

**Saturday & Sunday, February 20 & 21, 2021**  
**First Sunday in Lent**  
**ELW Holy Communion**  
**5:30pm and 10am**

**PRELUDE**

*Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross* –James Denton arr.  
Connie Webber

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

• **Temple Talk**

*40 Days, 40 Items Challenge*  
Karma Magnuson

**GATHERING SONG**

*Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service*  
(ELW 712) vs. 1,2,4

1 Lord, whose love in humble service  
bore the weight of human need,  
who upon the cross, forsaken,  
worked your mercy's perfect deed:  
we, your servants, bring the worship  
not of voice alone, but heart;  
consecrating to your purpose  
ev'ry gift which you impart.

2 Still your children wander homeless;  
still the hungry cry for bread;  
still the captives long for freedom;  
still in grief we mourn our dead.  
As you, Lord, in deep compassion  
healed the sick and freed the soul,  
by your Spirit send your power  
to our world to make it whole.

4 Called by worship to your service,  
forth in your dear name we go,  
to the child, the youth, the aged,  
love in living deeds to show;  
hope and health, good will and comfort,  
counsel, aid and peace we give,  
that your servants, Lord, in freedom  
may your mercy know and live.

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## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

**C** **Amen.**

Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hid:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you  
and worthily magnify your holy name,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God,  
**we confess**  
**that we are captive to sin**  
**and cannot free ourselves.**  
**We have sinned against you**  
**in thought, word, and deed,**  
**by what we have done**  
**and by what we have left undone.**  
**We have not loved you**  
**with our whole heart;**  
**we have not loved**  
**our neighbors as ourselves.**  
**For the sake**  
**of your Son, Jesus Christ,**  
**have mercy on us.**  
**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,**  
**so that we may delight in your will**  
**and walk in your ways,**  
**to the glory of your holy name.**  
**Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God,  
Jesus Christ was given to die for us,  
and for his sake  
God forgives us all our sins.  
As a called and ordained minister  
of the church of Christ,  
and by his authority,  
I therefore declare to all of us  
the entire forgiveness of all our sins,  
in the name of the Father,  
and of the ✠ Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

## GREETING

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

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** Let us pray.

*A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

Holy God, heavenly Father, in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin. Renew us in the gift of baptism. May your holy angels be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## HYMN OF CONTEMPLATION

*Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love*  
(ELW 708)

*Refrain*

Jesu, Jesu,  
fill us with your love,  
show us how to serve  
the neighbors we have from you.

1 Kneels at the feet of his friends,  
silently washes their feet,  
master who acts as a slave to them. *Refrain*

2 Neighbors are wealthy and poor,  
varied in color and race,  
neighbors are near us and far away. *Refrain*

3 These are the ones we will serve,  
these are the ones we will love;  
all these are neighbors to us and you. *Refrain*

4 Kneel at the feet of our friends,  
silently washing their feet:  
this is the way we will live with you. *Refrain*  
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## **FIRST READING: Isaiah 66:1-2**

**LWA** A reading from Isaiah.

<sup>1</sup>Thus says the LORD:  
Heaven is my throne  
and the earth is my footstool;  
what is the house that you would build for me,  
and what is my resting place?  
<sup>2</sup>All these things my hand has made,  
and so all these things are mine,  
says the LORD.  
But this is the one to whom I will look,  
to the humble and contrite in spirit,  
who trembles at my word.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 113:1-7**

**LWA** Please read responsively, Psalm 113

*(LWA, on Sunday morning, please read the response out loud also... for those listening on the radio)*

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! Give praise, you servants of the LORD;  
praise the name of the LORD.

<sup>2</sup>**Let the name of the LORD be blessed,  
from this time forth forevermore.**

<sup>3</sup>From the rising of the sun to its going down  
let the name of the LORD be praised.

<sup>4</sup>**The LORD is high above all nations;  
God's glory above the heavens.**

<sup>5</sup>Who is like the LORD our God,  
who sits enthroned on high,

<sup>6</sup>**but stoops to behold  
the heavens and the earth?**

<sup>7</sup>The LORD takes up the weak out of the dust  
and lifts up the poor from the ashes,

**SECOND READING: James 4:6-10**

**LWA** A reading from James.

<sup>6</sup>But he gives all the more grace; therefore it says,  
"God opposes the proud,  
but gives grace to the humble."

<sup>7</sup>Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. <sup>8</sup>Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. <sup>9</sup>Lament and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned into mourning and your joy into dejection. <sup>10</sup>Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**LWA** Please stand to welcome the Gospel.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Lord, Be Glorified*  
(ELW 744)

1 In my life, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;  
in my life, Lord, be glorified today.

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## GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1-4

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. <sup>2</sup>Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

<sup>3</sup>"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup>"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## SERMON

### HYMN OF THE DAY

*There Is a Balm in Gilead*  
(ELW 614)

*Refrain*

There is a balm in Gilead  
to make the wounded whole;  
there is a balm in Gilead  
to heal the sin-sick soul.

1 Sometimes I feel discouraged  
and think my work's in vain,  
but then the Holy Spirit  
revives my soul again. *Refrain*

2 If you cannot preach like Peter,  
if you cannot pray like Paul,  
you can tell the love of Jesus  
and say, "He died for all." *Refrain*

3 Don't ever be discouraged,  
for Jesus is your friend;  
and if you lack for knowledge  
he'll ne'er refuse to lend. *Refrain*  
*No Permission Required*

## **CREED**

**P** God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we 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 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.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

**LWA** Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

**LWA** In Jesus your realm has come near to us in every place and time. Give your church throughout the world a spirit of humility and repentance; teach us to trust always in the good news of your salvation. Hear us, O God.  
**Your mercy is great.**

**LWA** You have made a covenant of mercy with every living creature. Protect all the earth's creatures from destruction. Empower the work of biologists, conservationists, and science educators. Hear us, O God.  
**Your mercy is great.**

**LWA** All your paths are steadfast love and faithfulness. Direct the words and actions of leaders in our community and throughout the world, that they may maintain justice for the lowly. Hear us, O God.  
**Your mercy is great.**

**LWA** Even in the wilderness you are with us. Walk alongside migrants and refugees crossing dangerous lands. Tend to those whose lives feel desolate. Give healing and strength to all who suffer. Hear us, O God.  
**Your mercy is great.**

**LWA** In the covenant of baptism you claim us as beloved children. Nurture us in our baptismal identity and teach us to live within it for the sake of others. Strengthen this congregation's ministries of care and concern. Hear us, O God.  
**Your mercy is great.**

**LWA** In baptism you join us to the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We praise you for all those who have died trusting in your faithfulness. Bring us with them to the fullness of your reign. Hear us, O God.  
**Your mercy is great.**

**P** We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## PEACE

**P** The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C** **And also with you.**

## OFFERING

*plates not passed; a receptacle is available.*

## OFFERING PRAYER

**P** Let us pray.

**C** **God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## PREPARATION FOR COMMUNION

*to invite those at home to prepare for home communion*

## DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

## **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.**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Come to the banquet for all is now ready

 **MUSIC DURING COMMUNION**

*The assembly stands.*

## **BLESSING & PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ  
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
**C** **Amen.**

Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## **PARTING BLESSING**

**P** Almighty God, Father, ✙ Son,  
and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.  
**C** **Amen.**

## **SENDING SONG**

*My Faith Looks Up to Thee*  
(ELW 759) vs. 1,2,4

1 My faith looks up to thee,  
thou Lamb of Calvary,  
Savior divine!  
Now hear me while I pray,  
take all my guilt away,  
oh, let me from this day  
be wholly thine!

2 May thy rich grace impart  
strength to my fainting heart,  
my zeal inspire;  
as thou hast died for me,  
oh, may my love to thee  
pure, warm, and changeless be,  
a living fire!

4 When ends life's transient dream,  
when death's cold, sullen stream  
shall o'er me roll;  
blest Savior, then, in love  
fear and distrust remove;  
oh, bear me safe above,  
a ransomed soul!  
*No Permission Required*

## **DISMISSAL**

**LWA** Go in peace. Remember the poor.  
**C**      **Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**

*Song of the Cross* –Robert Hughes  
Connie Webber

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