## First Sunday in Lent

## ~ March 9, 2025 ~ St. John’s & St. Peter’s

**Prelude**

**Welcome & Announcements**

## Confession and Forgiveness LBW pg. 94

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

***C: Amen.***

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from 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.

***C: Amen.***

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

P: 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. 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.***

P: 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 *“What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine”*** Hymn #774

Vs.1 What a fellowship, what a joy divine, leaning on the everlasting arms;
 what a blessedness, what a peace is mine, leaning on the everlasting

 arms.

***Refrain: Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms;
 leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.***

Vs. 2 Oh, how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way, leaning on the everlasting

 arms;
 oh, how bright the path grows from day to day, leaning on the

 everlasting arms. ***Refrain***

***Refrain: Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms;
 leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.***

Vs. 3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, leaning on the everlasting

 arms?
 I have blessed peace with my Lord so near, leaning on the everlasting

 arms. ***Refrain***

 **Greeting** Page 138

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

***C: And also with you.***

**Kyrie** Page 138

 P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

 ***C: Lord, have mercy.***

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

 ***C: Lord, have mercy.***

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

 ***C: Lord, have mercy.***

P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

 ***C: Lord, have mercy.***

 P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

 ***C: Amen.***

 **Prayer of the Day**

O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**First Reading: Deuteronomy 26:1-11**

*The annual harvest festival, called the Feast of Weeks, provides the setting for this reading. This festival celebrates the first fruits of the produce of the land offered back to God in thanks. In this text, worshipers announce God's gracious acts on behalf of Israel.*

1When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, 2you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. 3You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us." 4When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God, 5you shall make this response before the LORD your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. 6When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, 7we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. 8The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; 9and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. 10So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me." You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God. 11Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

**Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16**

1You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty—

**2you will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my stronghold, my God in whom I put my trust." God will give the angels charge over you, to guard you in all your ways.**

9Because you have made the LORD your refuge, and the Most High your habitation,

**10no evil will befall you, nor shall affliction come near your dwelling.**

11For God will give the angels charge over you, to guard you in all your ways.

**12Upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone. God will give the angels charge over you, to guard you in all your ways.**

13You will tread upon the lion cub and viper; you will trample down the lion and the serpent.

**14I will deliver those who cling to me; I will uphold them, because they know my name.**

15They will call me, and I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and honor them.

**16With long life will I satisfy them, and show them my salvation. God will give the angels charge over you, to guard you in all your ways.**

**Second Lesson: Romans 10:8b-13**

*Paul reminds the Christians at Rome of the foundation of their creed, the confession of faith in the risen Christ as Lord.*

8b"The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); 9because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. 11The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." 12For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. 13For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

**Gospel Acclamation**  Page 142

Return to the Lord, your God, for his is gracious and

merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in

steadfast love, and abounding in steadfast love

**Gospel:** **Luke 4:1-13**

*After being filled with the Holy Spirit at his baptism, Jesus is led in the wilderness. Through his responses to the temptations of the devil he defines what it means to be called "the Son of God."*

1Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, 2where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. 3The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." 4Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'"

 5Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. 6And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. 7If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." 8Jesus answered him, "It is written,

 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"

9Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, 10for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,' 11and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

12Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" 13When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

**Sermon**

**Hymn of the Day *“In the Cross of Christ I Glory”***  Hymn #324

Vs. 1 In the cross of Christ I glory, tow'ring

 o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of

 sacred story gathers round its head sublime.

Vs. 2 When the woes of life o'ertake me, hopes de-

 ceive, and fears annoy, never shall the

 cross forsake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.

Vs. 3 When the sun of bliss is beaming light and

 love upon my way, from the cross the

 radiance streaming adds more luster to the day.

Vs. 4 Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure, by the

 cross are sanctified; peace is there that

 knows no measure, joys that through all time abide.

**Apostles’ Creed**  ELW pg. 105

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.

**Prayers of the People**

 **“*Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying***” Hymn #752

Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world and all those in need.

Gracious God, speak your word anew among your church. Strengthen it to withstand the temptation to turn inward in fear or complacency. Embolden church institutions to turn from self-preservation toward the self-giving love of Jesus. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Mothering God, speak the word of life into wilderness places and fertile fields. Grant wisdom to your people, that we may quell in the urge to strip lands of their resources and instead preserve first fruits for future generations. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Almighty God, speak a word of wisdom to people in positions of power; mayors, councils and tribal leaders, legislators, judges and juries, presidents and monarchs. Help them discern your voice and follow your guidance, resisting the temptations of the evil one. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Steadfast God, speak words of courage to your people in the wilderness. Protect migrants and refugees on perilous journeys, that they find safe refuge and a portion in the bounty you have given humanity to share. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Loving God, speak gently to all who are alone. Bless lay ministers, home communion teams and others who attend to those who are overlooked, vulnerable or lonely, that all find belonging in your love. We pray for all who

are ill especially

God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Living God, we give thanks for all the faithful who have crossed the threshold from death to life (especially). Guide us who are living to learn from their wisdom and follow their example. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life. **Amen.**

**“*Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying***” Hymn #752

Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

**Peace**

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

***C: And also with you.***

**Offering *“We Give Thee but Thine Own” vs. 1*** Hymn #686

We give thee but thine own, what e’er the gift may be;

All that we have is thine alone a trust, O Lord from thee.

**Offering Prayer**

Let us pray, Blessed are you, O God maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts; our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love; through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, or Savior and Lord. Amen.

**Great Thanksgiving** Page 145

P: The Lord be with you.

***C: And also with you.***

P: Lift up your hearts.

***C: We lift them to the Lord.***

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

**Words of Institution**

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

***C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.***

**Lord’s Prayer** Page 145

P: Let us pray as Jesus has taught us.

***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.***

**Communion**

**Post Communion Blessing**

**Prayer after Communion**

P: God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. ***Amen.***

**Blessing**

The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord’s face shine on us with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon us with favor and + give you peace.

**Sending Hymn *“I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say***” Hymn #332

Vs. 1 I heard the voice of Jesus say, “Come unto me and rest;
 lay down, O weary one, lay down your head upon my breast.”
 I came to Jesus as I was, so weary, worn, and sad;
 I found him in a resting place, and he has made me glad.

Vs. 2 I heard the voice of Jesus say, “Behold, I freely give
 the living water, thirsty one; stoop down and drink and live.”
 I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life-giving stream;
 my thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I live in him.

Vs. 3 I heard the voice of Jesus say, “I am this dark world’s light;
 look unto me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright.”
 I looked to Jesus, and I found in him my star, my sun;
 and in that light of life I’ll walk till trav'ling days are done.

**Dismissal**

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

***C: Thanks be to God!***

**Mic Off!**

**Postlude**

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