

# The Third Sunday in Lent ✠ March 7, 2021

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## THE PASTORAL GREETING

### THE OPENING HYMN – “Just As I Am”

Vss. 1, 3-5

LSB 570

- 1 Just as I am, without one plea  
But that Thy blood was shed for me  
And that Thou bidd'st me come to Thee,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
  
- 3 Just as I am, though tossed about  
With many\_a conflict, many\_a doubt,  
Fightings and fears within, without,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
  
- 4 Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;  
Sight, riches, healing of the mind,  
Yea, all I need, in Thee to find,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
  
- 5 Just as I am, Thou wilt receive,  
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;  
Because Thy promise I believe,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

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## THE INVOCATION AND CONFESSION

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

C: **Amen.**

P: O Lord, open my lips,

C: **And my mouth shall declare your praise.** *Psalm 51:15*

P: Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

C: **Make haste to help me, O Lord. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.** *Psalm 70:1*

P: Since we are gathered to hear God's Word and to call upon him in prayer and praise, 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.

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

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. O God, you are always ready to have mercy. Grant that by faith we would live as your people with your Word as our guide; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

## THE HYMN OF PRAISE – “Jesus Sinners Doth Receive”

Vss. 1,4-6

LSB 609

- 1 Jesus sinners doth receive;  
Oh, may all this saying ponder  
Who in sin's delusions live  
And from God and heaven wander!  
Here is hope for all who grieve:  
Jesus sinners doth receive.
  
- 4 I, a sinner, come to Thee  
With a penitent confession.  
Savior, mercy show to me;  
Grant for all my sins remission.  
Let these words my soul relieve:  
Jesus sinners doth receive.
  
- 5 Oh, how blest it is to know:  
Were as scarlet my transgression,  
It shall be as white as snow  
By Thy blood and bitter passion;  
For these words I now believe:  
Jesus sinners doth receive.
  
- 6 Now my conscience is at peace;  
From the Law I stand acquitted.  
Christ hath purchased my release  
And my ev'ry sin remitted.  
Naught remains my soul to grieve:  
Jesus sinners doth receive.

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## THE OLD TESTAMENT READING – Exodus 20:1-17, ESV

*In this reading, God provides the people with the Ten Commandments.*

And God spoke all these words, saying, “I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

“You shall have no other gods before me. 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. You 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, but showing steadfast love to thousands<sup>[b]</sup> of those who love me and keep my commandments. 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. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but 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. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

“Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you. You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. 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.”

Now when all the people saw the thunder and the flashes of lightning and the sound of the trumpet and the mountain smoking, the people were afraid and trembled, and they stood far off and said to Moses, “You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, lest we die.” Moses said to the people, “Do not fear, for God has come to test you, that the fear of him may be before you, that you may not sin.”

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### **THE EPISTLE READING – 1 Corinthians 1:18-31, ESV**

*In this reading, Paul teaches us about the differences between hearing God's Word with faith and hearing it without faith. As people of faith, we listen for the message of hope in Christ Jesus.*

The word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

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? For 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. For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, so that, 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.**

### **THE HYMN – “Lamb of God, Pure and Holy”**

**Vs. 3**

**LSB 434**

3 Lamb of God, pure and holy,  
Who on the cross didst suffer,  
Ever patient and lowly,  
Thyself to scorn didst offer.  
All sins Thou borest for us,  
Else had despair reigned o'er us:  
Thy peace be with us, O Jesus! O Jesus!

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### **THE HOLY GOSPEL READING – John 2:13-22, ESV**

The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting there. And 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. And he told those who sold the pigeons, "Take these things away; do not make my Father's house a house of trade." His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me."

So the Jews said to him, "What sign do you show us for doing these things?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking about the temple of his body. When 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.

**C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

**THE HYMN – "The Law of God Is Good and Wise"**

**Vss. 1,2,5,6**

**LSB 579**

- 1 The Law of God is good and wise  
And sets His will before our eyes,  
Shows us the way of righteousness,  
And dooms to death when we transgress.
  
- 2 Its light of holiness imparts  
The knowledge of our sinful hearts  
That we may see our lost estate  
And turn from sin before too late.
  
- 5 The Law is good; but since the fall  
Its 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.

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**THE MESSAGE**

**✠ THE RESPONSE ✠**

**THE HYMN – "The Gospel Shows the Father's Grace"**

**Vss. 1,4,6**

**LSB 580**

- 1 The Gospel shows the Father's grace,  
Who sent His Son to save our race,  
Proclaims how Jesus lived and died  
That we might thus be justified.
  
- 4 It is the pow'r of God to save  
From sin and Satan and the grave;  
It works the faith which firmly clings  
To all the treasures which it brings.

- 6 May we in faith its message learn  
Nor thanklessly its blessings spurn;  
May we in faith its truth confess  
And praise the Lord, our righteousness.

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## THE 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.

## THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Each petition will end with the words: Lord, in Your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

**P:** Hear us Heavenly Father, as we pray the prayer that Christ gave us:

**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.**

## THE BLESSING

**P:** May almighty God: Father, Son ✠ and Holy Spirit, bless you and keep you.

**C: Amen.**

## THE HYMN – “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

Vss. 1,2,4

LSB 425

- 1 When I survey the wondrous cross On which the Prince of Glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss And pour contempt on all my pride.
- 2 Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast Save in the death of Christ, my God;  
All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to His blood.
- 4 Were the whole realm of nature mine, That were a tribute far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine, Demands my soul, my life, my all!

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**✠ May God bless you and yours. ✠**