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**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent**  
**March 8, 2026**

**Opening Hymn #154**  
***Alas! and Did My Savior Bleed***

1. Alas! and did my Savior bleed,  
And did my Sovereign die?  
Would He devote that sacred head  
For such a worm as I?
2. Was it for crimes that I had done  
He groaned upon the tree?  
Amazing pity, grace unknown,  
And love beyond degree!
3. Well might the sun in darkness hide  
And shut his glories in  
When God, the mighty Maker, died  
For man the creature's sin.
4. Thus might I hide my blushing face  
While His dear cross appears,  
Dissolve my heart in thankfulness,  
And melt mine eyes to tears.
5. But drops of grief can ne'er repay  
The debt of love I owe;  
Here, Lord, I give myself away,  
'Tis all that I can do.

## Invocation

**P:** In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen**

## Confession and Absolution

**P:** We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.

**C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

**P:** God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will.

**C: Amen**

## Kyrie

♪ Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, have mercy on us. Lord have mercy on us.

## Prayer of the Day

**P:** Let us pray...

... through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen**

## The First Lesson – Exodus 17:1-7

<sup>1</sup>All the congregation of the people of Israel moved on from the wilderness of Sin by stages, according to the commandment of

the Lord, and camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. <sup>2</sup>Therefore the people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." And Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" <sup>3</sup>But the people thirsted there for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?" <sup>4</sup>So Moses cried to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." <sup>5</sup>And the Lord said to Moses, "Pass on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel, and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. <sup>6</sup>Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb, and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it, and the people will drink." And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup>And he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the quarreling of the people of Israel, and because they tested the Lord by saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

### **Psalm of the Day- Psalm 95:1-9**

*Antiphon – The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.*

<sup>1</sup>Oh come, let us sing | to the Lord;\*

**let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal- | vation!**

<sup>2</sup>Let us come into his presence with thanks- | giving;\*

**let us make a joyful noise to him with | songs of praise!**

<sup>3</sup>For the Lord is a | great God,\*

**and a great King a- | bove all gods.**

<sup>4</sup>In his hand are the depths | of the earth;\*

**the heights of the mountains are his | also.**

<sup>5</sup>The sea is his, for he | made it,\*

**and his hands formed the | dry land.**

<sup>6</sup>Oh come, let us worship and | bow down;\*

**let us kneel before the Lord, our | Maker!**

<sup>7</sup>For he | is our God,\*

**and we are the people of his pasture,**

**and the sheep | of his hand.**

Today, if you | hear his voice,\*

**<sup>8</sup>do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah,  
as on the day at Massah in the | wilderness,**

<sup>9</sup>when your fathers put me | to the test\*

**and put me to the proof, though they had | seen my work.**

*Antiphon – The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.*

### **The Second Lesson – Romans 5:1-8**

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>2</sup>Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. <sup>3</sup>More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, <sup>4</sup>and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup>and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. <sup>6</sup>For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup>For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— <sup>8</sup>but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

### **Verse of the Day – John 4:23a**

The hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth.

### **The Gospel – John 4:5-26**

<sup>5</sup>[Jesus] came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup>Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour. <sup>7</sup>There came a woman of Samaria to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." <sup>8</sup>(For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) <sup>9</sup>The Samaritan

woman said to him, “How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?” (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) <sup>10</sup>Jesus 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.” <sup>11</sup>The woman said to him, “Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? <sup>12</sup>Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock.” <sup>13</sup>Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, <sup>14</sup>but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty forever. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” <sup>15</sup>The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water.” <sup>16</sup>Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come here.” <sup>17</sup>The woman answered him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband’; <sup>18</sup>for you have had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true.” <sup>19</sup>The woman said to him, “Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. <sup>20</sup>Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship.” <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. <sup>22</sup>You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. <sup>23</sup>But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. <sup>24</sup>God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” <sup>25</sup>The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, he will tell us all things.” <sup>26</sup>Jesus said to her, “I who speak to you am he.”

**P:** Blessed are they that hear the Word of God and keep it.

**Confession of Faith**  
***The Apostles' Creed***

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.**

**The third day He rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven**

**And is seated at the right hand of God**

**the Father Almighty.**

**From there He will come to judge**

**the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**The holy Christian Church,**

**the communion of saints,**

**The forgiveness of sins,**

**The resurrection of the body,**

**And the life everlasting. 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.  
Now let our hearts say, Amen.

### **Sermon Text – John 4:5-26**

#### **Sermon**

***We Worship the Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Spirit  
and Truth of His Gospel***

#### **Offertory**

♪ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from Your presence. Take not your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore to me the joy of Your salvation. Uphold with Your Spirit free.

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

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

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

P: Lord of hosts, Your ancient people worshiped You in Jerusalem, and in Christ You are now worshiped among all nations. Grant us faithful hearts to worship in spirit and truth, that many would come to know You in Your Word and Sacrament.

**1. How sweet the name of Jesus sounds**

**In a believer's ear!**

**It soothes our sorrows, heals our wounds,  
And drives away our fear.**

P: O God, You led Your ancient people by the hand of Moses and Aaron. Lead us through the wilderness of this world by the hand of faithful pastors, that we would be refreshed by Your living water.

**2. It makes the wounded spirit whole**

**And calms the heart's unrest;**

**'Tis manna to the hungry soul**

**And to the weary, rest.**

P: Lord of all, You bestow Your riches on all who call upon You. Bless parents with all wisdom as they teach their children Your ways, that all in the household may confess with their mouths that Jesus is Lord.

**3. Dear name! The rock on which I build,**

**My shield and hiding place;**

**My never-failing treasury filled**

**With boundless stores of grace.**

P: Almighty Lord, to You all hearts are open and all sins are known. Strengthen our hearts by Your grace, that we who daily sin much would make confession boldly and then joyfully receive Your precious word of absolution.

**4. By Thee my prayers acceptance gain**

**Although with sin defiled.**

**Satan accuses me in vain,**

## **And I am owned a child. (TLH)**

P: Heavenly Father, preserve our nation, and prosper the cause of justice in this land. Guide and grant Your wisdom to President Trump, the Congress of the United States, Governor Walz; and all elected and appointed civil servants. Grant us peace among the nations, and watch over those who protect us in the armed forces of our land.

**4. O Jesus, shepherd, guardian, friend,  
My Prophet, Priest, and King,  
My Lord, my life, my way, my end,  
Accept the praise I bring.**

P: Merciful God, grant us safe haven in Your sanctuary, that we who bear the weight of this world and its sorrows would always long for Your courts and the blessings You have prepared for those who sing Your praise.

**5. How weak the effort of my heart,  
How cold my warmest thought!  
But when I see Thee as Thou art,  
I'll praise Thee as I ought.**

P: O great Physician of body and soul, by Your Word and Holy Spirit comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity [*especially* \_\_\_\_\_]. Hold them all in Your almighty hands and bring them consolation. Heal them according to Your gracious will, and give us all grace to accept and bear our crosses with faith in You, that we would always be prepared to depart this life in faith and come to Your heavenly home.

**6. Till then I would Thy love proclaim  
With ev'ry fleeting breath;  
And may the music of Thy name  
Refresh my soul in death!**

P: These and whatever other things You would have us ask of You, O God, grant us for the sake of **\*please stand\*** Jesus Christ, Your only Son, our Lord and Savior, who taught us to pray:

### **Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

### **The Benediction**

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

**C: Amen**

### **Closing Hymn #469 (v. 1-2) *Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken***

1. Glorious things of thee are spoken,  
Zion, city of our God;  
He whose word cannot be broken  
Formed thee for His own abode.  
On the Rock of Ages founded,  
What can shake thy sure repose?

With salvation's walls surrounded  
Thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

2. See, the streams of living waters  
Springing from eternal love  
Well supply thy sons and daughters  
And all fear of want remove.  
Who can faint while such a river  
Ever flows their thirst t'assuage--  
Grace, which, like the Lord, the Giver,  
Never fails from age to age?

## **Silent Prayer**

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