

Worship Leader Edition
Fifth Sunday of Lent
Acts of Discipleship: Mercy

March 21, 2021

8:30 AM

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS *(Stephanie)*

CONFESSION & 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

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

ELW #631

Verse 1

Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,
All thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
Pure, unbounded love thou art;
Visit us with thy salvation,
Enter every trembling heart.

Thee we would be always blessing;
Serve thee as thy hosts above,
Pray, and praise thee without ceasing,
Glory in thy perfect love.

Verse 4

Finish then thy new creation,
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in thee!
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heav'n we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise!

Verse 3

Come, Almighty, to deliver;
Let us all thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never, never
More thy temples leave.

PRAYER OF THE DAY *(Assistant)*

L: Lord of the lost, we are quick to judge and slow to accept those whom we consider lower than ourselves. But you show us the way of acceptance, forgiveness, and peace. We honor your name for teach us to love, for the sake of the one who is the essence of love itself, Jesus Christ our loving Lord.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING (*Julie Klein*)

Ephesians 1:15-23

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 18:31-43

L: The Holy Gospel according to Luke

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Then he took the twelve aside and said to them, ‘See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written about the Son of Man by the prophets will be accomplished. For he will be handed over to the Gentiles; and he will be mocked and insulted and spat upon. After they have flogged him, they will kill him, and on the third day he will rise again.’ But they understood nothing about all these things; in fact, what he said was hidden from them, and they did not grasp what was said. As he approached Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. When he heard a crowd going by, he asked what was happening. They told him, ‘Jesus of Nazareth is passing by.’ Then he shouted, ‘Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!’ Those who were in front sternly ordered him to be quiet; but he shouted even more loudly, ‘Son of David, have mercy on me!’ Jesus stood still and ordered the man to be brought to him; and when he came near, he asked him, ‘What do you want me to do for you?’ He said, ‘Lord, let me see again.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Receive your sight; your faith has saved you.’ Immediately he regained his sight and followed him, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, praised God.

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Rob Norris-Weber

HYMN OF THE DAY

“O God of Mercy, God of Light”

ELW #714

Verse 1

O God of mercy, God of light,
In love and mercy infinite,
Teach us, as ever in your sight,
To live our lives in you.

Verse 2

You sent your Son to die for all,
That our lost world might hear your call;
Oh, hear us lest we stray and fall!
We rest our hope in you.

Verse 3

Teach us the lesson Jesus taught;
To feel for those his blood has bought,
That ev’ry deed and word and thought
May work a work for you.

Verse 4

For all are kindred, far and wide,
Since Jesus Christ for all has died;
Grant us the will, and grace provide,
To love them all in you.

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

C: **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

“Great is Thy Faithfulness”

ELW #733

Verse 1

Great is thy faithfulness,
O God my Father;
There is no shadow
Of turning with thee;
Thou changest not,
Thy compassions they fail not;
As thou hast been,
Thou forever wilt be.

Refrain

Great is thy faithfulness!
Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning
New mercies I see;
All I have needed
Thy hand hath provided;
Great is thy faithfulness,
Lord, unto me.

Verse 2

Summer and winter and
Springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars
In their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To thy great faithfulness,
Mercy, and love.

Refrain

Verse 3

Pardon for sin and
Peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence
To cheer and to guide;
Strength for today
And bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine,
With ten thousand beside!

Refrain

DISMISSAL (*Assistant*)

L: Go in peace. Remember the poor.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE