



February 28, 2024

The Third Wednesday in Lent

Rev. Ken Bersche

Janis Lapham, Organist
Maggie Kent, Secretary

Processional Hymn *Please Stand*

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

- ♪ The King of love my shepherd is, Whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am His And He is mine forever.
- ♪ Where streams of living water flow, My ransomed soul He leadeth
And, where the verdant pastures grow, With food celestial feedeth.
- ♪ Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, But yet in love He sought me
And on His shoulder gently laid And home rejoicing brought me.
- ♪ In death’s dark vale I fear no ill With Thee, dear Lord, beside me,
Thy rod and staff my comfort still, Thy cross before to guide me.
- ♪ Thou spreadst a table in my sight; Thine unction grace bestoweth;
And, oh, what transport of delight From Thy pure chalice floweth!
- ♪ And so through all the length of days Thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise Within Thy house forever!

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 709-Text: Henry W. Baker 1821-77; Tune: Irish, 18th cent.;
Setting: Service Book and Hymnal 1958; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.

Opening Sentences *Please Be Seated*

O Lord, open my lips.

And my mouth shall declare Your praise.

Psalm 51:15

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.

Give glory to God, our light and our life.

O come, let us worship Him.

Venite

Psalm 95:1-7

O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.

Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with shouts of praise.

For the Lord is a great God and a great king above all gods.

In His hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are His also.

The sea is His, for He made it; and His hand formed the dry land.

O come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our maker.

For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.

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.

Give glory to God, our light and our life.

O come, let us worship Him.

Office Hymn

“Cross of Jesus, Cross of Sorrow”

- ♪ Cross of Jesus, cross of sorrow, Where the blood of Christ was shed,
Perfect Man on thee did suffer, Perfect God on thee has bled!
- ♪ Here the King of all the ages, Throned in light ere worlds could be,
Robed in mortal flesh is dying, Crucified by sin for me.
- ♪ O mysterious condescending! O abandonment sublime!
Very God Himself is bearing All the sufferings of time!
- ♪ Cross of Jesus, cross of sorrow, Where the blood of Christ was shed,
Perfect Man on thee did suffer, Perfect God on thee has bled!

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 428 -Text: William J. Sparrow Simpson 1860-1952
Tune: John Stainer 1840-1901; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.*

Old Testament Reading *Please Be Seated*

Psalm 29:1–11

- ¹Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
²Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.
³The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glories thunders,
the LORD, over many waters.
⁴The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.
⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.
⁶He makes Lebanon to skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox.
⁷The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire.
⁸The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
⁹The voice of the LORD makes the deer give birth
and strips the forests bare, and in his temple all cry, “Glory!”
¹⁰The LORD sits enthroned over the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.
¹¹May the LORD give strength to his people! May the LORD bless his people with peace!
O Lord,
Have mercy upon us.

The Epistle

Ephesians 1:3–10, 15–22

- ³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love ⁵he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.
¹⁵For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, ¹⁷that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, ¹⁸having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹and

what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might ²⁰that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. ²²And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church,

O Lord,

Have mercy upon us.

Gradual Hymn

“Jesus, Grant that Balm and Healing” v. 2

♪ Should some lust or sharp temptation Fascinate my sinful mind,
Draw me to Your cross and passion, And new courage I shall find.
Or should Satan press me hard, Let me then be on my guard,
Saying, “Christ for me was wounded,” That the tempter flee confounded.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 421 -Text: Johann Heermann 1585-1647; Tune Johann Balthasar König 1691-1758;
Setting: The Lutheran Hymnal 1941; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.

Holy Gospel Please Stand

John 18:28–40

²⁸Then they led Jesus from the house of Caiaphas to the governor's headquarters. It was early morning. They themselves did not enter the governor's headquarters, so that they would not be defiled, but could eat the Passover. ²⁹So Pilate went outside to them and said, “What accusation do you bring against this man?” ³⁰They answered him, “If this man were not doing evil, we would not have delivered him over to you.” ³¹Pilate said to them, “Take him yourselves and judge him by your own law.” The Jews said to him, “It is not lawful for us to put anyone to death.” ³²This was to fulfill the word that Jesus had spoken to show by what kind of death he was going to die.

³³So Pilate entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” ³⁴Jesus answered, “Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?” ³⁵Pilate answered, “Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered you over to me. What have you done?” ³⁶Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world.” ³⁷Then Pilate said to him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice.” ³⁸Pilate said to him, “What is truth?” After he had said this, he went back outside to the Jews and told them, “I find no guilt in him. ³⁹But you have a custom that I should release one man for you at the Passover. So do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?” ⁴⁰They cried out again, “Not this man, but Barabbas!” Now Barabbas was a robber.

O Lord,

Have mercy upon us.

The Hymn Please Be Seated

“My Song Is Love Unknown”

♪ My song is love unknown, My Savior's love to me, Love to the loveless shown
That they might lovely be. Oh, who am I
That for my sake My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?

♪ He came from His blest throne Salvation to bestow; But men made strange, and none
The longed-for Christ would know. But, oh, my friend,
My friend indeed, Who at my need His life did spend!

- ♪ Sometimes they strew His way And His sweet praises sing; Resounding all the day
Hosannas to their King. Then “Crucify!”
Is all their breath, And for His death They thirst and cry.
- ♪ Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and spite? He made the lame to run,
He gave the blind their sight. Sweet injuries!
Yet they at these Themselves displease And ’gainst Him rise.
- ♪ They rise and needs will have My dear Lord made away; A murderer they save,
The Prince of Life they slay. Yet cheerful He
To suff’ring goes That He His foes From thence might free.
- ♪ In life no house, no home My Lord on earth might have; In death no friendly tomb
But what a stranger gave. What may I say?
Heav’n was His home But mine the tomb Wherein He lay.
- ♪ Here might I stay and sing, No story so divine! Never was love, dear King,
Never was grief like Thine. This is my friend,
In whose sweet praise I all my days Could gladly spend!

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 430 -Text: Samuel Crossman c.1624-83; Tune: John N. Ireland 1879-1902
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Proclamation of the Word

“What Kind of King Is This?”

John 18:28–40

Apostles’ Creed *Please Stand*

Prayer

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, You have given to all who believe exceedingly great and precious promises. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may without all doubt trust in Your Son, Jesus Christ, so that our faith in Your sight may never be found wanting; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your Holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord who has taught us to pray:

Lord’s Prayer

Benediction

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord lift up His countenance on You and + give You peace.

Numbers 6:24–26

Amen.

Recessional Hymn *Please Be Seated*

“Beautiful Savior”

♪ Beautiful Savior, King of creation, Son of God and Son of Man!

Truly I'd love Thee, Truly I'd serve Thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

♪ Fair are the meadows, Fair are the woodlands, Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;

Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, He makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.

♪ Fair is the sunshine, Fair is the moonlight, Bright the sparkling stars on high;

Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer Than all the angels in the sky.

♪ Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man!

Glory and honor, Praise, adoration Now and forevermore be Thine!

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 537- Text: Munsterisch Gesangbuch, Munster, 1677, tr. Joseph A. Seiss 1823-1904

Tune: Silesian, 19th cent., setting: Service Book and Hymnal 1958; Public Domain.

Postlude

Door Offering