

**8:45 A.M. ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**March 7, 2021**

**THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT**

*(Please follow the ushers' direction on seating. We will maintain at least 6 feet between individuals unless you come as a family who live together.)*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE:** "Lord Jesus, Think on Me" – Theodore Beck

P. We prepare our hearts and minds for worship, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C. Amen.**

**CONFESSION:**

P. Dear God, we have loved you, but not enough.

**C. We have sought you, but not diligently.**

P. We have seen, but not perceived.

**C. We have heard, but not understood.**

P. We have hoped for heavenly things.

**C. But have clung to things of this earth.**

P. Our hearts have been far from you, O Holy One.

**C. Draw us now, in mercy, unto yourself, O God.**

P. That the time to come may not be as the past.

**C. That perceiving and loving you, we may find Joy in your service.**

**AMEN**

P. The Lord Jesus loves us and continues to give Himself for us. He has died for us. He lives for us. He gives us life, free of any charge. We are forgiven and free, just as God created us to be.

**C. AMEN**

**GATHERING HYMN:** "Glorious Things of You Are Spoken"

- 1 Glorious things of you are spoken,  
Zion, city of our God!  
He whose word cannot be broken  
formed you for his own abode.  
On the Rock of Ages founded,  
what can shake your sure repose?  
With salvation's walls surrounded,  
you may smile at all your foes.

- 2 See, the streams of living waters,  
springing from eternal love,  
well supply your sons and daughters,  
and all fear of want remove.  
Who can faint, while such a river  
ever will their thirst assuage?  
Grace which, like the Lord, the giver,  
never fails from age to age.
- 3 Round each habitation hov'ring,  
see the cloud and fire appear  
for a glory and a cov'ring,  
showing that the Lord is near.  
Thus deriving from their banner  
light by night and shade by day,  
safe they feed upon the manna  
which God gives them on their way.
- 4 Savior, since of Zion's city  
I through grace a member am,  
let the world deride or pity,  
I will glory in your name.  
Fading are the world's vain pleasures,  
all their boasted pomp and show;  
solid joys and lasting treasures  
none but Zion's children know.

Text: John Newton, 1725-1807, alt.

### **APOSTOLIC 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.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

**Loving God, help us to overcome the urge to treat Salvation as a “transaction”. Help us to see it as The gift it is. Through Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.**

### **BIBLE READINGS**

**SERMON: “When Stepping Stones are Stumbling Blocks”**

**Pastor Larry Isbell**

**HYMN OF THE DAY: “Built on a Rock”**

- 1 Built on a rock the church shall stand,  
even when steeples are falling;  
crumbled have spires in ev'ry land,  
bells still are chiming and calling—  
calling the young and old to rest,  
calling the souls of those distressed,  
longing for life everlasting.
- 2 Surely, in temples made with hands  
God the Most High is not dwelling—  
high in the heav'ns his temple stands,  
all earthly temples excelling.  
Yet he who dwells in heav'n above  
deigns to abide with us in love,  
making our bodies his temple.
- 4 Yet in this house, an earthly frame,  
Jesus the children is blessing;  
hither we come to praise his name,  
faith in our Savior confessing.  
Jesus to us his Spirit sent,  
making with us his covenant,  
granting his children the kingdom.
- 5 Through all the passing years, O Lord,  
grant that, when church bells are ringing,  
many may come to hear your Word,  
who here this promise is bringing:  
"I know my own, my own know me;  
you, not the world, my face shall see;  
my peace I leave with you. Amen."

Text: Nicolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783-1872; tr. Carl Doving, 1867-1937, adapt.

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**APOSTLES' CREED:**

**C: 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 catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen**

**THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:**

*(At the end of each petition, the leader will say "Lord, in your mercy." Feel free to respond with "Hear our prayer.")*

**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.**

**BENEDICTION:**

- P.** Now may God, who has loved us with a love beyond all telling, send us forth to care for the world around us and to share the good news of that love, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C. Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN: “Although I Speak with Angel’s Tongue”**

- 1 Although I speak with angel's tongue,  
my faith, my knowledge all surpass,  
but have no love, my gifts are vain  
as clanging gong or blaring brass.
- 2 For love is patient, love is kind,  
and never vain with boasting pride;  
love bears all things, all things endures.  
All things must end; love will abide.
- 3 For now we peer at darkened glass;  
our visions end; our tongues all cease.  
In part we know, in part now see:  
then we will see love face to face.
- 4 The gifts are many, the Body one,  
and into one are all baptized.  
Beloved, share one heart, one mind,  
one hope, one faith, one love in Christ.

Text: Andrew Donaldson, b.1951

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**DISMISSAL:**

- P. Go in peace! Serve the Lord!  
C. **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE:** “There in God’s Garden” – Robert Farlee

**Today’s altar flowers are offered to the glory of God.**

*(Please exit row by row, beginning with the back.  
Talk to others from a distance in the parking lot.)*