Lord's Day Worship

A DIVINE SERVICE OF COVENANT RENEWAL

THIRD SUNDAY BEFORE EASTER

March 19, 2023

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Quiet our minds, O God, and gladden our hearts; that, as we come together to worship you, we may, by your Spirit, be drawn near to your presence and find that this place is indeed the very gate of heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SILENT PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

GOD CALLS US

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 126

†HYMN OF PRAISE

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" Selection 457

†SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF PRAISE

Pastor:	We are called together to worship in the Name of the Father,		
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit!			

People: Amen!

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The LORD be with you!	
And also with you!	Ruth 2:4
Know that the LORD, he is God!	
It is he who made us, and we are his;	
We are his people,	
And the sheep of his pasture!	Ps. 100:3
For we have died, and our life is hidden with Christ in	God.
When the Christ who is our life appears,	Col.
we also will appear with him in glory. Alleluia!	3:3-4
Let us pray together:	

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries, through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen!

GOD CLEANSES US

Have mercy on us, O God, according to your steadfast love:	;
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According to your abundant mercy blot out our transgressions.

Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity,	
And cleanse us from our sin!	Ps. 51:1-2

†PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we confess to you that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against you by thought, word, and deed-not only in our outward transgressions, but also in our secret thoughts and desires, which we cannot understand, but which are all known unto you.

+Silent Prayer of Confession +

And so we flee for refuge to your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring your grace, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

[†] DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS	3
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Now lift up your heads, and hear these words of comfort Pastor: and good news from the Scriptures...

> "Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever."

Psalm 23:6

Pastor: Our heavenly Father, in his great mercy, has given his only Son to die for you, and for his sake forgives you all your sins; wherefore as Christ's minister and by his authority, I declare to you that all of your sins are forgiven, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen!

†"Doxology"	Selection 733
Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here	
below: Alleluia, Alleluia! Praise him above, ye heavenly host, praise Father,	
Son, and Holy Ghost: O praise him, O praise him, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!	

GOD CONVERSES WITH US

OLD TEST.	AMENT READING
Pastor:	God is our refuge and our strength,
People:	A very present help in trouble.
•	Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,
	Though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea.
	Though its waters roar and foam,
	Though the mountains tremble at its swelling.
	There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
	The holy habitation of the Most High.
	God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;
	God will help her when morning dawns.
	The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;
	He utters his voice, the earth melts.
	The LORD of hosts is with us;
	The God of Jacob is our fortress.
	Come, behold the works of the LORD,
	How he has brought desolations on the earth.
	He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
	He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the chariots with fire.
	"Be still, and know that I am God.
	I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"
	The LORD of hosts is with us;
	The God of Jacob is our fortress.
	This is the Word of the Lord.
	Thanks be to God!
NEW TEST	AMENT READING 1 Peter 3:18-22
	This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!
†Gospel F	READING Matthew 14:22-33

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†COMMUNIC "Holy, †The Gre

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This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ! Praise be to you, O Christ!

†Hymn of Praise "A Mighty Fortre.	ss Is Our God"		Selection 92
[†] We Respond by Con I believe i earth: An conceived suffered u buried. He again. He		· Almighty, Make His only Son, our birit, born of th ate, was crucified e dead. On the th eaven, and is sea	Apostles' Creed r of heaven and r Lord; who was e virgin Mary, , died, and was ird day He rose ted at the right
communio	in the Holy Spir n of saints; the fo y; and the life even	rgiveness of sins;	
†"Gloria Patri"			Selection 735
SERMON TEXT			Genesis 7:1-24
PREACHING OF GOD'S "God Will Always Pro	eserve His People Thr	ough His Son" . Panesis 4-12: The True I	
For our families For this community For all who wor	to you, Lord GodFo s, friends, and neigh y, the nation, and the rk for justice, freedo	bors, and for those world; m and peace.	•
For the victims	oper use of your creat of hunger, fear, inju	stice, and oppressio	n.
For those who r	danger, sorrow, or any ninister to the sick , t unity of the Church of	the friendless, and th	ne needy.
-	claim the gospel, and ds and concerns of th		
For your mercy We thank you, Lor We will exalt you,	d, for all the blessing	s of this life	
We give you thank now in your presen	r Name forever and s for all those who had the as their bodies wa ng-kindness be upon t	have died in Christ an it for the resurrection	
Who put their t	-		
	and even the desires o er to you, our Heaver		nown only by your
Through Jesus	Christ our Lord. An	nen!	
G	GOD COMMUN	NES WITH US	5
Communion Hymn "Holy, Holy Holy	»!"		Selection 100
†The Great Thanksg			

ıksgiving	
The Lord be with you!	
And also with you!	
Lift up your hearts.	
We lift them up to the Lord!	
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.	
It is right to give him thanks and praise!	
	The Lord be with you! And also with you! Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord! Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

- Pastor: It is indeed right and good and a joyful thing, always and everywhere, to give thanks unto you, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God. Therefore, in union with the saints who have gone before us and the whole church on earth, we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:
- All: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts; heaven and earth are full of your glory. Glory be to you, O Lord Most High!

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Prayer of Preparation & Faith

We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your steadfast love, which endures forever. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord, whose character is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Father, to partake of the body and blood of your son Jesus Christ, that we may grow into his likeness, and evermore abide in union with him, and he with us. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Bread

Pastor: Alleluia, Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us:

All: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

‡Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Wine

Pastor: Let us confess the mystery of our faith:

All: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again!

GOD COMMISSIONS US

†Prayer of Dedication

All gracious God, who of your infinite love gave your only begotten son, Jesus Christ, to die for our sins and rise again for our justification, and have made us partakers of your divine nature through the gift of the Holy Spirit; accept the fruits of our labors which we now present to you in this offering and also our very selves as we stand before you; and hear us as we pray as your Son taught us: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen!

†Hymn of Praise

"Shout, for the Blessed Jesus Reigns"..... Selection 369

†Pastoral Benediction

Pastor: The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.

People: Amen!

†Those who are able are invited to stand

Genesis 7:1-24

[1] Then the Lord said to Noah, "Go into the ark, you and all your household, for I have seen that you are righteous before me in this generation. [2] Take with you seven pairs of all clean animals, the male and his mate, and a pair of the animals that are not clean, the male and his mate, [3] and seven pairs of the birds of the heavens also, male and female, to keep their offspring alive on the face of all the earth. [4] For in seven days I will send rain on the earth forty days and forty nights, and every living thing that I have made I will blot out from the face of the ground." [5] And Noah did all that the Lord had commanded him.

[6] Noah was six hundred years old when the flood of waters came upon the earth. [7] And Noah and his sons and his wife and his sons' wives with him went into the ark to escape the waters of the flood. [8] Of clean animals, and of animals that are not clean, and of birds, and of everything that creeps on the ground, [9] two and two, male and female, went into the ark with Noah, as God had commanded Noah. [10] And after seven days the waters of the flood came upon the earth.

[11] In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the fountains of the great deep burst forth, and the windows of the heavens were opened. [12] And rain fell upon the earth forty days and forty nights. [13] On the very same day Noah and his sons, Shem and Ham and Japheth, and Noah's wife and the three wives of his sons with them entered the ark, [14] they and every beast, according to its kind, and all the livestock according to their kinds, and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, according to its kind, and every bird, according to its kind, every winged creature. [15] They went into the ark with Noah, two and two of all flesh in which there was the breath of life. [16] And those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him. And the Lord shut him in.

[17] The flood continued forty days on the earth. The waters increased and bore up the ark, and it rose high above the earth. [18] The waters prevailed and increased greatly on the earth, and the ark floated on the face of the waters. [19] And the waters prevailed so mightily on the earth that all the high mountains under the whole heaven were covered. [20] The waters prevailed above the mountains, covering them fifteen cubits deep. [21] And all flesh died that moved on the earth, birds, livestock, beasts, all swarming creatures that swarm on the earth, and all mankind. [22] Everything on the dry land in whose nostrils was the breath of life died. [23] He blotted out every living thing that was on the face of the ground, man and animals and creeping things and birds of the heavens. They were blotted out from the earth. Only Noah was left, and those who were with him in the ark. [24] And the waters prevailed on the earth 150 days.

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3rd Sunday Before Easter

March 19, 2023