Divine Service, Setting Three
The First Sunday in Lent
18 February 2024

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

RINGING OF THE BELLS

CALL TO WORSHIP

OPENING HYMN: "A LAMB GOES UNCOMPLAINING FORTH"  LSB 438

1 A Lamb goes uncomplaining forth,
   The guilt of sinners bearing
   And, laden with the sins of earth,
   None else the burden sharing;
   Goes patient on, grows weak and faint,
   To slaughter led without complaint,
   That spotless life to offer,
   He bears the stripes, the wounds, the lies,
   The mockery, and yet replies,
   “All this I gladly suffer.”

2 This Lamb is Christ, the soul’s great friend,
   The Lamb of God, our Savior,
   Whom God the Father chose to send
   To gain for us His favor.
   “Go forth, My Son,” the Father said,
   “And free My children from their dread
   Of guilt and condemnation.
   The wrath and stripes are hard to bear,
   But by Your passion they will share
   The fruit of Your salvation.”

3 “Yes, Father, yes, most willingly
   I’ll bear what You command Me.
   My will conforms to Your decree,
   I’ll do what You have asked Me.”
   O wondrous Love, what have You done!
   The Father offers up His Son,
   Desiring our salvation.
   O Love, how strong You are to save!
   You lay the One into the grave
   Who built the earth’s foundation.
4 Lord, when Your glory I shall see
   And taste Your kingdom’s pleasure,
Your blood my royal robe shall be,
   My joy beyond all measure!
When I appear before Your throne,
   Your righteousness shall be my crown;
With these I need not hide me.
And there, in garments richly wrought,
As Your own bride shall we be brought
To stand in joy beside You.


Stand

P In the name of the Father and of the †- Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.
P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C who made heaven and earth.
P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God’s Word and for self-examination.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,
C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.
P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the †- Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

INTROIT

PSALM 91:9–13
When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him. With long life I will satisfy him and show him my salvation. Because you have made the LORD your dwelling place—the Most High, who is my refuge—no evil shall be allowed to befall you, no plague come near your tent. For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways. On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone. You will tread on the lion and the adder; the young lion and the serpent you will trample underfoot.

GLORIA PATRI
C♫ Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.
KYRIE
♫ Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY
♫ The Lord be with you.
♫ And with thy spirit.
♫ Let us pray.

O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
♫ Amen.

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING
GENESIS 22:1–18
After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here am I.” He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.” So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you.” And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. And Isaac said to his father Abraham, “My father!” And he said, “Here am I, my son.” He said, “Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” Abraham said, “God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So they went both of them together. When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here am I.” He said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.” And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called the name of that place, “The LORD will provide”; as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided.” And the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven and said, “By myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice.”
♫ This is the Word of the Lord.
♫ Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL
[O come, let us fix our eyes on] Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.
EPISTLE

Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am being tempted by God,” for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens opening and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”

The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. And he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. And he was with the wild animals, and the angels were ministering to him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

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.
CATECHETICAL VERSE
The First Commandment
   C You shall have no other gods.

What does this mean?
   C We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things.

Sit

SERMON HYMN: ♫“A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD” LS656
1 A mighty fortress is our God,
   A trusty shield and weapon;
He helps us free from ev’ry need
   That hath us now o’ertaken.
The old evil foe
Now means deadly woe;
   Deep guile and great might
Are his dread arms in fight;
On earth is not his equal.

2 With might of ours can naught be done,
   Soon were our loss effected;
But for us fights the valiant One,
   Whom God Himself elected.
Ask ye, Who is this?
Jesus Christ it is,
   Of Sabaoth Lord,
   And there’s none other God;
He holds the field forever.

3 Though devils all the world should fill,
   All eager to devour us,
We tremble not, we fear no ill;
   They shall not overpow’r us.
This world’s prince may still
Scowl fierce as he will,
   He can harm us none.
   He’s judged; the deed is done;
One little word can fell him.
4 The Word they still shall let remain
   Nor any thanks have for it;
He’s by our side upon the plain
   With His good gifts and Spirit.
And take they our life,
Goods, fame, child, and wife,
   Though these all be gone,
Our vict’ry has been won;
The Kingdom ours remaineth.

Text: tr. composite; Martin Luther, 1483–1546
Text: Public domain

SERMON: “WHO IS FAITHFUL?”
GENESIS 22:1-18
By Pastor Schmidt

Stand

P  The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
C  Amen.

OFFERTORY

C♫ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy
   presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and
   uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

Sit

OFFERING

As offerings are brought forward the congregation stands and sings.

OFFERING HYMN: ♫“WE GIVE THEE BUT THINE OWN”
LSB 781 V. 1-2

1 We give Thee but Thine own, Whate’er the gift may be;
   All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

2 May we Thy bounties thus As stewards true receive
   And gladly, as Thou blessest us, To Thee our firstfruits give!
Text: William W. How, 1823–97
Text: Public domain

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

PREFACE

P  The Lord be with you.
C♫ And with thy spirit.
P  Lift up your hearts.
C♫ We lift them up unto the Lord.
P  Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.
C♫ It is meet and right so to do.
P  It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord,
almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil
and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

**SANCTUS**

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth; heav’n and earth are full of Thy glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

**LORD’S PRAYER**

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**

**PAX DOMINI**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

**AGNUS DEI**

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

**DISTRIBUTION**

**DISTRIBUTION HYMN: "CHRIST BE MY LEADER"**

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.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1926  
DISTRIBUTION HYMN: ♫“THE LAMB”

1 The Lamb, the Lamb,
   O Father, where’s the sacrifice?
   Faith sees, believes
   God will provide the Lamb of price! Refrain

Refrain:
   Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!
   The Lamb is reigning on His throne!

2 The Lamb, the Lamb,
   One perfect final offering.
   The Lamb, the Lamb,
   Let earth join heav’n His praise to sing. Refrain

3 The Lamb, the Lamb,
   As wayward sheep their shepherd kill
   So still, His will
   On our behalf the Law to fill. Refrain

4 He sighs, He dies,
   He takes my sin and wretchedness.
   He lives, forgives,
   He gives me His own righteousness. Refrain

5 He rose, He rose,
   My heart with thanks now overflows.
   His song prolong
   Till ev’ry heart to Him belong. Refrain


DISTRIBUTION HYMN: ♫“OH, THAT THE LORD WOULD GUIDE MY WAYS”

1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways
   To keep His statutes still!
   Oh, that my God would grant me grace
   To know and do His will!

2 Order my footsteps by Thy Word
   And make my heart sincere;
   Let sin have no dominion, Lord,
   But keep my conscience clear.

3 Assist my soul, too apt to stray,
   A stricter watch to keep;
   And should I e’er forget Thy way,
   Restore Thy wand’ring sheep.
4 Make me to walk in Thy commands—
’Tis a delightful road—
Nor let my head or heart or hands
Offend against my God.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt. Text: Public domain

Stand

NUNC DIMITTIS

♫ Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

THANKSGIVING

♫ O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
♫ and His mercy endureth forever.
♫ Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

♫ Amen.

SALUTATION AND BENEDICAMUS

♫ The Lord be with you.
♫ And with thy spirit.
♫ Bless we the Lord.
♫ Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

♫ The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

♫ Amen, amen, amen.

CLOSING HYMN: ♩“LORD, KEEP US STEADFAST IN YOUR WORD” ♩ LSB 655

♫ 1 Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word;
♫ Curb those who by deceit or sword
♫ Would wrest the kingdom from Your Son
♫ And bring to naught all He has done.

♫ 2 Lord Jesus Christ, Your pow’r make known,
♫ For You are Lord of lords alone;
♫ Defend Your holy Church that we
♫ May sing Your praise eternally.
3 O Comforter of priceless worth,
    Send peace and unity on earth;
Support us in our final strife
And lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Text: Public domain

SILENT PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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