

## THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

### PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

**THEME:** Relationships are healthiest when they are based on love, not merely rules.

### WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

### OPENING PRAYER

#### **WE CONFESS OUR SINS...**

P: As we gather to celebrate our wonderful God, we do well first to recognize our sins that separate us from God, and know that He graciously forgives us.....

**C: Dear Lord God, we come to you humbly,  
Admitting our sins, our lack of love, our arrogant ways.  
We confess today that we have, at times,  
Seen ourselves as better than other people.  
We have looked down on those who do not know You,  
Thinking that they do not deserve your mercy,  
Thinking and acting as if they do not need your forgiveness.  
Forgive our pride and arrogance, and our limited understanding of your grace and mercy.  
Open the eyes of our hearts to see that you are powerfully at work in all creation  
For the salvation of all people.  
Give us humble and gracious spirits,  
To try to understand people that are different than us,  
So that we can share Your Grace with them,  
Intercede on their behalf in prayer, And partner with You in bringing them Your kingdom.**

### SONG OF CONFESSION "Red Book" 157                      Open Our Eyes

Open our eyes, Lord,  
We want to see Jesus  
To reach out and touch Him  
And say that we love Him.  
Open our ears, Lord,  
Help us to listen  
Open our eyes, Lord,  
We want to see Jesus.

### ...HEARING GOD'S FORGIVENESS

P: God knows our hearts, our arrogance and pride, and yet He loves us and forgives us for this sin and for all our sins, the evil things we've done and the good we've failed to do. Through His Son Jesus, I announce His grace to you. In the stead and by the command of Jesus, I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

**C: Amen.**

**Father, we love Thee, we praise Thee, we adore Thee.**

**Glorify Thy name in all the earth,**

**Glorify Thy name, glorify Thy name.**

**Glorify Thy name in all the earth.**

**Jesus, we love Thee, we praise Thee, we adore Thee.**

**Glorify Thy name in all the earth,**

**Glorify Thy name, glorify Thy name.**

**Glorify Thy name in all the earth.**

**Spirit, we love Thee, we praise Thee, we adore Thee.**

**Glorify Thy name in all the earth,**

**Glorify Thy name, glorify Thy name.**

**Glorify Thy name in all the earth.**

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray: Eternal Lord, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your Word and obey it, so that we become instruments of your redeeming love; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen**

**THE SCRIPTURE LESSONS**

**The First Lesson: Exodus 20:1-17**

*The Lord further establishes the relationship with His people*

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 on 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.”

### [The Second Lesson: I Corinthians 1:18-31](#)

*All our confidence and boasting comes from what Jesus has done for us.*

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. 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. And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, so that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

### [The Gospel Lesson: John 2:13-22](#)

*Jesus goes to his Father's house with zeal*

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.

CHOIR ANTHEM      You Are Wonderfully Made      By Pepper Choplin

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON SONG "Green Book" 320 (vs. 1-4 only)      O God, Our Help in Ages Past

O God, our help in ages past,  
Our hope for years to come,  
Our shelter from the stormy blast,  
And our eternal home.

Under the shadow of your throne  
Your saints have dwelt secure;  
Sufficient is your arm alone,  
And our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood  
Or earth received its frame,  
From everlasting you are God,  
To endless years the same.

A thousand ages in your sight  
Are like an evening gone,  
Short as the watch that ends the night  
Before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream,  
Soon bears us all away;  
We fly forgotten, as a dream  
Dies at the op'ning day.

O God, our help in ages past,  
Our hope for years to come,  
Still be our guard while troubles last  
And our eternal home!

**AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH**

P: Let us affirm together the faith of the Church throughout the ages:

**C: We believe in one God, the Father the Almighty,**

**Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,**

**The only Son of God,**

**Eternally begotten of the Father,**

**God from God, Light from Light,**

**True God from true God,**

**Begotten, not made,**

**Of one being with the Father;**

**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation**

**He came down from heaven,**

**Was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary**

**And became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;**

**He suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again**

**In accordance with the Scriptures;**

**He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,**

**And his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,**

**Who proceeds from the Father and the Son,**

**Who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,**

**Who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,**

**And the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**OFFERINGS**

The offerings gathered are a sign of our whole lives

Offered to God in humble gratitude for his greatest of all

Offerings, his Son offered for our salvation.

**SONG PREPARATION FOR PRAYER (twice through) Hear My Prayer**

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer,

When I call, answer me. O Lord hear my prayer,

O Lord hear my prayer, come and listen to me.

### THE PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God, and for all people according to their needs:  
(after each prayer request)

P: Lord in your mercy

**C: Hear our prayer.**

P: Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER (Traditional)**

### CLOSING SONG "Red Book" 241 (vs. 1 and 3 only) To God Be the Glory

To God be the glory, great things He has done;  
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,  
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,  
And opened the life gate that all may go in.

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,*

*Let the earth hear His voice!*

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,*

*Let the people rejoice!*

*O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,*

*And give Him the glory, great things He has done.*

Great things He has taught us, great things He has done,  
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;  
But purer, and higher, and greater will be  
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,*

*Let the earth hear His voice!*

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,*

*Let the people rejoice!*

*O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,*

*And give Him the glory, great things He has done.*

### DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

**C: Thanks be to God!**

### **POST-SERVICE MUSIC**