

Third Sunday in Lent
March 20, 2022
Lutheran Service Book, Divine 4, page 203

Opening Hymn

“Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me”

LSB 761

- 1 Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
 Let me hide myself in Thee;
 Let the water and the blood,
 From Thy riven side which flowed,
 Be of sin the double cure:
 Cleanse me from its guilt and pow’r.

- 2 Not the labors of my hands
 Can fulfill Thy Law’s demands;
 Could my zeal no respite know,
 Could my tears forever flow,
 All for sin could not atone;
 Thou must save, and Thou alone.

- 3 Nothing in my hand I bring;
 Simply to Thy cross I cling.
 Naked, come to Thee for dress;
 Helpless, look to Thee for grace;
 Foul, I to the fountain fly;
 Wash me, Savior, or I die.

- 4 While I draw this fleeting breath,
 When mine eyelids close in death,
 When I soar to worlds unknown,
 See Thee on Thy judgment throne,
 Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
 Let me hide myself in Thee.

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,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C **But 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.

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.**

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Introit

For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked will perish.

For you are not a God who delights in wickedness;
evil may not dwell with you.

The boastful shall not stand before your eyes;
you hate all evildoers.

You destroy those who speak lies;
the LORD abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man.

But I, through the abundance of your steadfast love, will enter your house.

I will bow down toward your holy temple in the fear of you.
Lead me, O LORD, in your righteousness because of my enemies;
make your way straight before me.

**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.**

Kyrie

LSB page 204



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

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

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.

C **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 33:7–20

⁷“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.

¹⁰“And you, son of man, say to the house of Israel, Thus have you said: ‘Surely our transgressions and our sins are upon us, and we rot away because of them. How then can we live?’ ¹¹Say to them, As I live, declares the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?”

¹²“And you, son of man, say to your people, The righteousness of the righteous shall not deliver him when he transgresses, and as for the wickedness of the wicked, he shall not fall by it when he turns from his wickedness, and the righteous shall not be able to live by his righteousness when he sins. ¹³Though I say to the righteous that he shall surely live, yet if he trusts in his righteousness and does injustice, none of his righteous deeds shall be remembered, but in his injustice that he has done he shall die. ¹⁴Again, though I say to the wicked, ‘You shall surely die,’ yet if he turns from his sin and does what is just and right, ¹⁵if the wicked restores the pledge, gives back what he has taken by robbery, and walks in the statutes of life, not doing injustice, he shall surely live; he shall not die. ¹⁶None of the sins that he has committed shall be remembered against him. He has done what is just and right; he shall surely live.

¹⁷“Yet your people say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just,’ when it is their own way that is not just. ¹⁸When the righteous turns from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it. ¹⁹And when the wicked turns from his wickedness and does what is just and right, he shall live by them. ²⁰Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ O house of Israel, I will judge each of you according to his ways.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

“A Carol for Lent”

Holy Cross Choir

Epistle

1 Corinthians 10:1–13

¹I want you to know, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ²and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock

was Christ. ⁵Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

⁶Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. ⁷Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play." ⁸We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day.

⁹We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, ¹⁰nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. ¹¹Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come.

¹²Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. ¹³No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

Luke 13:1–9

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the thirteenth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹There were some present at that very time who told [Jesus] about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. ²And he answered them, "Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered in this way? ³No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. ⁴Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? ⁵No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish."

⁶And he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. ⁷And he said to the vinedresser, 'Look, for three years now I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down. Why should it use up the ground?' ⁸And he answered him, 'Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and put on manure. ⁹Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

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C 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 of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn of the Day “God Moves in a Mysterious Way” LSB 7651,2,4,5

- 1 God moves in a mysterious way
 His wonders to perform;
He plants His footsteps in the sea
 And rides upon the storm.

- 2 Judge not the Lord by feeble sense,
 But trust Him for His grace;
Behind a frowning providence
 Faith sees a smiling face.

- 4 Blind unbelief is sure to err
And scan His work in vain;
God is His own interpreter,
And He will make it plain.
- 5 You fearful saints, fresh courage take;
The clouds you so much dread
Are big with mercy and will break
In blessings on your head.

Sermon

Acts 2:42-47

Prayer of the Church

Almighty God, You order and number our days according to Your wisdom. Give us repentant hearts, lest we perish with this world of violence and suffering, that we would hold fast to Christ for life and salvation. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious Lord, give all Christians strength to defend that message. Turn sinners to life by the proclamation of Christ, who delivers from all unrighteousness. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, guard Your people against immorality. Grant that our homes would be havens of godly instruction and chastity, and fill marriages with fidelity and love. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of all, enlighten the authorities of this and every nation, that they might rule justly for true good. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy God, remember Your people who cry to You for mercy in a world where towers fall and sinners work evil. Deliver those in need of healing and comfort, [*especially _____,*] and strengthen them to look to You for help in their time of affliction. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord of life, receive our thanks for Your patience, and grant that we would show Your love and grace in all that we say and do. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, receive our thanks for Your kindness to the saints who now rest from their labors, and sustain us by Your Means of Grace until You deliver us also to heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever. **Amen.**

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Preface

LSB page 208

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 Him thanks and praise.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB page 209

P 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

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 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 † 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

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1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Communion Distribution

Nunc Dimittis

LSB page 211

C 1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All

part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the

glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;

A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is

to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -

peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Post-Communion Collect

LSB page 212

P Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; 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

P Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

C **Amen.**

Closing Hymn “Christ Be My Leader”

LSB 861

1 Christ be my Leader by night as by day;
Safe through the darkness, for He is the way.
Gladly I follow, my future His care,
Darkness is daylight when Jesus is there.

2 Christ be my Teacher in age as in youth,
Drifting or doubting, for He is the truth.
Grant me to trust Him; though shifting as sand,
Doubt cannot daunt me; in Jesus I stand.

- 3 Christ be my Savior in calm as in strife;
Death cannot hold me, for He is the life.
Nor darkness nor doubting nor sin and its stain
Can touch my salvation: with Jesus I reign.

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Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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THE SUNDAY HERALD

March 21-27, 2022

<p style="text-align: center;">MONDAY</p> <p>Stewardship Ministry 7:00pm Jr. Confirmation 7:00pm Choir 7:30pm AA 7:00pm</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">TUESDAY</p> <p>Building & Property 7:00pm Bells 6:30pm TOPS 8:30am & 6:00pm</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">WEDNESDAY</p> <p>Lenten Worship #4 7:00pm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">THURSDAY</p> <p>Prayer Group 3:00pm Adult Instruction Class 7:00pm</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">FRIDAY</p> <p>Bulletin Assembly 10:00am Adult Instruction Class 7:00pm</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">SATURDAY</p> <p>Worship 5:30pm</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">SUNDAY</p> <p>Worship 8:30am Adult Bible Class 9:45am Worship 11:00am</p>
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**BIBLE READINGS FOR THE
4TH WEEKEND IN LENT**

Old Testament: Isaiah 12:1-6
 Epistle: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21
 Holy Gospel: Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

**SAVE THE DATE – PASTOR EISINGER’S
RETIREMENT CELEBRATION**

Please join us on Sunday, July 24th from 1 pm to 5 pm at the Ukrainian Cultural Center as we celebrate Pastor Eisinger’s retirement. Everyone is welcome. More information to follow in the upcoming months.

ADULT INSTRUCTION CLASSES

Pastor will be starting adult instruction classes on Thursday and Friday, March 24 and 25 and April 7 and 8 from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Plan on joining Pastor if you would like to become a member of Holy Cross, or if you

just want a refresher course on being a Lutheran. Please call the office if you are interested in attending.

LENTEN WORSHIP

Lenten Worship will continue Wednesdays thru April 6th with a worship service each week at 7:00 pm. Pastor’s sermon series is “*Lenten Wedding Lessons*”. Here is a list of his lesson and dates.

- March 23 – Parable of The Wedding Banquet***
- March 30 – Parable of The Wise and Foolish Virgins***
- April 6 – The New Jerusalem!***

FOG

Are you interested in helping with a lunch bag project? You DO NOT have to be on a team - you can help by just picking up the cookies - or the chips - or

perhaps you would like to deliver the lunch bags to FOG on a Sunday around 1pm. Contact Roberta Hanka to see how you can help or what dates are available.

ABOUT THE COVER

God's People have been made like fig trees to bear fruit. In the eyes of the vinedresser, a fig tree that bears no fruit is not a lost cause to be immediately cut down. Instead, he tends to it and fertilizes it. Jesus' parable helps us see His heart of patient compassion. He sees to it that we are provided with all that we need to grow and flourish. We have the Word, which has been planted within our hearts and nourished by the preaching of the Gospel, and the Sacraments.

LWML NEWS

LWML is celebrating their 80th Anniversary this year. In honor of this we would like to collect 80 items to be donated to Turning Point Shelter in Mt. Clemens. Turning Point provides emergency shelter to women and their children who are victims of domestic violence or sexual assault.

Pajamas or Slippers – All sizes; Sheets: twin, full, queen –new or gently used;

Household Items: paper towels, paper plates, cups, plastic silverware, toilet paper or garbage bags (size 13 or 30 gallon).

Donations will be accepted from March 1st through April 17th. You can place the items in the basket in the hallway near the mailboxes. Thank you.

LWML Suburban Lights Zone Spring Event is Saturday, April 2, 2022 at Our Shepherd Lutheran in Birmingham beginning at 9:30am. Our guest speaker is from The Luke Clinic in Detroit. Cost is

\$8.00 which includes lunch. Sign-up sheet is on the UWM board near the back parking lot door.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL IS COMING BACK TO HOLY CROSS!

Changes are coming to Holy Cross over the next several months and what better time to kick off a new Sunday School program! Enduring the Faith will be kicking off Sunday September 11th with a Rally Sunday. We need your help! We are looking for teachers (NO need for teaching experience, Pre Planned lessons are waiting for you) and others willing to share their time and talents with this Ministry. If you are interested in helping or finding out what kind of help we need PLEASE contact Laurel Clemons 248-331-5945. PLEASE keep this Ministry in your prayers. Children are Our future and we need to make sure we are offering all we can to those who are here and those who will be brought to us.

Save the Date: Rally Sunday September 11, 2022, more info to come!

THANK YOU!!

Thank You to everyone who purchased a muffin during our Mite-y Muffin sale. We collected \$292.00 and the proceeds will go to fund our 2020-2022 mission grants. This would not have been possible without the help of many ladies. We thank our bakers, Barb Unger, Gail Caldarea, Laurel Clemons, Becky Northcott, Kathy Green, Denise Vandenberghe, Gerrie Bufford, and those who helped at the table, Gail Caldarea, Roberta Hanka, and Carol Heidenreich.