



SERVICE OF THE WORD

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2020

ⓑ Bishop ⓐ Assisting Minister ☑ All

GATHERING

Greeting

ⓑ Blessed be the holy Trinity, the Father,
the ✝ Son,
and the Holy Spirit,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

☑ **Amen.**

ⓑ God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people.
Turn us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your
Holy Spirit that we might confess our sin, receive your forgiveness,
and grow in the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

☑ **Amen.**

Confession & Forgiveness

ⓑ Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

ⓑ Most merciful God,

☑ **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.

☒ God is rich in mercy and loves us even when we are dead in sin, and makes us alive together in Christ. By grace we have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ might live in our hearts through faith.

☒ Amen.

Opening Hymn

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!



1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God Al - might - y!
2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,
3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide thee,
4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!



Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.
cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
though the eye of sin - ful - ness thy glo - ry may not see,
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!
cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,
on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!



God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
which wert and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.
per - fect in pow'r, in love and pu - ri - ty.
God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

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.**

☒ Let us pray. Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows from the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

☒ **Amen.**

HEARING THE WORD

Lesson

Romans 5:1-11

☒ A reading from the fifth chapter of Romans.

☒ Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person – though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more

than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Ⓐ The Word of the Lord.

Ⓒ **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel

John 4:5-42

Ⓑ The Holy Gospel according to John.

Ⓒ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Ⓑ [Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors

worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" They left the city and were on their way to him.

Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something." But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we

have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.”

ⓑ The Gospel of the Lord.

ⓐ Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Bishop Bill Gohl

Hymn of the Day

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing



1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end - less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan - d'ring from the fold of God;
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good - ness prove.
he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735–1790, alt.

Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

Prayers of the People

A Turning our hearts to God who is gracious and merciful, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A God of living water, send your church beyond boundaries to proclaim your grace. May its witness be a source of refreshment for thirsty souls. Strengthen our voices, that all people can know and believe that Jesus is truly the savior of the world. Hear us, O God.

G Your mercy is great.

A God of living water, protect from pollution or misuse all rivers, lakes, oceans, and streams. Bless the work of those who dig wells and those who advocate for access to clean water, that all people and animals have enough to drink. Hear us, O God.

G Your mercy is great.

A God of living water, open the hearts of leaders and authorities, that they hear the cries of the suffering and act with compassion toward them. Bring peace to disputed lands and bring reconciliation to people divided by race, culture, or nationality. Hear us, O God.

G Your mercy is great.

A God of living water, mend the hearts of those who grieve broken relationships, whether by conflict, abuse, divorce, or death. Draw near to all who are ill. Assure those questioning your presence in the midst of doubt or suffering. Hear us, O God.

G Your mercy is great.

A God of living water, renew us in the promises of baptism. Join us together in worship, fellowship, and sharing your good news. Embolden us to serve others and to work for justice and peace. Hear us, O God.

G Your mercy is great.

A God of living water, we thank you for those who endured suffering and who now boast in the glory of God. Pour your Holy Spirit into our hearts and give us peace as we live in the hope of our salvation. Hear us, O God.

G Your mercy is great.

A We invite you to add your prayers to these prayers that have been named and those that remain in our hearts by using the hashtag #demdprays on any form of social media – Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and beyond. Let these prayers come together so that we feel the community of prayer surrounding us in these difficult times.

A According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we commend them to you; through Christ our Lord.

G Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

G 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.

Thanksgiving for the Word

☒ The Lord be with you.

☑ **And also with you.**

☒ Praise and thanks are yours, holy God,
for by your Word you made all things.
You spoke dawn into our dusk.
You created the earth and called it good - very good!
You formed us in your own holy and divine image,
breathing into us a sacred identity.
And let your people say, Amen.

☑ **Amen!**

☒ You sent your Holy Spirit to us,
inspiring us to be your people,
calling us to love your world,
reminding us that what we do has meaning,
and who we are has purpose.
And let your people say, Amen.

☑ **Amen!**

☒ Your Spirit enlivens our church;
your Spirit fired up your first disciples;
your Spirit sprung Peter from prison;
your Spirit gave passion to the martyrs.
And let your people say, Amen.

☑ **Amen!**

☒ Because of this incredible free gift in our lives,
we are bold to speak your truth;
we are empowered to show your love;
we are given freedom to love as your beloved,
to walk as your anointed,

to live as your created.
And let your people say, Amen.

☩ Amen!

SENDING

Blessing

☩ Beloved, go into the world in peace. Be of good courage. Render unto no one an evil thing for an evil thing. Strengthen the fainthearted. Support the weak. Comfort the afflicted. Cry out for justice. Love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. And may the blessing of Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit be among you and abide in you, now and forever.

☩ Amen.

Sending Hymn

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*



1 What a fel - low - ship, what a joy di - vine, lean - ing on the ev - er -
2 Oh, how sweet to walk in this pil - grim way, lean - ing on the ev - er -
3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean - ing on the ev - er -



last - ing arms; what a bless - ed - ness, what a peace is mine,
last - ing arms; oh, how bright the path grows from day to day,
last - ing arms? I have bless - ed peace with my Lord so near,



lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

Refrain



Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se - cure from all a - larms;



lean - ing, lean - ing, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

Dismissal

☞ Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

☞ **Thanks be to God.**

WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher The Rev. Bill Gohl, Bishop
Delaware-Maryland Synod, ELCA

Assisting Minister Deacon Julie Stecker, Assistant to the Bishop for
Communications, Youth + Family Ministry
Delaware-Maryland Synod, ELCA

Cantor The Rev. Tamika Jancewicz, Associate Pastor
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Video Producer The Rev. Jason Chesnut, Chief Creative Officer
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