

## Lent Mid-Week 3

February 24, 2016

### Pre-Service Music

### Welcome

### Opening Hymn "Green Book" 95 sv. 1-4                      **Glory Be to Jesus**

Glory be to Jesus, Who, in bitter pains,  
Poured for me the lifeblood From his sacred veins.

Grace and life eternal In that blood I find;  
Blest be his compassion, Infinitely kind.

Blest through endless ages Be the precious stream  
Which from endless torment Did the world redeem.

Abel's blood for vengeance Pleaded to the skies;  
But the blood of Jesus For our pardon cries.

### 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. Gracious God, when life seems cruel and the going gets real rough, empower us to surrender to your loving will, even as we say, "Blessed be the name of the Lord"; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen**

## Scripture Readings

### Epistle

### 2 Corinthians 4:1-7

Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart. But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways. We refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God. And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled only to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us.

### Gospel

### Luke 9:51-62

When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. And he sent messengers ahead of him, who went and entered a village of the Samaritans, to make preparations for him. But the people did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. And when his disciples James and John saw it, they said, "Lord, do you want us to tell fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" But he turned and rebuked them. And they went on to another village. As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, let me first go and bury my father." And Jesus said to him, "Leave the dead to bury their own dead. But as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." Yet another said, "I will follow you, Lord, but let me first say farewell to those at my home." Jesus said to him, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

### Hymn "Green Book" 333

### Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me

God, take my hand and lead me upon life's way;  
direct, protect, and feed me from day to day.  
Without your grace and favour I go astray,  
so take my hand, O Saviour, and lead the way.

God, when the tempest rages, I need not fear;  
for you, the Rock of Ages, are always near.  
Close by your side abiding, I fear no foe,  
for when your hand is guiding, in peace I go.

God, when the shadows lengthen and night has come,  
I know that you will strengthen my steps toward home,  
and nothing can impede me, O blessed Friend!  
So, take my hand and lead me unto the end.

Now there was a day when his sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother's house, and there came a messenger to Job and said, "The oxen were plowing and the donkeys feeding beside them, and the Sabeans fell upon them and took them and struck down the servants with the edge of the sword, and I alone have escaped to tell you." While he was yet speaking, there came another and said, "The fire of God fell from heaven and burned up the sheep and the servants and consumed them, and I alone have escaped to tell you." While he was yet speaking, there came another and said, "The Chaldeans formed three groups and made a raid on the camels and took them and struck down the servants with the edge of the sword, and I alone have escaped to tell you." While he was yet speaking, there came another and said, "Your sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother's house, and behold, a great wind came across the wilderness and struck the four corners of the house, and it fell upon the young people, and they are dead, and I alone have escaped to tell you." Then Job arose and tore his robe and shaved his head and fell on the ground and worshiped. And he said, "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return. The LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD." In all this Job did not sin or charge God with wrong.

[Message](#)

[Sweet Surrender](#)

[Prayers](#)

L: Lord God, we believe and live by your word when you allow suffering and pain instead of sunshine and gladness.

**C: If you take away, by your Holy Spirit, empower us to still bless your holy name.**

L: For it is the weak and humble who receive your love,

**C: Who are pardoned and healed, who are enlightened and strengthened.**

L: And so we will find joy in suffering,

**C: And pray for your will to be done.**

L: Father, we surrender to our present circumstances that we can't control.

**C: Because we have your names—Yahweh, El Shaddai, Eloah**

**All: "The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord." Amen.**

**Lord's Prayer**

[Closing Hymn "Green Book" 278](#)

[All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night](#)

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 dread  
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.

[Dismissal](#)