

# THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT



## INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

*The third covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the central one of Israel's history: the gift of the law to those God freed from slavery. The commandments begin with the statement that because God alone has freed us from the powers that oppressed us, we are to let nothing else claim first place in our lives. When Jesus throws the merchants out of the temple, he is defending the worship of God alone and rejecting the ways commerce and profit-making can become our gods. The Ten Commandments are essential to our baptismal call: centered first in God's liberating love, we strive to live out justice and mercy in our communities and the world.*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

In the name of the Father,  
and of the ✝ Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

*The presiding minister may lead one of the following or another prayer of preparation.*

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.  
**Amen.**

*One of the following or another confession is prayed.*

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

*The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God,  
**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.**

## ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Almighty and ever-living God, you hate nothing you have made, and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and honest hearts, so that, truly repenting of our sins, we may receive from you, the God of all mercy, full pardon and forgiveness through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*The assembly stands. The service continues with gathering song found on the next page.*

**GATHERING SONG: I WANT JESUS TO WALK WITH ME (ELW 325)**

1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;  
 2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me; walk with  
 3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

I want Je - sus to walk with me;  
 me; in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me; walk with  
 when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

me; all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,  
 when my heart is al - most break - ing,  
 when my head is bowed in sor - row,

Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.  
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me. walk with me.  
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

Text: African American spiritual  
 Music: SOJOURNER, African American spiritual; arr. hymnal version  
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## **GREETING**

*During this time, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.*

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

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

*The presiding minister leads the prayer of the day.*

Let us pray.

*A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## **WORD**

### **FIRST READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 1:18-25**

*The reading may be announced:*

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

**18**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. <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, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup>For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, <sup>23</sup>but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup>but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup>For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds: Thanks be to God.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*The assembly stands as they are able to welcome the gospel.*

Re - turn to the Lord, your God

who is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,

slow to an - ger and a - bound - ing in

stead - fast love.

*The service continues with the Gospel found on the next page.*

## **GOSPEL: JOHN 2:13-22**

*The gospel is announced.*

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup>The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup>In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. <sup>15</sup>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. <sup>16</sup>He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" <sup>17</sup>His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." <sup>18</sup>The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" <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, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" <sup>21</sup>But he was speaking of the temple of his body. <sup>22</sup>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 concludes:*

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

## **MEDITATION ON GOD'S HOLY WORD**

*The service continues with the Apostle's Creed found on next page.*



## APOSTLE'S CREED

**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 INTERCESSION

*The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.*

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

There is no God before you. Purify the faith of your church, that your people place their trust in nothing beside you. Your name is holy. Guide your church, that in every situation your people's words and actions honor your name. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

The heavens declare your glory. Renew your creation. Provide leaders in the struggle for clean air and water; protect creatures and crops that rely on healthy ecosystems; give all people the willingness to repent when our way of life pollutes the earth and skies. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Your foolishness is wiser than human wisdom. Fill leaders with the foolishness of your peace and mercy. Your law defends the vulnerable. Work through legislators, judicial systems, and systems of law enforcement to protect the wellbeing and freedom of all (*especially*). Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Your weakness is stronger than human strength. Protect those who are vulnerable and give courage to all who are suffering (*especially*). Defend victims of crime and bring redemption to those who have harmed others. Give sabbath rest to all who labor.

Be especially with all those we name now: Martha (1/24/21), Jerry (1/10/21), Debbie (12/24/20), Scott (12/24/20), Donna (12/20/20), Tom (11/29/20), Jimmy (11/22/20), James (11/8/20), Claire (9/20/20), Rachel (7/26/20), Marge (8/18/19), Jean (12/18/18), Tim (12/18/18), and all our family members and friends; Give them comfort, reconciliation, and hope. Be their help and their shield. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Gracious God, we pray for the repose of the soul of Miquel Lugo. Please comfort his family and friends, and all those who mourn, through Christ. **Amen.**

You call us to proclaim Christ crucified. Give clarity to this congregation and our leaders, so that we might follow Christ beyond our own habits and comfort. Clear out anything in our common life that would obscure the gospel or that serves our own interests. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

The cross of Christ is your power for all who are being saved. Thank you for (*Perpetua, Felicity, and*) all the martyrs whose witness reveals the power of the cross. Give us the same trust in life and in death. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION CONCLUSION**

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abundant mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

**MEAL**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

## DIALOGUE

*The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks.*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

## PREFACE

*The presiding minister continues.*

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

*The service continues with the singing of the Sanctus found on the next page.*



# SANCTUS

*Holy, Holy, Holy is sung.*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, — ho - ly! —



Lord God — al - might - y! —



Heav-en and earth are — full — of your glo - ry —



Ho - san - na - in — the — high - est. —



Bless-ed is he — who comes — in the name of the Lord.



— Ho - san - na in — the — high - est. —

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, O God of the universe.  
Your mercy is everlasting  
and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.  
Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.  
Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.  
Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness  
to the land of milk and honey.  
Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.  
Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.  
Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup  
we remember our Lord's passover from death to life  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

O God of resurrection and new life:  
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us  
and on these gifts of bread and wine.  
Bless this feast.  
Grace our table with your presence.  
**Come, Holy Spirit.**

*(continued on next page)*

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.  
Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.  
Breathe new life into us.  
Send us forth,  
burning with justice, peace, and love.  
**Come, Holy Spirit.**

With [name/s and] your holy ones of all times and places,  
with the earth and all its creatures,  
with sun and moon and stars,  
we praise you, O God,  
blessed and holy Trinity,  
now and forever.  
**Amen.**

#### **LORD'S PRAYER**

*The presiding minister introduces the Lord's Prayer.*

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

#### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

*The presiding minister may address the assembly in these or similar words.*

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

#### **DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

*At this time, the assembly may commune receiving the bread.*

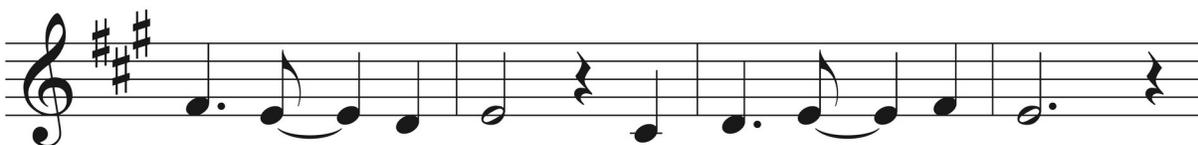
*The service continues with the Agnus Dei found on next page.*

**AGNUS DEI**

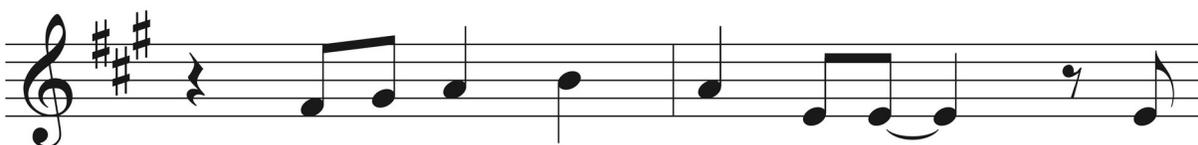
*Lamb of God is sung.*



Lamb of God you take a - way the



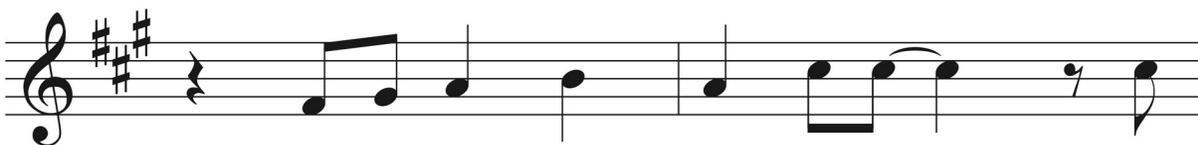
sin of \_\_\_ the world; have mer - cy \_\_\_ on us.



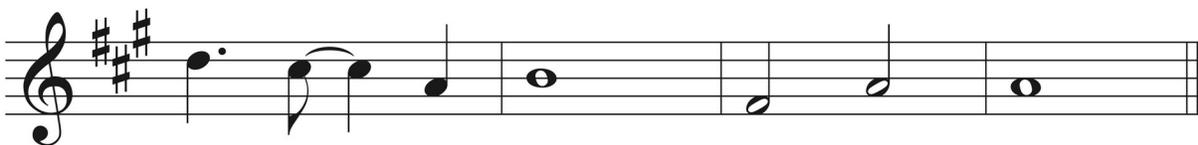
Lamb of God you take a - way \_\_\_ the



sin of \_\_\_ the world; have mer - cy \_\_\_ on us.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of \_\_\_ the world. Grant us peace.

## TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

## SENDING

*The service continues with the Sending Song found on next page.*



**SENDING SONG: NUNC DIMITIS**



Now Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace;



your word has been ful - filled.



Mine own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion



which you have pre-pared in the sight of all peo-ple;



a light to re - veal you to the na - tions



and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

*(continued on next page)*



Glo - ry \_\_\_ to the Fath - er, \_\_\_ to the Son, and to the



Ho - ly Spi - rit. As it was in the be - gin - ning is



now and will be \_\_\_ for - ev - er. A - men.

#### **DISMISSAL**

*The assembly is sent into mission.*

Go in peace. Share the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### **PEACE**

*The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.*

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you. Amen.**

## **WAYS TO FURTHER CONNECT**

*We are so glad that you are here with us for worship, and invite you to consider other ways to deepen faith and connect with the Redeemer community and world around us to which God calls us to serve.*

### **Justice/Equality: Launching our Local Racism Anonymous Group**

As part of our mission of "Sharing Christ's Welcome," and in support of our mission focus area of Equality/Justice, the Redeemer Anti-Racism Taskforce is piloting a 6-week launch of a local chapter of Racists Anonymous, a 12-step program designed to end racism in ourselves and our communities.

Adapting the traditional 12-step model, meetings will feature speakers, anti-racism texts, and the 12 steps of Racists Anonymous. It is designed to help us acknowledge that we have a problem, accept that the problem is beyond our ability to manage, and turn this problem over to our Higher Power. Engaging in this internal work helps us recover from racism and reduce its impact on future generations.

Our confidential and anonymous meetings begin Thursday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, and will occur every Thursday evening, 7-8pm, via Zoom (<https://zoom.us/j/3393810725>) through April 15<sup>th</sup>.

If you have any questions or need some additional information please reach out to Jessica Margaret Moore at [jmoore9683@gmail.com](mailto:jmoore9683@gmail.com) or Rebecca Maher at [rebeccarogersmaher@gmail.com](mailto:rebeccarogersmaher@gmail.com).

### **Lenten Study and Worship: "Messy Spirituality"**

Our Lenten Study & Worship continues this Wednesday evening, 6-7pm. We will meet via Zoom to deepen our faith and wrestle with the question of what it means to pursue messy spirituality. If you can, please purchase a copy of "Messy Spirituality" by Michael Yanonelli (<https://www.cokesbury.com/9780310345558-Messy-Spirituality>).

If you are unable to procure a copy of the book or if the mail struggles to deliver it in time, please join us anyway, as the discussion questions will still be worthwhile! Each session will conclude with a brief vesper worship including scripture, prayer, and song.

Please contact Pastor Tobias with any questions at [tobias.song@gmail.com](mailto:tobias.song@gmail.com) or by phone at [845.594.8010](tel:845.594.8010). May God in Christ help us to deepen our faith journeys during this Lenten season!

## **Easter Flower Orders**

Easter Sunday is about a month away - time to order Easter flowers! Help us beautify our sanctuary for the Great Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday by purchasing Easter flowers, or by making a monetary donation to help offset the cost of Easter flowers. Additionally, you may dedicate your flower purchase or donation in memory/honor of a loved one, or in thanksgiving to God.

To submit your order/donation electronically, click the following: [Easter Flowers](#), or download an order form at: <http://redeemernewpaltz.org/forms/2021-easter-flower-order-form.pdf>, complete it, and send it to the church.

Payments/donations for Easter flowers can be made electronically at: <https://redeemernewpaltz.org/donate-now> (select Easter Flowers fund), or by sending a check.

All orders/donations must be received by March 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **Supporting Christ's Mission**

We are so glad that you joined us for worship today! Please consider making a one time or recurring donation in support of our mission to "Share Christ's Welcome" with the world by following this link (<https://redeemernewpaltz.org/donate-now>). It's secure, fast, and your donation will help reach others body, heart, mind, and soul. Thank you!

## **Faith Journey**

Contact Pastor Tobias at [tobias.song@gmail.com](mailto:tobias.song@gmail.com) to schedule a time to talk more about your journey of faith.

## **Stay In Touch**

Sign up for our weekly & worship service related e-newsletter, for the filling of the soul and sustaining of the mind.

For instance, find out how ELCA World Hunger helps to address the effects that this pandemic, has had. Increasing numbers of hungry people around the world, food pantries and soup kitchens expanded to serve an ever-growing number of guests, and their mission goal of a time that everyone “will hunger no more, and thirst no more ... and God will wipe away every tear from [our] eyes”(Revelation 7:16-17). For more information about the wonderful work that ELCA World Hunger performs, and more, please sign up for our weekly newsletter.

Subscribing is quick, easy, and secure! Visit: <https://redeemernewpaltz.org/welcome/next-steps>, enter your email address, click Subscribe.

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