

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday 9:00 a.m.

March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025

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### **FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT**

***Makes You Want to Sing!***

#### **AS WE GATHER**

Today's service is inspired by the Old Testament Reading of Isaiah, the First Song of Isaiah: "Sing praises to the LORD, for He has done gloriously; let this be made known in all the earth" (Isaiah 12:5). Today we take that admonition literally as not only the liturgy is sung but also the Readings are expanded with hymn stanzas. "Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel" (Isaiah 12:6). In the joy of the faithful father in Jesus' parable of the prodigal son, the forgiveness of our sin and reconciliation with God as His baptized sons and daughters, well, it just makes you want to sing! So we shall!

#### **✠ PREPARATION ✠**

#### **OPENING HYMN**

*The King of Love My Shepherd Is*

LSB 709

#### **INVOCATION**

P: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

#### **OPENING SENTENCES** *Isaiah 12:2*

P: Behold, God is my salvation;

C: **I will trust, and will not be afraid;**

P: for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song,

C: **and He has become my salvation.**

#### **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION** *1 Corinthians 10:13; Psalm 96:2*

P: Beloved in the Lord, Paul reassures us, saying, "No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and He will not let you be tempted beyond your ability." Let us with confidence and gladness enter God's presence, confessing our sins and receiving His grace, assurance, and forgiveness.

C: **Lord God, we are exceedingly glad to enter Your house this day, for we have heard and believe in the invitation of Your loving kindness and redemption through Jesus Christ, Your Son. In the trust and hope of the faith You have given us as Your baptized children, we**

**confess to You all our sins and failures to share Your gifts of mercy with others. Grant us the forgiveness for which we ask and give us a renewed heart and spirit to sing Your praises in worship of You and to the joy of all.**

P: "Sing to the LORD, bless His name; tell of His salvation from day to day."  
Upon this, your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✕ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

**✕ WORD ✕**

**INTROIT** *Psalm 51:2-6; antiphon: v. 1*

P: Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love; according to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

**C: Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!**

P: For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

**C: Against You, You only, have I sinned and done what is evil in Your sight, so that You may be justified in Your words and blameless in Your judgment.**

P: Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me.

**C: Behold, You delight in truth in the inward being, and You teach me wisdom in the secret heart.**

**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.**

P: Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love; according to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

**KYRIE**

*Kyrie! God, Father*

*LSB 942*

**SALUTATION**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray.

**ALL: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Isaiah 12:1-6*

*("The LORD GOD is my strength and my song.")*

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## EPISTLE

*2 Corinthians 5:16-21*

*(A new creation)*

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## VERSE *Luke 15:22a, 24a*

P: The father said to his servants,

**C: "This my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found."**

## HOLY GOSPEL

*Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32*

*(The Parable of the Prodigal Son)*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fifteenth chapter.

**C: Glory be to You, O Lord.**

*(The Word is read.)*

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise be to You, O Christ.**

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*In the Cross of Christ I Glory*

*LSB 427*

## SERMON THEME

*"The Power of the Cross"*

### TEXT

*1 Corinthians 1:18, 22-25*

## APOSTLES' CREED

*(Back inside cover of hymnal)*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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

You are God; we praise You.

**C: You are the Lord; we acclaim You,**

P: You are the eternal Father;

**C: all creation worships You.**

P: To You all angels, all the powers of heaven, sing in endless praise.

**C: The glorious company of apostles praise You.**

P: The noble fellowship of prophets praise You.

**C: The white-robed army of martyrs praise You.**

P: You, Christ, are the king of glory, the eternal Son of the Father.

**C: You became man to set us free,**

P: You overcame the sting of death and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

**C: You are seated at God's right hand in glory.**

P: Lord God, we pray for Your whole church on earth. Grant that Your life-giving, life-sustaining Word be rightly proclaimed and firmly believed, that many may come to repentance and faith and the eternal life of Your new creation. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: For Your whole creation, we praise and glorify You, almighty God. Let Your blessing be upon seedtime and harvest, commerce and industry, and all the realm of our life together as a nation. Preserve us, O Lord, in justice and honor that we may live in peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: For all who are in any need, the sick, the hospitalized, the homebound; for the lonely and abandoned; for the oppressed and the afflicted, come to all with healing, hope, and restoration of freedom and health. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

*Other intercessions may be added here.*

P: Throughout the world the holy church acclaims You:

**C: Father, of majesty unbounded;**

P: Your true and only Son, worthy of all worship;

**C: and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.**

P: Come, then, Lord, and help Your people, bought with the price of Your own blood,

**C: and bring us with Your saints to glory everlasting. Amen.**

**LORD'S PRAYER**     *Matthew 6:9–13*

**BENEDICAMUS**

P: Bless we the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**BENEDICTION**     *Numbers 6:24–26*

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✕ give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN**

*My Song Is Love Unknown*

*LSB 430*