

Worship Leader Edition
Fourth Sunday of Lent
Acts of Discipleship: Righteousness

March 14, 2021

8:30 AM

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS *(Rob)*

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS *(Rob)*

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

“Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive”

ELW #605

Verse 1

Forgive our sins as we forgive,
You taught us, Lord to pray;
But you alone can grant us grace
To live the words we say.

Verse 2

How can your pardon reach and bless
The unforgiving heart
That broods on wrongs and will not let
Old bitterness depart?

Verse 3

In blazing light your cross reveals
The truth we dimly knew;
How trifling others' debts to us;
How great our debt to you!

Verse 4

Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls
And bid resentment cease;
Then, by your mercy reconciled,
Our lives will spread your peace.

PRAYER OF THE DAY *(Assistant)*

L: Divine Word, you sent Moses to speak law to the people and bring order to chaos. You sent prophets to speak repentance and bring hope to the hopeless. You sent your son, Jesus, to become your living Word. Open our ears to hear your word, and our hearts to reflect the light of your truth to others, for the sake of the Incarnate Word, Jesus Christ.

C: **Amen.**

FIRST READING (*Lori Murray*)

Romans 8:12-17

So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, ‘Abba! Father!’ it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 16:19-31

L: The Holy Gospel according to Luke

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

‘There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man’s table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, “Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.” But Abraham said, “Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.” He said, “Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father’s house—for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.” Abraham replied, “They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.” He said, “No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.” He said to him, “If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.” ’

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON

Vicar Stephanie Luedtke

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Where Charity and Love Prevail”

ELW #359

Verse 1

Where charity and love prevail,
There God is ever found;
Brought here together by Christ’s love,
By love we thus are bound.

Verse 2

With grateful joy and holy fear,
God’s charity we learn;
Let us with heart and mind and soul
Now love God in return.

Verse 3

Let us recall that in our midst
Dwells Christ, God’s holy Son;
As member of each body joined,
In him we are made one.

Verse 5

Let us forgive each other’s faults
As we our own confess,
That we may love each other well
In Christian gentleness.

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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*Assistant*)

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.

SENDING

SHARING OF THE PEACE (*Rob*)

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 (*Rob*)

L: Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

"The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve"

ELW #551

Verse 1

The Spirit sends us forth to serve;
We go in Jesus' name
To bring glad tidings to the poor,
God's favor to proclaim.

Verse 2

We go to comfort those who mourn
And set the burdened free;
Where hope is dim, to share a dream
And help the blind to see.

Verse 3

We go to be the hands of Christ,
To scatter joy like seed
And, all our days, to cherish life,
To do the loving deed.

Verse 4

Then let us go to serve in peace,
The gospel to proclaim.
God's Spirit has empowered us;
We go in Jesus' name.

DISMISSAL (*Assistant*)

L: Go in peace. Remember the poor.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE