

Faith



is the
SUBSTANCE
of things
hoped for,
the
EVIDENCE
of things
not seen

Hebrews 11:1

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

“RITUALS OR THE CROSS”

REV. DR. DENNIS W. PEGORSCH

8AM & 9:30AM SUNDAY, MARCH 7, 2021 IN THE UPPER SANCTUARY

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

WAUSAU, WISCONSIN

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT
“RITUALS OR THE CROSS”

REV. DR. DENNIS W. PEGORSCH
8AM & 9:30AM SUNDAY, MARCH 7, 2021

FOCUS Do we come to church merely out of a sense of reluctant duty, or is there a sense of purpose, devotion, enthusiasm, and passion? Unfortunately, our attitude may be, at best, a combination of the two. The Word today takes our eyes off ourselves, our mixed motives, our shallow hopes and focuses them on the purpose, enthusiasm, passion, and zeal of God’s saving love. If we are to be saved, God must take the initiative. And He has done so. As He gives us His heart in the Ten Commandments, so He gives us new hearts, baptizing us into the zeal of Christ’s love by which alone He declares us righteous. Connected to Christ’s resurrection, our hope is firmly planted in Him.

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

RINGING of the BELLS

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN

“My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

LSB 702



1 My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
2 May Thy rich grace im - part Strength to my faint - ing heart;
3 While life's dark maze I tread And griefs a - round me spread,
4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, When death's cold, sul - len stream



Sav - ior di - vine. Now hear me while I pray; Take all my
My zeal in - spire! As Thou hast died for me, Oh, may my
Be Thou my guide; Bid dark - ness turn to day, Wipe sor - row's
Shall o'er me roll, Blest Sav - ior, then, in love, Fear and dis -



guilt a - way; O let me from this day Be whol - ly Thine!
love to Thee Pure, warm, and change-less be, A liv - ing fire!
tears a - way, Nor let me ev - er stray From Thee a - side.
trust re-move; O bear me safe a - bove, A ran-somed soul!

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INVOCATION

- L** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.
- L** Today's Psalm, Psalm 19, informs our preparation for worship this morning. It celebrates the glory of God's creation.

PSALM

Psalm 19:1-6

- L** The heavens declare the glory of God,
- C** **and the sky above proclaims His handiwork.**
- L** Day to day pours out speech,
- C** **and night to night reveals knowledge.**
- L** There is no speech, nor are there words, whose voice is not heard.
- C** **Their measuring line goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world.**
- L** In them He has set a tent for the sun,
- C** **which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber, and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy.**
- L** Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them,
- C** **and there is nothing hidden from its heat.**

HYMN

“Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus”

LSB 685, v.1,4



1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, Fol - low His ex -
4 Let us al - so live with Je - sus. He has ris - en



am - ple pure, Through a world that would de - ceive us And to
from the dead That to life we may a - wak - en. Je - sus,



sin our spir - its lure. On - ward in His foot - steps tread - ing,
You are now our head. We are Your own liv - ing mem - bers;



Pil - grims here, our home a - bove, Full of faith and
Where You live, there we shall be In Your pres - ence



hope and love, Let us do the Fa - ther's bid - ding. Faith - ful
con - stant - ly, Liv - ing there with You for - ev - er. Je - sus,



Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where You guide.
let me faith - ful be, Life e - ter - nal grant to me.

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Confession and Absolution

Psalm 19:12-14

- L** When we use the Ten Commandments and other parts of the moral code as a mirror, we see that we have fallen from the perfection of God's good creation and His perfect Law.

Who can discern his errors?

- C** **Declare me innocent from hidden faults.**

- L** Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous sins;

- C** **let them not have dominion over me!**

- L** Our gracious Lord has promised full and free forgiveness to all who call out to our heavenly Father in His name. Let us therefore confess our sins to God, our heavenly Father.
- C** **O God, we confess that we have sinned against You and one another in our thinking, speaking, and acting. Worse, in our fallen nature, we are sinful and unclean, and in the eyes of many we are weak, lowly people. But because You have graciously chosen us and worked faith in our hearts, we humbly ask for mercy for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ. Forgive, renew, and lead us in paths of righteousness.**
- L** The foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. We preach Christ crucified, and for us the word of the cross is the power of God. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen. Thanks be to God.**
- L** Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.
- C** **Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.**

SALUTATION and PRAYER of the DAY

- L** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- L** Let us pray. O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy,
- C** **be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word;**
- L** through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

Service of the Word

OLD TESTAMENT

Exodus 20:1-17

- L** 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.
- C** **"You shall have no other gods before Me.**

L “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

C **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,

L for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain.

C **“Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.**

L 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.

C **“Honor your father and your mother,**

L that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

C **“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.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

MUSICAL OFFERING “This Little Light of Mine”

Childcare Butterfly Room—Video on Screens

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

For 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. ¹⁹ For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.” ²⁰ 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? ²¹ 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. ²² For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, ²³ but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. ²⁶ 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. ²⁷ 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; ²⁸ God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, ²⁹ so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰ And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹ so that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 2:13-22

L The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the second chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴ In the temple he found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting there. ¹⁵ 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. ¹⁶ And he told those who sold the pigeons, "Take these things away; do not make my Father's house a house of trade." ¹⁷ His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." ¹⁸ So the Jews said to him, "What sign do you show us for doing these things?" ¹⁹ Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ²⁰ The Jews then said, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹ But he was speaking about the temple of his body. ²² 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.

L This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

A SPECIAL MESSAGE for the CHILDREN

HYMN of the DAY

“In the Cross of Christ I Glory”

LSB 427



1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, Tow'r - ing
2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, Hopes de -
3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing Light and
4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure By the



o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of sa - cred
ceive, and fears an - noy, Nev - er shall the cross for -
love up - on my way, From the cross the ra - diance
cross are sanc - ti - fied; Peace is there that knows no



sto - ry Gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
sake me; Lo, it glows with peace and joy.
stream - ing Adds more lus - ter to the day.
mea - sure, Joys that through all time a - bide.

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SERMON

“Rituals or the Cross” Rev. Dr. Dennis W. Pegorsch

John 2:16: *“To those who sold doves He said, ‘Get these out of here! How dare you turn my Father’s house into a market!’”*

I. Although not immediately obvious, these questions are at the heart of Jesus’

_____ in _____ the _____.

A. The _____ is a sign of both _____ and _____.

B. The Christian _____ has been the source of much of what is _____ and humane in the world today.

C. Look at what was _____ that day in the _____.

II. Rather, the _____ were being _____.

III. True religious _____ knows no such kind of _____.

A. The _____ means that the days of _____ are over.

B. And how will we _____?

CREEDAL HYMN

“We All Believe in One True God”

LSB 953



1 We all be-lieve in one true God, Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost,
2 We all be-lieve in Je - sus Christ, Son of God and Mar - y's son,
3 We all con-fess the Ho - ly Ghost, Who from both in truth pro-ceeds,



Ev - er - pres - ent help in need, Praised by all the heav'n - ly host;
Who de-scend-ed from His throne And for us sal - va - tion won;
Who sus-tains and com-forts us In all tri - als, fears, and needs.



All He made His love en-folds, All cre - a - tion He up-holds.
By whose cross and death are we Res - cued from all mis - er - y.
Bless-ed, ho - ly Trin - i - ty, Praise for - ev - er be to Thee!

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PRAYER of the CHURCH

L Let us pray for the Church here and around the world and for people everywhere in their various circumstances.

Lord over all, we give thanks that the heavens declare Your glory. And we pray Your blessings on all who seek ways to use the resources of Your good creation to feed the hungry, heal the sick, and shelter the homeless. Guide them toward bountiful harvests and life-saving technologies. Lord, in Your mercy,

G hear our prayer.

L O Lord, who brought Your people Israel out of slavery in Egypt, hear the prayer of those who long for freedom from oppressive regimes, false imprisonment, poverty, and social discrimination. Awaken a desire for peace, justice, and human dignity in the citizens and leaders of the nations. Give them compassionate eyes so that they may seek to help one another, relieving hunger and despair with loving and sharing actions. Guide and protect armed forces deployed and those who work for peace and security in our local communities. Open our eyes to the vocation we have as people of faith each day. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

L Wise and loving heavenly Father, who chose those whom the world considered foolish, weak, lowly, and despised to be joined in the Body of Christ, give us Your strength and wisdom. Open doors of opportunity for the Church to preach Christ crucified and risen no matter the form of opposition they encounter, so that many will come to faith. Strengthen clergy and lay leaders to focus not on institutions or statistics but on the righteousness, sanctification, and redemption our Savior won in His gracious sacrifice for us in grace and love. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

L We ask Your gracious answers to the prayers of those near and dear to us, [*including . . .*]. Visit, relieve, console, and uplift them according to Your plans, using us where possible as part of the answer to their petitions. These and any other things You would have us ask of You, heavenly Father, grant to us for the sake of the bitter sufferings and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Service of the Sacrament

PREFACE

L The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

L Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

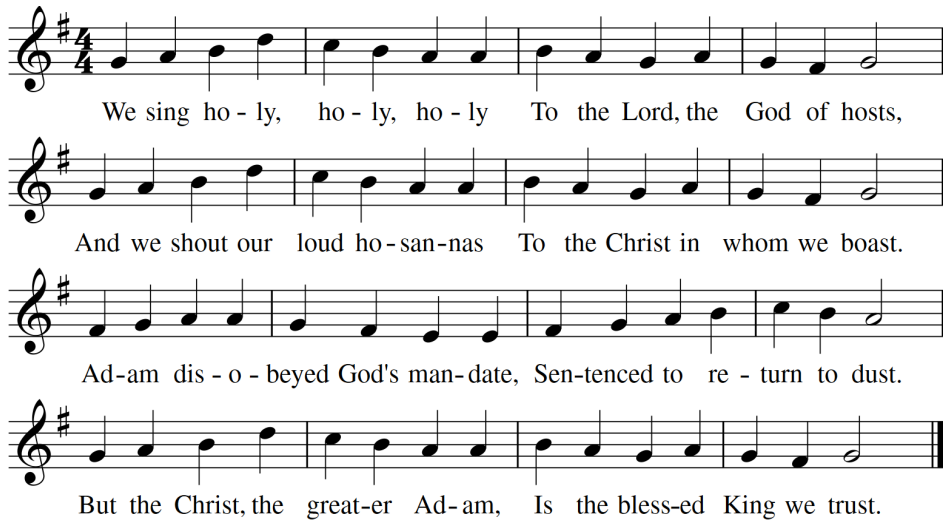
L Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

- L** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, for in wisdom, mercy, and love You sent Your Son into human flesh to die and rise on our behalf. Now Your great salvation may be proclaimed to all people in the preaching of Christ crucified, through whom with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS HYMN “We Sing Holy, Holy, Holy”



We sing ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly To the Lord, the God of hosts,
And we shout our loud ho - san - nas To the Christ in whom we boast.
Ad - am dis - o - beyed God's man - date, Sen - tenced to re - turn to dust.
But the Christ, the great - er Ad - am, Is the bless - ed King we trust.

The LORD'S PRAYER

- C** 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.

WORDS of INSTITUTION

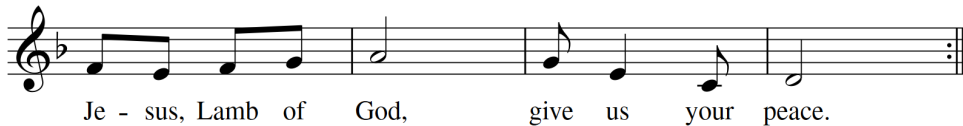
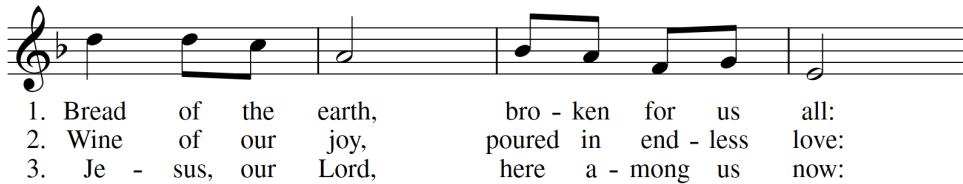
PAX DOMINI

L The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI HYMN "Jesus Lamb of God"

Farrell



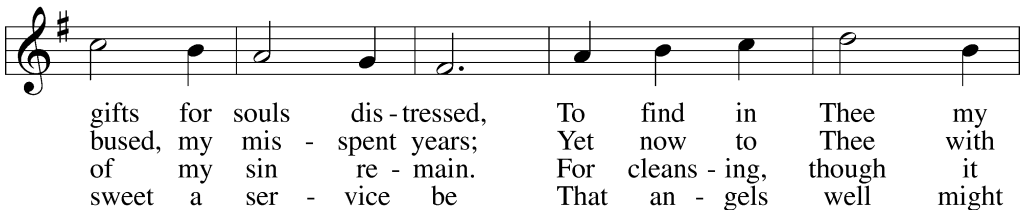
COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Gluten Free Wafers are available upon request.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"Drawn to the Cross, Which Thou Hast Blessed"

LSB 560





life, my rest, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.
 con - trite tears, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.
 be through pain, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.
 en - vy me, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.

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“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

LSB 425



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross On which the
 2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast Save in the
 3 See, from His head, His hands, His feet Sor - row and
 4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, That were a



Prince of Glo - ry died, My rich - est gain I
 death of Christ, my God; All the vain things that
 love flow min - gled down! Did e'er such love and
 trib - ute far too small; Love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss And pour con - tempt on all my pride.
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to His blood.
 sor - row meet Or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
 so di - vine, De - mands my soul, my life, my all!

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POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

- L** Let us pray. O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament,
- C** and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You;
- L** through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

BENEDICTION

- L** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
- C** Amen.

DISMISSAL

- L** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

CLOSING HYMN

“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”

LSB 643



1 Sent forth by God's bless-ing, Our true faith con-fess-ing,
2 With praise and thanks-giv-ing To God ev-er-liv-ing,

The peo-ple of God from His dwell-ing take leave.
The tasks of our ev-'ry-day life we will face.

The Sup-per is end-ed. O now be ex-tend-ed
Our faith ev-er shar-ing, In love ev-er car-ing,

The fruits of this ser-vice in all who be-lieve.
Em-brac-ing His chil-dren of each tribe and race.

The seed of His teach-ing, Re-cep-tive souls reach-ing,
With Your feast You feed us, With Your light now lead us;



Shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.
U - nite us as one in this life that we share.



His grace did in - vite us, His love shall u - nite us
Then may all the liv - ing With praise and thanks - giv - ing



To work for God's king - dom and an - swer His call.
Give hon - or to Christ and His name that we bear.

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POSTLUDE

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PRESIDING MINISTER: *Rev. Dr. Dennis W. Pegorsch, Pastor Emeritus*

LITURGIST: *Rev. Timothy D. Smith, Associate Pastor*

ORGANIST: *Carmen Zuelsdorff*

ELDERS: *8am—Chad Schwantes, Todd Hauer; 9:30am—Michael Hase, Skyler Lynn*

WELCOME TO TRINITY!

Your presence is very special to us. May your faith be strengthened and your life enriched as you join us in worship to God!

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICES IN THE UPPER SANCTUARY—

8am & 9:30am Sunday

BLENDED WORSHIP SERVICES IN THE UPPER SANCTUARY—

5pm Saturday & 11am Sunday

- **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**—Holy Communion is celebrated on the 1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays of the month in the Upper Sanctuary. We invite those who have been instructed in the teachings of the Evangelical Lutheran Church to receive the Sacrament of the Altar. Others are asked to speak with a pastor before receiving the Sacrament. *Gluten free wafers are available upon request.*
- **LARGE PRINT**—large print copies of the bulletin are available on the table in the Narthex or you may ask the usher for one.
- **CHILDREN'S BULLETINS**—for ages 3-6 & 7-12 years, are available on the table in the Narthex.
- **NURSERY**—for children ages 3 & under. The upper level nursery is located near the Church Lounge on Sundays. *Please Note: The upper level nursery will be unstaffed unless volunteers are available.*
- **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**—Sunday School is available for children 4 years old through 6th Grade at 9:30am on Sunday mornings during the school year. Christian Education courses for adults and young adults are held at 9:30am on Sunday mornings & various times throughout the week during the school year. Trinity is committed to Christian Education through the 4K-8th grade School, our Childcare (infant through 13 years), and through our association with Wisconsin Valley Lutheran High School.
- **ELEVATOR**—is located next to the nursery on the upper level. On the lower level the elevator is located across from Classroom #101, which is past the offices. Use as needed.
- **RESTROOMS**—Narthex level across from the Library, lower level next to the elevator.
- **JOINING TRINITY**—We invite you to become part of this Christian community! If interested in membership, please speak with an elder or pastor, and we will contact you.

MISSION STATEMENT:

To gather people who grow in faith and share Jesus with all.

VISION STATEMENT:

To strive to be a mature and faithful congregation that is focused on our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.