

## Lent Midweek 3

March 19, 2025

7:00 P.M.

### Theme of the Day

As Jesus testified before Pilate that His kingdom is not of this world so are we, by our Baptism, “fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God” (Ephesians 2:19).

### Welcome

Hymn

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

LSB 709

Opening Sentences *Psalm 118:24; 113:3; Joel 2:13; Matthew 16:24; Isaiah 53:5*

**P** This is the day which the Lord has made;

**C** let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**P** From the rising of the sun to its setting,

**C** the name of the Lord is to be praised.

**P** Return to the LORD your God, for He is gracious and merciful,

**C** slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and repents of evil.

**P** Jesus said: If anyone would come after Me,

**C** let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.

**P** Christ was wounded for our transgressions.

**C** He was bruised for our iniquities.

**P** From the rising of the sun to its setting,

**C** the name of the Lord is to be praised.

All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

First Reading

Ephesians 1:3–10, 15–22

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ as a plan for

the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

Hymn

“The Gifts Christ Freely Gives”

*LSB 602*

Second Reading

John 18:28–40

Then they led Jesus from the house of Caiaphas to the governor’s headquarters. It was early morning. They themselves did not enter the governor’s headquarters, so that they would not be defiled, but could eat the Passover. So Pilate went outside to them and said, “What accusation do you bring against this man?” They answered him, “If this man were not doing evil, we would not have delivered him over to you.” Pilate said to them, “Take him yourselves and judge him by your own law.” The Jews said to him, “It is not lawful for us to put anyone to death.” This was to fulfill the word that Jesus had spoken to show by what kind of death he was going to die.

So Pilate entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus answered, “Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?” Pilate answered, “Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered you over to me. What have you done?” Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world.” Then Pilate said to him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice.” Pilate said to him, “What is truth?”

After he had said this, he went back outside to the Jews and told them, “I find no guilt in him. But you have a custom that I should release one man for you at the Passover. So do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?” They cried out again, “Not this man, but

Barabbas!" Now Barabbas was an insurrectionist.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"What Kind of King Is This?"

Pastor Keith Jones

Hymn of the Day

"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"

*LSB 341*

The Prayers of the Church

**P** In peace let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For . . . [additional bids for prayer may be inserted here] . . . let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

#### Prayer of the Day

**P** Thy kingdom come. O Lord, rule our minds, hearts, and lives that we may know and believe Your Word of truth and that we may live our lives as forgiven sinners in true freedom serving others as You have served us. Hear us for the sake of Your love.

**C** Amen.

#### Collect for the Word

**P** Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your Holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

#### Luther's Evening Prayer

All: I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Hymn

"Beautiful Savior"

*LSB 537*

Blessing

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**P** The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the X Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

**C** Amen.

Silent Prayer

???

+ + +

# Acknowledgments

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 2. Copyright © 2023 Concordia Publishing House.

All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.