

Third Sunday in Lent
March 7, 2021

Faith Lutheran Church

Online

Georgetown, TX 78628

512-863-7332

flcms.org

(The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod)

WELCOME

TEMPLE TALK: Faith Senior Adult Ministries—Vicar John Cotner

INVOCATION:

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP: *Psalm 19:1, 7, 8b, 9a, 14*

Pastor: The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims His handiwork.

People: The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul;

Pastor: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple;

People: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes

Pastor: the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever.

People: May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

Pastor: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

People: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

OPENING HYMN: “To Your Temple, Lord, I Come” (Lutheran Service Book, #981, vs 1-3, 5)

To Your temple, Lord, I come,
For it is my worship home.
This earth has no better place,
Here I see my Savior’s face.

I through Him am reconciled,
I through Him become Your child.

Abba, Father, give me grace
In Your courts Your love to trace.

While Your glorious praise is sung,
Touch my lips, unloose my tongue
That my joyful soul may bless
Christ the Lord, my righteousness.

While I listen to Your Law,
Fill my soul with humble awe
Till Your Gospel bring to me
Life and immortality.

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CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION: (incorporating Psalm 19:12 and 13b)

Pastor: Beloved in the Lord, by divine inspiration the psalmist asks, "Who can discern his errors?" From the holy scriptures we learn that there is in us by nature more sin than we know. Some of our violations of God's holy law we acknowledge and confess, but more remain unknown and unrecognized. In repentance that grieves over all sin we turn to God and pray, "'Declare me innocent from hidden faults.'"

People: Holy God, from Whom nothing is secret, pardon the whole of our disobedience, not just the offenses we number to our shame but also the deeper offenses known only to You. Wash us so completely in the blood of Your Son, Jesus Christ, that we may "be blameless and innocent of great transgression." We ask this in His name. Amen.

Pastor: Fear not, dear ones! The cross of Christ towers over the earth and reaches to the heavens. By His death Jesus has secured Your forgiveness, by His resurrection He has opened Paradise to you. As a called and ordained minister of this gospel, and with the authority the risen Lord bestowed on His Church, I, therefore, forgive you all your sin in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray.

People: Lord Jesus Christ, the Power and Wisdom of God, we bow before You in amazement and devotion. To save this fallen world from death and hell You became weak, low, and despised. On the cross You obeyed the law of God in full, loving sinners more than self and shedding Your blood to redeem and restore God's creation. Grant us Your Spirit, we pray, that we also set self aside to serve others in willing and loving humility. Amen.

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING: *Exodus 20:1–17*

And God spoke all these words, saying,

“I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

“You shall have no other gods before Me.

“You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate Me, but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love Me and keep My commandments.

“You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain.

“Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

“Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

“You shall not murder.

“You shall not commit adultery.

“You shall not steal.

“You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

“You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's.”

RESPONSORY: Psalm 19:9b,11

Lector: The rules of the LORD are true, and righteous altogether.

People: Moreover, by them Your servant is warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

EPISTLE READING: 1 Corinthians 1:18–31

The word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

Where 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? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom and our righteousness and sanctification and redemption. Therefore, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

RESPONSORY: Psalm 19:13

Lector: Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous sins;

People: let them not have dominion over me!

Lector: Please rise, as you are able.

Lector: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 2nd chapter:

People: Glory to You, O Lord!

GOSPEL READING: *John 2:13–22*

The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple He found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting there. And making a whip of cords, He drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and oxen. And He poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. And He told those who sold the pigeons, “Take these things away; do not make My Father’s house a house of trade.” His disciples remembered that it was written, “Zeal for Your house will consume Me.”

So the Jews said to Him, “What sign do you show us for doing these things?” Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” The Jews then said, “It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?” But He was speaking about the temple of His body. When therefore 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.

Lector: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ!

Lector: We confess together our Christian faith, using the Apostles' Creed

CONFESSION OF FAITH: The Apostles' Creed

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

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen!

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

The Children’s Message will return to its regularly scheduled place when we are able to increase the length of the worship service. Until then, it is available online at www.flcms.org/index.php/media/sermons.

HYMN: “The Law of God is Good and Wise” (LSB, #579, verses 1-3, 5-6)

The Law of God is good and wise
And sets His will before our eyes,
Shows us the way of righteousness,
And dooms to death when we transgress.

Its light of holiness imparts
The knowledge of our sinful hearts
That we may see our lost estate
And turn from sin before too late.

To those who help in Christ have found
And would in works of love abound
It shows what deeds are His delight
And should be done as good and right.

The Law is good; but since the fall
Its holiness condemns us all;
It dooms us for our sin to die
And has no pow’r to justify.

To Jesus we for refuge flee,
Who from the curse has set us free,
And humbly worship at His throne,
Saved by His grace through faith alone.

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SERMON: “The Power of Influence” (Exodus 20:1-17)

OFFERTORY:

While the Coronavirus may have changed the way we come through the front doors of church, thanks be to God it has not prevented us from coming to Church! Please consider, as you are able, returning thanks and giving today at www.flcms.org/index.php/give.

OFFERTORY HYMN: “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” (LSB, #425, verse 2)

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
Save in the death of Christ, my God;
All the vain things that charm me most,

I sacrifice them to His blood.

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PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

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.

BENEDICTION: *(Numbers 6:24-26)*

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you;
the Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: "May We Thy Precepts, Lord, Fulfill" (LSB, #698)

May we Thy precepts, Lord, fulfill
And do on earth our Father's will
As angels do above;
Still walk in Christ, the living way,
With all Thy children and obey
The law of Christian love.

So may we join Thy name to bless,
Thy grace adore, Thy pow'r confess,
From sin and strife to flee.
One is our calling, one our name,
The end of all our hopes the same,
A crown of life with Thee.

Spirit of life, of love and peace,
Unite our hearts, our joy increase,
Thy gracious help supply.
To each of us the blessing give
In Christian fellowship to live,

In joyful hope to die.

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DISMISSAL:

Please be seated
and kindly wait for an usher to dismiss your row.

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Go in peace and serve the Lord!

In Christian Service:

All disciples of the Lord Jesus
with

Proclaimer – Rev. Bill Crowe
Liturgist – Rev. Walt Pohland

Musicians:

Adam Perez and Austin Angerman

Organist:

Leland Frese

Lay Readers:

Online Reader – Nicky Shepherd

9:30 Reader – Joanna Roche

11:00 Reader – Rick Schmidt

Children's Chapel:

DCE Jonathan Loesch, DCE Austin Angerman