

LENTEN MIDWEEK 3

LENTEN THEME: Honest Repentance – “Repentance”
March 15, 2023

INVOCATION

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

PSALM Psalm 6

L: O LORD, rebuke me not in your anger,
C: **nor discipline me in your wrath.**

L: Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am languishing;
C: **heal me, O LORD, for my bones are troubled.**

L: My soul also is greatly troubled.
C: **But you, O LORD—how long?**

L: Turn, O LORD, deliver my life;
C: **save me for the sake of your steadfast love.**

L: For in death there is no remembrance of you;
C: **in Sheol who will give you praise?**

L: I am weary with my moaning;
C: **every night I flood my bed with tears;
I drench my couch with my weeping.**

L: My eye wastes away because of grief;
C: **it grows weak because of all my foes.**

L: Depart from me, all you workers of evil,
C: **for the LORD has heard the sound of my weeping.**

L: The LORD has heard my plea;
C: **the LORD accepts my prayer.**

L: All my enemies shall be ashamed and greatly troubled;
C: **they shall turn back and be put to shame in a moment.**

CONFESSION (based on John 20: 24-29; Luke 24:36-43)

L: Let us boldly go before our Father in heaven and seek His forgiveness.
(silent prayer)

Lord God,

C: **We have sinned against You; we have done evil in Your sight. We are sorry and repent. Have mercy on us according to Your unfailing love. Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin. Renew a right spirit within us and restore a right spirit with us and restore to us the joy of Your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

DECLARATION OF GRACE

L: God, the Father of all mercy, has reconciled the world to Himself through the death and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ, not counting our trespasses against us, but sending His Holy Spirit to shed abroad His love among us. By the ministry of reconciliation entrusted by Christ to His Church, let us receive His pardon and peace to stand before Him in His strength alone, this day and forevermore.

C: **We receive them with thanksgiving. Glory to You, O Lord.**

SONG OF PRAISE “O Praise Him (All This For a King)” W&M by David Crowder c.2003 worshiptogether.com songs CCLI #691913

Turn your ear to heaven and hear the noise inside,
The sound of angel’s awe, the sound of angel’s songs,
And all this for a King. We could join and sing,
All to Christ the King.

How constant, how divine, this song of ours will rise.
O how constant, how divine, this love of ours will rise, will rise.

**Chorus: O praise Him, O praise Him;
He is holy. He is holy,**

Turn your gaze to heaven and raise a joyous noise,
The sound of salvation come, the sound of rescued ones,
And all this for a King. Angels join to sing
All to Christ the King.

**Chorus: O praise Him, O praise Him;
He is holy. He is holy,**

How infinite and sweet, this love so rescuing
O how infinitely sweet, this great love that has redeemed.
As one we sing.

**Chorus: Alleluia, Alleluia; He is holy, He is holy.
O praise Him, O praise Him, He is holy. He is holy**

PRAYER

L: Merciful Father, Your patience and loving-kindness toward us have no end.
Grant that we who deserve to be afflicted for our evil deeds may mercifully be
relieved by the comfort of Your grace; through your Son, Jesus Christ our
Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and
forever.

C: **Amen.**

FIRST READING Jonah 3:1-10 (Jonah Goes to Nineveh)

Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah the second time, saying, "Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you." So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, three days' journey in breadth. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's journey. And he called out, "Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" And the people of Nineveh believed God. They called for a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them.

The word reached the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. And he issued a proclamation and published through Nineveh, "By the decree of the king and his nobles: Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything. Let them not feed or drink water, but let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and let them call out mightily to God. Let everyone turn from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands. Who knows? God may turn and relent and turn from his fierce anger, so that we may not perish."

When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that he had said he would do to them, and he did not do it.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL Luke 19:41-44 (Jesus Weeps over Jerusalem)

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 19th chapter.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

And when he drew near and saw the city, he wept over it, saying, "Would that you, even you, had known on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. For the days will come upon you, when your enemies will set up a barricade around you and surround you and hem you in on every side and tear you down to the ground, you and your children within you. And they will not leave one stone upon another in you, because you did not know the time of your visitation."

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN No. 816 "From All That Dwell Below the Skies"

**From all that dwell below the skies Let the Creator's praise arise;
Alleluia, alleluia!
Let the Redeemer's name be sung Through ev'ry land by ev'ry tongue.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

Eternal are Thy mercies, Lord; Eternal truth attends Thy Word.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore

Till suns shall rise and set no more.

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

All praise to God the Father be, All praise, eternal Son, to Thee.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Whom with the Spirit we adore Forever and forevermore:

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

SERMON “When God Saw How they Turned... He Relented” Pastor Vern

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

L: Almighty Father, we confess our faith in Jesus,
who died on the cross to give us a living hope.

C: We flee to no other refuge, wash in no other fountain, build on no other foundation, or listen to any other voice.

L: Enable us in our pain and disappointment, to find joy in our Savior

C: Who is too wise to err and too tender to crush and too merciful to cast us away.

+ Let us take a moment of Silence for Prayers God has laid on our hearts +

L: Lord of all healing, We ask that You would grant mercy to all on our prayer list who are afflicted in any way. We praise You today for Your every act of mercy toward those we love and for whom continually pray for healing. Grant peace of mind and remove any anxieties that accompany these illnesses by Your holy presence. Protect and make strong those called to provide care for the helpless. Help us all to recognize and acknowledge, “You are the Lord! Our help is in Your holy name!” Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Grant power to Your Church as we proclaim Your Word of Forgiveness as You did with Your servant Jonah, so that the Ninivites of our generation might repent and believe in Your tender mercies which You personally brought to the world through Your Son, Jesus. Break the hearts of stone and put in the unbelieving hearts of flesh. Instill faith to trust in Your forgiveness. Let not Your Church be reticent to proclaim the message that nothing can separate us from Your love which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Lord in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER *(Matthew 6:9-13)*

L: Remember us in Your kingdom, Lord, and teach us to pray:

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.

LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER

L: I thank You, my heavenly Father,

C: through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. 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, 5 & 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 fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still if Thou 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.**