

**Our Savior Lutheran Church
Sunday, March 7, 2021
Third Sunday in Lent**

Thought: Being on the same page? Lord Jesus, on this day we come together in your house to talk to you, to listen to you, to be guided by you and (because we're in Lent) to be chided by you. Speak to us, Lord. Work among us so that this time is more than a time of warm fellowship but also a time of deep encounter.



Prelude – Now the Silence (Braeden Ayres)

<https://youtu.be/551XR8NDh5s>

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer Concerns

Call to Worship – “Prayerful”

P: On the way to the cross, our Lord lived a prayerful life. We celebrate the character of Christ’s prayerful ways this Lent, seeking to make his ways our own as we follow him.

A brief silence.

P: After Jesus had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night,

C: he was there alone.

P: Jesus withdrew about a stone's throw beyond the disciples, knelt down and prayed, "Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me;

C: yet not my will, but yours be done."

P: Jesus prayed, "Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory,

C: the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world.

P: In the way that we set aside time for ourselves to pray alone and without distraction,

C: let us live out the character of Christ in our prayerful ways.

P: In the way that we desire to know, accept and do God's will in what we ask in prayer,

C: let us live out the character of Christ in our prayerful ways.

P: In the way that we pray for others that they might know and experience Christ's glory,

C: let us live out the character of Christ in our prayerful way.

Gathering Music – Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

First – Plymouth Church, Lincoln Neb.

<https://youtu.be/tHkXHdVwm8o>

Invocation

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

Amen.

Prayer of Confession

P: Return to me with all your heart, says the Lord, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning, with broken and contrite hearts.

C: For the Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

P: We proclaim Christ crucified, the power of God and the wisdom of God.

A time of Silence

P: O God, in your kindness, have pity.

C: In your mercy, wash away our sins. Wash us clean of sin and guilt, the sins that we cannot forget and those we cannot remember. For the

sake of Jesus Christ, turn your eyes from our iniquity, and cover our guilt, that we may know again the joy of your salvation.

P: Jesus Christ never sinned. But God treated him as a sinner, so that Christ could make us acceptable to God.

C: All we, like sheep, have gone astray; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

P: We proclaim Christ crucified, the power of God and the wisdom of God.

C: Amen.

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Kyrie

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen and Amen.

Music – I Want Jesus to Walk With Me (Eric Bibb)

https://youtu.be/WvCCRr_Kyx0

Prayer of the Day

A: Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously.

C: 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. Amen.

The Word

Old Testament reading – Exodus 20:1-17

The commandments are given at Sinai

20 Then God spoke all these words:

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 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. ⁵ You 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, ⁶ but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

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

⁸ Remember the sabbath day, and keep 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; 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. ¹¹ For 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.

¹² Honor your father and your mother, so 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 male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 19

The commandment of the Lord gives light to the eyes

¹ The heavens are telling the glory of God;
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

² **Day to day pours forth speech,
and night to night declares knowledge.**

³ There is no speech, nor are there words;
their voice is not heard;

⁴ **yet their voice goes out through all the earth,
and their words to the end of the world.**

In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun,

⁵ which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy,
and like a strong man runs its course with joy.

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

⁷ The law of the Lord is perfect,
reviving the soul;

the decrees of the Lord are sure,
making wise the simple;

⁸ **the precepts of the Lord are right,
rejoicing the heart;**

**the commandment of the Lord is clear,
enlightening the eyes;**

⁹ the fear of the Lord is pure,
enduring forever;

the ordinances of the Lord are true
and righteous altogether.

¹⁰ **More to be desired are they than gold,
even much fine gold;**

**sweeter also than honey,
and drippings of the honeycomb.**

¹¹ Moreover by them is your servant warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.

¹² **But who can detect their errors?
Clear me from hidden faults.**

¹³ Keep back your servant also from the insolent;
do not let them have dominion over me.

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

¹⁴ **Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable to you,
O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.**

Epistle reading – 1 Corinthians 1:18-25
Christ crucified, the wisdom of God

¹⁸ For the message about 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,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

²⁰ Where 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? ²¹ For 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. ²² For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³ but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel – John 2:13-22
The cleansing of the temple
<https://youtu.be/hcbhn8kqY3l>

The Holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹³ The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴ In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵ Making 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. ¹⁶ He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" ¹⁷ His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." ¹⁸ The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" ¹⁹ Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ²⁰ The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹ But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²² After 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.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Children's Time

<https://youtu.be/G-FfJD54cyY>

Homily – "Temple Tantrum"

<https://youtu.be/ynD8PWpS7oA>

Music – The Church of Christ in Every Age (James Biery)

<https://youtu.be/zBUAQKGyc5A>

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead,
on the third day, he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

P: Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

A: There is no God before you. Purify the faith of your church, that your people place their trust in nothing beside you. Your name is holy. Guide your church, that in every situation your people's words and actions honor your name. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: The heavens declare your glory. Renew your creation. Provide leaders in the struggle for clean air and water; protect creatures and crops that rely on healthy ecosystems; give all people the willingness to repent when our way of life pollutes the earth and skies. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Your foolishness is wiser than human wisdom. Fill leaders with the foolishness of your peace and mercy. Your law defends the vulnerable. Work through legislators, judicial systems, and systems of law enforcement to protect the wellbeing and freedom of all. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Your weakness is stronger than human strength. Protect those who are vulnerable and give courage to all who are suffering. Defend victims of crime and bring redemption to those who have harmed others. Give sabbath rest to all who labor. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: You call us to proclaim Christ crucified. Give clarity to this congregation and our leaders, so that we might follow Christ beyond our own habits and comfort. Clear out anything in our common life that would obscure the gospel or that serves our own interests. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: The cross of Christ is your power for all who are being saved. Thank you for all the martyrs whose witness reveals the power of the cross. Give us the same trust in life and in death. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Offering/Offertory Prayer

A: Gracious God, you have given us everything we need for a good life lived in relationship with you and neighbor.

C: We commit ourselves anew to living as you command. Guide, protect, and help us in living out our intention, and receive and us this offering as a statement of our sincerity. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

P: Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Lamb of God

(w/Lyrics – Catholic Mass Song)

<https://youtu.be/LcgpnvQPoaQ>

Words of Institution

The 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,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

P: Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace and love.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

Distribution

Communion Music – One Bread, One Body

White's Chapel UMC Choir, singing at the Vatican (Sept. 2017)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ScuDoD7ELV8>

Post Communion Prayer

A: Lord Jesus Christ, you do not desire sacrifice.

C: You, yourself, have filled that role.

A: Help us to offer what you do desire –

C: love for God and neighbor.

A: These are the gifts that bring the worship.

C: Amen.

Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you His peace. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Sending music – Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

First–Plymouth Church, Lincoln Neb.

<https://youtu.be/xMPI8sn-ANU>

Dismissal

A: Send us forth from worship to share our faith.

C: Strengthened, we go to serve!

