



THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

March 12, 2023

The Samaritan woman in today's gospel asks Jesus of Nazareth for water, an image of our thirst for God. Jesus offers living water, a sign of God's grace flowing from the waters of baptism. The early church used this gospel and those of the next two Sundays to deepen baptismal reflection during the final days of preparation before baptism at Easter. As we journey to the resurrection feast, Christ comes among us in word, bath, and meal — offering us the life-giving water of God's mercy and forgiveness.

Handbell Prelude

*Father, We Praise Thee
Prelude in Fifths
The King of Love My Shepherd Is*

arr. Jacob Weber
Bob Burroughs
arr. Merle Petersen

Order for Confession and Forgiveness

(The confession is led from the baptismal font as a reminder that repentance is a return to baptism.)

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen**

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

silence for reflection

P: God of steadfast love,

C: **we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. We have wandered from your ways. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to forgive those who have sinned against us. Have mercy on us, create in us new hearts, and restore to us the joy of your salvation through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

P: The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. May Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to life everlasting.

C: **Amen**

ENTRANCE RITE

Hymn

Glories of Your Name Are Spoken



1 Glo - ries of your name are spo - ken, Zi - on, cit - y of our God;
2 See, the streams of liv - ing wa - ters, spring-ing from e - ter - nal love,
3 Round each hab - i - ta - tion hov-'ring, see the cloud and fire ap - pear
4 Sav - ior, since of Zi - on's cit - y I through grace a mem-ber am,



he whose word can - not be bro - ken formed you for his own a - bode.
well sup - ply your sons and daugh - ters, and all fear of want re - move.
for a glo - ry and a cov - 'ring, show - ing that the Lord is near.
let the world de - ride or pit - y, I will glo - ry in your name.



On the Rock of A - ges found-ed, what can shake your sure re - pose?
Who can faint, while such a riv - er ev - er will their thirst as - suage?
Thus de - riv - ing from their ban - ner light by night and shade by day,
Fad - ing are the world-ings' plea-sures, all their boast - ed pomp and show;



With sal - va - tion's walls sur-round-ed, you may smile at all your foes.
Grace which, like the Lord, the giv - er, nev - er fails from age to age.
safe they feed up - on the man - na which God gives them on their way.
sol - id joys and last - ing trea - sures none but Zi - on's chil - dren know.

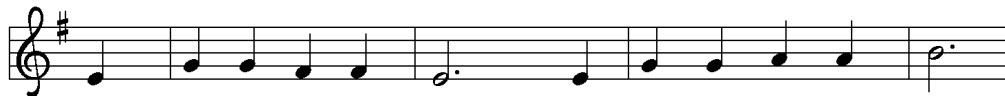
Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.
Music: AUSTRIA, Franz Joseph Haydn, 1732–1809

Apostolic Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

Kyrie



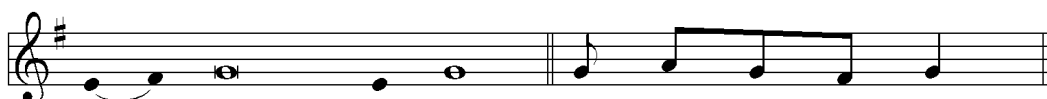
1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

(The Hymn of Praise is omitted during Lent because of the penitential nature of the season.)

Salutation and Prayer of the Day



☩ The Lord be with you. ☩ And al - so with you.

P: Let us pray.

ALL: 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 with the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Lesson - Exodus 17:1–7

Because the thirsty Israelites quarreled with Moses and put the Lord to the test, Moses cried out in desperation to the Lord. The Lord commanded Moses to strike the rock to provide water for the people. The doubt-filled question—"Is the Lord among us or not?"—received a very positive answer.

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ²The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" ³But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" ⁴So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." ⁵The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalms 95

(sung in unison)

This is a call to worship the great God and Ruler, Creator of all the earth. We are his sheep, the people of God's pasture.

**Come, let us sing | to the LORD;*
let us shout for joy to the rock of | our salvation.
²Let us come before his presence | with thanksgiving*
and raise a loud shout to | him with psalms.
³For the LORD | is a great God,*
and a great king a- | bove all gods.
⁴In his hand are the caverns | of the earth,*
and the heights of the hills | are his also.
⁵The sea is his, | for he made it,*
and his hands have molded | the dry land.
⁶Come, let us bow down and | bend the knee,*
and kneel before the | LORD our maker.
⁷For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture
and the sheep | of his hand.*
Oh, that today you would hearken | to his voice!
⁸Harden not your hearts, as your forebears did | in the wilderness,*
at Meribah, and on that day at Massah, when they | tempted me.
⁹They put me | to the test,*
though they had | seen my works.
¹⁰Forty years long I detested that genera- | tion and said,*
"This people are wayward in their hearts;
they do not | know my ways."
¹¹So I swore | in my wrath,*
"They shall not enter in- | to my rest."**

Second Lesson - Romans 5:1–11

Though we often hear that God helps those who help themselves, here Paul tells us that through Jesus' death God helps utterly helpless sinners. Since we who had been enemies are reconciled to God in the cross, we now live in hope for our final salvation.

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,² 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.³ And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance,⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope,⁵ 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.⁶ For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.⁷ Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person — though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die.⁸ But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.⁹ Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God.¹⁰ 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.¹¹ But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Lenten Verse



Lord, you are truly the Savior of the world, give me this living water that I may never thirst again. (R)

Holy Gospel - John 4:5-42

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



*Jesus of Nazareth defies convention to engage a Samaritan woman in conversation.
Her testimony, in turn, leads many others to faith.*



⁵Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph.⁶ Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

⁷A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink."⁸(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.)⁹The 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.)¹⁰Jesus 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."¹¹The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?"¹²Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?"¹³Jesus said to her,

"Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again,¹⁴ 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."¹⁵The 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."

¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back."¹⁷The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband';¹⁸ for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!"¹⁹The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet."²⁰Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem."²¹Jesus said to her,

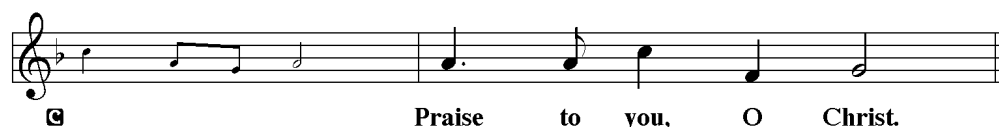
"Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²²You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. ²⁴God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." ²⁵The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." ²⁶Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

²⁷Just 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?" ²⁸Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, ²⁹"Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" ³⁰They left the city and were on their way to him.

³¹Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something." ³²But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." ³³So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" ³⁴Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. ³⁵Do 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. ³⁶The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. ³⁷For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' ³⁸I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

³⁹Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." ⁴⁰So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. ⁴¹And many more believed because of his word. ⁴²They 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."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



Sermon

Pastor Roberts

Hymn of the Day

Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty



- 1 "Come to me, all pil-grims thirst - y; drink the wa - ter I will give.
- 2 "Come to me, all trav-ers wea - ry; come that I may give you rest.
- 3 "Come to me, be - liev - ers bur - dened; find re - fresh - ment in this place.
- 4 "Come to me, re - pen - tant sin - ners; leave be - hind your guilt and shame.



If you knew what gift I of - fer, you would come to me and live."
 Drink the cup of life I of - fer; at this ta - ble be my guest."
 Come, re - ceive the gift I of - fer, turn to me and seek my face."
 Come and know di - vine com - pas - sion, turn to me, I call your name."



Je - sus, ev - er - flow-ing foun - tain, give us wa - ter from your well.



In the gra - cious gift you of - fer there is joy no tongue can tell.

5 "Come to me, distressed and needy;
I would be your trusted friend.
Come and seek the gift I offer,
come, your open hands extend." *Refrain*

6 "Come to me, abandoned, orphaned;
lonely ways no longer roam.
Come and take the gift I offer,
let me make in you my home." *Refrain*

Text: Delores Dufner, osb, b. 1939

Music: BEACH SPRING, The Sacred Harp, Philadelphia, 1844

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The Creed

P: Using the words of our ancestors in the faith as expressed in the Apostles' Creed, we proclaim the triune God whom we believe:

C: **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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

The Prayers

A: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

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 may know and trust that Jesus the Christ is truly the savior of the world. Merciful God,

C: **receive our prayer.**

A: God of living water, we pray for the universe. All creation teems with life, from the depths of the earth and seas to the skies above. Fill us with awe and reverence for the diversity and preservation of life. Merciful God,

C: **receive our prayer.**

A: God of living water, we pray for the nations of the world. Help us topple the dividing walls that separate us from our neighbors. Form us into your beloved community where diversity of gender, race, language, ability, and ethnic origin is celebrated and affirmed. Merciful God,

C: **receive our prayer.**

- A: God of living water, we pray for those who suffer in mind, body, or spirit. Be present with all who are lonely, and give courage to all who are afraid. Help us comfort those who live with chronic illness or other sickness. Give them your living water always. Merciful God,
- C: receive our prayer.**
- A: God of living water, we pray for this congregation. Nurture our faith and pour your love into our hearts. Inspire others by our testimony to God's grace in our lives. Embolden us to serve others and to work for justice and peace. Merciful God,
- C: receive our prayer.**
- A: God of living water, we give thanks for the lives of all your saints. Their hope in you sustained lives of faith and service. Encourage us with that same hope and promise. Merciful God,
- C: receive our prayer.**
- P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
- ALL: Amen**

LITURGY OF THE MEAL

The Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Offering

Offertory Anthem

Redeeming Lord, O Jesus Christ

Johannes Brahms

(1833-1897)

arr. J. William Greene

Redeeming Lord, O Jesus Christ, as sons and daughters ask we now for grace and peace upon the earth. Give us your blessing as we pray: O Savior, Lord of all, like children shelter us.

In light and darkness follow we with gentle trust and fervent hope of guidance in your mysteries. Give us your blessing as we pray: O Savior, Lord of all, like children shelter us.

O God, Creator of all things, you give us each new night and day. We ask you; keep us in your love. Give us your blessing as we pray: O Savior, Lord of all, like children shelter us.

(text Heinrich Laufenberg, 1430, paraphrase J. William Greene)

Offertory

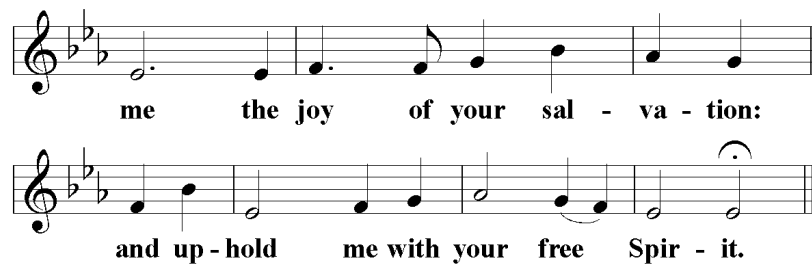
Unison

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God: and re -

new a right spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a -

way from your pres-ence: and take not your Ho - ly

Spir - it from me. Re - store un - to

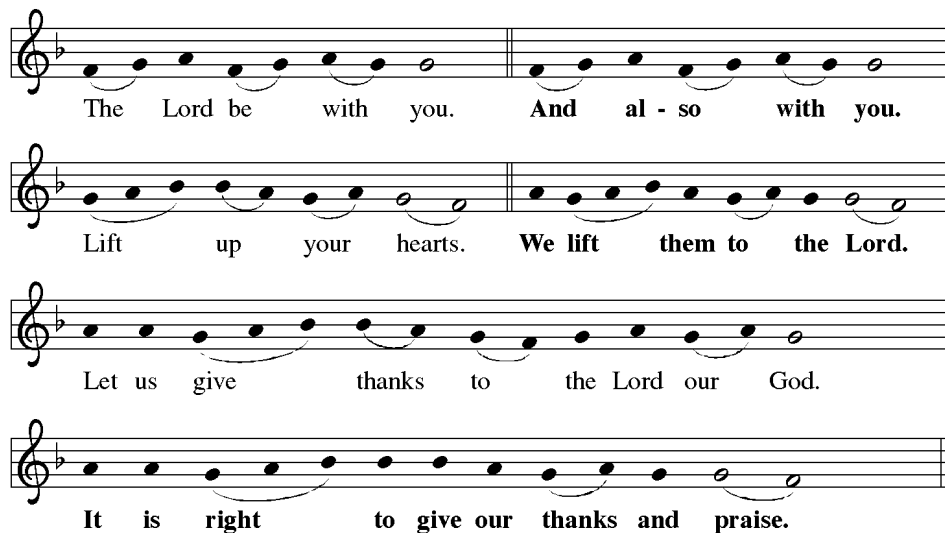


Offertory Prayer

A: Let us pray. God of all creation,

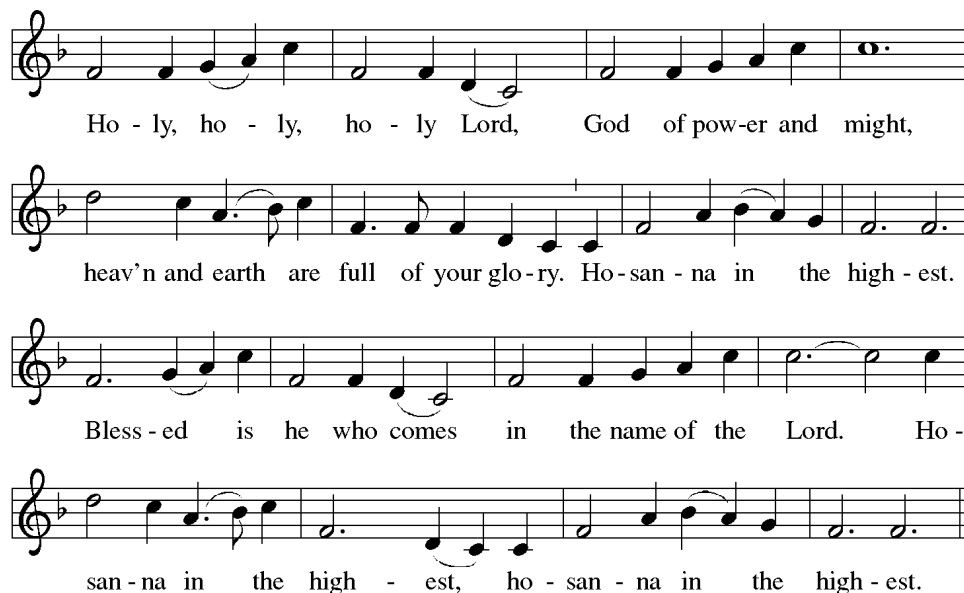
C: all you have made is good and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

Great Thanksgiving



Proper Preface

Sanctus



Eucharistic Prayer

Lord's Prayer



Our Fa-ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,
your king- dom come, your will be done, on earth as in
heav - en. Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.
For - give us our sins as we for- give those who sin a- gainst us.
Save us from the time of tri - al and de- liv - er us from e - vil.
For the king - dom, the pow'r, and the glo - ry are
yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men

Communion with our Risen Lord

Agnus Dei



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer - cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer - cy now, we pray.
e - ter - nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

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

O Bread of Life from Heaven



1 O Bread of life from heav - en, O Food to pil - grims giv -
 2 O Fount of grace re - deem - ing, O Riv - er ev - er stream -
 3 We love you, Je - sus, ten - der, in all your hid - den splen -



en, O Man - na from a - bove: feed with the bless-ed sweet -
 ing from Je - sus' wound-ed side: come now, your love be - stow -
 dor with - in these means of grace. Oh, let the veil be riv -



ness of your di - vine com-plete-ness the souls that want and need your love.
 ing on thirst-ing souls, and flow - ing till all are ful - ly sat - is - fied.
 en, and our clear eye in heav - en be-hold your glo - ry face to face.

Text: Latin hymn, c. 1661; tr. Hugh T. Henry, 1862–1946, sts. 1, 3; Philip Schaff, 1819–1893, st. 2; alt.

Music: O WELT, ICH MUSS DICH LASSEN, Heinrich Isaac, c. 1450–1517

Post-Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen

Post-Communion Hymn

On My Heart Imprint Your Image

***On my heart imprint your image,
Blessed Jesus, king of grace,
That life's troubles nor its pleasures
Ever may your work erase;
Let the clear inscription be:
Jesus crucified for me,
Is my life, my hope's foundation,
All my glory and salvation!***

Post-Communion Prayer

A: Let us pray.

Merciful God, accompany our journey through these forty days. Renew us in the gift of baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure in the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen

Benediction



Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son,
and Holy Spirit, bless you now . . . and for - ever. A - men

Hymn

O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts



1 O Je - sus, joy of lov - ing hearts, the fount of
2 Your truth un - changed has ev - er stood; you plead with
3 We taste you, ev - er liv - ing bread, and long to
4 For you our rest - less spir - its yearn, wher - e'er our
5 O Je - sus, ev - er with us stay! Make all our



life, the light of all: from ev - 'ry bliss that earth im -
all to call on you; to those who seek you, you are
feast up - on you still; we drink of you, the foun - tain -
chang-ing lot is cast; glad, when your smile on us you
mo - ments fair and bright! Oh, chase the night of sin a -



parts we turn, un - filled, to hear your call.
good; to those who find you, life is new.
head; our thirst - ing souls from you we fill.
turn, blest, when by faith we hold you fast.
way! Shed o'er the world your ho - ly light.

Dismissal

A: Our service now begins. Marked with the cross of Christ, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Präludium in B-flat Major

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)



The altar flowers are given to the glory of God
by Moira Rafferty and Rob Bass
in memory of Patricia L. Rafferty.

The candles are given to the glory of God
by Nancy Childress
in memory of her father, Lee Trent.

THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY

Sunday, March 12	8:30 a.m.	Service of Holy Communion and Home Communion
	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Church School
	10:30 a.m.	Service of Holy Communion with Livestream via YouTube and Home Communion
	12:00 p.m.	Holy Trinity Youth
	2:00 p.m.	Finance Committee
	4:00 p.m.	Concert (Trio Niche)
	6:00 p.m.	Confirmation Class (grades six - eight)
Monday, March 13	9:15 a.m.	Strength & Balance Exercise Class
	9:50 a.m.	Chair Yoga Class
	7:00 p.m.	Bible Study (via Zoom) - <i>The Extraordinary Women Who Shaped Our Faith</i>
Tuesday, March 14	5:40 p.m.	Handbell Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 p.m.	Church Council
Wednesday, March 15	12:10 p.m.	Service of Holy Communion
	7:00 p.m.	Lenten Vespers
	7:30 p.m.	Adult Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, March 16	9:00 a.m.	Parish Nurse in office (until 10:00 a.m.)
	11:00 a.m.	Sermon Discussion
Friday, March 17	9:15 a.m.	Strength & Balance Exercise Class
	9:50 a.m.	Chair Yoga Class
	11:00 a.m.	Book Discussion Group - <i>This Hebrew Lord</i>
Sunday, March 19	8:30 a.m.	Service of Holy Communion
	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Church School
	10:30 a.m.	Service of Holy Communion with Livestream via YouTube
	2:00 p.m.	Pastor's Information Class
	4:30 p.m.	Holy Trinity Youth
	5:00 p.m.	Thomas Mass
	6:00 p.m.	Third Sunday Program

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Our Mission: "To care actively in the name of Jesus Christ."

**Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
1000 Langhorne Road
Lynchburg, Virginia 24503**

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Organist-Choirmaster: J. William Greene
Parish Administrator: Carol Dee Robertson
Parish Nurse: Gail Midkiff

Pastor: Dennis S. Roberts
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