

## **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent**

March 3, 2024

### **Opening Hymn #295**

#### ***The Law of God Is Good and Wise***

1. The Law of God is good and wise  
And sets His will before our eyes,  
Shows us the way of righteousness,  
And dooms to death when we transgress.

2. Its light of holiness imparts  
The knowledge of our sinful hearts  
That we may see our lost estate  
And seek deliverance ere too late.

3. To those who help in Christ have found  
And would in works of love abound  
It shows what deeds are His delight  
And should be done as food and right.

4. When men the offered help disdain  
And wilfully in sin remain,  
Its terror in their ear resounds  
And keeps their wickedness in bounds.

5. The Law is good; but since the Fall  
Its holiness condemns us all;  
It dooms us for our sin to die  
And has no power to justify.

6. To Jesus we for refuge flee,  
Who from the curse has set us free,  
And humbly worship at His throne,  
Saved by His grace through faith alone.

### **Invocation**

*P: We worship today in the name of the Father and of the Son  
and of the Holy Spirit.*

**C ♪: Amen.**

### **Confession & Absolution**

*P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and  
confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the  
name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.*

*P: Our help is in the name of the Lord.*

**C ♪: Who made heaven and earth.**

*P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.*

**C ♪: And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sins.**

**P & C: O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable  
sinner, confess unto Thee all my sins and iniquities with  
which I have ever offended Thee and justly deserved Thy  
temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorrow  
for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray Thee of Thy  
boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent,  
bitter sufferings and death of Thy beloved Son, Jesus Christ,  
to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being.**

**C ♪: Amen.**

### **The Salutation**

*P: The Lord be with you.*

**C ♪: And with thy spirit.**

## The Collect for the Day

*P: Let us pray..... who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

**C ♪: Amen.**

### The First Reading – Exodus 20:1-17

<sup>1</sup>And God spoke all these words, saying,

<sup>2</sup>“I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. <sup>3</sup>“You shall have no other gods before me. <sup>4</sup>“You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. <sup>5</sup>You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, <sup>6</sup>but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments. <sup>7</sup>“You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain. <sup>8</sup>“Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. <sup>9</sup>Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, <sup>10</sup>but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. <sup>11</sup>For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy. <sup>12</sup>“Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you. <sup>13</sup>“You shall not murder. <sup>14</sup>“You shall not commit adultery. <sup>15</sup>“You shall not steal. <sup>16</sup>“You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. <sup>17</sup>“You shall not covet your neighbor’s house; you shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor’s.”

**Psalm of the Day – Psalm 19**  
**Antiphon - WS p. 28**

***Antiphon –***

*Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.*

The heavens declare the glo- | ry of God,\*  
**and the sky above proclaims his | handiwork.**

Day to day | pours out speech,\*  
**and night to night reveals | knowledge.**

There is no speech, nor | are there words,\*  
**whose voice | is not heard.**

Their measuring line goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end | of the world.\*

**In them he has set a tent | for the sun,**  
which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his | chamber,\*  
**and, like a strong man, runs its | course with joy.**

Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the | end of them,\*

**and there is nothing hidden | from its heat.**

The law of the LORD is perfect, reviv- | ing the soul;\*  
**the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise**  
**the | simple;**

the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing | the heart;\*  
**the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening |**  
**the eyes;**

the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for- | ever;\*  
**the just decrees of the LORD are true, and righteous**  
**alto- | gether.**

More to be desired are they than gold, even | much fine gold;\*  
**sweeter also than honey and drippings of the |**  
**honeycomb.**

Moreover, by them is your | servant warned;\*  
**in keeping them there is | great reward.**

Who can discern his | errors?\*

**Declare me innocent from | hidden faults.**

Keep back your servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion | over me!\*

**Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great trans- | gression.**

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable | in your sight,\*

**O LORD, my rock and my re- | deemer.**

***Antiphon –***

*Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.*

**The Second Reading – 1 Corinthians 1:18-31**

<sup>18</sup>The word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup>For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.” <sup>20</sup>Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup>For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup>For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, <sup>23</sup>but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup>but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup>For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. <sup>26</sup>For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup>But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; <sup>28</sup>God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, <sup>29</sup>so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. <sup>30</sup>He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom and our righteousness and

sanctification and redemption. <sup>31</sup>Therefore, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

### **The Gospel Reading – John 2:13–25**

<sup>13</sup>The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup>In the temple he found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting there. <sup>15</sup>And making a whip of cords, he drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and oxen. And he poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. <sup>16</sup>And he told those who sold the pigeons, “Take these things away; do not make my Father’s house a house of trade.” <sup>17</sup>His disciples remembered that it was written, “Zeal for your house will consume me.” <sup>18</sup>So the Jews said to him, “What sign do you show us for doing these things?” <sup>19</sup>Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” <sup>20</sup>The Jews then said, “It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?” <sup>21</sup>But he was speaking about the temple of his body. <sup>22</sup>When therefore he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the Scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken. <sup>23</sup>Now when he was in Jerusalem at the Passover Feast, many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he was doing. <sup>24</sup>But Jesus on his part did not entrust himself to them, because he knew all people <sup>25</sup>and needed no one to bear witness about man, for he himself knew what was in man.

### **Confession of Faith** ***The Nicene Creed***

***P & C: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.***

***And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, Begotten, not made, Being of***

**one substance with the Father, By Whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary and was made man; And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father; And He shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets. And I believe one holy Christian and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, And I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**Hymn of the Day #500**  
***May God Bestow on Us His Grace***

1. May God bestow on us His grace,  
With blessings rich provide us,  
And may the brightness of His face  
To life eternal guide us  
That we His saving health may know,  
His gracious will and pleasure,  
And also to the heathen show  
Christ's riches without measure  
And unto God convert them.

2. Thine over all shall be the praise  
And thanks of every nation,  
And all the world with joy shall raise  
The voice of exultation;

For Thou shalt judge the earth, O Lord,  
Nor suffer sin to flourish;  
Thy people's pasture is Thy Word  
Their souls to feed and nourish,  
In righteous paths to keep them.

3. Oh, let the people praise Thy worth,  
In all good works increasing;  
The land shall plenteous fruit bring forth,  
Thy Word is rich in blessing.  
May God the Father, God the Son,  
And God the Spirit bless us!  
Let all the world praise Him alone,  
Let solemn awe possess us.

### **Sermon Text – John 2:13-25**

#### **Sermon**

*The Crucified and Risen Body of Jesus Is the  
True Temple of the Lord*

#### **Offertory**

***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.***

#### **Offering of Thankful Hearts**

#### **Prayer of the Church**

P: O Lord, You are a jealous God. Save the third and fourth generations that will come after us from Your punishment. Fill us with Your Son's zeal for Your house, that we may cast every idol from our hearts and be devoted to You and Your commandments.

**<sup>1</sup> The infant Priest was holy born  
For us unholy and forlorn;**



P: O Lord, our Rock and Redeemer, three days after the temple of Your Son's body was destroyed by wicked men He raised it up again. Grant that on the Last Day we and all the saints who now rest in Your presence may share in the glory of His resurrection.

**From fleshly temple forth came He,  
Anointed from eternity.**

P: O Lord, Your Son's cross and crucifixion is folly to the world, but it is the source of repentance and forgiveness for all His elect. Preserve the preaching of the cross in our midst, that from this life-giving tree we would continually receive Your faith-preserving gifts.

**<sup>2</sup> This great High Priest in human flesh  
Was icon of God's righteousness.**

P: O Lord, our Rock and Redeemer, though we cannot even discern all our errors, declare us innocent in Christ of all hidden faults, and by Your Holy Spirit keep us back from presumptuous sins.

**His hallowed touch brought sanctity;  
His hand removed impurity.**

P: O Lord, our God, Your steadfast love in Christ is good. Turn in Your abundant mercy toward all who suffer in our midst [*especially* \_\_\_\_\_]. Do not let the flood sweep over them nor the pit close its mouth on them. Deliver them and grant them healing, comfort and peace.

**<sup>4</sup> But death would not the victor be  
Of Him who hung upon the tree.**

P: O Lord of the perfect Law, You have called us to honor our parents and all other authorities, that it may go well with us in our land. Bless Governor Walz and all who govern us. Make them

wise in Your ways, that Your justice may be upheld among us.  
Help us to serve and obey them in accord with Your will.

**Christ leads us to the Holy Place  
Within the veil, before God's face.**

P: O Lord, preserve and bless all Christian households, that husbands and wives would live in love and service to each other, that fathers and mothers would diligently bring up their children in Your fear, and that children would honor their parents and be well equipped for service to their neighbors in this life.

**<sup>7</sup> With cherubim and seraphim  
Our voices join the endless hymn,**

P: O Lord, You bless this day and make it holy with Your Word and the gifts of Your altar. Grant that we may come before Your presence to eat Your Son's body and blood, not boasting of ourselves, but of Christ alone.

**And "Hoy, holy, holy" sing  
To Christ, God's Lamb, our Priest and King.**

P: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### **The Communion Liturgy**

*P: The Lord be with you:*

**C ♪: And with Thy Spirit.**

*P: Lift up your hearts:*

**C ♪: We lift them up unto the Lord.**

*P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God:*

**C ♪: It is meet and right so to do.**

*P: It is truly, meet, right and salutary...Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Thy glorious name, evermore praising Thee and saying:*

### **The Sanctus**

**C ♪: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth;  
Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory;  
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He, Blessed is He, Blessed is He that cometh in  
the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

*P: 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;*

**C ♪: For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory,  
Forever and ever. Amen.**

### **The Words of Institution**

*P: The peace of the Lord be with you alway!*

**C ♪: Amen.**

### **The Agnus Dei**

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the  
world,  
Have mercy upon us.  
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the  
world,**

**Have mercy upon us.**

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,**

**Grant us Thy peace. A-men.**

### **The Distribution**

### **The Nunc Dimittis**

**C ♪: Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace,  
According to Thy word.**

**For mine eyes have seen Thy Salvation: which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a Light to lighten the Gentiles**

**And the Glory of Thy people Israel.**

**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 Thanksgiving**

*P: Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good:*

**C ♪: And His mercy endureth forever.**

### **The Benediction**

*P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.*

**C ♪: Amen, Amen, Amen.**

### **Closing Hymn #175**

#### ***When I Survey the Wondrous Cross***

1. When I survey the wondrous cross  
On which the Prince of glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss  
And pour contempt on all my pride.

2. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast  
Save in the death of Christ, my God;  
All the vain things that harm me most,  
I sacrifice them to His blood.

3. See, from His head, His hands, His feet,  
Sorrow and love flow mingled down.  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet  
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

4. Were the whole realm of nature mine  
That were a tribute far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

## **Silent Prayer**

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