

March 3, 2024 Third Sunday in Lent



The three White crosses represent the sacrifice of Calvary.
The Orange circle is God, never ending..no beginning, no end.
The Yellow intertwining design is the Trinty - Father, Son, Holy Spirit.
Brown represents the Earth and Blue the Sky.

The off White are the 12 Appostles that spread the word of God.

The iridescent White/Blue is the Grace of God raining down on Earth.

Light Green is the color of Hope from the sacrifice of Calvary.

Dark Green represents the people of the church worldwide linked by faith and hope.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Brian

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus. **Amen.**

Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. *Silence is kept for reflection*.

Holy God,

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.

Here is a flood of grace:
Out of love for the whole world,
God draws near to us,
breaks every snare of sin,
washes away our wrongs,
and restores the promise of life through + Jesus Christ.
Amen.

GATHERING Love Divine, All Loves Excelling #631 (red hymnal, rear section)

Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down! Fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown. Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art; visit us with thy salvation, enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit into ev'ry troubled breast; let us all in thee inherit; let us find thy promised rest.

Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be; end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty, to deliver; let us all thy life receive; suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave. Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above, pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation, pure and spotless let us be; let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee! Changed from glory into glory, till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise!

GREETING

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

And also with you.

GLORIA p. 204

(red hymnal, front section)

Glory be to God in heaven; peace, goodwill to all the earth.

Mighty God of all creation, Maker of surpassing worth;

we exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.

Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.

Glory be to Christ forever, Lamb of God and Lord of love. Son of God and gracious Savior, you have come from heav'n above; on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand. Hear our prayer; restore, forgive us; in your promise firm we stand.

Holy One we now acclaim you; Lord alone, to you we call; Holy One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all; Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit, in the Maker's splendor bright. For the peace that we inherit, glory be to God on high!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you!

And also with you!

Let us pray together.

Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

FIRST LESSON: Exodus 20:1-17

God spoke all these words:

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 an idol,

whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above,

or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

You shall not bow down to them or worship them;

for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me,

but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation

of those who love me and keep my commandments.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God,

for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

Remember the sabbath day, and 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;

you shall not do any work—

you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock,

or the alien resident in your towns.

For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them,

but rested the seventh day;

therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

Honor your father and your mother,

so 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 male or female slave,

or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery #334 (red hymnal, rear section)

Tree of life and awesome myst'ry, in your death we are reborn; though you die in all of hist'ry, still you rise with ev'ry morn, still you rise with ev'ry morn.

We remember truth once spoken, love passed on through act and word; ev'ry person lost and broken wears the body of our Lord, wears the body of our Lord.

Christ, you lead and we shall follow, stumbling though our steps may be; one with you in joy and sorrow, we the river, you the sea, we the river, you the sea.

Living Water of salvation, be the fountain of each soul; springing up in new creation, flow in us and make us whole, flow in us and make us whole.

Light of life beyond conceiving, mighty Spirit of our Lord; give new strength to our believing, give us faith to live your word, give us faith to live your word.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

The message about the cross is foolishness 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,

God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation,

to save those who believe.

For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom,

but we proclaim Christ crucified,

a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles,

but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks,

Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom,

and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S CONVERSATION

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION p. 205 (red hymnal, front section)

Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word.

Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred.

Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

Gospel Lesson: John 2:13-22

The gospel lesson for this Third Sunday in Lent is from the 2nd chapter of the Gospel of John, beginning with the 13th verse.

Glory to you, O God.

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves,

and the money changers seated at their tables.

Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple,

both the sheep and the cattle.

He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables.

He told those who were selling the doves,

"Take these things out of here!

Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!"

His disciples remembered that it was written,

"Zeal for your house will consume me."

The Jews then said to him,

"What sign can you show us for doing this?"

Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up."

The Jews then said,

"This temple has been under construction for forty-six years,

and will you raise it up in three days?"

But he was speaking of the temple of his body.

After 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.

This is the gospel indeed.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON Pastor Brian Stein-Webber

SERMON HYMN Psalm 5

Give ear to my words O Lord, consider my meditation.

Harken unto the voice of my cry, my King and my God.

For unto Thee will I pray, my voice shalt Thou hear in the morning.

O Lord in the morning will I direct my prayer,

unto Thee and will look up.

[repeat twice]

DEDICATION OF NEW STAINED GLASS AND ETCHED GLASS WINDOWS

APOSTLE'S CREED

Let us confess our faith in the words of the Apostle's 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 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 THE PEOPLE

Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

A brief silence.

You alone are God. We thank you for the gift of sabbath rest. Awaken the church to the mystery of your presence and give us glad hearts as we receive the good news of your deliverance. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You renew creation. Drive out those who would make the earth a marketplace. Protect rainforests, mountaintops, oceans, and wilderness areas from commercial exploitation. Unite nations, policymakers, and businesses in efforts to reduce carbon emissions. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You judge the nations. We pray for an end to war and strife in every land especially in Israel and Palestine, and in Ukraine. Strengthen international efforts to negotiate peace and provide humanitarian aid to people fleeing from conflict. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You bring healing and hope. We give thanks for physicians, nurses, researchers, therapists, and public health workers who prevent and treat illness. We pray for any who are sick, especially,

- Carolyn Wyatt friend of Nancy Padilla Cancer, chemo/radiation for a year
- Aryia, a new baby who is in the NICU, on a breathing machine and struggling.
- Kathie Sperow thanksgiving for good health
- Jean Senter recovering from knee problems
- Sean Cannoles, Nikki Rocha's cousin heart problems

- Dick Williams general health issues
- Katie Edson and family who are grieving the loss of Mercedes
- Elaine Grawe adjusting to living situation
- Nancy Padilla going through multiple dental procedures
- Becky Padilla dealing with recurrence of cancer
- Christian, Heidi Carney's son for peace and comfort
- Barbara Stein, Tom Anello's sister dealing with resurfacing cancer
- Byron Nelson, friend of Jacoby's dealing with cancer
- Mike Johnson dealing with lymphatic cancer
- Chris Senter frontotemporal lobe dementia, and starting a medication trial
- Heidi Carney ongoing health issues
- Kate Anderson
- Ina Davenport Eye surgery the end of the month
- Denise Kenealy, daughter-in-law of Robin Karas dealing with health issues
- James Hecker- undergoing hyperbaric oxygen therapy for serious infection
- Iglesia San Juan Bautista, Pastor Esteban and Angie support of their ministry
- Those who are contracting COVID
- An end to the war in Ukraine
- The peoples of Israel and Palestine
- Victims of senseless gun violence
- For Robin Karas, Georgina Tway and Sopia Lorenzo who celebrate their birthdays this week

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You abide with your people. Sustain any in this community undergoing life transitions: marriage, divorce, childbirth, adoption, moving, graduation, employment change, or a death in the family. We pray for those preparing for baptism. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You bring life from death. We remember our loved ones who have died, confident that they have new life in you. May we trust that nothing can separate us from your love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You hear our voices always. Please, we ask, that you tend to the needs of other people who we now name,

[You may name out loud or in your heart, those who are on your hearts, this morning.]

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.** Let us share that peace with one another.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together.... 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.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY, P. 207 (red hymnal, front section)

Holy, holy, holy Lord.
God of pow'r and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory,
hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of our Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

On the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it
and gave it to his disciples saying,
"Take and eat, this is my body given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me."

Again after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Drink this, all of you. It is the new covenant of my blood, shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this in remembrance of me.'

Let us pray the prayer that our Lord Jesus taught us:

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.

LAMB OF GOD p. 208 (red hymnal, front section)

O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away you suffered death our lives to save; have mercy now, we pray.

O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away; you set us free from guilt and grave: have mercy now, we pray.

O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away; eternal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

TAKING OF HOLY COMMUNION

[All who desire may come forward to take the body and blood of Christ. Gluten-free bread is available if you ask for it, and alcohol-free grape juice is in the center ring of the tray. During the distribution of Communion, you may also seek prayers of healing at the chair by the baptismal font.]

DISTRIBUTION MUSIC Pavane Faure

COMMUNION BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in eternal life. Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together:

Generous God,

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.

BLESSING

Beloved,
we are God's own people,
holy, washed, renewed.
God bless you and keep you,
shower you with mercy,
fill you with courage,
and + give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

O Living Bread from Heaven #542 (red hymnal, rear section)

O living Bread from heaven, how well you feed your guest! The gifts that you have given have filled my heart with rest. O wondrous food of blessing! O cup that heals our woes! My heart, this gift possessing, in thankful song o'erflows.

My Savior, you have led me within your holiest place, and here yourself have fed me with treasures of your grace; for you have freely given what earth could never buy, the bread of life from heaven, that now I shall not die.

You gave me all I wanted, this food can death destroy. And you have freely granted the cup of endless joy. My Lord, I do not merit the favor you have shown, and all my soul and spirit bow down before your throne.

Oh, grant me then, well-strengthened with heav'nly food, while here my course on earth is lengthened, to serve you, free from fear; and bring me home to praise you where none can peace destroy, where I will ever raise you glad songs in endless joy.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share your bread. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley

arr. Schrader

Thank you to:

- Ann Lucas, for accompanying today.
- **Cindy Haener,** for being assistant minister today.
- Sandy McMillan and others for counting the offering.
- **Joyce Bauer** for preparing communion.
- **Janet Lorenzo** and others for streaming worship.
- Janet Lorenzo and Gail Brochtrup for editing and assembling bulletins and the newsletter.
- Nancy Padilla, for setting up and welcoming.
- Gary and Mark Orback, for tending to our outside property.
- **Sophia and Janet Lorenzo,** for tending to our inside property.
- Ken Brocks, Dan Sperow, Andrew Jacoby, and Gary Brochtrup for their handyman work.
- The Church Council, for leading our congregation.

Events this week:

- Many thanks to the **craftsmanship and artistry of Ken Foran**, whose latest installation is a framing of the etched glass that was on the gate that fell down, and a beautiful rendering of the Trinity and other important symbols.
- **The discussion group on The Chosen** will meet tonight, 6:30 to 7:30 pm on Zoom, to talk about Season 3, Episode 6 from *The Chosen*, to prepare ourselves for the episodes of Season 4 which are coming.
- **The Sermon Feedback and Feedforward** will meet on Tuesday, March 5, at 10:00 am. We will be discussing next week's lessons: Number 21:4-9; Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22; Ephesians 2:1-10; and John 3:14-21.
- The **Bible Study on the Parables of Grace** will take place on Tuesday, March 5th, 1:10 to 2:30 pm entirely on Zoom.
- **Wednesday Bible Study** will take place on March 6th at 10:00 am in the fellowship hall. The subject will be *Paul on Gender Roles and Slavery*.
- There will be **soup supper and mid-week Lenten worship** on Wednesday, March 6th starting at 5:30 pm. You may sign up today to provide soup, bread and dessert.
- We continue the **Lenten collection of food and other household items** for Iglesia San Juan Bautista (formerly Santa Cruz), with the goal of reaching over 888 pounds of goods. You may bring your contributions to boat in the sanctuary.
- We could use some help sorting and pricing items for **the congregational "yard" sale** to be held on Friday and Saturday, March 15th and 16th. You may now bring your donations to the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, or during the week at the times specified on the flyer
- Let Pastor Brian know if you would like to **start receiving his weekly emails**. (bsteinwebber@gmail.com)