

**3rd Sunday in Lent
Worship Service
March 3 – 9:00 a.m.**

Gathering

Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness:

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity...who draws all people together through the gospel of Jesus.

C: *Amen.*

P: Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy God,

C: we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.

P: Here is a flood of grace...the promise of life through † Jesus Christ.

C: *Amen.*

Gathering Hymn: “Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty” (ELW #533)

Open now thy gates of beauty,
Zion, let me enter there,
where my soul in joyful duty
waits for God who answers prayer.
Oh, how blessed is this place,
filled with solace, light, and grace!

Gracious God, I come before thee;
come thou also unto me;
where we find thee and adore thee,
there a heav'n on earth must be.
To my heart, oh, enter thou,
let it be thy temple now!

Here thy praise is gladly chanted,
here thy seed is duly sown;
let my soul, where it is planted,
bring forth precious sheaves alone,
so that all I hear may be
fruitful unto life in me.

Thou my faith increase and quicken,
let me keep thy gift divine;
howsoe'er temptations thicken,
may thy word still o'er me shine
as my guiding star through life,
as my comfort in all strife.

Speak, O God, and I will hear thee,
let thy will be done indeed;
may I undisturbed draw near thee
while thou dost thy people feed.
Here of life the fountain flows;
here is balm for all our woes.

Greeting:

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

C: And also with you.

Kyrie: (ELW p. 147)

Prayer of the Day

Word

First Reading: Exodus 20:1-17 (NRSVue) *Response: Thanks be to God!*

Psalm: Psalm 19 (NRSVue)

¹The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

²*Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge.*

³They have no speech, they use no words; no sound is heard from them. In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the sun.

⁵*It is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, like a champion rejoicing to run his course.*

⁶It rises at one end of the heavens and makes its circuit to the other; nothing is deprived of its warmth.

⁷*The law of the LORD is perfect, refreshing the soul.*

The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy, making wise the simple.

⁸*The precepts of the LORD are right, giving joy to the heart.*

The commands of the LORD are radiant, giving light to the eyes.

⁹*The fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever.*

The decrees of the LORD are firm, and all of them are righteous.

¹⁰*They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold;*

they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the honeycomb.

¹¹*By them your servant is warned; in keeping them there is great reward.*

¹²But who can discern their own errors? Forgive my hidden faults.

¹³*Keep your servant also from willful sins; may they not rule over me.*

Then I will be blameless, innocent of great transgression.

¹⁴ May these words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 (NRSVue) *Response: Thanks be to God!*

Gospel Reading: John 2:13-22 (NRSVue)

Response before the reading: Glory to you, O Lord.

Response after the reading: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: "Be Thou My Vision" (ELW #793)

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
thou my best thought both by day and by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.
Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tow'r,
raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou and thou only, the first in my heart,
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.

Light of my soul, after victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860-1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880-1931
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Apostles' Creed: (ELW p. 105)

Prayers of Intercession: Hear us, O God. *Your mercy is great.*

Peace:

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: *And also with you.*

Offering Prayer: Let us pray.

C: Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name. Amen.

Meal

The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: It is right to give thanks and praise.

Preface

Holy, Holy, Holy: (ELW p. 153)

Eucharistic Prayer

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer: (ELW p. 154)

Lamb of God: (ELW p. 154)

Invitation to Communion

Communion

Table Blessing:

P: Now may the body....and keep us in his grace.

C: Amen.

Prayer after Communion: Let us pray. Generous God,

C: at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life. Amen.

Benediction:

P: Beloved, we are God's own people...give you peace.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn: “Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us” (ELW #707)

Lord of glory, you have bought us
with your lifeblood as the price,
never grudging for the lost ones
that tremendous sacrifice;
and with that have freely given
blessings countless as the sand
to the unthankful and the evil
with your own unsparing hand.

Wondrous honor you have given
to our humblest charity
in your own mysterious sentence,
"You have done it all to me."
Naked, sick, in prison, hungry—
in the least, your face we view,
saying by your poor and needy,
"Give as I have giv'n to you."

Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give you
gladly, freely, of your own.
With the sunshine of your goodness
melt our thankless hearts of stone
till our cold and selfish natures,
warmed by you, at length believe
that more happy and more blessed
'tis to give than to receive.

Lord of glory, you have bought us
with your lifeblood as the price,
never grudging for the lost ones
that tremendous sacrifice.
Give us faith to trust you boldly,
hope, to stay our souls on you:
but, oh, best of all your graces,
with your love our love renew.

Text: Eliza S. Alderson, 1818-1889, alt.
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Sending

Dismissal:

P: We go out into the world

C: sharing the love of God, spreading the Word of God, and serving the children of God.

P: Go in peace. Share your bread.

C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

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