

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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You Tube: Christ Lutheran Church Forest Hills PA

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The Reverend Ronald Breight	Pastor
The Reverend Reholma McCants	Pastor Emeritus
Douglas Skalka	Organist
Al Dick	Worship Assistant
Vince Mroz	Lector

Missionaries: The Rev. Dr. Jonathan and Deaconess Cheryl Naumann

Sunday bulletins, news, puzzles, and sermons are available on our website listed above. Video recordings of our weekly services can be viewed on our You Tube channel, *Christ Lutheran Forest Hills Pa*. Services are live-streamed on our Facebook page.

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The Third Sunday in Lent

March 7, 2021

ORDER OF SERVICE

PRELUDE

Prelude on "Distress"

Gregory Hamilton

RINGING OF THE BELLS/ WELCOME

OPENING HYMN (*please rise and sing*)

Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain

Hymnal p. 435

**Come to Calv'ry's holy mountain, Sinners, ruined by the fall;
Here a pure and healing fountain Flows for you, for me, for all,
In a full, perpetual tide, Opened when our Savior died.**

**Come in poverty and meanness, Come defiled, without, within;
From infection and uncleanness, From the leprosy of sin, Wash your
robes and make them white; Ye shall walk with God in light.**

**Come in sorrow and contrition, Wounded, impotent and blind;
Here the guilty, free remission, Here the troubled, peace may find.**

**Health this fountain will restore;
They that drink shall thirst no more.**

**They that drink shall live forever; 'Tis a soul renewing flood.
God is faithful; God will never Break His covenant of blood,
Signed when our Redeemer died, Sealed when He was glorified.**

Text and music: Public Domain

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

CONFESSION¹

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth.

P: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C: But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P: Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

(We take a moment of silence before the Lord as we call to mind how we have not properly loved Him, ourselves, or other people.)

C: Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

KYRIE

P: Heavenly Father, Your only begotten Son overcame Satan, sin, and death by His patience and suffering. Help us, we pray, to treasure in our hearts all that our Lord has borne for us that we would be inspired to patiently persevere in true faith unto life everlasting.

C: (sung) Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

COLLECT

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, 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.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING

Exodus 20:1–17

L: The first reading for the Third Sunday in Lent is from chapter twenty of Exodus.

God sends the Ten Commandments.

Following the reading...

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY

Psalm 19

L: 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.

L: The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul;

C: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple;

L: the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart;

C: the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes;

L: the fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever;

C: the rules of the Lord are true, and righteous altogether.

L: More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold;

C: sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb.

L: Moreover, by them is Your servant warned;

C: in keeping them there is great reward.

L: Who can discern his errors?

C: Declare me innocent from hidden faults.

L: Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me!

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

L: 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.

A: 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.

L: 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.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1:18–31

L: The second reading is from chapter one of 1 Corinthians.

The wisdom of God is foolishness to human reason.

Following the reading...

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 2:13–22 (23–25)

P: The Holy Gospel is according to St. John, chapter two.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

Jesus reveals the true nature of God's temple.

Following the reading...

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

THE NICENE CREED²

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.**

HYMN OF THE DAY

God of Grace and God of Glory

Hymnal p. 850

**God grace and God of glory, On Your people 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.**

**Lo, the hosts of evil round us Scorn the Christ, assail His ways!
From the fears that long have bound us Free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage For the living of these days,
For the living of these days.**

**Cure Your children's warring 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 Your kingdom's goal,
Lest we miss Your kingdom's goal.**

**Save us from weak resignation To the evils we deplore;
Let the gift of Your salvation Be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, Serving You whom we adore,
Serving You whom we adore.**

Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON³

VERSE

Hymnal p. 422

**On my heart imprint Your image, Blessed Jesus, King of grace,
That life's riches, cares, and pleasures Never may Your work erase;
Let the clear inscription be: Jesus, crucified for me,
Is my life, my hope's foundation, And my glory and salvation!**

Text and music: Public domain

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Let us pray for ourselves, the church, and the world.

Following each petition:

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

C: Amen.

THE SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord's Supper (Holy Communion) is being celebrated in today's service. In preparation for that, please be reminded that the bread and wine of the Lord's Supper are not merely representations or symbols of Jesus' body and blood but Jesus' body and blood sacrificed on the cross are present in, with, and under the bread and wine (The Real Presence). How is this possible? This is beyond human understanding, but we remember that with God all things are possible. This truth is a divine mystery instituted by Jesus, taught by his Apostles, fervently held by the Christian church, and one in which we participate through faith. To be properly prepared to receive this sacrament, you must

- 1) Recognize that you have indeed sinned against God and other people and are accountable to God for those sins;
- 2) Be sorry (repentant) for those sins;
- 3) Believe that in this sacrament Jesus bestows forgiveness, life, and salvation; and
- 4) Sincerely desire to live a godly life from this point forward.

If you are not a member of Christ Lutheran Church, please speak with the pastor before receiving communion here for the first time.

PREFACE

Hymnal p. 208

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

C: It is meet and right to give Him thanks and praise.

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary.....

SANCTUS (*sung*)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.**

**Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P: Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life....

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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI

P: The peace of the Lord be with you in all ways.

C: Amen.

AGNUS DEI*(sung)*

**O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.**

DISTRIBUTION

Communion will be offered using the "continuous" method. Approach the front using the main isle. Take both your wafer and individual communion cup from the trays in the front. Place the individual cup and liner in the receptacle at the end of the front pew. Return to your pew using the side isle, if possible. Please observe the 6-foot spacing between communicants. You need not have your mask on when you come up for communion.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Glory Be to Jesus

Hymnal p. 433

**Glory be to Jesus, Who in bitter pains
Poured for me the lifeblood From His sacred veins!
Grace and life eternal In that blood I find;
Blest be His compassion, Infinitely kind!
Blest through endless ages Be the precious stream
Which from endless torment Did the world redeem!
Abel's blood for vengeance Pleaded to the skies;
But the blood of Jesus For our pardon cries.
Oft as earth exulting Wafts its praise on high,
Angel hosts rejoicing Make their glad reply.
Lift we, then, our voices, Swell the mighty flood;
Louder still and louder Praise the precious blood!**

Text and music: Public domain

VOLUNTARY

Cross of Jesus

Edward Broughton

NUNC DIMITTIS

Hymnal p. 211

**O Lord, now let Your servant Depart in heav'nly peace,
For I have seen the glory Of Your redeeming grace:
A light to lead the Gentiles Unto Your holy hill,
The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.**

**All glory to the Father, All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit, Forever Three in One;
For as in the beginning, Is now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding Through all eternity.**

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P: Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BENEDICTION

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

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.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

Hymnal p. 427

**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.**

**When the woes of life o'er take me,
Hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
Never shall the cross forsake me;**

**Lo, it glows with peace and joy.
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.
Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure
By the cross are sanctified;
Peace is there that knows no measure,
Joys that through all time abide.**

Text and music: Public domain

POSTLUDE

Built on the Rock

Scott M. Hyslop

¹*The Lord Jesus breathed on His disciples and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."* John 20:22-23. We take heart that the absolution proclaimed by the pastor is as from the Lord Himself.

²*It is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.* Romans 10:10. Our response to the Word of God that has just been read is our confession of faith in the one, true, triune God.

³Martin Luther teaches us about hearing the Word: "Know, therefore, that you must be concerned not only about hearing, but also about learning and retaining it in memory, and do not think that it is optional with you or of no great importance, but that it is God's commandment, who will require of you how you have heard, learned, and honored His Word." (Large Catechism) *Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!* Luke 11:28

OFFERING ANNOUNCEMENT FOR ONLINE VIEWERS

For those worshipping with us online and those sheltering in place, we encourage you to bring your tithes and offerings to the church office open M-F mornings from 9-12, or mail your check in to church, or for those who bank online, simply instruct your bank to send us a check in the mail.

We all owe God our tithes and offerings and we encourage everyone to continue in the joy that is found in faithful financial stewardship. Thank you.

HOME COMMUNION: Christ Lutheran is providing Home Communion Packages with individually wrapped wafers and wine cups. These packages are to be distributed to those who are institutionalized or remain

at home on Sundays. Home communions are available after worship and at the church office Monday through Friday 9am-Noon. Please write on the clipboard to whom you are taking communion.

Christ Lutheran Church is a member of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod.