



**MARCH 7<sup>TH</sup>, 2021**  
**THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT**  
**HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**As We Gather**

*In this morning's second reading, the Apostle Paul is writing to the church at Corinth, a bustling, cosmopolitan city in Greece. Many members of the Corinthian church were gentiles who had been brought up in Greco-Roman culture and schooled in Greek philosophy. Greek philosophers believed that their wisdom would benefit society by helping individuals live responsible, moral lives. In this passage, Paul takes on the claims of these Greek philosophers, to whom he refers as the "wise man" and the "debater of this age." He labels their teachings "the wisdom of the world." If this is so, what then is God's wisdom? And how does God's wisdom shape the way we see and serve others? Let's find out--welcome to all who worship with us today!*

**PRELUDE**

"Christ Be My Leader"

*Lani Smith*

**WELCOME AND GREETING**

*Pastor Ken Haupt*

## CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**ALL Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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 justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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 In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C **Amen.**



## OPENING HYMN

"Holy, Holy, Holy"

LSB 507

- 1      **Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!**  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;  
**Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!**  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!
- 2      **Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,**  
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
**Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,**  
Which wert and art and evermore shalt be.
- 3      **Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee,**  
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see,  
**Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee,**  
Perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.
- 4      **Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!**  
All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea.  
**Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!**  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

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## GREETING

- 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.**
- P      Let us pray....
- C      **Amen.**

R <sup>1</sup> The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.

**C <sup>2</sup> Day to day pours out speech,  
and night to night reveals knowledge.**

R <sup>3</sup> There is no speech, nor are there words, whose voice is not heard.

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

**In them he has set a tent for the sun,**

R <sup>5</sup> which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber,  
and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy.

**C <sup>6</sup> Its rising is from the end of the heavens,  
and its circuit to the end of them,  
and there is nothing hidden from its heat.**

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

**C <sup>8</sup> the precepts of the LORD are right,  
rejoicing the heart;**

**the commandment of the LORD is pure,  
enlightening the eyes;**

R <sup>9</sup> the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the LORD are true,  
and righteous altogether.

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

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

**C <sup>12</sup> Who can discern his errors?  
Declare me innocent from hidden faults.**

R <sup>13</sup> Keep back your servant also from presumptuous sins;  
let them not have dominion over me!

Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.

**ALL <sup>14</sup> Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart  
be acceptable in your sight,  
O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.**

R This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God!**

<sup>18</sup> For the message of 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;  
the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate."

<sup>20</sup> Where is the wise person? Where is the teacher of the law? Where is the philosopher 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 through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup> Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, <sup>23</sup> but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup> but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup> For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.

<sup>26</sup> Brothers and sisters, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup> But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. <sup>28</sup> God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are, <sup>29</sup> so that no one may boast before him. <sup>30</sup> It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption. <sup>31</sup> Therefore, as it is written: "Let the one who boasts boast in the Lord."

R This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God!**



**GOSPEL READING***Jesus Cleanses the Temple*

John 2:13-22

<sup>13</sup> The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup> In the temple he found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting there. <sup>15</sup> And making a whip of cords, he drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and oxen. And he poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. <sup>16</sup> And he told those who sold the pigeons, "Take these things away; do not make my Father's house a house of trade." <sup>17</sup> His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me."

<sup>18</sup> So the Jews said to him, "What sign do you show us for doing these things?" <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, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?" <sup>21</sup> But he was speaking about the temple of his body. <sup>22</sup> When therefore 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.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord!

C **Thanks be to God.**

**MUSIC MINISTRY***"I Will Follow"**Mary Sorensen, Jonathan Malone, and Mark Heil***MESSAGE***"Why Self-Help Doesn't Work"**1 Corinthians 1:18-30**Rev. Ken Haupt*

For Thought and Consideration

*"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the LORD. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts." (Isaiah 55:8-9)*

Based upon the message you heard this morning as well as the above Scripture, do the Lord's words encourage you or discourage you? Why or why not? Share with a loved one or trusted friend what it means for your faith to approach life's uncertainties and difficulties with the knowledge that though you might not understand everything, the Lord is at work for your good and his glory? How will this affect how you live this week?

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.  
He 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,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again 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.**

## **THE PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE**

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

*Pastor Tom will lead the congregation in prayer.*

**P** Into Your hands, eternal God, we offer our prayers, trusting Your love through, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C** **Amen**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

P 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.**

**+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +**

## PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

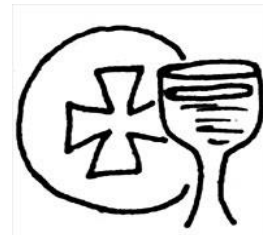
**C And also with you.**

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 Him thanks and praise.**



## SANCTUS

*LSB, p. 161*

**C Holy, holy, holy,  
Lord God of Power and Might;  
Heav'n and earth are full of Your glory.  
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**



## THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

**C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. Come quickly!**

## LAMB OF GOD

*LSB, p. 163*

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**  
**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us**  
**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us**  
**peace.**

## DISTRIBUTION MUSIC

*"Lord, I Need You"*

*Mary Sorensen, Jonathan Malone, and Mark Heil*

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER AND BLESSING

P Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## DISMISSAL

P Go in peace; serve the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## CLOSING HYMN

"Holy God, We Praise Thy Name"

LSB 940

**1. Holy God, we praise Thy name  
Lord of all, we bow before Thee.  
All on earth Thy scepter claim,  
All in heav'n above adore Thee.  
Infinite Thy vast domain,  
Everlasting is Thy reign.**

**4. Thou art King of Glory, Christ;  
Son of God, yet born of Mary.  
For us sinners sacrificed,  
As to death a Tributary,  
First to break the bars of death,  
Thou hast opened heav'n to faith.**

**5. Holy Father, holy Son,  
Holy Spirit, three we name Thee;  
Though in essence only one,  
Undivided God we claim Thee  
And, adoring, bend the knee  
While we own the mystery.**

Text: Public domain

## POSTLUDE

"Jubilant Postlude"

Reginald Martin

*Don't forget to send in prayer requests to [admin@hcdallas.org](mailto:admin@hcdallas.org). We miss you and love hearing from you! Also, please take advantage of our easy on-line giving option by visiting [www.hcdallas.org](http://www.hcdallas.org), using the "GIVE" tab for your tithe or offering (U.S. Mail is fine too).*

*A special thank you to Angie Nitz, Barry and Marie Canning, Lisa Lai, Mike Zimmerman, Alex Zimmerman, Mary Sorensen, Jonathan Malone, Mark Heil, Joan Krause, and Bill Doebling for helping with our on-line worship. Thank you for your continued prayers and financial support during 2021!*