

LENTEN MIDWEEK 1

LENTEN THEME: Honest Repentance – “Chaos”
March 01, 2023

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C: Amen.

CONFESSION

L: Let us boldly go before our Father in heaven and seek His forgiveness.
C: **My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against You, whom I should love above all things. By Your mercy, forgive my sin; create in me a clean heart and renew a right spirit within me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me with Your free Spirit. Apply to me the saving benefits of my Savior, Jesus Christ, who suffered and died for all people. In His Name, my God, have mercy.**

DECLARATION OF GRACE

L: God, the Father of mercies, through the Death and Resurrection of His Son, has reconciled the world to Himself and poured out the Holy Spirit among us to assure us of the forgiveness of our sins and empower us to godly living. By the Word of Promise of our Lord Jesus Christ, who suffered death and rose to new life for us, He has granted us pardon and peace in His name; In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, ☩ and of the Holy Spirit.
C: Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE “I’ll Praise You in This Storm” (video)

PRAYER A prayer of thanksgiving and praise — that promises to proclaim God’s goodness to all generations - **Psalm 71:17-22**

L: Let us pray. O God, you have taught me from my youth,
C: **And I proclaim your wonders still.**

L: Even till I am old and gray-headed,
C: **Do not forsake me, O God.**

L: Let me tell of your mighty arm
C: **To every coming generation;**

L: Your strength and your justice, O God,
C: **Reach to the highest heavens.**

L: It is you who have worked such wonders.
C: **O God, who is like you?**

L: You have made me witness many troubles and evils,
C: **But you will give me back my life.**

L: You will raise me from the depths of the earth;
C: **You will exalt me and console me again.**

L: So I will give you thanks of the lyre
C: **For your faithfulness, O my God.**

L: To you will I sing with the harp,
C: **To you, the Holy One of Israel. Amen.**

FIRST READING Exodus 14:15–18, 21-31
(The Lord Fights for His People)

The LORD said to Moses, “Why do you cry to me? Tell the people of Israel to go forward. Lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the people of Israel may go through the sea on dry ground.

And I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they shall go in after them, and I will get glory over Pharaoh and all his host, his chariots, and his horsemen. And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I have gotten glory over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his horsemen.”

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided. And the people of Israel went into the midst of the sea on dry ground, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left. The Egyptians pursued and went in after them into the midst of the sea, all Pharaoh’s horses, his chariots, and his horsemen. And in the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and of cloud looked down on the Egyptian forces and threw the Egyptian forces into a panic, clogging their chariot wheels so that they drove heavily. And the Egyptians said, “Let us flee from before Israel, for the LORD fights for them against the Egyptians.”

Then the LORD said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand over the sea, that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots, and upon their horsemen.” So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to its normal course when the morning appeared. And as the Egyptians fled into it, the LORD threw the Egyptians into the midst of the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the horsemen; of all the host of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea, not one of them remained. But the people of Israel walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.

Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great power that the LORD used against the Egyptians, so the people feared the LORD, and they believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING Revelation 21:1–4 (The Sea was no more)

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.

And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man.

He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

HOLY GOSPEL Mark 4:35–41 (*Jesus commands the sea to be still*)

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the fourth chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, “Let us go across to the other side.” And leaving the crowd, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. And other boats were with him. And a great windstorm arose, and the waves were breaking into the boat, so that the boat was already filling. But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion. And they woke him and said to him, “Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?” And he awoke and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, “Peace! Be still!” And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. He said to them, “Why are you so afraid? Have you still no faith?” And they were filled with great fear and said to one another, “Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?”

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN No. 717 “Eternal Father, Strong to Save”
(vss 2 & 3 from the original Navy Hymn)

**Eternal Father, strong to save,
Whose arm hath bound the restless wave,
Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep
Its own appointed limits keep;
O, hear us when we cry to Thee,
For those in peril on the sea!**

**O Christ, whose voice the waters heard
And hushed their raging at Thy word,
Who walk-ed on the foaming deep
And calm amid its rage didst sleep:
O hear us when we cry to Thee
For those in peril on the sea.**

**Most Holy Spirit, who didst brood
Upon the chaos dark and rude,
And bid its angry tumult cease,
And give, for wild confusion, peace:
O hear us when we cry to Thee
For those in peril on the sea.**

SERMON "Chaos" Pastor Vern

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

(final petition:)

L: We offer these prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord who taught us to pray saying:

LORD'S PRAYER

**All: 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.**

BLESSING OF THE LORD

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father,
 and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: Amen. Thanks be to God!

CLOSING HYMN No. 878 "Abide with Me" (vss. 1, 2 & 6)

**Abide with me, fast falls the eventide.
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.**

**I need Thy presence ev'ry passing hour;
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's pow'r?
Who like Thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.**

**Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.
Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.**

SENDING

L: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.