



**OUR REDEEMER**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
GRAND PRAIRIE

*You are welcome here!*  
**We are disciples of Jesus, growing  
in Faith, Hope, and Love.**

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**Worship Times**

Sunday 10:15 am  
Wednesday 7:00 pm



**Pastor**

Rev. Julio Cruz-Natal



*March 7, 2021*  
*Third Sunday in Lent*

# Gathering

## ✠INTRODUCTION

*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

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the keeper of the covenant,  
the source of steadfast love, our rock and our redeemer.

C **Amen.**

P God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

C **Fountain of living water, pour out your mercy over us. Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free. Rebuild what we have ruined and mend what we have torn. Wash us in your cleansing flood. Make us alive in the Spirit to follow in the way of Jesus, as healers and restorers of the world you so love. Amen.**

P Beloved, God's word never fails. The promise rests on grace: by the saving love of Jesus Christ, the wisdom and power of God, your sins are † forgiven, and God remembers them no more. Journey in the way of Jesus.

C **Amen.**

## ✠HYMN OF REFLECTION –

### Thy Word

Thy word, thy word is a lamp un-to my feet.

Thy word, oh, thy word is a lamp un-to my

feet; and a light un-to my path, and a light un-to my

path. path, and a light un-to my path.

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## ✠PRAYER OF THE DAY

A The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

A Let us pray. 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.

C **Amen.**

# Word

## ✘ FIRST LESSON – Exodus 20:1-17

*After escaping from slavery, the Israelites come to Mount Sinai, where God teaches them how to live in community. The Ten Commandments proclaim that God alone is worthy of worship. Flowing from God, the life of the community flourishes when based on honesty, trust, fidelity, and respect for life, family, and property.*

<sup>1</sup>Then 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.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## ✠ GOSPEL – John 2:13-22

*Jesus attacks the commercialization of religion by driving merchants out of the temple. When challenged, he responds mysteriously, with the first prediction of his own death and resurrection. In the midst of a seemingly stable religious center, Jesus suggests that the center itself has changed.*

P The Holy Gospel, according to John, the second chapter.

**C 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.

P The gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to you, O Christ.**

## ✠ SERMON

## ✠HYMN OF THE DAY – My Lord of Light (ELW #832)

- 1 My Lord of light who made the worlds,  
in wisdom you have spoken;  
but those who heard your wise commands  
your holy law have broken.
- 2 My Lord of love who knew no sin,  
a sinner's death enduring:  
for us you wore a crown of thorns,  
a crown of life securing.
- 3 My Lord of life who came in fire  
when Christ was high ascended:  
your burning love is now released,  
our days of fear are ended.
- 4 My Lord of lords, one Trinity,  
to your pure name be given  
all glory now and evermore,  
all praise in earth and heaven.

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## ✠PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P On this third Sunday in Lent, let our prayer reflect the guidance of the Ten Commandments.

*A brief silence.*

P O God, our lawgiver, our temple, our wisdom, form your church to worship you alone. As you blessed Gregory the Great, so bless our bishops for their ministry in church and world. Lord, in your mercy,

**C Hear our prayer.**

P Protect all who call upon the power of your name. As you blessed the martyr Perpetua and her companions, so bless all the baptized who suffer for their faith. Lord, in your mercy,

**C Hear our prayer.**

- P Even during this pandemic, connect us in diverse ways to our worshipping communities, and give to all persons regular rest from their work. Lord, in your mercy,
- C Hear our prayer.**
- P Bless with wisdom all parents and any who are granted authority over others, and give to children the will to honor those who care for them. Lord, in your mercy,
- C Hear our prayer.**
- P Keep the nations of the earth from engaging in war, bloodshed, and torture, and help people of all ages to resist the lure of violence. Lord, in your mercy,
- C Hear our prayer.**
- P Uphold marriages and all commitments of care, and defend all persons, especially children, from sexual abuse. Lord, in your mercy,
- C Hear our prayer.**
- P Guard your earth, its animals and its plant life from all who would take for themselves more than they need. Lord, in your mercy,
- C Hear our prayer.**
- P Train the diverse peoples of our nation to respect one another. As you blessed Harriet Tubman and Sojourner Truth, so bless all who work to end discrimination and the oppression of the vulnerable. Lord, in your mercy,
- C Hear our prayer.**
- P Use our bounty to meet the needs of others, those who are homeless or hungry, and hear our prayers for all who are sick or suffering, especially all afflicted with the coronavirus and all we name here before you now, silently or aloud . . . Lord, in your mercy,
- C Hear our prayer.**
- P Teach us how to pray, also for ourselves. Lord, in your mercy,
- C Hear our prayer.**
- P Receive our thanks for all who have died in the faith, and bring us all at the end into the fullness of your life. Lord, in your mercy,
- C Hear our prayer.**
- P We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful and gracious God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C Amen.**

## ✠ PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

## Meal

## ✠ GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

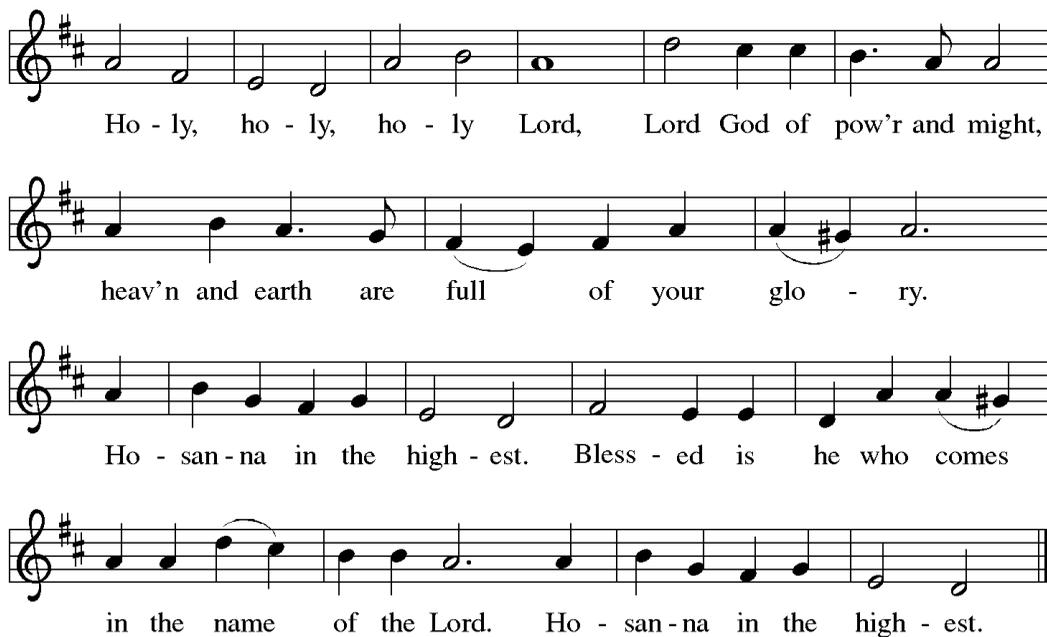
C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

P 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. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. 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:

✠ **HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (Setting 4, p. 153) *See Next Page***



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r 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.

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## ✠ Eucharistic Prayer

P Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all. 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.

## ✠ LORD'S PRAYER

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

**C 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.**

## ✠ BLESSING

P You are what God made you to be: created in Christ Jesus for good works, chosen as holy and beloved, freed to serve your neighbor.

God bless you † that you may be a blessing,  
in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity.

**C Amen.**

## ✠ ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ✠ SENDING HYMN – Restore in Us, O God (ELW #328)

1 Restore in us, O God,  
the splendor of your love;  
renew your image in our hearts,  
and all our sins remove.

2 O Spirit, wake in us  
the wonder of your pow'r;  
from fruitless fear unfurl our lives  
like springtime bud and flow'r.

3 Bring us, O Christ, to share  
the fullness of your joy;  
baptize us in the risen life  
that death cannot destroy.

4 Three-personed God, fulfill  
the promise of your grace,  
that we, when all our searching ends,  
may see you face to face.

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## ✠ DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Share the good news.

**C Thanks be to God.**

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