



THIRD SUNDAY
in
LENT

ORDER OF THE DIVINE SERVICE
THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 7, 2021 - 8:00 AM

A warm welcome to all worshipping with Resurrection Lutheran Church today. In May of 2020, Resurrection Lutheran Church celebrated forty-two years of ministry. Celebrating our Savior's love continues today in the faithful gathering of God's people, whether we are together in God's house or as you watch online from the comfort of your home.

LESSONS AND LITURGY TODAY

Before the magnifying glass of the Law, our cause for boasting melts away and we are left with only Jesus Christ. His Righteousness is not the object of our admiration but His Gift to us in our Baptism. The proof of His Faithfulness lies in His Promise to rise again after three days. Once this was seen as blasphemy, but Jesus proved the words true. When He was raised from the dead, His disciples recalled what He said and believed the Word of the Lord. Do we believe It today?

❖ Denotes times when the congregation is invited to stand.

The congregation is encouraged to quietly and prayerfully prepare for worship during the prelude.

PRELUDE

Lecia Cecconi-Roberts, Clarinet

What a Friend We Have in Jesus — arr. D. F. Everson

GREETING



INVOCATION

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the Name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT

Exodus 20:1-17

(God takes the initiative to establish His relationship with us; and gives the basic terms of the Covenant.)

And God spoke all these words:
"I Am the LORD your God,
Who brought you out of Egypt,
out of the land of slavery.

"You shall have no other gods before Me.
"You shall not make for yourself an idol
in the form of anything in heaven above

or on the earth beneath or in the waters below.
 You shall not bow down to them or worship them;
 for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me, but showing love to a thousand [generations] of those who love Me and keep My Commandments.
 "You shall not misuse the Name of the LORD your God,
 for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses His Name.
 "Remember the Sabbath Day by keeping it holy.
 Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God.
 On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your

manservant or maidservant, nor your animals, nor the alien within your gates.
 For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but He rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath Day and made it holy.
 "Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you.
 "You shall not murder.
 "You shall not commit adultery.
 "You shall not steal.
 "You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.
 "You shall not covet your neighbor's house. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor."

A This is the Word of the Lord.
 C **Thanks be to God.**

❖ **CONFESSION OF SINS AND GOOD NEWS OF FORGIVENESS**

P The First Commandment. You shall have no other gods.
 C **We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things.**

P The Second Commandment. You shall not misuse the Name of the Lord your God.
 C **We should fear and love God so that we do not curse, swear, use satanic arts, lie, or deceive by His Name, but call upon It in every trouble, pray, praise, and give thanks.**

P The Third Commandment. Remember the Sabbath Day by keeping it holy.

- C** We should fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and His Word, but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it.
- P** Let us seek God's Mercy.
- C** We are sorry for all of our sins, those of commission and omission, and ask for Your Grace, O Lord. Please send Your Spirit of Counsel to help us do better.
- P** Deliver us from sinking into the mire;
- C** Deliver us from all our sins and our enemies and from the flood of death.
- P** O Lord, Your Steadfast Love is good.
- C** According to Your Abundant Mercy, turn to us and forgive our sins.
- P** God's Word assures us that everyone who calls on the Name of the Lord will be saved through the victory Christ has won by the cross and His Resurrection.
- As a Called and ordained servant of the Word, I announce the Grace of God to you; and in the Stead, and by the Command of my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

❖ **HYMN**
The Law of God Is Good and Wise **LSB 579, vs. 1, 3, 5-6**

- 1. The Law of God is good and wise And sets His will before our eyes,
 Shows us the way of righteousness, And dooms to death when we transgress.**
- 3. To those who help in Christ have found And would in works of love abound
 It shows what deeds are His delight And should be done as good and right.**
- 5. The Law is good; but since the fall Its holiness condemns us all;
 It dooms us for our sin to die And has no pow'r to justify.**
- 6. To Jesus we for refuge flee, Who from the curse has set us free,
 And humbly worship at His throne, Saved by His grace through faith alone.**

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❖ **KYRIE**

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

P For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord.

C Christ, have mercy.

P For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord.

C Christ, have mercy.

P For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord.

C Christ, have mercy.

P For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord.

C Christ, have mercy.

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us Gracious Lord.

C Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy. Amen.

❖ PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

O God, Whose Glory it is always to have mercy,

C **be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your Ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

PSALM

Psalm 19:7-14

(The psalmist celebrates the life-nurturing effects of the Lord's revealed Law.)

P The Law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul;

C **the Testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple;**

P the Precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart;

C **the Commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes;**

P the fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever;

C **the Rules of the Lord are true, and righteous altogether.**

P More to be desired are they than gold,

C **even much fine gold;**

P sweeter also than honey

C **and drippings of the honeycomb.**

P Moreover, by them is Your servant warned;

C **in keeping them there is great reward.**

P Who can discern his errors?

C **Declare me innocent from hidden faults.**

P Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous sins;

C **let them not have dominion over me!**

P Then I shall be blameless,
C **and innocent of great transgression.**

P Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your Sight,
C **O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.**
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

(The power and wisdom of the cross of Christ is God's action for us.)

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the Power of God.

For it is written: "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise; the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate."

Where is the wise man?

Where is the scholar? Where is the philosopher of this age?

Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?

For since in the Wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know Him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe.

Jews demand miraculous signs and Greeks look for wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the Wisdom of God.

For the foolishness of God is wiser than man's wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than man's strength.

Brothers, think of what you were when you were called.

Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth.

But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise;

God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong.

He chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things--and the things that are not--to nullify the things that are, so that no one may boast before Him.

It is because of Him that you are in Christ Jesus, Who has become for us Wisdom from God--that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption.

Therefore, as it is written:

"Let him who boasts boast in the Lord."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

VERSE

L [O come, let us fix our eyes on] Jesus, the Founder and Perfecter of our faith, Who, for the joy that was set before Him, endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the Right Hand of the Throne of God.

C **Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.** (*John 2:19*)



HOLY GOSPEL

John 2:13-22

(Jesus chases the money-changers from the temple and promises that He will rise again.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the second chapter.

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

When it was almost time for the Jewish
Passover, Jesus went up to Jerusalem.
In the temple courts He found men
selling cattle, sheep and doves, and others
sitting at tables exchanging money.
So He made a whip out of cords, and
drove all from the temple area, both sheep
and cattle;
He scattered the coins of the money
changers and overturned their tables.
To those who sold doves He said,
"Get these out of here!
How dare you turn My Father's House
into a market!"
His disciples remembered that it is
written: "Zeal for Your House will
consume me."

Then the Jews demanded of Him,
"What miraculous sign can You show us
to prove Your Authority to do all this?"
Jesus answered them,
"Destroy This Temple,
and I will raise It again in three days."
The Jews replied, "It has taken forty-six
years to build this temple, and You are
going to raise it in three days?"
But the temple He had spoken of was His
Body.
After He was raised from the dead, His
disciples recalled what He had said.
Then they believed the Scripture and the
words that Jesus had spoken.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, Lord Christ.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pastor Jonathan Blanke

HYMN OF THE DAY

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

LSB 427

1. In the cross of Christ I glory, Tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time.
All the light of sacred story Gathers round its head sublime.
2. When the woes of life o'ertake me, Hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
Never shall the cross forsake me; Lo, it glows with peace and joy.
3. When the sun of bliss is beaming Light and love upon my way,
From the cross the radiance streaming Adds more luster to the day.
4. Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure By the cross are sanctified;
Peace is there that knows no measure, Joys that through all time abide.

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SERMON

Put to Death, That We Might Live

Pastor Jonathan Blanke

Exodus 20:1-17; John 2:13-22

(For an outline of the sermon, see page 15 of this worship folder.)



CREED

NICENE CREED

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
Maker of Heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only-Begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from Heaven

and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into Heaven
and sits at the Right Hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory
to judge both the living and the dead,
whose Kingdom will have no end.
And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the ✠ Life of the world to come. Amen.

❖ GREETING OF PEACE

All are invited to greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, “Peace be with you,” as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. (*Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3*) Any gesture accompanying this greeting (wave, hand over heart with slight bow) is welcome.

OFFERING

(The offerings of God’s people will be received through electronic giving, by postal mail, and in baskets located in the Narthex.)

OFFERTORY

Create In Me a Clean Heart, O God

LSB 192-193

**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence; and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; and uphold me with Thy free spirit.
Amen.**

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❖ LITANY PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

- P Lord Jesus, through Your Life, Death and Resurrection, You have redeemed us from our sins; through Your Word You have called us to be Your own.
- C **Thank You for the waters of baptism, which cleanse us and equip us for faithfully following You. Help us to live in newness of life.**
- P Lord Jesus, train us and equip us through Your Word.
- C **Thank you for the truth of Your Word throughout all generations. We rejoice in our Lutheran heritage of truth and pray that we might seek and share Your Truth in the schools of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.**
- P Lord Jesus, equip us to be teachers of truth.
- C **Thank you for the teachers in the home and teachers in our Lutheran schools. Bless the agencies of the church, which continue to train teachers who love Your children and teach Your Truth.**
- P Lord Jesus, equip us to be messengers of hope.
- C **Thank you for the message of healing and hope that You bring to those who are hospitalized or in other settings, offering care and compassion.**
- P Lord Jesus, equip us to be Your witnesses to the world.
- C **Thank you for the opportunity to share the Truth of Jesus with children of all ages and many backgrounds in our Lutheran schools. Bless those who teach and serve children in the far corners of Your earthly Kingdom.**
- P O God, our Father, our Leader, and Nurturer, today we ask Your Blessings on the education ministry of Resurrection Lutheran Church and its schools. Give Your Blessing to all instruction offered in this school.
- C **Lord, lead us by Your Word to Everlasting Life.**
- P Grant, O Lord, that the teachers realize the importance of their task, teaching the way of life to all whom You have bought with the Holy, Precious Blood of Your Son.
- C **Lord, lead us by Your Word to Everlasting Life.**

❖ PRAYER FOR A PARISH SCHOOL

- P Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, since You have committed the care and nurture of children to Your people,
- C **graciously enlighten those who teach and learn at Resurrection Lutheran School that they may know the truth and trust in You all the days of their lives;**
- P through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C **Amen.**

❖ PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, praying for the whole people of God and for all people according to their needs.
- C **O God, Your foolishness is wiser than men and Your weakness greater than our strength. Give to Your whole Church on earth boldness to proclaim Christ crucified throughout the world.**
Enlighten the hearts of those who ignore Your Gospel that they may recognize in Your Cross the Wisdom of the Father and the power of Your Love.
- P O Lord, You are our Refuge and Portion in the land of the living and You hold all the power of the world in Your Hand.
Give to all the rulers of the nations the wisdom of maintaining peace and promoting justice, that the righteous may be gathered by Your Goodness.
- C **Grant Your continued Protection, O Lord, to those who serve in the armed forces of our nation. Sustain their families in their absence.**
Give them courage to serve with integrity and honor.
- P O God, as You allowed the temple of Your Son's Body to be destroyed only to raise It up again on the third day, surround those who mourn the death of loved ones that they may hold firmly to Your sure Peace and take comfort in the promise of the resurrection.
- C **Lord God, Your Son endured the cross, despising its shame and now is seated at Your Right Hand in glory.**

Help us ever to fix our gaze upon Him with those who have gone before us who now look upon Him face to face, to the praise of Your Victory.

P May Your Son's Body and Blood given to us in the Holy Sacrament strengthen us on our way. Direct us always to look upon Him Who was lifted up for our salvation. Lord, in Your Mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

After each portion of the prayers:

P Lord, in Your Mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

P Into Your Hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your Mercy for the Sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.
C **Amen.**

❖ PRAYER

P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**

P O Gracious God, You gave us Your Commandments to order our lives and protect us, to convict our hearts of sin, and to prepare us for the Gospel.
C **As Jesus once cleansed the temple, we pray You to cleanse our hearts by Your Holy Spirit, that there may be room only for faith in Jesus Christ and that we may boast in Him only; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

❖ BENEDICTION

P The LORD bless you and keep you.
The LORD make His Face to shine on you and be gracious to you.
The LORD look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. *(Numbers 6:24-26)*
C **Amen.**



Lord, Help Us Ever to Retain

LSB 865

1. Lord, help us ever to retain The Catechism's doctrine plain
As Luther taught the Word of truth In simple style to tender youth.
2. Help us Your holy Law to learn, To mourn our sin and from it turn
In faith to You and to Your Son And Holy Spirit, Three in One.
3. Hear us, dear Father, when we pray For needed help from day to day
That as Your children we may live, Whom You baptized and so received.
4. Lord, when we fall or go astray, Absolve and lift us up, we pray;
And through the Sacrament increase Our faith till we depart in peace.

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P Go in peace and serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Abide with Me with Glory Be to Jesus – arr. G. Lanier Lecia Cecconi-Roberts, Clarinet

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Acknowledgments

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Servants in Worship

Preacher.....Rev. Dr. Jonathan Blanke

Liturgist.....Vicar Alan Shaw

Organist/Pianist/Vocalist.....Robert E. Unger, Director of Worship and Music Ministry

Vocalist.....Rebecca Melland-Kuo

Instrumentalist.....Lecia Cecconi-Roberts

Reader.....Sandy Wuori

Wilderness Experience, 3: Put to Death, That We Might Live
Third Sunday in Lent (Exodus 20:1-17; John 2:13-22)

Our wilderness experience for today takes us to Sinai and to the delivery of the Ten Commandments to Israel in the wilderness. Though the perfect will of God puts to death any notion that we can approach God on our own, Jesus' perfect sacrifice for sin allows us to stand in the life-giving mercy of a God who forgives!

1. **What the heart of sinful humanity feels when it confronts a holy God:**
_____ and _____. Consider what was going on at Mt. Sinai (earthquakes, fire, display of God's power). Consider even more how God had rescued Israel (ten plagues, Red Sea experience) from Egypt!
2. **What the Law was never intended to do: work as a _____ for right living.** Though the Law does "show us our sins," our respect for God's representatives (parents, teachers, government) and regard for God's gift of life, marriage, possessions, good reputation, and true contentment...to say nothing of our godly fear and trust in God above all things...will remain a work in progress!
3. **What the Law can and does do: _____ to _____ the notion that we are independent beings on our own spiritual journey of self-improvement.** Before new life in us is born, the old Adam/Eve in us must die.
4. **What God does through the power of the Word (both _____ AND _____): In Holy Baptism, not only is the Old Adam/Eve in us drowned, but the new man or woman in Christ is born in us.** As the hymn "Amazing Grace" so eloquently puts it: "Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved." Trusting in God's mercy through the one-and-only sacrifice for sins, Jesus Christ, we are given to truly live life—even in the wilderness.

Lenten Offerings for 2021

Lutheran Hour Ministries

is a trusted resource in global media that equips and engages a vibrant volunteer base to passionately proclaim the Gospel to more than 125 million people worldwide each week. Through its North American headquarters and ministry centers on six continents, LHM reaches into more than 50 countries, often bringing Christ to places where no other Christian evangelistic organizations are present. LHM's flagship ministry, The Lutheran Hour®, airs weekly on more than 1,800 radio stations and the American Forces Network.

Hope International

To invest in the dreams of families in the world's underserved communities as we proclaim and live the Gospel. We share the hope of Christ as we provide biblically based training, savings services, and loans that restore dignity and break the cycle of poverty. The love of Jesus Christ motivates us to identify with those living in poverty and be His hands and feet as we strive to glorify God.

Inter-Faith Food Shuttle

is a member of the Feeding America National Network of Food Banks. As a Feeding America Food Bank, we recover and distribute food to our low-income neighbors, but we know putting food on a plate is not enough. We also provide programs designed to empower people with skills to meet their own food needs through culinary job training, beginner gardening, and cooking healthy on a budget. We feed, teach, and grow to create a hunger-free and healthy community.



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