

# The Midweek Service in Lent + April 1, 2020

## ✠ THE PREPARATION ✠

### THE INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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

**C: Amen.**

P: By a perversion of justice, Christ was taken away.

**C: Who could have imagined his future?**

P: For he was cut off from the land of the living,

**C: Stricken for the transgression of God's people.**

P: Christ was wounded for our transgressions,

**C: Crushed for our iniquities;**

P: Upon Him was the punishment that made us whole,

**C: And by His wounds, we are healed.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

**C: Most merciful God, we confess to you that we have broken your commandments by our own thoughts, words, and deeds. We have stolen from you in our failure to love, serve, and obey you. We have not loved our brothers and sisters as we ought, and we have not cared for your creation. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us, and give us the healing power of your love that we may walk again in your ways and live to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P: God is gracious and merciful, and desires that we be made free of the burden of our sins. Through Jesus Christ, who bore the cross for our sake and for the sake of the whole world, there is healing, hope, and life. Your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

### THE HYMN – AMAZING GRACE

*Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost but now am found, was blind, but now I see.*

*'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved.  
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.*

*Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come.  
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.*

*The Lord has promised good to me; His Word my hope secures;  
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.*

## ✠ THE WORD ✠

### THE OLD TESTAMENT READING – Exodus 20:15

15 "You shall not steal."

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## THE EPISTLE READING – Romans 13:1-7

Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. 2 Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves. 3 For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and you will be commended. 4 For the one in authority is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for rulers do not bear the sword for no reason. They are God's servants, agents of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer. 5 Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also as a matter of conscience.

6 This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing. 7 Give to everyone what you owe them: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## THE HOLY GOSPEL READING – Luke 23:1-5

Then the whole assembly rose and led him off to Pilate. 2 And they began to accuse him, saying, "We have found this man subverting our nation. He opposes payment of taxes to Caesar and claims to be Messiah, a king."

3 So Pilate asked Jesus, "Are you the king of the Jews?"

"You have said so," Jesus replied.

4 Then Pilate announced to the chief priests and the crowd, "I find no basis for a charge against this man."

5 But they insisted, "He stirs up the people all over Judea by his teaching. He started in Galilee and has come all the way here."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## THE MESSAGE

## THE PRAYERS

*Each petition ends with the prayer:*

**C: Heal us, O God**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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 BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace. Amen.