

Worship Leader Edition
Third Sunday of Lent
Acts of Discipleship: PERSEVERANCE

March 7, 2021

8:30 AM

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS (*Stephanie*)

CONFSSION & FORGIVENESS (*Stephanie*)

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

L: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

L: Most merciful God,

C: 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; we have not loved ourselves as you love us. 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.

L: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

“O Christ, Our Light, O Radiance True”

ELW #675

Verse 1

O Christ, our light, O Radiance true,
Shine forth on those estranged from you,
And bring them to your home again,
Where their delight shall never end.

Of those who tremble to express
The faith their inmost hearts confess.

Verse 2

Fill with the radiance of your grace
The wand’rers lost in error’s maze.
Set free all those whose hearts and minds
Some deep delusion haunts and binds.

Verse 4
Lord, let your mercy’s gentle ray
Shine down on others strayed away.
To those in conscience wounded sore
Show heaven’s waiting, open door.

Verse 3

Lord, open all reluctant ears
And take away the needless fears

Verse 5
Make theirs with ours a single voice
Uplifted, ever to rejoice
With wond’ring gratitude and praise to you,
O Lord, for boundless grace.

PRAYER OF THE DAY (*Assistant*)

L: Rejoicing Father, you celebrate when one of your lost children is found because no one is worthless to you. We stand humbled and in awe that you would count us among your most prized possessions. Give us eyes to see the priceless value of every living soul, for the sake of the one who became human for the sake of our souls, Jesus Christ our seeker.

C: Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING (*Al Buss*)

1 John 3:1-3

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 15:1-32

L: The Holy Gospel according to Luke

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Now all the tax-collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, ‘This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.’ So he told them this parable: ‘Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, “Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.” Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who need no repentance. ‘Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, “Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.” Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.’ Then Jesus said, ‘There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, “Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.” So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and travelled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, “How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.’ ” So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.” But the father said to his slaves, “Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!” And they began to celebrate. ‘Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, “Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.” Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, “Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!” Then the father said to him, “Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.” ’

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Rob Norris-Weber

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Our Father, We Have Wandered”

ELW #606

Verse 1

Our Father, we have wandered
And hidden from your face;
In foolishness have squandered
Your legacy of grace.

But now, in exile dwelling,
We rise with fear and shame,
As, distant but compelling,
We hear you call our name.

Verse 2

And now at length discerning
The evil that we do,
Behold us, Lord returning
With hope and trust to you.

Verse 3

O Lord of all the living,
Both banished and restored,
Compassionate, forgiving,
And every-caring Lord,

In haste you come to meet us
And home rejoicing bring,
In gladness there to greet us
With calf and robe and ring.

Grant now that our transgressing,
Our faithlessness may cease.
Stretch out your hand in blessing,
In pardon, and in peace.

THE APOSTLES' CREED (*Assistant*)

C: 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.

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (*Assistant*)

L: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

L: Hear us, O God,

C: your mercy is great.

L: Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

MEAL

+THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (*Pastor Rob*)**DIALOGUE AND PREFACE (*spoken*)**

ELW pg. 152

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

L: 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 comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. As we prepare to receive this gift of life and forgiveness, let us take a moment of silent confession.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION (*Pastor Rob*)**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

C: 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.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

SENDING

SHARING OF THE PEACE (*Stephanie*)

L: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C: And also with you!

Please share of wave of peace with one another.

BENEDICTION (*Stephanie*)

L: As you prepare to go into the world, strengthened by this meal you will receive on your way, please receive this blessing: God most high, God with us, God poured out on us. Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

“My Life Flows On in Endless Song”

ELW #763

Verse 1

My life flows on in endless song;
Above earth's lamentation,
I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn
That hails a new creation.

Verse 2

Through all the tumult and the strife,
I hear that music ringing.
It finds an echo in my soul,
How can I keep from singing?

Refrain

No storm can shake my inmost calm
While to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth,
How can I keep from singing?

Refrain

Verse 4

The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,
A fountain ever springing!
All things are mine since I am his!
How can I keep from singing?

Refrain

DISMISSAL (*Assistant*)

L: Go in peace. Remember the poor.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

