

Sunday, March 3rd, 2024 * 9:30 AM * INPERSON and ONLINE



3rd SUNDAY OF LENT

Introduction

TODAY'S THEME: 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.

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US FOR SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

Print out your bulletin or use it on your phone or tablet to follow along. Announcements are televised or found on our website.

Be creative how you worship and remember God during this time. It will calm your soul, give you peace and enliven your spirit.

Our community gathers in unity with others in-person and a virtual way. We hope all people find it easy to follow along.

<u>GOD GATHERS US</u>

Announcements are found on our website

PRELUDE

Heavenly Peace

We invite you to read/respond to the texts, pray the prayers, using this as a meditation guide all week long.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Introduction and Installation of Vision Team Dallas Peters, Kurt Redemann, Tricia Painter, Nancy Schnaitman, Cathy Linquist

Pastor: Prayers for Vision Team

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus.

All: Amen.

P: Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy God,

C: we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord.

All: Amen.

P: Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through + Jesus Christ.

All: Amen.

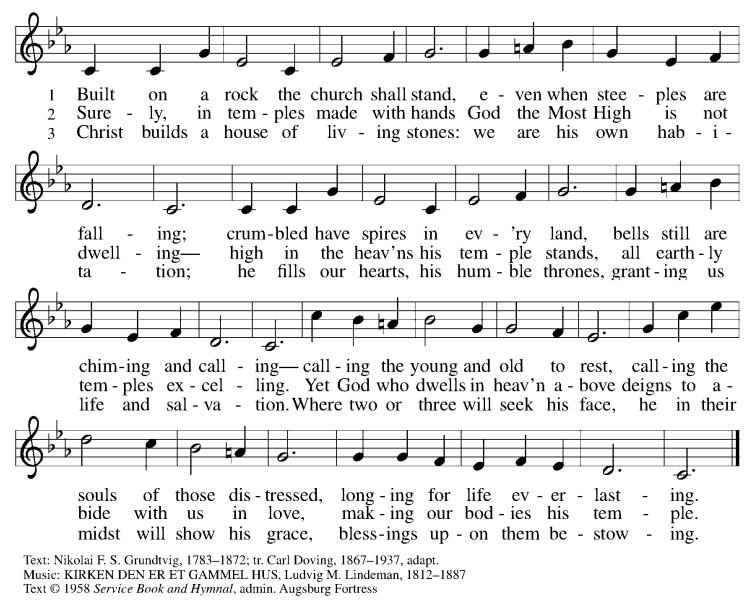
OPENING SONG

Built on a Rock

ELW 652, v.1-3 Red Hymnal

Built on a Rock

ELW 562 v 1-3



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GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **All: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray... Holy God,

C: 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. Amen.

SHARING OF PEACE

P: God has received us, pardoned us and loved us; let us forgive each other in love and share the peace of Christ. Peace be with you.

C: And you also.

Share the peace with each other either by a wave or a bow.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

FIRST READING:

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

The word of the cross is pure foolishness and nonsense to the world because it claims that God is mostly revealed in weakness, humiliation, and death. But through such divine foolishness and weakness, God is working to save us. The center of Paul's preaching is Christ crucified.

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,

- "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
- and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

P: Word of God; Word of Life. All: Thanks be to God.

(Please rise for the reading of the Gospel)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John All: Glory to you O Lord

THE HOLY 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.

¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making 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. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" ¹⁹Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ²⁰The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After 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: This is the Gospel of the Lord. **All: Praise to You O Christ!**

MESSAGE FOR ALL

Pastor David Mercurio

SONG OF DAY Oh, that the Lord would Guide My Ways ELW 772 Red Hymnal

Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways ELW 772



Music: EVAN, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

APOSTLES' CREED

P: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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.

OFFERING IS WELCOMED

P: Jesus,

C: you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name. Amen.

(An offering will be taken before the prayer.)

Offertory Music

Consolation

Mendelssohn

PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

See list of those Grace is currently praying for at end of this document or online. Please let us know your prayer needs.



Please respond accordingly

P: Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the wellbeing of creation, and a world in need.

A brief silence.

P: You alone are God. We thank you for the gift of sabbath rest. Awaken the church to the mystery of your presence and give us glad hearts as we receive the good news of your deliverance. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: You renew creation. Drive out those who would make the earth a den of thieves. Protect rainforests, mountaintops, oceans, and wilderness areas from commercial exploitation. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: You judge the nations. We pray for an end to war and strife in every land. Strengthen international efforts to negotiate peace and provide humanitarian aid to people fleeing from conflict. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: You bring healing and hope. We give thanks for physicians, nurses, researchers, therapists, and public health workers who prevent and treat illness. We pray for any who are sick. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: You abide with your people. Sustain any in this community undergoing life transitions: marriage, divorce, childbirth, adoption, moving, graduation, employment change, or a death in the family. We pray for those preparing for baptism. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: You bring life from death. We remember our loved ones who have died, confident that they have new life in you. May we trust that nothing can separate us from your love. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

All: Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

P: Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come!

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: We lift them in the Spirit's love.

P: Let us give thanks to our Triune God.

ALL: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O God. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all who believe in

Him should not perish. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his Holy Supper.

P: WORDS OF INSTITUTION

ALL: 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

P: These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

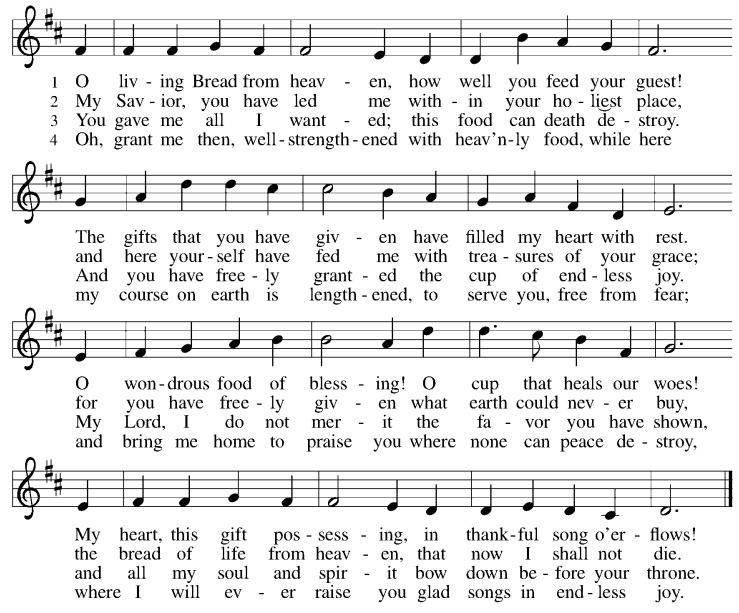
All: Thanks be to God

TAKE AND EAT OF THE BREAD AND CUP

Communion hymns: O Living Bread from Heaven

ELW 542 Red Hymnal

O Living Bread from Heaven ELW 542



Text: Johann Rist, 1607–1667; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt. Music: AURELIA, Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–1876

Thine the Amen

ELW 826 Red Hymnal



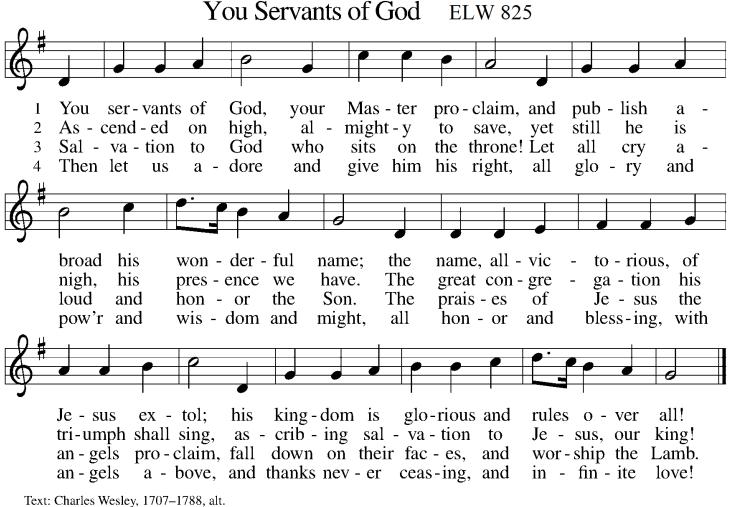
Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926 Music: THINE, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929

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You Servants of God

ELW 825 Red Hymnal



Music: LYONS, attr. Johann Michael Haydn, 1737–1806

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Generous God,

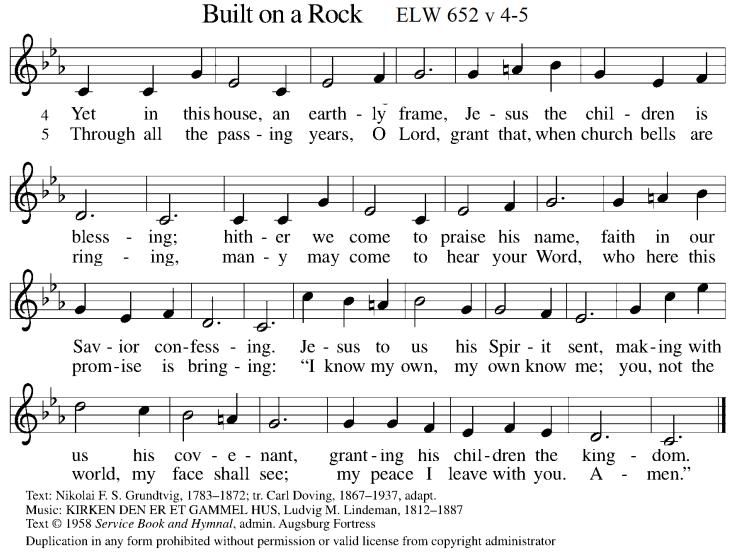
C: at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.

All: Amen.

CLOSING SONG

Built on a Rock

ELW 652, v. 4-5 Red Hymnal



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GOD SENDS US

BLESSING

P: Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and + give you peace.

All: Amen.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Share your bread. All: Thanks be to God

POSTLUDE

O Living Bread from Heaven

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ADDITIONAL WEEKLY LECTIONARY LESSON Exodus 20:1-17 The commandments are given at Sinai Psalm 19 The commandment of the LORD gives light to the eyes. (Ps. 19:8)

3/3/24 ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP MASKING-Update We have been sitting at a social distance as we have felt comfortable in the sanctuary. Please continue Masking at your comfort level.

ALTAR FLOWERS There will be no flowers on the altar for Lent.

THE 2024 FLOWER CHART is up and on the wall in the Gathering Room. The price for 2024 will be \$20.

REBECCA CIRCLE FRONTIER SOUP SALE-every week. See display in Narthex.

REBECCA CIRCLE LUNCHEON & MTG Will be held on March 19th at 12:30pm

MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP Will be held at on March 28th, 7pm at Grace

<u>GOOD FRIDAY COMMUNITY WORSHIP</u> Will be held on March 29th, 7pm at Lily Lake Congregational Church

EASTER EGG HUNT on Sat., March 30th at Lily Lake Park

EASTER WORSHIP Will be at Grace on March 30th at 9:30am

EASTER BREAKFAST will be held at Grace between 8:30am – 1pm. Please see Grace's webpage for more info: <u>www.graceoflilylake.com</u>

LINE DANCING continues on Wednesdays, from 6 – 7pm.

SCOUT PANCAKE BREAKFAST Donation received from Troops 46 and 946 was \$1054.63. *Many thanks to the Troops!*

SUNDAY SCHOOL Sunday school meets today, March 3rd and continues on the first and third Sundays of the month through May 2024.

LENTEN BIBLE STUDIES are held on Saturdays at 3pm thru March 16th, and also on Wednesdays at noon (with soup lunch) thru March 20th, led by Pastor David. See Grace webpage for more info www.graceoflilylake.com.

LECTORS ARE NEEDED for readings during our service. Please look for the clipboard. Thank you for your assistance in our service.

NOISY OFFERING We collect a Noisy Offering whenever you wish to empty your change purse or pockets! Our next project we are collecting for is for our office copier repair or replacement. Thank you for your support!

BRIDGE TO LIFE DONATIONS The Bridge to Life Group continues to collect donations for the Elgin homeless. For details see the newsletter or Cathy Whiteside. *Thank you for your generous donations!*

OFFERINGS & FAITHFUL GIVING FOR THE MINISTRIES AT GRACE

We are thankful for your 2024 offerings and donations. Offerings received as of 2/26: \$3,435. Our weekly donation needs are ~ \$3,400 (we are still tweaking the numbers since 2024 budget approval).

~ Blessings upon Grace in our 130th year of ministry ~

VISIT OUR Website <u>www.graceoflilylake.com</u> FOR THE LATEST NEWS AND SERVICES Get ALL the news you NEED there – including our weekly services

Our FACEBOOK PAGE for activities and posts of interest:

https://www.facebook.com/GraceOfLilyLake/

630-365-6751

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE WHOLE CHURCH

- * God's Church in all time and place, that God be seen and heard.
- * As we face these times both together and while apart, keep us from fear, suffering and death.
- * Ministries of the ELCA and Metro Chicago Synod, especially Bishop Yehiel Curry.
- * Efforts of Lutheran World Relief, ELCA World Hunger, and Disaster Relief

FOR THE WORLD

- * For every living person facing the threat of coronavirus it affects us all, our loved ones and our worldwide neighbors together.
- * For the healing of the divisions in our Nation.

FOR OUR CONGREGATION

- * For God's Spirit to guide the Vision Team, and whole congregation as we face transition and change.
- * As we plan regarding the future of our congregation.

FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY (members, relatives, and friends of members of our congregation)

- * Adam & Julia Sajdak, grandson & granddaughter in law of Bill and Lori U'Ren
- * Nathan Sajdak, grandson of Bill and Lori U'Ren
- * William Delmer, grandson of Kirk and Kathy Hooey
- * David Brazee, Grandson of Steve and Cathy Lindquist

(If you know of someone currently serving our country, please share their information with the Church office.)

FOR ALL

- * The continued support of our members
- * For all members of healthcare around the world
- * For those serving as first responders and in the military
- * For our Nation, that extend peace in all things.

FOR THOSE SICK IN BODY, MIND OR SPIRIT... Andrew Kinsel and his family in Ukraine, Bob Acker, Fred Alstadt, Barb Asher, Joanna Alverado/Klaus, Vicki Barclay, Aina Baumanis, Makenzie Bay, Viola Bradshaw, Jim (brother of Rita Burnham), Jane Cutler, Ken Deutschmann, Alexa Diehl, Natalia Diehl, David Diehl (Kelly's cousin), Jan Docherty, Rebecca Eagen, Ted Ellingsen, Pat Eineke, Marge Granquist, Lucille Hammers (Cathy Lindquist's sister), Joyce Helander and Jim Serafin, Howard (friend of Alexa Diehl), Rich Jackson, Manfred Kaufmann, Paul and Kay Kinsel, Marlene Klingner, Bob Koehling, Katie Kozeva, Pastor Dave and Carol Langseth, Ray Larsen, Gay Leslie, Pat and Chili Lindgren, Cathy Lindquist, Sherry Manke, Janelle McDonald, Joan Mortenson, Linda Mowers (sister-in-law to Pat Lindgren), Ray Navarro, Bob Nelson, Alaina Neufeld, Ed Nordwind, Oksana & her sister Maria (friends of Natalia Diehl), Donald Overby, Carol Prevenas, Kirk Reardon, Nancy and John Schaefer, John Schnaitman, Tia Thorne, Shirley and Norm Turner, Crystal Vines, Cordelia Vogel, Pastor Arne Walker, Kristy Weydert, Wayne Whiteside, Kelly Wilken & her family (Missy Barton's sister), Ron & Sharon Wilken (Missy Barton's parents), Bud Wise, & Barbara Zegiel.

Our thoughts and prayers to the Morris family on the passing of George Morris on Feb. 27th. We will let you know as soon as arrangements are completed.

If you have requested that anyone (including yourself) be put on Grace's prayer list, thank you for your faith in our work of prayer! In order to keep our list current and accurate, we would like to hear from you regarding the need for continued prayer, praises and new requests. You may place these in a note in the offering plate, leave them on the answering machine at church (630-365-6751) or speak with Pastor or Kathy Hooey. Aren't we blessed to have a God who listens and cares!

ALSO - Do you know someone who could use a reminder of our prayers and God's constant love? We have lovely **prayer shawls** all ready for delivery. Just see a Rebecca Circle member.

Please let us know your prayer requests for inclusion in our public prayers. Type them in the comments or send them to the church office via our prayer card on our website.