

## Divine Service

### Fourth Sunday In Lent

*“Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe...”* (Heb. 12:28)

#### The Opening Hymn: 427 ss1-4

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.

#### The Invocation

PASTOR: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

CONG: AMEN.

#### Call to Confession

PASTOR: Beloved in the LORD. Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, imploring him in the name of our LORD Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

#### The Confession

PASTOR: Our help is in the name of the LORD.

CONG: WHO MADE HEAVEN AND EARTH.

PASTOR: I said, I will confess my transgressions to the LORD.

CONG: AND THOU FORGAVEST THE INIQUITY OF MY SIN.

PASTOR: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess to you that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against you by thought, word, and deed; therefore we flee for refuge to your boundless mercy, seeking and imploring your grace for the sake of our LORD Jesus Christ.

ALL: O MOST MERCIFUL GOD, SINCE YOU HAVE GIVEN YOUR ONLY-BEGOTTEN SON TO DIE FOR US, HAVE MERCY ON US AND FOR HIS SAKE GRANT US FORGIVENESS OF ALL OUR SINS; AND BY YOUR HOLY SPIRIT INCREASE IN US TRUE KNOWLEDGE OF YOU AND OF YOUR WILL AND TRUE OBEDIENCE TO YOUR WORD, TO THE END THAT BY YOUR GRACE WE MAY COME TO EVERLASTING LIFE; THROUGH JESUS CHRIST, OUR LORD. AMEN.

#### The Absolution

PASTOR: 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.

CONG: AMEN.

#### The Introit of the Day

Ps 5:4-8; antiphon: Psalm 1:6

PASTOR:

For the Lord knows the way of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked will perish.

For you are not a God who delights in wickedness;  
evil may not dwell with you.

The boastful shall not stand before your eyes;  
you hate all evildoers.

You destroy those who speak lies;

the Lord abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man.

But I, through the abundance of your steadfast love,

will enter your house.  
I will bow down toward your holy temple  
in the fear of you.

Lead me, O Lord, in your righteousness  
because of my enemies;  
make your way straight before me.  
For the Lord knows the way of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked will perish.

### **Gloria Patri**

**CONG:** GLORY BE TO THE FATHER AND TO THE SON AND TO THE  
HOLY GHOST; AS IT WAS IN THE BEGINNING, IS NOW,  
AND EVER SHALL BE, WORLD WITHOUT END. AMEN.

### **The Kyrie**

**CONG:** LORD, HAVE MERCY UPON US.  
CHRIST, HAVE MERCY UPON US.  
LORD, HAVE MERCY UPON US.

### **The Collect**

**PASTOR:** 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.

**CONG:** AMEN.

### **The Old Testament Reading: ISAIAH 12:1-6**

**The Gradual** Heb. 12:2

**PASTOR:** 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.

### **The Epistle: 2 CORINTHIANS 5:16-21**

#### **The Verse**

**PASTOR:** The Lord is patient toward you, not wishing that  
any should perish, but that all should reach  
repentance. 2 Peter 3:9b, c

**CONG:** Hallelujah!

**PASTOR: The Holy Gospel: ST. LUKE 15:1-3, 11-32**

### **The Apostles' Creed (We Confess Together)**

I BELIEVE IN GOD, THE FATHER ALMIGHTY, MAKER OF HEAVEN AND EARTH.  
AND IN JESUS CHRIST, HIS 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  
INTO HELL. THE THIRD DAY HE ROSE AGAIN FROM THE DEAD. HE ASCENDED  
INTO HEAVEN AND SITS AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD THE FATHER  
ALMIGHTY. FROM THENCE HE WILL COME TO JUDGE THE LIVING AND THE  
DEAD. I BELIEVE IN THE HOLY SPIRIT, THE HOLY CHRISTIAN CHURCH, THE  
COMMUNION OF SAINTS; THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS, THE RESURRECTION  
OF THE BODY, AND THE LIFE EVERLASTING. AMEN.

### **The Sermon Hymn: 765 ss1-5**

1 God moves in a mysterious way His wonders to perform;  
He plants His footsteps in the sea And rides upon the storm.  
2 Judge not the Lord by feeble sense, But trust Him for His  
grace; Behind a frowning providence Faith sees a smiling face.  
3 His purposes will ripen fast, Unfolding ev'ry hour; The bud  
may have a bitter taste, But sweet will be the flow'r.  
4 Blind unbelief is sure to err And scan His work in vain;  
God is His own interpreter, And He will make it plain.  
5 You fearful saints, fresh courage take; the clouds you so  
much dread Are big with mercy and will break In blessings on  
your head.

**The Sermon:** “Calvary’s Climb Confronts Us With . . .  
When Life Wears” Is. 12:1-6; 2 Cor. 5:16-21; Luke 15:11-32

**The Offertory**

**CONG:** 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.

**The Prayers and The LORD's Prayer**

**The Closing Hymn: 919 ss1-5**

1 Abide, O dearest Jesus, Among us with Your grace That  
Satan may not harm us Nor we to sin give place.

2 Abide, O dear Redeemer, Among us with Your Word,  
And thus now and hereafter True peace and joy afford.

3 Abide with heav'nly brightness Among us, precious Light;  
Your truth direct and keep us From error's gloomy night.

4 Abide with richest blessings Among us, bounteous Lord; let  
us in grace and wisdom Grow daily through Your Word.

5 Abide with Your protection Among us, Lord, our strength,  
Lest world and Satan fell us And overcome at length.

6 Abide, O faithful Savior, Among us with Your love; Grant  
steadfastness and help us To reach our home above.

**The Benediction**

**PASTOR:** 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.

**CONG:** AMEN.