

# Service of Prayer and Proclamation

March 29, 2020 • The Fifth Sunday in Lent

Redeemer Lutheran Church-LCMS

Charleston, WV

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## INVOCATION

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. 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.

## CONFESSION OF SINS

LSB 291

*Brief time of silence to think on God's Word and the sin we need to confess*

**P** O almighty God, merciful Father, we poor miserable sinners, confess unto You all our sins and iniquities with which we have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But we are heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and we 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 us, poor, sinful beings.

## ABSOLUTION

LSB 291

**P** 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. Amen.

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

Lent 5

**P** Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## READINGS FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

### PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 2

Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against his Anointed, saying, "Let us burst their bonds apart and cast away their cords from us." He who sits in the heavens laughs; the Lord holds them in derision. Then he will speak to them in his wrath, and terrify them in his fury, saying, "As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill." I will tell of the decree: The LORD said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you. Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession. You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel." Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth. Serve the LORD with fear and rejoice with trembling. Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way, for his wrath is quickly kindled. Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

### OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 13:9-11

**R** A reading from Isaiah, the thirteenth chapter.

Behold, the day of the LORD comes, cruel, with wrath and fierce anger, to make the land a desolation and to destroy its sinners from it. For the stars of the heavens and their constellations will not give their light; the sun will be dark at its rising, and the moon will not shed its light. I will punish the world for its evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; I will put an end to the pomp of the arrogant and lay low the pompous pride of the ruthless.

**R** This is the Word of the Lord. (Thanks be to God.)

### NEW TESTAMENT READING

1 John 2:15-17

**R** A reading from 1 John, the third chapter.

Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.

**R** This is the Word of the Lord. (Thanks be to God)

### COLLECT FOR THE WORD

**P** 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.

## HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 15:1-20

**P** The Gospel according to St. Mark the fifteenth chapter.

And as soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. And they bound Jesus and led him away and delivered him over to Pilate. And Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" And he answered him, "You have said so." And the chief priests accused him of many things. And Pilate again asked him, "Have you no answer to make? See how many charges they bring against you." But Jesus made no further answer, so that Pilate was amazed. Now at the feast he used to release for them one prisoner for whom they asked. And among the rebels in prison, who had committed murder in the insurrection, there was a man called Barabbas. And the crowd came up and began to ask Pilate to do as he usually did for them. And he answered them, saying, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" For he perceived that it was out of envy that the chief priests had delivered him up. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release for them Barabbas instead. And Pilate again said to them, "Then what shall I do with the man you call the King of the Jews?" And they cried out again, "Crucify him." And Pilate said to them, "Why? What evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him." So, Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified. And the soldiers led him away inside the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters), and they called together the whole battalion. And they clothed him in a purple cloak, and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on him. And they began to salute him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" And they were striking his head with a reed and spitting on him and kneeling down in homage to him. And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. And they led him out to crucify him.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

## SERMON

*Worldly Eyes*

## APOSTLES' CREED

**C** 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.

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

We come, O Lord, with the dry bones of our broken hopes and disappointed dreams. Bind us up in Christ, that we may learn to pray with confidence, trusting in Your mercy to supply us with all things needful to us and to our salvation. *Brief silence*

Almighty God, everlasting Father, You saw Israel in their despair and raised them up to hope by placing Your Spirit upon them. Join us together with the communion of saints in Christ, even though we must for a time stand apart. Raise us up from our weariness and grant us Your Spirit, that we may be strong in faith, bold in witness, holy in life and steadfast in hope. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O eternal Lord, Your Son has given us the new birth of water and the Word and planted faith in us, that we might be Your own children. Bless Your Church. Supply her with able, fearless and caring pastors to nurture us in Your Word. Raise up faithful fathers and those who will teach and pray in Your name in every Christian household. Keep Your Church in Your mercy, that she may believe without fear and love without limit even now. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O God of power and might, You hold in Your hand all the might of man. Give to us good government and faithful leaders who will heed Your Word and pursue righteousness and justice. Bless and defend us against all destruction, especially from this deadly pandemic, and teach us to be patient and faithful citizens of this land, using ourselves and our resources wisely for the good of all. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O merciful Lord, Your Son shed tears for Lazarus, whom He loved. Grant Your compassion, patience and endurance to all who suffer illness, who are troubled in mind or whose time on earth is short. Spare us from death now but give us courage and comfort far stronger by Your power over death. Eternal God, You carry the grief of those who mourn and remember all who die in Christ. Give comfort to the grieving and peace to the dying, and give that same comfort and peace to us who live in the shadow and fear of death, that we would neither live nor grieve as people without hope but trust in You at every hour. Hear all our prayers, especially for all those we name in our hearts. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O gracious God, You daily and richly grant us all things we need for this body and life. Bless our labors and grant us wisdom to use the fruits of those labors wisely and well, for the care of our families, for the poor in their needs, and for the support of Your work in this congregation. Preserve us from fear and greed as we live and work alone and turn us instead in love toward our neighbors however distant. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O blessed Lord, Your Word continues to go forth and bear good fruit. Bless the missionaries planting churches near and far, bless those churches with whom we partner in the worldwide work of the Gospel, and bless the congregations now struggling to fulfill Your bidding and do what You have called them to do in Your name. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, God Almighty, through Your Son You have kept the promise of the ages and rescued us from sin. You have raised up the dry bones of a people captive to death and made us alive in Christ forever. Sustain us in this hope, that we may endure the tests, trials and troubles of this life and be ready when our Savior comes again in His glory; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who taught us to pray:

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**☐ Our Father which 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 SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR**

*Teaching from Luther's Small Catechism, the Augsburg Confession, and the Formula of Concord which explain the Scriptural foundation for the Sacrament and its proper administration.*

#### **What is the Church?**

The Church is the congregation of saints [**Psalm 149:1**] in which the Gospel is purely taught, and the Sacraments are correctly administered. [Concordia, 34]

#### **How is the Sacrament of the Altar Correctly Administered?**

"[We believe, teach, and confess that] the recitation of the words of Christ's institution alone, does not make a Sacrament if the entire action of the Supper, as it was instituted by Christ, is not kept... Christ's command "This do" must be observed unseparated and inviolate. (This embraces the entire action or administration in this Sacrament. In an assembly of Christians bread and wine are taken, consecrated, distributed, received, eaten, drunk, and the Lord's death is shown forth at the same time.) St. Paul also places before our

eyes this entire action of the breaking of bread or of distribution and reception... [We believe, teach, and confess] that no one should publicly teach in the Church, or administer the Sacraments, without a rightly ordered call. (**1 Corinthians 10:16**) [Concordia, 575, 39]

### **Why is faith important for hearing the Word and receiving the Sacrament?**

[We believe, teach, and confess] that people cannot be justified before God by their own strength, merits, or works. People are freely justified for Christ's sake, through faith, when they believe that they are received into favor and that their sins are forgiven for Christ's sake. By His death, Christ made satisfaction for our sins. God counts this faith for righteousness in His sight. (**Romans 3 and 4 [3:21–26; 4:5]**) [Concordia, 33]

### **Why is the Church Important for the Christian?**

So that we may obtain this faith, the ministry of teaching the Gospel and administering the Sacraments was instituted. Through the Word and Sacraments, as through instruments, the Holy Spirit is given [**John 20:22**]. He works faith, when and where it pleases God [**John 3:8**], in those who hear the good news that God justifies those who believe that they are received into grace for Christ's sake. This happens not through our own merits, but for Christ's sake. [Concordia, 33]

### **What is the Sacrament of the Altar?**

It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christians to eat and to drink. [Small Catechism]

### **Where is this written?**

The holy Evangelists Matthew, Mark, Luke, and St. Paul write:

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

### **What is the benefit of this eating and drinking?**

These words, "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins," show us that in the Sacrament forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation are given us through these words. For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation.

### **How can bodily eating and drinking do such great things?**

Certainly not just eating and drinking do these things, but the words written here: "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." These words, along with the bodily eating and drinking, are the main thing in the Sacrament. Whoever believes these words has exactly what they say: "forgiveness of sins."

### **Who receives this sacrament worthily?**

Fasting and bodily preparation are certainly fine outward training. But that person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: “Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.”

But anyone who does not believe these words or doubts them is unworthy and unprepared, for the words “for you” require all hearts to believe.

### **POST-COMMUNION COLLECT**

**P** Merciful Father,  
    You gave Jesus Christ to be for us the bread of life,  
    that those who come to Him should never hunger:  
draw us to our Lord in faith and love,  
    that we may eat and drink with Him  
    at His table in the kingdom,  
where He Is alive and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,  
    now and for ever

### **BENEDICTION (Aaronic)**

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
    The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
    The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. Amen

### **DISMISSAL**

**P** Go in Peace; Trust your King! (Thanks be to God!)

### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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**The Sacrament of the Altar from Luther’s Small Catechism:** Edward A. Engelbrecht, *The Lutheran Study Bible* (St. Louis, MO: Concordia Publishing House, 2009), xli.

Paul Timothy McCain, ed., Concordia: *The Lutheran Confessions* (St. Louis, MO: Concordia Publishing House, 2005), 33, 34, 39, 575.

## **PRAYER LIST**

**Jackie Elston** (friend of several Redeemer members, especially Don and Angie King) was diagnosed with Covid-19, but she is feeling better and recovering at home.

**Jackie Hartley** (Jo Hartley's mother) experiencing excessive fatigue, coldness, and unsteadiness.

**State Trooper Vic Painter Ret.** (friend of Pastor Jack in Washington) is suffering with the Covid-19 virus. His decline was rapid but has seemed to level off with the use of immunotherapy.

**Linda** (Ron Reimert's mother) has spinal spacer surgery scheduled for Thursday, March 26.

**Katarina** (friend of Jennifer McIntosh's son) and her family are in Croatia and were in fear for more earthquake devastation along with fears of the Covid-19 virus. They have made it to safety in the country.

**Betsy Shaak** (friend of Patricia Lilly) recovering from a severe respiratory illness.

**Johnny** (brother of Tee Boyd) fell and was injured also dealing with depression and anxiety

**Liz Albitz, Ed & Kim Booten, Billie Brisendine, Brodie, Nancy & Tim Calnon, Catherine, Father Chapin, Linda Cooper, Will Davis, Jamie Dickenson, Robbie Dickenson, Doris Gerke, Paula Hammond, Jim and Marlene Hanson, Aaron Harris, Jo Hartley, Josephine Care Community in Stanwood, WA, Selena Heise, Roy "Hutch" Hutchison, Tom Janicki, Linda, Roy and Betty Lindmark, Marie Marcum, Deby, Jeanneane Maxon, Sandy McKinney, Phyllis Miscovich, Bob Mitchell, Lori Nettles, Lisa & John, Noah, Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Huntington, Kirsti Patzman, Herb & Marian Pauley, Harold Reed, Thresa Robinson, Donna Ruffatto, Stu and Marcia Schwalm, Richard Selmon, Carmella Shaver, St. John's Lutheran Church, Megan Swartz, Taegan Witcher**

**All diagnosed with Covid-19;**

**All diagnosed with Alzheimer's or other forms of dementia, and their caregivers;**

**All diagnosed with any form of cancer;**

**All diagnosed with any incurable (even if treatable) disease.**

**For our congregation** - that we would pursue God's will for us as His people gathered here to bring Him glory as we make disciples being help, hope, home in the body of Christ.