

Hymn of Invocation Drawn to the Cross, Which Thou Hast Blessed 560

+ The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism +

INTROIT PSALM 116

Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly people, from the deceitful and unjust man deliver me! I love the LORD, because he has heard my voice and my pleas for mercy. Because he inclined his ar to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live. The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish. Then I called on the name of the LORD: "O LORD, I pray, deliver my soul!"

For you have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling. Glory 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. Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly people, from the deceitful and unjust man deliver me!

<u> PSALM 11</u>

How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to Your word. With my whole heart I seek You; let me not wander from your commandments! I have stored up Your word in my heart, that I might not sin against You. Blessed are You, O Lord; teach me Your statutes! With my lips I declare all the just decrees of Your mouth. In the way of Your testimonies I delight as much as in all riches. I will meditate on Your precepts and and fix my eyes on Your ways. I will delight in Your statutes, I will not forget Your word.

Glory 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. Let me not wander from Your commandments!

<u>APPOINTED READINGS 17 MARCH 2024</u> Jeremiah 31:31–34 Hebrews 5:1–10 Mark 10:(32–34) 35–45

In the Holy Sacraments, We Share the Glory of the Cross of Christ

- Jesus catechizes His disciples in the way of the cross, revealing that He will be condemned and put to death "and after three days he will rise" (Mark 10:33–34). But the Twelve do not understand. Instead, they argue among themselves about who will be the greatest, with James and John requesting the places of honor on either side of Jesus in His glory. However, Jesus has come to make Himself the "slave of all" and "to give his life as a ransom for many" (Mark 10:43–45). He shares the true glory of His cross with all who are baptized with His Baptism and with those who drink His cup of salvation, the New Testament in His blood (Mark 10:39).
- By these Holy Sacraments, the Lord makes Himself known to all His people, forgiving their sins "from the least of them to the greatest" (Jer. 31:33–34).
- Though He is the very Son of God, "he learned obedience through what he suffered" and so became our great High Priest, that we may enter His glory by the way of His sacrifice (Heb. 5:8–10).

CONFESSION OF OUR COMMON FAITH: THE NICENE CREED

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<u>SERMON NOTES</u>

The Son of Man Came to Give His Life Mark 10:42-45

But Jesus called them to Himself and said to them, "You know that those who are considered rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant. And whoever of you desires to be first shall be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

In both His teaching and saving action, Jesus shows that following the ways of this world leads to strife and senseless suffering while He alone leads us on the path of life where we find fullness of joy and freedom from fear.

- 1. Their "great ones" exercise authority over them
 - 1. We still strive for positions of power and influence
 - 2. The world knows only how to profit at another's expense
- 2. Christ calls us to contrast with the ways of this age
 - 1. Yet it shall not be so among you
 - 2. Success comes through serving others
- 3. Christ leads us on the path of life to fullness of joy
 - 1. The Son of Man came to give His life for us
 - 2. In His life we find joy and freedom from fear

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT 17 MARCH 2024

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

Heavenly Father, pour out Your Holy Spirit and write Your Word on our hearts, that we may know You as the God who forgives our iniquities and remembers our sins no more. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, bless and sustain, Matthew, our Synod president; Roger, our district president; Steve our circuit visitor; and our pastor(s), who like all flesh are beset with weakness. Grant that they would deal with us gently, and keep them faithful to proclaim Your Word. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, Your Son came not to be served but to serve. Help us not lord our authority over one another, but humbly serve one another in our homes, communities and congregation as Christ has so humbly served us. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Heavenly Father, look with mercy on ______ and all earthly authorities. Guard them from the temptation to wield earthly power improperly. Lead them to serve faithfully according to Your good and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, as Your only begotten Son learned obedience though what He suffered, we pray that You would instruct, bless and relieve Your servants *[including*

Heavenly Father, Your Son stands before You as our great High Priest. By Your Spirit, prepare our hearts to worthily receive the body and blood of our Savior, who was sacrificed for us on the cross for the forgiveness of our sins. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn Glory Be to Jesus 433