

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the keeper of the covenant, the source of steadfast love, our rock and our redeemer. God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

~Silence for reflection~

L: Fountain of living water,

C: pour out your mercy over us. Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free. Rebuild what we have ruined and mend what we have torn. Wash us in your cleansing flood. Make us alive in the Spirit to follow in the way of Jesus, as healers and restorers of the world you so love. Amen.

L: Beloved, God's word never fails. The promise rests on grace: by the saving love of Jesus Christ, the wisdom and power of God, your sins are † forgiven, and God remembers them no more. Journey in the way of Jesus. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Almighty and ever living God,

C: you invite us deeper into your Creation. May this time be one of outward focus; seeking you in those we often ignore. Help us live a Lent focused on freedom, generosity, and encounter. Give us hearts hungry to serve you. Amen.

PRAYER LAB MINUTE

SPECIAL MUSIC *"Steal Away"* Spiritual arr. Malcolm Archer
Colleen Diemer, Linda Burk, Sue Perrault, vocal trio

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

R: A reading from 1st Corinthians.

1st Corinthians 1:18-21

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

²⁰Where 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? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe.

R: A Gospel reading from the 2nd chapter of John.

John 2:13-22

¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle.

He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" ¹⁹Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ²⁰The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After 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.

SONG OF THE DAY ELW #328 RESTORE IN US O GOD

stz 1, 2

Restore in us, O God, the splendor of your love;
Renew your image in our hearts, and all our sins remove.

O Spirit, wake in us the wonder of your pow'r;
From fruitless fear unfurl our lives like springtime bud and flow'r

MESSAGE Pastor John Klawiter

MUSICAL OFFERING "*Come Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy*"

arr. Richard Turner; Faith Online Choir;

Alan Ball, organ; Linda Burk, directory

OFFERTORY PRAYER

L: Faithful God, **you walk beside us in desert places, and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven. Accompany us in this meal, that we may pass over from death to life with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

L: Lord, in your mercy.

C: **Hear our prayer.**

HOLY COMMUNION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BLESSING

L: May the LORD bless us and keep us; May the LORD's face shine upon us and be gracious unto us, May the LORD look upon us with favor, + and give us peace.

C: Amen.

SENDING SONG ELW #597 *MY HOPE IS BUILT ON NOTHING LESS*

stz 1, 4

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness; no merit of my own I claim, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand.

When he shall come with trumpet sound, oh, may I then in him Be found, clothed in his righteousness alone, redeemed to stand before the throne!

On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand.

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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