Readings. Prayers, Sermon Notes, Psalms, Hymns To Study and Share with those You Love.

WEEK OF MARCH 10, 2024 CONCORDIA

Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod 725 Truxton Drive, Kingsport, TN. concordiakingsport/facebook 10:30am



As Moses lifted up the bronze serpent, so Christ was lifted up that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

John 3

Hymn of Invocation

I Trust, O Christ, in You Alone 972

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

INTROIT PSALM 27

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war arise against me, yet I will be confident. One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple. For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high upon a rock. 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. The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

PSALM 107

Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever! Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom he has redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south. Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no way to a city to dwell in; hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them. Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress. He led them by a straight way till they reached a city to dwell in. Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love, for his wondrous works to the children of men! For he satisfies the longing soul, and the hungry soul he fills with good things.

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. Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and He saved them from their distress.

APPOINTED READINGS 10 MARCH 2024

Numbers 21:4-9

Ephesians 2:1–10

John 3:14-21

Jesus Is Lifted Up on the Cross so that We May Look to Him and Live

- The people sinned by speaking "against God and against Moses," and the Lord called them to repentance by sending fiery serpents, which "bit the people, so that many people of Israel died" (Num. 21:4–6). When the people confessed their sin, the Lord provided a means of rescue from death. He instructed Moses to "make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole," so that "if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live" (Num. 21:8–9).
- Thus, God sent His Son into the world, in the likeness of our sin and death, and lifted Him up on the pole of the cross, that whoever looks to Him in faith "may have eternal life" (John 3:14–16). By His cross, "the light has come into the world," not for condemnation, but "that the world might be saved through him" (John 3:17–19).
- While we "were dead in the trespasses and sins" in which we once lived (Eph. 2:1), God loved us, calling us to repentance and raising us up with Christ to live "with him in the heavenly places" (Eph. 2:4–6).

CONFESSION OF OUR COMMON FAITH: THE NICENE CREED

Hymn of the Day God Loved the World So That He Gave 571

SERMON NOTES The Son of Man must be lifted up John 3:14-15

And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

Despite our incessant impatience with God and His ways, He not only convicts us of our sin but provides the antidote for the venomous serpent by looking at the Son of Man lifted up on the cross.

- 1. We are incessantly impatient with God and His ways
 - 1. Israel's history of rebellion and unbelief
 - 2. How ironic our impatience with God and each other!
- 2. Fiery serpents come not to punish but to convict us of our sin
 - The wages of sin is not only death but desire denied
 We confess the calamity is our own doing
- 3. In lifting up His Son, God provides the antidote to evil
 - 1. The mysterious divine necessity of the Cross
 - 2. By grace, saving faith delivers us from death to life eternal

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT 10 MARCH 2024

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

O Lord God, draw us into Your light. Expose wherever we, like Your people of old, have thought, spoken and acted against You, that in repentance we might look to Your Son lifted up on the cross and be saved from Your righteous wrath. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lord of hosts, You gave Your only Son so that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. Bless the work of missionaries as they carry this Gospel to the ends of the earth, that many may hear of Your love in Christ Jesus and be saved through Him. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Almighty God, You have set Joe, our president, and , Bill our governor, as authorities over us for our good. Bless and sustain them with all they need to govern us, that we might be ruled wisely and in accord with Your will. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Heavenly Father, You had Moses lift up the bronze serpent in the wilderness, thereby foreshadowing Your own Son's lifting up on the cross. Teach us to hear in the Old Testament the promises and pictures of the coming Christ, who is their Savior and ours. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

| O God, You are our light and our salvation. Hide in Your shelter [|
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| and all who suffer in body, mind or soul. Keep |
| them in their day of trouble from falling into faithless fear, and uphold them with Your peace in Christ |
| Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer. |

O Lord, whose steadfast love endures forever, we lift up our voices in thanksgiving. You have redeemed us out of trouble and gathered us here to feed us, that our souls may not faint within us. Satisfy the longing of our hearts with Your Son's good things, His body and blood, that we may abide in Your eternal peace. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Gracious Lord, You have made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our trespasses and sins. Cause Your Spirit to be at work in us, that we may not carry out the sinful desires of our bodies and minds, but be Your workmanship in Christ Jesus, walking in the good works He has prepared for us. 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.