First Sunday in Lent

Service of the Word Sunday, Feb. 21, 2021

PRELUDE Choral Dorien | Jehan Alain

Gathering

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

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

Most merciful God,

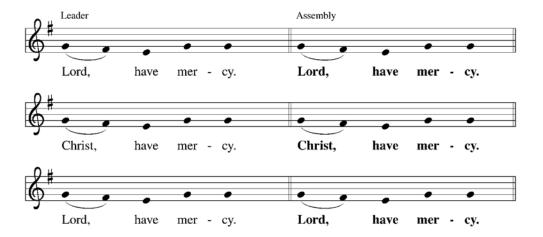
we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

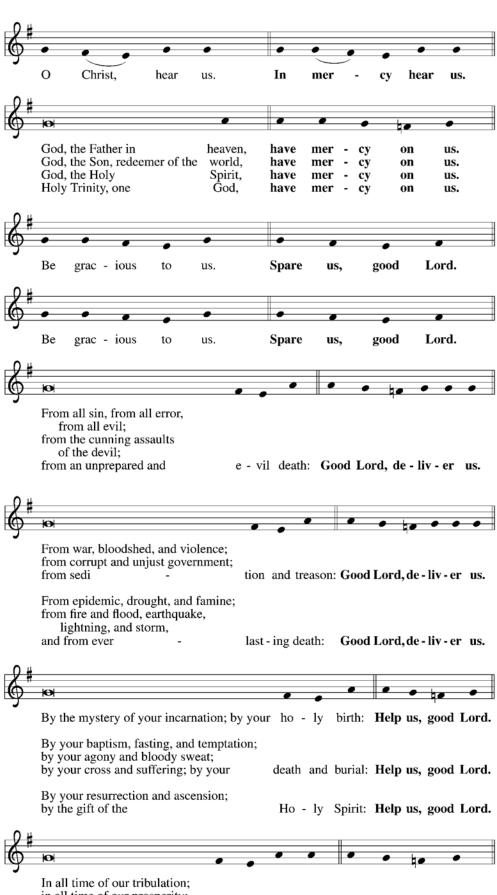
Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

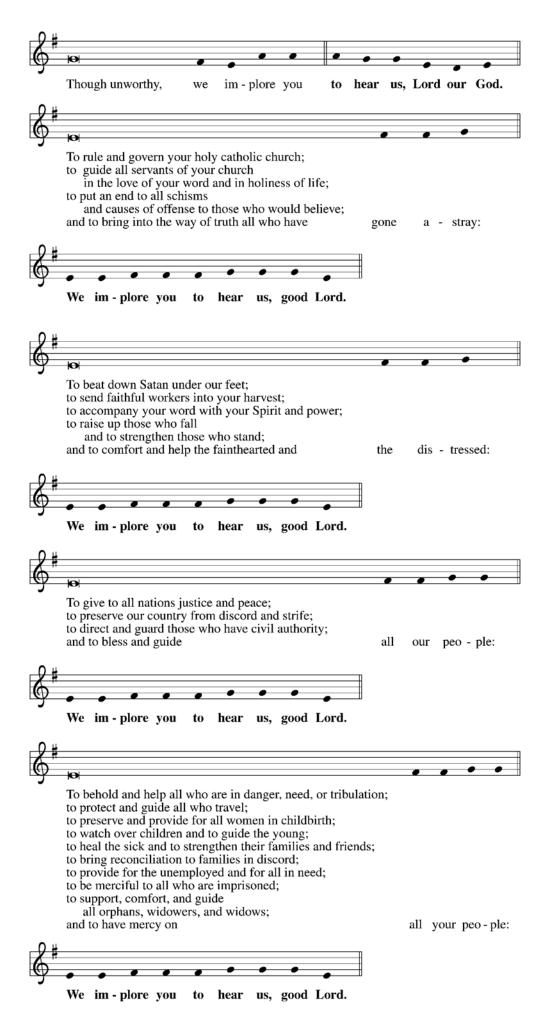
Amen.

THE GREAT LITANY #238





in all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death; and in the day of judg-ment: Save us, good Lord.





Text and music: Lutheran Book of Worship, alt. Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Music © 1978, 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

APOSTOLIC 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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Holy God, heavenly Father, in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin. Renew us in the gift of baptism. May your holy angels be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Word

FIRST READING Genesis 9:8-17

God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 25:1-10

The cantor and congregation alternate in the singing of psalm verses, beginning with the cantor.



To | you, O Lord,

I lift | up my soul.

My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be | put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph | over me.

Let none who look to you be | put to shame;

rather let those be put to shame | who are treacherous.

Show me your | ways, O Lord,

and teach | me your paths.

Lead me in your | truth and teach me,

for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all | the day long.

Remember, O Lord, your compas- | sion and love,

for they are from | everlasting.

Remember not the sins of my youth and | my transgressions;

remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your good- | ness, O Lord.

You are gracious and up- | right, O Lord; therefore you teach sinners | in your way.

You lead the low- | ly in justice and teach the low- | ly your way. All your paths, O Lord, are steadfast | love and faithfulness to those who keep your covenant and your | testimonies.

SECOND READING 1 Peter 3:18-22

Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Cantor: One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God. *Acclamation repeated by all.*

GOSPEL *Mark* 1:9-15

Glory to you, O Lord.

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

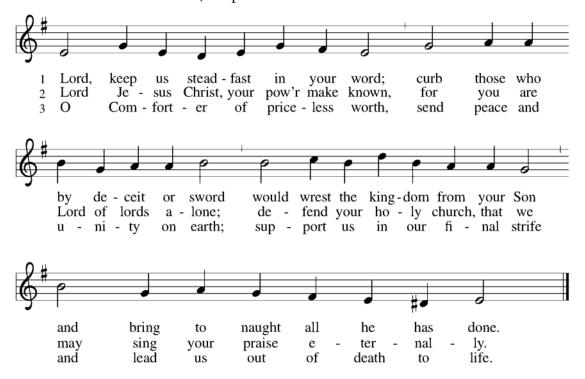
The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY #517 Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word



Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt. Music: ERHALT UNS, HERR, J. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543

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

... Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Spoken by all.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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.

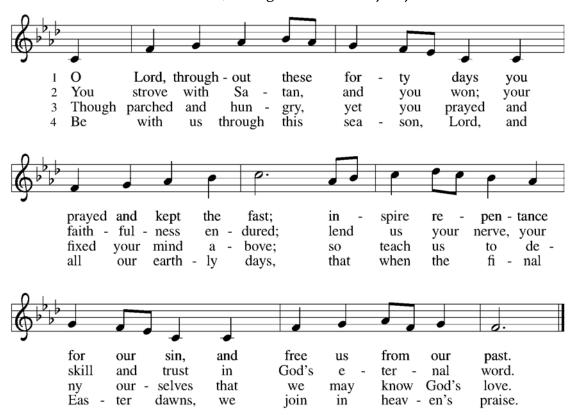
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory. forever and ever. Amen.

Sending

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

RECESSIONAL HYMN #319 O Lord, throughout These Forty Days



Text: based on Claudia F. Hernaman, 1838–1898; para. Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930 Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davisson, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE Erhalt uns, Herr, bei deinem Wort | Helmut Walcha Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

The Lenten Prayer of St. Ephraim the Syrian

Of all Lenten hymns and prayers, one short prayer can be termed the Lenten prayer. Tradition ascribes it to one of the great teachers of spritual life, St. Ephraim the Syrian.

O Lord and Master of my life! Take from me the spirit of sloth, faintheartedness, lust of power and idle talk. But give rather the spirit of chastity, humility, patience and love to your servant. Yea O Lord and King! Grant me to see my own errors and not to judge my brothers and sisters; for you are blessed unto ages of ages. Amen.

Serving today

Presiding Vicar Leif Kratzke Nelson
Preaching Pastor John Worzala Dumke

Organist Andrew Schaeffer Cantor Chelsie Propst

Prayers of the Church are provided by Peggy Baldwin.

Luther Memorial Church staff

The Rev. Brad Pohlman, Senior Pastor
The Rev. John Worzala Dumke, Associate Pastor
The Rev. Rebecca Ninke, Visitation Pastor
Vicar Leif Kratzke Nelson, Seminary Intern
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