

# 3rd Sunday in Lent

## Holy Communion

**Zeal**  
for your  
house will  
**consume**  
**me**

JOHN 2:17



March 3, 2024

**ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**HAGERSTOWN, MD**

**St. Mark's Lutheran Church**  
601 Washington Avenue, Hagerstown, MD 21740  
Pastor Brian McClinton, Senior Pastor  
301-733-7550, stmarkslc.org

*Please assemble in silence; there is no prelude*

+ Congregation please stand if able

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE - Prelude**

**Christopher Tambling**

**+ CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus. **Amen.**

Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Holy God,

**we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.**

Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through † Jesus Christ. **Amen.**



+ **GATHERING HYMN - "In the Cross of Christ I Glory"**

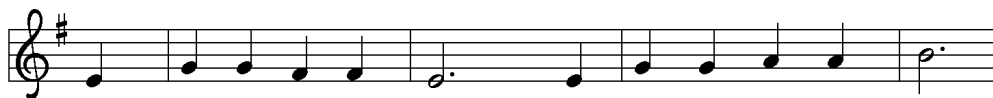
**ELW 324**

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|--|---|
| 1 In the cross of Christ I glory,<br>tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time.<br>All the light of sacred story<br>gathers round its head sublime.       | 3 When the sun of bliss is beaming<br>light and love upon my way,<br>from the cross the radiance<br>streaming<br>adds more luster to the day.               |
| 2 When the woes of life o'ertake me,<br>hopes deceive, and fears annoy,<br>never shall the cross forsake me;<br>lo, it glows with peace and joy. | 4 Bane and blessing, pain and<br>pleasure,<br>by the cross are sanctified;<br>peace is there that knows no<br>measure,<br>joys that through all time abide. |

+ **GREETING**

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.**

+ **KYRIE**



- |                                |                                |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord,   | and hear our sol - emn prayer. |
| 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, | and wash a - way our sin.      |
| 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord;   | make sin and shame de - part.  |



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.  
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

+ **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

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.**

***FIRST READING - Exodus 20:1-17***

<sup>1</sup>God spoke all these words:

<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 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. <sup>5</sup>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, <sup>6</sup>but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

<sup>7</sup>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.

<sup>8</sup>Remember the sabbath day, and 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; 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. <sup>11</sup>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.

<sup>12</sup>Honor your father and your mother, so 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 male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

***PSALM 19***

**<sup>1</sup>The heavens are telling the glory of God;  
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.**

<sup>2</sup>Day to day pours forth speech,  
and night to night declares knowledge.

**<sup>3</sup>There is no speech, nor are there words;  
their voice is not heard;**

<sup>4</sup>yet their voice goes out through all the earth,  
and their words to the end of the world.

In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun,

**<sup>5</sup>which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy,  
and like a strong man runs its course with joy.**

<sup>6</sup>Its rising is from the end of the heavens,  
and its circuit to the end of them;  
and nothing is hid from its heat.

**<sup>7</sup>The law of the LORD is perfect,  
reviving the soul;  
the decrees of the LORD are sure,  
making wise the simple;**

<sup>8</sup>the precepts of the LORD are right,  
rejoicing the heart;  
the commandment of the LORD is clear,  
enlightening the eyes;

**<sup>9</sup>the fear of the LORD is pure,  
enduring forever;  
the ordinances of the LORD are true  
and righteous altogether.**

<sup>10</sup>More to be desired are they than gold,  
even much fine gold;  
sweeter also than honey,  
and drippings of the honeycomb.

**<sup>11</sup>Moreover by them is your servant warned;  
in keeping them there is great reward.**

<sup>12</sup>But who can detect their errors?  
Clear me from hidden faults.

**<sup>13</sup>Keep back your servant also from the insolent;  
do not let them have dominion over me.  
Then I shall be blameless,  
and innocent of great transgression.**

<sup>14</sup>Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart  
be acceptable to you,  
O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

**SECOND READING - 1 Corinthians 1:18-25**

<sup>18</sup>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. **Thanks be to God.**

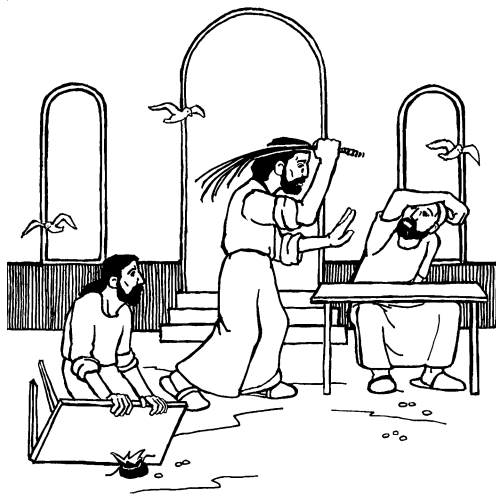
**+ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.



+ **GOSPEL - John 2:13-22**

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter. **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 Judeans 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 Judeans 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 of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**VISIT WITH PAUL**

**Pastor Brian**

**SERMON**

**Pastor Brian**

+ **HYMN OF THE DAY - "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"**

**ELW 803**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1 When I survey the wondrous cross<br>on which the prince of glory died,<br>my richest gain I count but loss<br>and pour contempt on all my pride.             | 3 See, from his head, his hands, his<br>feet,<br>sorrow and love flow mingled down.<br>Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,<br>or thorns compose so rich a crown? |
| 2 Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast<br>save in the death of Christ, my God;<br>all the vain things that charm me<br>most,<br>I sacrifice them to his blood. | 4 Were the whole realm of nature<br>mine,<br>that were a present far too small;<br>love so amazing, so divine,<br>demands my soul, my life, my all.              |

**+ *APOSTLES 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 into hell. 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 CHURCH***

*Response:* Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

**+ *SHARING OF THE PEACE***

***OFFERING***

***MUSIC OFFERING - Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior***

**Theodore Beck**

**+ *OFFERTORY - "Take My Life, That I May Be"***

**ELW 685**

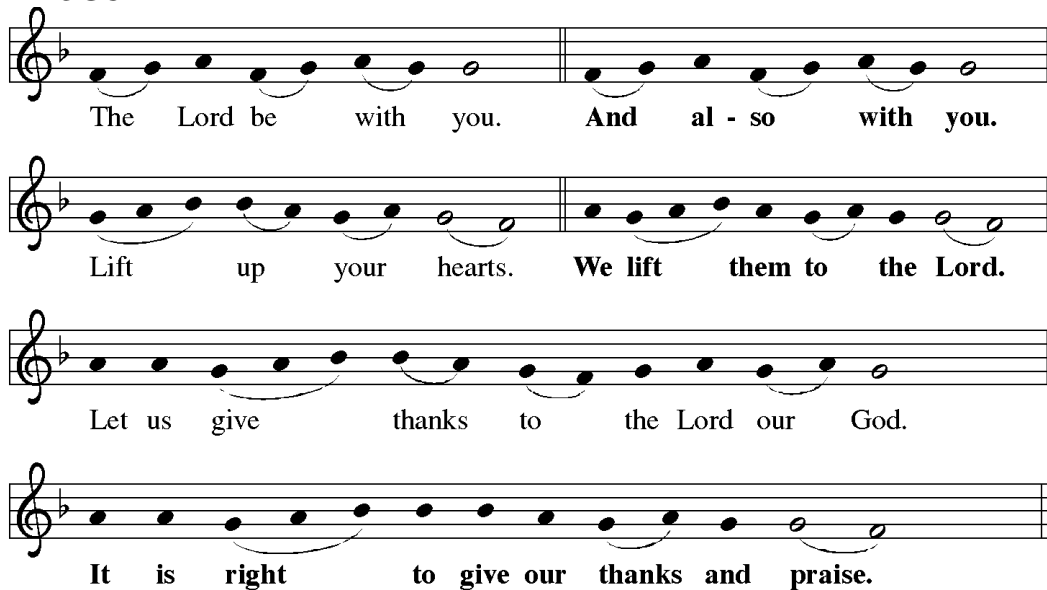
4	Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold; take my intellect and use ev'ry pow'r as thou shall choose.	5	Take my will and make it thine, it shall be no longer mine. Take my heart, it is thine own, it shall be thy royal throne.
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**+ *OFFERING PRAYER***

Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name. **Amen.**



**+ DIALOGUE**

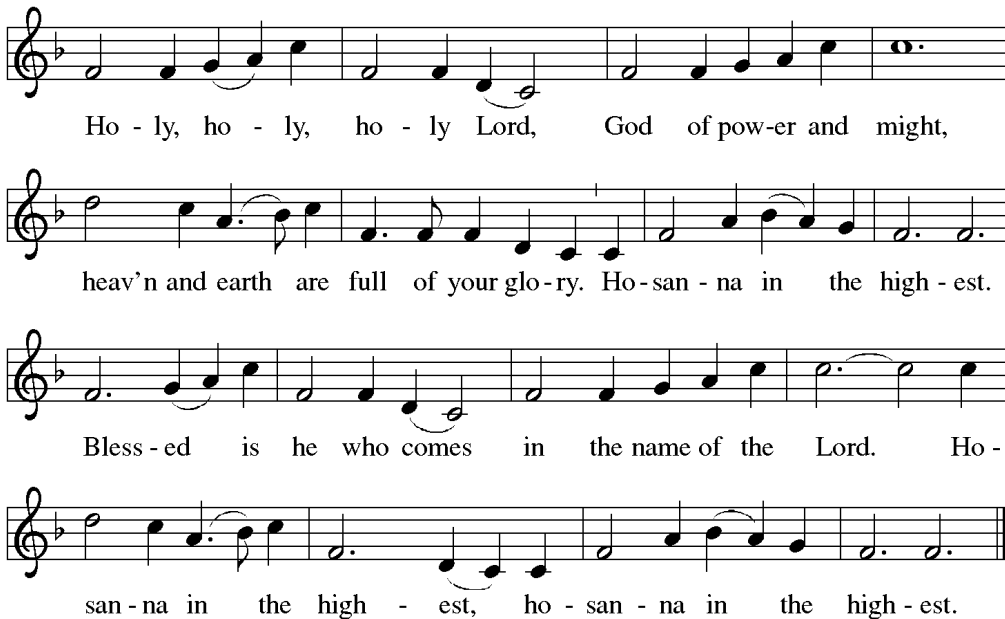


The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

**+ PREFACE**

It is indeed right, our duty ...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**+ SANCTUS**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
heav'n 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

**+THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

**+THE 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.**

**+ FRACTION**

This is the body of Christ. This is the blood of Christ.

**Reveal yourself to us, O God in the breaking of the bread as once you revealed yourself to your disciples.**

**+ LAMB OF GOD**



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

**COMMUNION**

*"Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer"*

ELW 618

*"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"*

ELW 733

**+ TABLE BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION**

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

+ **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life. **Amen.**

+ **BLESSING**

Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit ☩ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

+ **CLOSING HYMN - "How Great Thou Art"**

**ELW 856**

- 1 O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder  
consider all the works thy hand hath made,  
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,  
thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed;

*Refrain*

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,  
how great thou art! How great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,  
how great thou art! How great thou art!

- 2 When through the woods and forest glades I wander,  
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur  
and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze; *Refrain*

- 3 But when I think that God, his Son not sparing,  
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,  
that on the cross my burden gladly bearing  
he bled and died to take away my sin; *Refrain*

- 4 When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation,  
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration  
and there proclaim, "My God, how great thou art!" *Refrain*

+ **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE - Prelude in F-Sharp Minor**

**Carl Nielsen**

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