

Third Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 7, 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 Living Water of salvation,
be the fountain of each soul;
springing up in new creation,
flow in us and make us whole.

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, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only 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: Exodus 20:1-17

¹God spoke all these words:

²I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me.

⁴You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the

alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

¹²Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³You shall not murder.

¹⁴You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵You shall not steal.

¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Taize: "*In the Lord*"

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (Setting 5)

P: The Gospel according to St. John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 2:13-22

¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep

and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" ¹⁹Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ²⁰The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Gospel Acclamation (Setting 5)

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

ELW 793 "*Be Thou My Vision*"

- 1 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
thou my best thought by day and by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.
- 2 Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.
Thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tower,
raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
- 3 Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou, and thou only, first in my heart,
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.
- 4 Light of my soul, after victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

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, 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

"The Wise Thief" by Pavel Vorotnikov

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.
With this bread 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 the gift of bread we share. Grace our table with your presence.
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.**

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 652 "*Built on a Rock*"

- 1 Built on a rock the church shall stand,
even when steeples are falling;
crumbled have spires in ev'ry land,
bells still are chiming and calling—
calling the young and old to rest,
calling the souls of those distressed,
longing for life everlasting.
- 2 Surely, in temples made with hands
God the Most High is not dwelling—
high in the heav'ns his temple stands,
all earthly temples excelling.
Yet he who dwells in heav'n above
deigns to abide with us in love,
making our bodies his temple.
- 3 Christ builds a house of living stones:
we are his own habitation;
he fills our hearts, his humble thrones,
granting us life and salvation.
Where two or three will seek his face,
he in their midst will show his grace,
blessings upon them bestowing.
- 4 Yet in this house, an earthly frame,
Jesus the children is blessing;
hither we come to praise his name,
faith in our Savior confessing.
Jesus to us his Spirit sent,
making with us his covenant,

granting his children the kingdom.

- 5 Through all the passing years, O Lord,
grant that, when church bells are ringing,
many may come to hear your Word,
who here this promise is bringing:
"I know my own, my own know me;
you, not the world, my face shall see;
my peace I leave with you. Amen."

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

"Prelude and Fugue in E minor" by J.S. Bach

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.
- Don't forget that next Daylight Savings Time begins next Sunday, March 14th! Remember to set your clocks back before you go to bed Saturday evening so that you don't miss the Sunday worship service!
- 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.
- The musicians of Concordia Church, along with some special guests, are releasing a new musical offering each Wednesday during this season of Lent as part of their program "*Lent Psalms & Song*". You can find these programs - both previous and upcoming - 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”to73256 and follow the link you receive
 2. Give online at onrealm.org/concordiafaith/give
 3. Send a check via mail to the church