May this hour of praise and celebration be one of spiritual renewal. Please join us for worship at any time and sign the red Record of Fellowship pad in the pew. To inquire about membership or other information, please call the Church Office: 692-7027 or email us at mtpisgahlcms@gmail.com.

TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER



Holy Communion is celebrated at all services every Sunday and on special festivals. This Sacrament is the means by which Jesus Christ, the bread of life, gives us his flesh and blood to eat and drink. In this Meal, Jesus forgives our sins, gives us victory over death and Satan, and delivers his eternal salvation to us. Since this is the true body and true blood of Jesus Christ in, with and under the bread and wine, we do not treat this sacrament lightly; rather, we receive it with great reverence and gratitude

to our merciful Savior. Moreover, St. Paul writes: "Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself (1 Cor. 11:27-29)." An order of self-examination is located on pages 329-330 of your hymnal.

To ensure that all who participate in this sacrament receive this sacred gift as the blessing it is intended to be and not to their condemnation, this congregation, with Christian love and in accordance with Holy Scripture, practices closed communion with those who have been instructed and share our public profession of the Christian faith in all its articles. We therefore ask our guests who wish to commune to speak with the Pastor before the service.

We provide both the common cup and individual cups. The individual cups in the center of tray are alcohol free for those with medical requirements that prevent them from receiving alcohol. Wine, however, is the preferred means to receive the blood of Christ, if and when possible, since wine is what Jesus used to institute this sacrament. Likewise, we use unleavened bread, as our Lord did. Gluten-free hosts are also available for those with medical needs. Please alert the Pastor or an Elder of any needs.

Rev. Jonathan Christensen - Pastor mplc.pastor@gmail.com Office: (828) 692-7027 ex.402

Cell: (920)530-8606

Mt. Pisgah Lutheran Church & Preschool

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

March 3, 2024

Third Sunday in Lent

Serving Today

Pastor Jonathan Christensen

Robert Hamrick, Organist

Craig Escude, Choir Director/Cantor

Elders Paul Mincer

Rick Sanborn

Lector Kathy Kirchoefer
Ushers Bill Kruse, Leah Ryel

Kurt Dellutri, Tony Sellius

Greeter Nona Schmook
Altar Guild Eleanor Claycomb

Serving Next Week March 10

Elders Paul Mincer

Rick Sanborn

Lector Wendy White

Ushers Bill Kruse, Leah Ryel

Michele Maloney, Karen Lundquist

Greeter Nona Schmook

Altar Guild Lyn Heiple

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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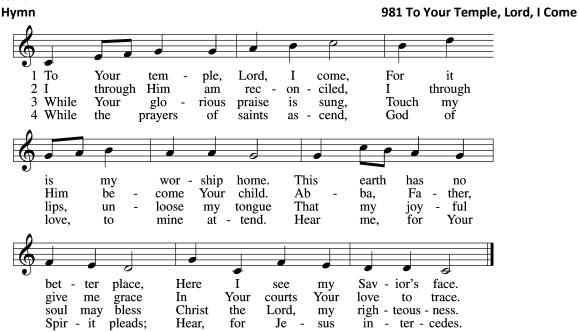
The Divine Service: Setting Four

Prelude

To Your Temple, Lord, I Come

Kermit Moldenhauer





5 While I listen to Your Law, Fill my soul with humble awe Till Your Gospel bring to me Life and immortality.

- 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."

Confession and Absolution

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

- P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- who made heaven and earth.
- If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
- **B**ut with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.
- P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Kneel/Sit

- Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life.

 Amen.
- Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Amen.

Service of the Word

Stand

Introit

Psalm 69:14–16; antiphon: v. 9 Tone C



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

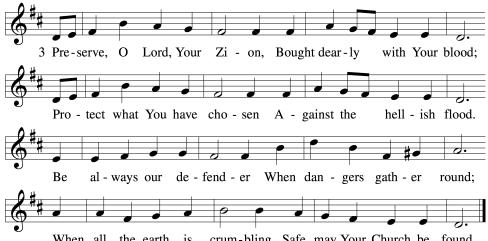
Kyrie LSB 204



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Hymn of the Church

658 Preserve Your Word, O Savior st. 3



crum-bling, Safe may Your Church be found. When all the earth is

Salutation and Collect of the Day

- $[\mathbf{P}]$ The Lord be with you.
- \mathbf{C} And also with you.
- \mathbf{P} Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

 \mathbf{C} Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Fxodus 20:1-17

¹And God spoke all these words, saying,

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

³"You shall have no other gods before me.

4"You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. 5You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the

fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷"You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.

⁸"Remember the Sabbath day, to 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. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

¹²"Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that 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 bear false witness against your neighbor.

¹⁷"You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.



Psalm 19; antiphon: v. 8 Tone C

¹The heavens declare the glo- | ry of God,* and the sky above proclaims his | handiwork.

²Day to day | pours out speech,*

and night to night reveals | knowledge.

³There is no speech, nor | are there words,*

whose voice | is not heard.

⁴Their 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,

⁵which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber,*

and, like a strong man, runs its | course with joy.

⁶Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them,* and there is nothing hidden from its heat.

⁷The law of the LORD is perfect, reviv- | ing the soul;*

the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the | simple;

8the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing | the heart;*

the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening | the eyes;

⁹the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for- | ever;*

the just decrees of the LORD are true, and righteous alto- | gether.

- ¹⁰More to be desired are they than gold, even | much fine gold;* sweeter also than honey and drippings of the | honeycomb.
- ¹¹Moreover, by them is your | servant warned;* in keeping them there is | great reward.
- 12Who can dis- | cern his errors?*

Declare me innocent from | hidden faults.

¹³Keep back your servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion | over me!*
Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great trans- | gression.

¹⁴Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable | in your sight,*
O LORD, my rock and my re- | deemer.

Epistle 1 Corinthians 1:18–31

¹⁸The word of the cross is folly 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, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, ²³but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

²⁶For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom and our righteousness and sanctification and redemption. ³¹Therefore, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

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

Stand

Gradual *

Hebrews 12:2 Tone C

[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.

Holy Gospel John 2:13–22

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the second chapter.
- Glory to You, O Lord.

¹³The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting there. ¹⁵And making a whip of cords, he drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and oxen. And he poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶And he told those who sold the pigeons, "Take these things away; do not make my Father's house a house of trade." ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me."

¹⁸So the Jews said to him, "What sign do you show us for doing these things?" ¹⁹Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ²⁰The Jews then said, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹But he was speaking about the temple of his body. ²²When therefore 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** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

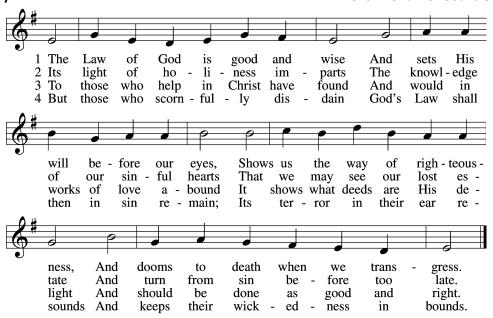
> And in one Lord Jesus Christ. the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven 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 \pm of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

Hymn

579 The Law of God Is Good and Wise



The Law is good; but since the fall lts holiness condemns us all; It dooms us for our sin to die And has no pow'r to justify.

6 To Jesus we for refuge flee, Who from the curse has set us free, And humbly worship at His throne, Saved by His grace through faith alone.

Sermon

Stand

Prayer of the Church

P Almighty and eternal God, worthy to be held in reverence by all people everywhere, we give You humble and sincere thanks for the innumerable blessings that You have bestowed on us without any merit or worthiness on our part.

We praise You especially for preserving for us Your saving Word and the holy Sacraments. Grant and preserve to Your holy Church throughout the world purity of doctrine, and provide faithful pastors to preach Your Word with power. Help all who hear the Word rightly to understand and truly to believe it. Send laborers into Your harvest, and open the door of faith to those who do not know You. In mercy, bring to repentance the enemies of Your Church, and grant them amendment of life. Protect and defend Your Church in all tribulation and danger. Strengthen us and all fellow Christians to set our hope fully on the grace revealed in Christ, and help us to fight the good fight of faith that in the end we may receive the salvation of our souls.

Bestow Your grace on all nations of the earth. Bless especially our country, its inhabitants, and all who are in authority. Let Your glory dwell in our land that mercy and truth, righteousness and peace may abound in all places. We commend to You the care of our schools so that our children may grow in useful knowledge and Christian virtue and thus bring forth wholesome fruits of life.

Graciously defend us from all calamity by fire and water, from war and pestilence, from scarcity and famine, and from every other evil. Protect and prosper all who labor in their rightful callings, and let all useful arts flourish among us. Be the God and Father of the lonely and the forsaken, the helper of the sick and needy, the comforter of the distressed and those who sorrow.

Accept, we implore You, our bodies and souls, our hearts and minds, our talents and powers, together with the offerings we bring before You as our humble service.

Grant Your Holy Spirit to those who come to the Lord's Table this day that they may receive the body and blood of Jesus Christ in sincere repentance and firm faith and to their abundant blessing.

As we are strangers and pilgrims on earth, help us by true faith and a godly life to prepare for the world to come, doing the work You have given us to do while it is day, before the night comes when no one can work. And when our last hour comes, support us by Your power, and receive us into Your heavenly kingdom; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

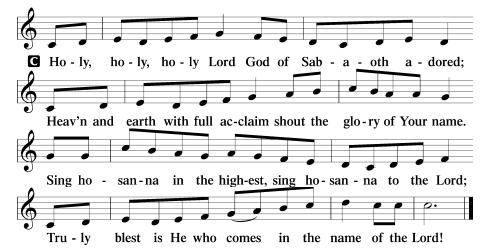
Service of the Sacrament

Stand

Preface LSB 208

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- And also with you.
- **P** Lift up your hearts.
- **G** We lift them to the Lord.
- **P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- It is right to give Him thanks and praise.
- It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. 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 LSB 208



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. At Your command, Abraham prepared to offer his son Isaac as a sacrifice on the mountain; yet, in mercy You provided a ram as a substitute. We give You thanks that on Calvary You spared not Your only Son but sent Him to offer His life as a ransom for many. As we eat and drink His body and blood, grant us, like Abraham our father, to trust in Your promise now fulfilled in Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

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

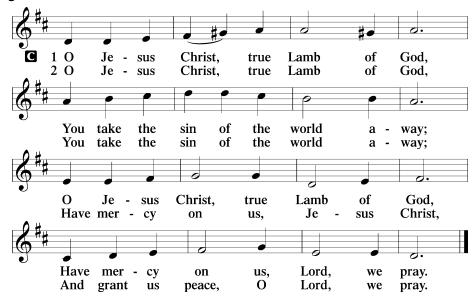
P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ⅓ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

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

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.

Agnus Dei



Sit

Distribution

The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first and then distribute them to those who come to receive, saying:

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins. **Amen.**

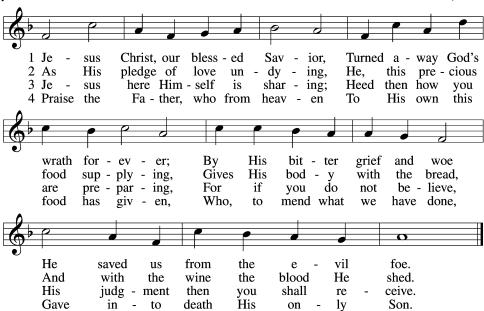
Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.

Amen.

Hymn 561 The Tree of Life







- Firmly hold with faith unshaken
 That this food is to be taken
 By the sick who are distressed,
 By hearts that long for peace and rest.
- Agony and bitter labor
 Were the cost of God's high favor;
 Do not come if you suppose
 You need not Him who died and rose.
- 7 Christ says: "Come, all you that labor, And receive My grace and favor: Those who feel no pain or ill Need no physician's help or skill.
- 8 "For what purpose was My dying If not for your justifying? And what use this precious food If you yourself were pure and good?"

- 9 If your heart this truth professes And your mouth your sin confesses, You will be your Savior's guest, Be at His banquet truly blest.
- 10 Let this food your faith so nourish That its fruit of love may flourish And your neighbor learn from you How much God's wondrous love can do.

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart → in peace.
- C Amen.

Stand

Nunc Dimittis LSB 211



Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus LSB 212

A Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Benediction

C Amen.





Some leaders wanted proof of Jesus' authority. He said, "Destroy this temple and I will raise it again in 3 days." They said it took 46 years to build! What temple was Jesus talking about?

