SPIRIT OF GRACE Second Sunday in Lent with Holy Communion March 20, 2022

The congregation's part is in bold. Please wear a mask when you sing.

<u>GATHERING</u>

PRELUDE

Above All

WELCOME & GIRL SCOUT TROOP 77339 RECOGNITION

All Girl Scouts, current and former, are invited to join in the:

Girl Scout Promise

"On my honor, I will try: To serve God & my country To help people at all times, And to live by the Girl Scout Law."

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of God, who makes a way in the wilderness, walks with us and guides us in our pilgrimage. **Amen.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One, we confess that we have wandered far from you: we have not trusted your promises, we have ignored your prophets in our own day, we have squandered our inheritance of grace, we have failed to recognize you in our midst. Have mercy on us! Forgive us and turn us again to you. Teach us to follow in your ways, assure us again of your love, and help us to love our neighbor. Amen. Beloved in Christ, the Word draws near to you, and all who call out to God shall be saved. In Jesus, God comes to you again and again and gathers you under wings of love. In + Jesus' name, your sins are forgiven. God journeys with you and teaches you how to live in love. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG

AS THE DEER

 As the deer panteth for the water So my soul longeth after Thee You alone are my heart's desire And I long to worship Thee

You alone are my strength my shield To You alone may my spirit yield You alone are my heart's desire And I long to worship Thee

- 2 You're my friend and You are my brother Even though You are a King I love You more than any other So much more than anything
 - 3 I want You more than gold or silver
 Only You can satisfy
 You alone are the real joygiver
 And the apple of my eye

CCLI Song # 1431 Martin Nystrom © 1984 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing (Admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.)

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.**

Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

<u>WORD</u>

FIRST READING: Isaiah 55:1-9

¹Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. ²Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. ³Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. ⁴See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. ⁵See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. ⁶Seek the LORD while he may be found,

call upon him while he is near;

⁷let the wicked forsake their way,

and the unrighteous their thoughts;

let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them,

and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

⁸For my thoughts are not your thoughts,

nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.

⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways

and my thoughts than your thoughts.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 63:1-8

¹O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

²Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place,

that I might behold your power and your glory.

³For your steadfast love is better than life itself;

my lips shall give you praise.

⁴So will I bless you as long as I live and lift up my hands in your name.

⁵My spirit is content, as with the richest of foods,

and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,

⁶when I remember you upon my bed,

and meditate on you in the night watches.

⁷For you have been my helper,

and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.

$^{8}\mbox{My}$ whole being clings to you; your right hand holds me fast

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

¹I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ²and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. ⁵Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

⁶Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. ⁷Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." ⁸We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. ⁹We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. ¹⁰And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. ¹¹These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. ¹²So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. ¹³No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: Luke 13:1-9

Open your hearts and minds to the Good News as it is recorded in the 13th chapter of Luke. Glory to you, Lord Christ.

¹At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.²[Jesus] asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans?³No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. ⁴Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? ⁵No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

⁶Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. 7So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' ⁸He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. 9If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you Lord Christ.

MESSAGE

Pastor Peggy Rose

HYMN OF THE DAY	GUIDE ME EVER, GREAT REDEEMER	ELW 618
	1 Guide me ever, great Redeemer,	
	pilgrim through this barren land.	
	I am weak, but you are mighty;	
	hold me with your pow'rful hand.	
	Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,	
	feed me now and evermore,	
	feed me now and evermore.	
	2 Open now the crystal fountain	
	where the healing waters flow;	
	let the fire and cloudy pillar	
	lead me all my journey through.	
	Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer,	
	shield me with your mighty arm,	
	shield me with your mighty arm.	

3 When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs and praises, songs and praises, I will raise forevermore, I will raise forevermore.

Text: William Williams, 1717-1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722-1796, alt.

APOSTLES CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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 he will come 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 THE PEOPLE

Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church around the world in all its forms: for all bishops, especially Michael Curry, Elizabeth Eaton, Don Kreiss, and Bonnie Perry; for pastors, deacons, chaplains, and mission developers; for church councils, committee chairs, and all lay ministry leaders; for congregations that contemplate difficult decisions about the future of their ministry. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

For the health of this planet and the well-being of its creatures: for lands impacted by droughts and at risk of wildfires; for fig trees and vineyards that produce fruit for our nourishment and delight; for animal habitats threatened by climate change. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For those called into positions of civic responsibility: for judges, attorneys, and court administrators tasked with uncovering truth and delivering justice; for activists and community leaders who cast a vision of a more compassionate and equitable society. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

For those who call upon you for mercy: for all who live in poverty and experience hunger; for any who feel tested beyond their strength; for those who are hospitalized or near death, and for all in need of healing bugs and Leila. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For the advocacy efforts of this congregation: for those whose faith leads them to speak difficult truths and engage in difficult conversations with policymakers; for those who promote mercy over vengeance or retaliation. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

For those whose earthly journeys have ended, we give thanks. With all the saints, we praise you for the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

OFFERING PRAYER

Extravagant God, you have blessed us with the fullness of creation. Now we gather at your feast where you offer us the food that satisfies. Take and use what we offer here, come among us, and feed us with the body and blood of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

<u>MEAL</u>

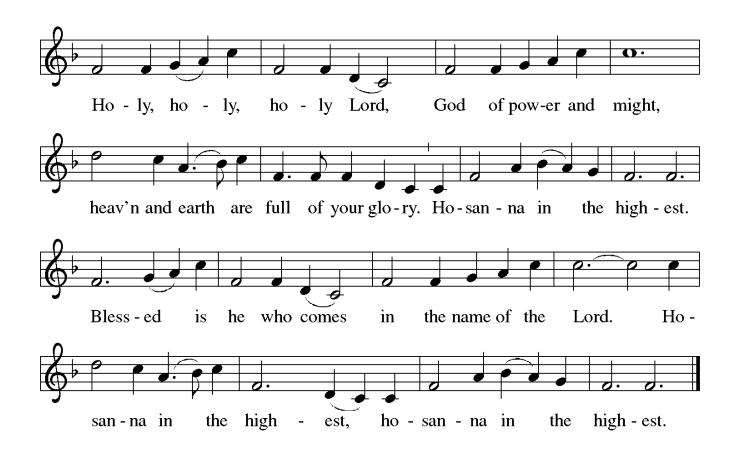
GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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. Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Here is food for the journey. Take and be filled.

All are welcome at the table. Come forward at the direction of the usher. Hold your hands under the touch-less dispenser to receive the wafer. Return to your seat to consume it. If you would like to receive a blessing only, please cross your arms across your chest.

COMMUNION SONGS

HIS EYE IS ON THE SPARROW

Why should I feel discouraged
 Why should the shadows come
 Why should my heart be lonely
 And long for heaven and home
 When Jesus is my portion my constant friend is He

His eye is on the sparrow and I know He watches me His eye is on the sparrow and I know He watches me

I sing because I'm happy I sing because I'm free For His eye is on the sparrow and I know He watches me

2 Let not your heart be troubled
His tender words I hear
And resting on His goodness
I lose my doubt and fear
Tho' by the path He leadeth but one step I may see
His eye is on the sparrow and I know He watches me
His eye is on the sparrow and I know He watches me

3 Whenever I am tempted whenever clouds arise When songs give place to sighing When hope within me dies I draw the closer to Him from care He sets me free His eye is on the sparrow and I know He watches me His eye is on the sparrow and I know He watches me CCLI Song # 77692 Charles Hutchinson Gabriel | Civilla Durfee Martin © Words: Public Domain, Music: Public Domain

MAJESTY

Majesty worship His majesty Unto Jesus be all glory Honor and praise Majesty kingdom authority Flow from His throne Unto His own His anthem raise So exalt lift up on high The name of Jesus Magnify come glorify Christ Jesus the King Majesty worship His majesty Jesus who died now glorified King of all kings

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray together.

Blessed Jesus, in this rich meal of grace, you have fed us with your body, the bread of life. Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope to a world in need. Amen.

<u>SENDING</u>

BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

You are children of God, anointed with the oil of gladness and strengthened for the journey. Almighty God, motherly, majestic, and mighty, + bless you this day and always. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING SONG

GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS

 Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with thee; thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand hath provided; great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me! 2 Summer and winter and springtime and harvest, sun, moon, and stars in their courses above join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. *Refrain*

3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide; strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! *Refrain*

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866-1960 Text © 1923, ren. 1951 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

DISMISSAL Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

How Great is Our God

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