

Lent Mid-Week 2

February 17, 2016

Pre-Service Music

Welcome

Opening Hymn Christ, the Life of All the Living "Green Book" 97

Christ, the life of all the living, Christ, the death of death our foe,
Christ, yourself for me once giving To the darkest depths of woe;
Through your suff-ring death, and merit Life eternal I inherit.
Thousand, thousand thanks are due, Dearest Jesus, unto you.

You have suffered great affliction And have borne it patiently
Even death by crucifixion, Fully to atone for me;
For you chose to be tormented That my doom should be prevented.
Thousand, thousand thanks are due, Dearest Jesus, unto you.

Then, for all that bought my pardon, For the sorrows deep and sore,
For the anguish in the garden, I will thank you ever more;
Thank you for the groaning, sighing For the bleeding and the dying,
For that last triumphant cry, Praise you ever more on high.

Invocation and God's Forgiveness

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

C: Amen.

L: Gracious and most merciful Father,

C: In the light of your holiness we see ourselves as we really are,

L: We wander so far astray that we become strangers to righteousness.

C: Forgive us, and set us again on the path that leads to life.

L: While it is true that we have sinned, it is a greater truth that through God's love in Jesus we are forgiven. God has shown his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross and by his wounds, we are healed. In the name of Jesus our sins have been forgiven.

C: I know that my Redeemer lives!

Prayer

L: Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, you love all that you have created and your forgive the sins of those who come to you with humble and contrite hearts. Create in us clean and honest hearts, so that, as we repent of our sins, we may receive full pardon and forgiveness; in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Scripture Readings

Old Testament Reading

Job 1:1-12

There was a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job, and that man was blameless and upright, one who feared God and turned away from evil. There were born to him seven sons and three daughters. He possessed 7,000 sheep, 3,000 camels, 500 yoke of oxen, and 500 female donkeys, and very many servants, so that this man was the greatest of all the people of the east. His sons used to go and hold a feast in the house of each one on his day, and they would send and invite their three sisters to eat and drink with them. And when the days of the feast had run their course, Job would send and consecrate them, and he would rise early in the morning and offer burnt offerings according to the number of them all. For Job said, "It may be that my children have sinned, and cursed God in their hearts." Thus Job did continually. Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them. The LORD said to Satan, "From where have you come?" Satan answered the LORD and said, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking up and down on it." And the LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, who fears God and turns away from evil?" Then Satan answered the LORD and said, "Does Job fear God for no reason? Have you not put a hedge around him and his house and all that he has, on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land. But stretch out your hand and touch all that he has, and he will curse you to your face." And the LORD said to Satan, "Behold, all that he has is in your hand. Only against him do not stretch out your hand." So Satan went out from the presence of the LORD.

Epistle

2 Corinthians 1:3-9

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. For as we share abundantly in Christ's sufferings, so through Christ we share abundantly in comfort too. If we are afflicted, it is for your comfort and salvation; and if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we suffer. Our hope for you is unshaken, for we know that as you share in our sufferings, you will also share in our comfort. For we do not want you to be ignorant, brothers, of the affliction we experienced in Asia. For we were so utterly burdened beyond our strength that we despaired of life itself. Indeed, we felt that we had received the sentence of death. But that was to make us rely not on ourselves but on God who raises the dead.

[Gospel](#)

[Luke 4:1-13](#)

And Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing during those days. And when they were ended, he was hungry. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread." And Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone.'" And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, and said to him, "To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." And Jesus answered him, "It is written, "'You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve.'" And he took him to Jerusalem and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, "'He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you,' and "'On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.'" And Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'" And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time.

[Hymn](#)

[Abide with Me](#)

["Green Book" 272 vs. 1-3](#)

Abide with me, fast falls the even tide
The darkness deepens; Lord with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, oh, abide with me.

I need thy presence ev'ry passing hour;
What but thy grace can foil the tempter's pow'r?
Who like thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, oh, abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
Change and decay in all around I see;
O thou who changest not, abide with me.

[Message](#)

[Flying Blind](#)

[Prayers](#)

- L: Lord God, sometimes our hearts are glazed over and hardened by grief.
- C: We wonder in the middle of our pain whether we can trust you or not.**
- L: Sometimes, we even wonder if you are our enemy.
- C: Help us to take a long look at the hand you stretch out to us in Jesus Christ.**
- L: Help us to make a choice for faith instead of despair.
- C: Help us to see that the hand you offer us is one that is scarred with pain**
- L: Help us accept the comfort given by your bleeding love.
- C: Because we can't see you, O God, help us to listen, and listen closely.**
- All: In your holy name we pray, Jesus. Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Benediction

L: The Lord gives, and the Lord takes away,

C: Blessed be the name of the Lord!

L: And so we go forth confidently in the name of our Lord,

C: The Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen!

Closing Hymn All Praise to Thee, My God , This Night "Green Book" 278

All praise to thee, my God this night For all the blessings of the light,
Keep me, oh, keep me, King of kings, Beneath thine own almighty wings.

Forgive me, Lord, for thy dear Son. The ill that I this day have done;
That with the world, myself, and thee, I, ere I sleep, at peace may be.

Teach me to live, that I may dead The grave as little as my bed,
Teach me to die, that so I may Rise glorious at the awesome day.

Oh, may my soul in thee repose, And may sweet sleep mine eyelids close,
Sleep that shall me more vig'rous make To serve my God when I awake!

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Post-Service Music