

## Divine Service, Setting Three

### The Third Sunday in Lent

23 March 2025

#### *PRE-SERVICE MUSIC*

#### *RINGING OF THE BELLS*

#### *CALL TO WORSHIP*

#### *OPENING HYMN: ♪ "JESUS SINNERS DOTH RECEIVE"*

*LSB 609*

- 1 Jesus sinners doth receive;  
    Oh, may all this saying ponder  
Who in sin's delusions live  
    And from God and heaven wander!  
Here is hope for all who grieve:  
Jesus sinners doth receive.
  
- 2 We deserve but grief and shame,  
    Yet His words, rich grace revealing,  
Pardon, peace, and life proclaim;  
    Here our ills have perfect healing.  
Firmly in these words believe:  
Jesus sinners doth receive.
  
- 3 Sheep that from the fold did stray  
    No true shepherd e'er forsaketh;  
Weary souls that lost their way  
    Christ, the Shepherd, gently taketh  
In His arms that they may live:  
Jesus sinners doth receive.
  
- 4 I, a sinner, come to Thee  
    With a penitent confession.  
Savior, mercy show to me;  
    Grant for all my sins remission.  
Let these words my soul relieve:  
Jesus sinners doth receive.
  
- 5 Oh, how blest it is to know:  
    Were as scarlet my transgression,  
It shall be as white as snow  
    By Thy blood and bitter passion;  
For these words I now believe:  
Jesus sinners doth receive.

**6 Now my conscience is at peace;  
From the Law I stand acquitted.  
Christ hath purchased my release  
And my ev'ry sin remitted.  
Naught remains my soul to grieve:  
Jesus sinners doth receive.**

**7 Jesus sinners doth receive;  
Also I have been forgiven;  
And when I this earth must leave,  
I shall find an open heaven.  
Dying, still to Him I cleave:  
Jesus sinners doth receive.**

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756Text: Publi domain

### *Stand*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the  $\text{✠}$  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** Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**C O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

**P** Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

**C Amen.**

### **INTROIT**

### **PSALM 5:4–8**

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.

## **GLORI PATRI**

**☩** **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**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**☩** **And with thy spirit.**

**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.

**☩** **Amen.**

*Sit*

## **OLD TESTAMENT READING**

**EZEKIEL 33:7-20**

"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. If 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. But 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.

"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?' Say 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?

"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. Though 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. Again, though I say to the wicked, 'You shall surely die,' yet if he turns from his sin and does what is just and right, if 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. None of the sins that he has committed shall be remembered against him. He has done what is just and right; he shall surely live.

"Yet your people say, 'The way of the Lord is not just,' when it is their own way that is not just. When the righteous turns from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it. And when the wicked turns from his wickedness and does what is just and right, he shall live by them. Yet 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.

**☩** **Thanks be to God.**

## EPISTLE

## 1 CORINTHIANS 10:1-13

I want you to know, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. Do 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.” We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. Now 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. Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. No 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.

☐ This is the Word of the Lord.

☩ Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## HOLY GOSPEL

## LUKE 13:1-9

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

☩♪ Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

There were some present at that very time who told [Jesus] about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. And he answered them, “Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered in this way? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. Or 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? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.”

And he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. And 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?’ And he answered him, ‘Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and put on manure. Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

☐ This is the Gospel of the Lord.

☩♪ Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

## APOSTLES' CREED

☩ I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ☩ everlasting. Amen.**

## **CATECHETICAL VERSE TO KNOW BY HEART**

### **The First Petition**

**☞ Hallowed be Thy name.**

*What does this mean?*

**☞ God's name is certainly holy in itself, but we pray in this petition that it may be kept holy among us also.**

*How is God's name kept holy?*

**☞ God's name is kept holy when the Word of God is taught in its truth and purity, and we, as the children of God, also lead holy lives according to it. Help us to do this, dear Father in heaven! But anyone who teaches or lives contrary to God's Word profanes the name of God among us. Protect us from this, heavenly Father!**

*Sit*

### **SERMON HYMN: ♪"MAY GOD BESTOW ON US HIS GRACE"**

**LSB 823**

- 1 May God bestow on us His grace,  
With blessings rich provide us;  
And may the brightness of His face  
To life eternal guide us,  
That we His saving health may know,  
His gracious will and pleasure,  
And also to the nations show  
Christ's riches without measure  
And unto God convert them.**
  
- 2 Thine over all shall be the praise  
And thanks of ev'ry nation;  
And all the world with joy shall raise  
The voice of exultation.  
For Thou shalt judge the earth, O Lord,  
Nor suffer sin to flourish;  
Thy people's pasture is Thy Word  
Their souls to feed and nourish,  
In righteous paths to keep them.**
  
- △3 O let the people praise Thy worth,  
In all good works increasing;  
The land shall plenteous fruit bring forth,  
Thy Word is rich in blessing.  
May God the Father, God the Son,  
And God the Spirit bless us!  
Let all the world praise Him alone,  
Let solemn awe possess us.  
Now let our hearts say, "Amen!"**

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Richard Massie, 1800–87, alt. Text: Public domain

By Pastor John Schmidt

*Stand*

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

**G** 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**

*Sit*

**HYMN: ♪ "GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS"**

**LSB 809**

**1 Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;  
There is no shadow of turning with Thee.  
Thou changest not: Thy compassions, they fail not;  
As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be. Refrain**

*Refrain:*

**Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;  
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

**2 Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,  
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above  
Join with all nature in manifold witness  
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. Refrain**

**3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! Refrain**

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866–1960 Text: Public domain

*Stand*

**P** Collect

**G** Amen

### **BENEDICTION**

**P** 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.

**G** Amen, amen, 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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### **SILENT PRAYER**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **Acknowledgments**

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