

✠ THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT ✠

March 7, 2021

Organ Prelude: The Gift to Be Simple - Dale Wood, arr.

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People: **His mercy endures for ever.**

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Most merciful God, we confess that 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 are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

✠ THE WORD OF GOD ✠

Exodus 20:1-17

God spoke all these words to Moses on Mount Sinai: "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them;

for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments. You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it. Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you. You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.”

The Word of the Lord People: Thanks be to God

Psalm 19

1 The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament shows his handiwork.

2 One day tells its tale to another, and one night imparts knowledge to another.

3 Although they have no words or language, and their voices are not heard,

4 Their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world.

5 In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber; it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

6 It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; nothing is hidden from its burning heat.

7 The law of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.

8 The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes.

9 The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for ever; the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

10 More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.

11 By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward.

12 Who can tell how often he offends? cleanse me from my secret faults.

13 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.” 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? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

The Word of the Lord People **Thanks be to God**

Solo: Lord Here Am I – John Ness Beck

Janet Jenkins, Soprano

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ**

John 2:13-22

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, “Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father’s house a marketplace!” His disciples remembered that it was written, “Zeal for your house will consume me.” The Jews then said to him, “What sign can you show us for doing this?” Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” The Jews then said, “This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?” But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After 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.

*The Gospel of the Lord. People **Praise to you, Lord Christ***

Pastoral Letter The Rt. Rev. Carlye J. Hughes, Bishop of Newark

The Prayers of the People

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying,

*People: **Lord, have mercy.***

For the peace from above, for the loving kindness of God, For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

*People: **Lord, have mercy.***

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for Michael our Presiding Bishop; for Carlye, our Bishop, for Julio, Bishop of Panama, and Archbishop of Central America; and for all the clergy let us pray to the Lord.

*People: **Lord, have mercy.***

For our President, Joseph, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

*People: **Lord, have mercy.***

For this town, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

*People: **Lord, have mercy.***

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

*People: **Lord, have mercy.***

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

*People: **Lord, have mercy.***

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

*People: **Lord, have mercy.***

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.

*People: **Lord, have mercy.***

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

*People: **Lord, have mercy.***

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

The Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn: #685 *Toplady*

We ask your prayers ...

For those who are ill: AnneMarie, Rick JR, Lorraine, Sally, Kathi, Leigh, Jane, Tom, Leo, Joyce, Ben, Margaret, Jim, Kathy, Debbie, Sam, George, Maria, Darren, Zak, Jake, Jenn, Kayla, Doie, Peggy, David, Pixie, John and Kevin. For those with child: Maria, Nicole, and Paige. For those serving in the armed forces: Parker, Ashton, Brian, Bob, D.P., Jerry, James, Gary, Jason, Johnson, Cherefant, David, Nicholas, Lesnar, Michael and Steve

We rejoice with... Katie Hoyer, Joseph Mello, Richard Rowe and all who are celebrating their birthdays this week