MORNING WORSHIP

Live on Zoom at 10:00 AM
Coffee Hour following worship on Zoom
Code: 229508663 PW: 056996
March 7, 2021
Third Sunday of Lent

Prelude/Welcome

Before we begin Worship we acknowledge that we worship on the traditional grounds of the Anishinaabe (meaning "the people") People, and we honor their elders both past and present.

Order of Worship

Covenant Renewal Litany

Every day we journey on this earth is a day in which we make choices:

Left or right, up or down, in or out, yes or no?

Some choices are simple, and some are very complex, But one choice informs all the others:

Who will be our God? Who will we trust to see us through this journey?

Who has been with us from before the beginning, bringing us into existence?

Who has loved us and blessed us and sent us on our way?

Who has pointed us toward the path and posted the signs we need to find our way?

Who has been at our side when the road has been smooth and gently curving?

Who has kept with us through hairpin turns and construction zones and potholes and detours?

Who will celebrate with us when we complete our course and seek the comfort of eternity?

Only One. The One and Only. Holy One. The One and Holy.

Will you choose this day to stay faithful to the One who is faithful to us?

Count us in.

Will you choose this day to place your whole trust in the One who is trustworthy?

Count us in.

Will you choose this day to commit you talents and your resources to the One who first endowed them?

Count us in.

Will you choose this day to love the One who loved us first?

Count us in.

Praying together,

We devote ourselves to you by remembering the covenant—the promise you made to humanity so long ago. Because you are our God, we are your people. Enlarge our faithfulness, our trust, our commitment and our love so that we may graciously up hold our side of the deal. Help us always to recognize your presence and your blessings throughout our journey. Keep us in your care. Amen.

Gathering Song #705 ELW vs 1 & 3 "God of Grace and God of Glory"

God of grace and God of glory, on your peope pour your pow'r;

crown your ancient church's story; bring its bud to glorious flow'r.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.

Cure your children's waring madness: bend our pride to your control;

shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.

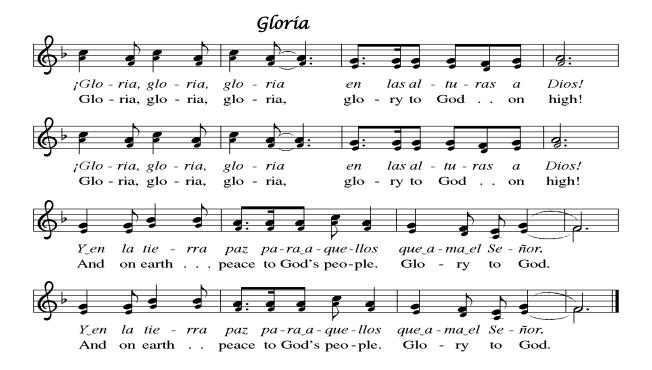
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, lest we miss you kingdom's goal, lest we miss your kingdom's goal.

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.





Prayer of the Day

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.**

Word

Readings and Prayers of Intercession are found in the *Celebrate* insert.

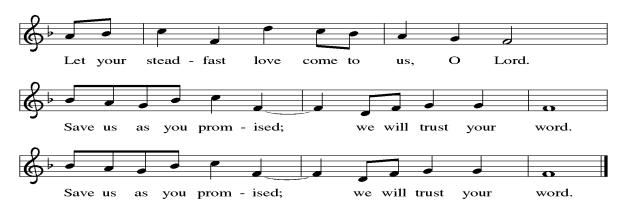
First Reading Exodus 20:1-17

(after the reading) Assistant: The word of Life. People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 19; refrain; Ps. 19:8

(after the reading) Assistant: The word of Life. People: Thanks be to God.

Lenten Acclamation



The Holy Gospel according to John 2:13-22

Response after the announcement: Glory to you, O Lord. Response after the conclusion: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day #723 vs 1 & 4 ELW "Canticle of the Turning"

My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great, and my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait. You fixed your sight on your servant's plight, and my weakness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be about to turn?

Though the nations rage from age to age, we remember who holds us fast:
God's mercy must deliver us from the conqueror's crushing grasp.
This saving word that our forbears heard is the promise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be crushed by God, who is turning the world around.

Apostles Creed

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and 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 Intersession

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world and all in need.

A brief silence.

There is no God before you. Purify the faith of your church, that your people place their trust in nothing beside you. Your name is holy. Guide your church, that in every situation your people's words and actions honor your name. Hear us O God. **Your mercy is great.**

The heavens declare your glory. Renew your creation. Provide leaders in the struggle for clean air and water; protect creatures and crops that rely on healthy ecosystems; give all people the willingness to repent when our way of life pollutes the earth and skies. Hear us of God. **Your mercy is great.**

Your foolishness is wiser than human wisdom. Fill leaders with the foolishness of your peace and mercy. Your law defends the vulnerable. Work through legislators, judicial systems, and systems of law enforcement to protect the well being and freedom of all. Hear us O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Your weakness is stronger than human strength. Protect those who are vulnerable and give courage to all who are suffering especially Sheryl, Wally and Colleen, Paula, Bill, Ruthann, Beverly, Chuck, Wilma, Barb, Gene, "Tiny," Pavel, Alla, Oliver and Victoria. Defend victims crime and bring redemption to these who have harmed others. Give sabbath rest to all who labor. Hear us O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You call us to proclaim Christ crucified. Give clarity to this congregation and our leaders, so that we might follow Christ beyond our own habits and comfort. Clear out anything in our common life that would obscure the gospel or that serves our own interests. Hear us O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for those who suffer from the coronavirus, and those who have died from the coronavirus. Receive the dead into your gentle embrace and comfort their loved ones with the power and protection of your peace. Give hope and healing to those who are sick and protection and healing hands and hearts, to the care givers and those on the front lines. Hear us O God. **Your mercy is great.**

The cross of Christ is your power for all who are being saved. Thank you for all the martyrs whose witness reveals the power of the cross. Give us the same trust in life and in death. Hear us O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.** Share with one another a sign of God's peace

Offering Prayer

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Announcements

Blessing

Walk in boldness, as a beloved child of God. Walk in peace, under the shelter of the Most High. Walk in faith, knowing Christ walks with you. **Amen**

Sending Hymn #803 vs 1 & 4 "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

When I survey the wondrous cross on which the prince of glory died, my richest gain I count but loss and pour contempt on all my pride.

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small; love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

Go in love and faith and know that Christ goes with you! Thanks be to God.

