

First Sunday in Lent

Sunday, February 21, 2021

Prelude

ELW 334 "*Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery*"

- 1 Tree of Life and awesome myst'ry,
in your death we are reborn;
though you die in all of hist'ry,
still you rise with ev'ry morn,
still you rise with ev'ry morn.
- 2 We remember truth once spoken,
love passed on through act and word;
ev'ry person lost and broken
wears the body of our Lord,
wears the body of our Lord.
- 3 Christ, you lead and we shall follow,
stumbling though our steps may be;
one with you in joy and sorrow,
we the river, you the sea,
we the river, you the sea.
- 4 From the dawning of creation
you have loved us as your own;
stay with us through all temptation,
make us turn to you alone.

Confession & Forgiveness Rite

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

P: A: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P. In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Kyrie – Setting 5

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

Holy God, heavenly Father, in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin. Renew us in the gift of baptism. May your holy angels be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading: Genesis 9:8-17

⁸God said to Noah and to his sons with him, ⁹“As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, ¹⁰and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. ¹¹I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” ¹²God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: ¹³I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” ¹⁷God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

L: Word of God. Word of Life.
C: Thanks be to God.

Taize: “*The Lord is My Song*”

Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:18-22

¹⁸Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

L: Word of God. Word of Life.
C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (Setting 5)

P: The Gospel according to St. Mark.
C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Mark 1:9-15

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

¹²And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Gospel Acclamation (Setting 5)

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

ELW 325 "*I Want Jesus to Walk with Me*"

- 1 I want Jesus to walk with me;
I want Jesus to walk with me;
all along my pilgrim journey,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.
- 2 In my trials, Lord, walk with me;
in my trials, Lord, walk with me;
when my heart is almost breaking,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.
- 3 When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;
when I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;
when my head is bowed in sorrow,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

Apostle's Creed

A: Let us confess our faith:

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

A: Called to the renewal of our faith in Lent, let us offer our prayers to God.

A: In the waters of baptism, you join us to the life and resurrection of Jesus Christ. For the gift of forgiveness, we praise you.

C: Hear us, O God.

A: You send us your Holy Spirit to guide us and teach us. For all the gifts of the Spirit, we thank you.

C: Hear us, O God.

A: You nourish us with your word and welcome us to your table. For all the ways you care for us, we praise you.

C: Hear us, O God.

A: You call us to tell others about Jesus. For willingness to show Jesus by what we say and do, we pray to you.

C: Hear us, O God.

A: You send us to help other people and to work for what is right. For courage to be the body of Christ, we pray to you.

C: Hear us, O God.

A: You send your spirit of healing and strength to all who call upon you. We ask your healing for those who seek your healing presence, especially Dennis, Carol, Nancy, Pastor Steve Swanson, Renee, Vicki, Rhea, Lupe, Betty, Calina, Bob, Bill, Michael, Richard, all those diagnosed with COVID-19, and all others we hold in our thoughts, we pray to you.

C: Hear us, O God.

P: All these things, and whatever else you see that we need, grant us, O Lord our God, through Jesus Christ, for your mercy is everlasting, and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

C: Amen.

Anthem

'Tis Me, Lord' by H.T. Burleigh

Eucharist Liturgy

P: The Lord be with you

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: Blessed are you, O God of the universe.
Your mercy is everlasting
and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of
me.

With this bread and cup
we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**C: Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

P: O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us
and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast.

Grace our table with your presence.
C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ
for the world. Breathe new life into us.
Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.
C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: With the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars,
we praise you, O God,
blessed and holy Trinity,
now and forever.

C: Amen.
A: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

The Lord's Prayer (sung by musicians)

Communion Distribution

You are invited to come to the altar for Holy Communion. Places are marked where you may stand. Communion will be by the distribution of bread alone. After you have communed, please return to your place in the pews. We ask that everyone observe the protocols of social distancing and wear your mask when approaching and leaving the altar.

Lamb of God

ELW 357 "Lamb of God, Pure and Sinless"

- 1 Lamb of God, pure and sinless,
once on the cross an off'ring,
patient, lowly, guiltless,
forsaken in your suff'ring:
from sin's grasp you have torn us,
from gloom to hope have borne us.
Grant us your mercy, O Jesus.

- 2 Lamb of God, pure and sinless,
once on the cross an off'ring,
patient, lowly, guiltless,
forsaken in your suff'ring:
from sin's grasp you have torn us,
from gloom to hope have borne us.
Grant us your mercy, O Jesus.

- 3 Lamb of God, pure and sinless,
once on the cross an off'ring,
patient, lowly, guiltless,
forsaken in your suff'ring:
from sin's grasp you have torn us,
from gloom to hope have borne us.
Your peace be with us, O Jesus. Amen.

Post Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **C: Amen.**

Post-Communion Prayer

A: Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our

Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
C: Amen.

Closing Hymn

ELW 320 "The Glory of These Forty Days"

- 1 The glory of these forty days
we celebrate with songs of praise;
for Christ, through whom all things were made,
himself has fasted and has prayed.

- 2 Alone and fasting Moses saw
the loving God who gave the law;
and to Elijah, fasting, came
the steeds and chariots of flame.

- 3 So Daniel trained his mystic sight,
delivered from the lions' might;
and John, the Bridegroom's friend, became
the herald of Messiah's name.

- 4 Then grant, O God, that we may, too,
return in fast and prayer to you.
Our spirits strengthen with your grace,
and give us joy to see your face.

Benediction and Dismissal

P: Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

C: Thanks be to God.

A: Go in peace. Remember your baptism.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"Melody" by Samuel Coleridge-Taylor

Announcements

- We invite you to join us for worship each week, either in-person or virtually. Please note that registration is required for in-person attendance. Read our safety protocols for worship and reserve your spot at www.concordiafaith.org/worship . All services will still be available virtually either by livestream via YouTube or recordings will be available later on our YouTube channel: Concordia Church Chicago.
- Do you have pictures of past Concordia Church events? We would love for you to share them with us for use in our service slideshows. If you have any photos of Concordia Church, members engaged in church activities, or other memories from past years, please send them to Desirae in the church office at ddiehl@concordiafaith.org .
- Join Pastor Zook for a Lenten Adult Bible Study, *Sunday mornings at 8:30am; February 21 – March 21*. Titled, **“Whose Bible Is It Anyway?”** the study will explore the following: When it comes to understanding and interpreting the Bible, we have no end of differing opinions and conflicting interpretations of what the Bible teaches. For our 5 week Lenten study, we’ll explore the various ways the Bible has been interpreted and how we can be refreshed in our understanding of the Bible for our faith and calling in life. We will read essays by two authors on the history of interpretations and theology of the Scriptures for Christian faith and the Church. Brevard S. Childs, “On Reclaiming the Bible for Christian Theology” and Robert Jenson, “Hermeneutics and the Life of the Church”. Copies of the essays will be available to those who wish to participate. You can sign up for the Zoom Lenten Bible Study by emailing Pastor Zook, nzook@concordiafaith.org BYOB--Bring your own Bible.
- Beginning this February 24th, enjoy special weekly Lenten music & readings. The musicians of Concordia Church, along with some special guests, will be releasing a new musical offering each Wednesday. You can find these programs on our YouTube Channel or on our Lenten webpage, www.concordiafaith.org/Lent
- We appreciate your continued gifts to Concordia Church! Remember, you may give in three ways:
 1. Text-to-give: Text “Concordia” to 73256 and follow the link you receive
 2. Give online at onrealm.org/concordiafaith/give
 3. Send a check via mail to the church