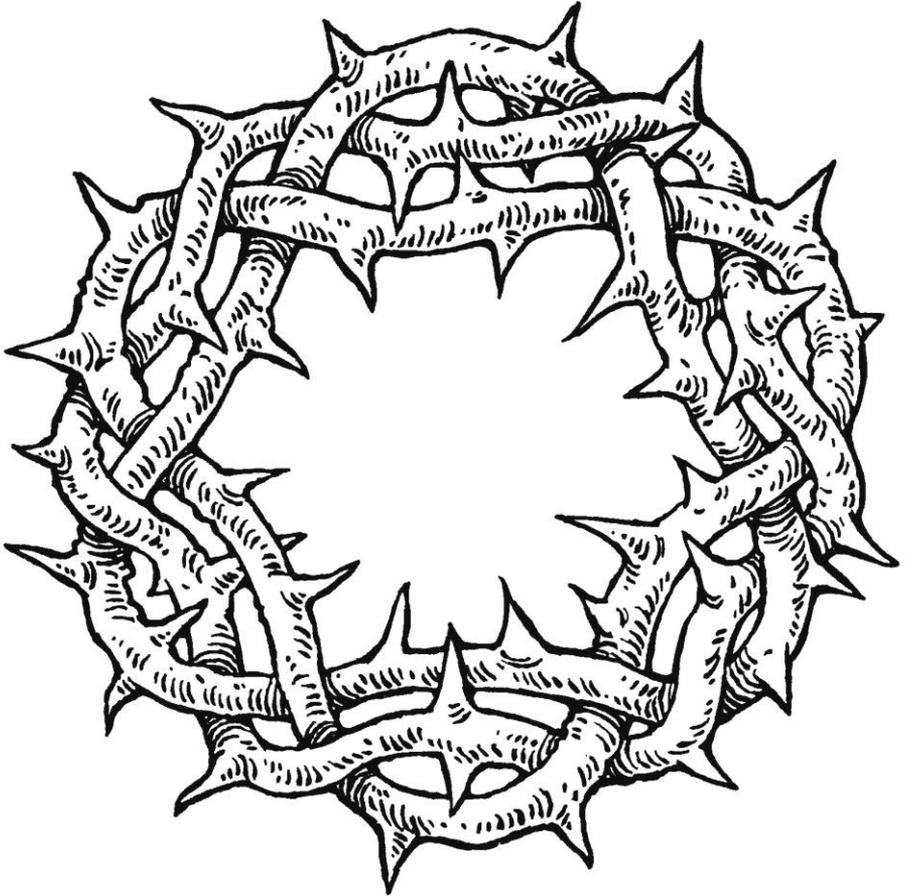


# Third Wednesday in Lent

March 10, 2021



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

[gracelutheranrialto.com](http://gracelutheranrialto.com)

Pastor Bill Maggard

Pastor Daniel A. Holm

## Third Wednesday in Lent Vespers

### OPENING HYMN

*Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*

892

- 1     Come, ye thankful people, come;  
        Raise the song of harvest home.  
All be safely gathered in  
        Ere the winter storms begin;  
God, our Maker doth provide  
        For our wants to be supplied.  
Come to God's own temple, come;  
        Raise the song of harvest home.
  
- 2     All the world is God's own field,  
        Fruit unto His praise to yield;  
Wheat and tares together sown,  
        Unto joy or sorrow grown.  
First the blade and then the ear,  
        Then the full corn shall appear.  
Lord of harvest, grant that we  
        Wholesome grain and pure may be.
  
- 3     For the Lord, our God, shall come,  
        And shall take His harvest home,  
From His field shall in that day  
        All offenses purge away,  
Give His angels charge at last  
        In the fire the tares to cast,  
But the fruitful ears to store  
        In His garner evermore.

4 Even so, Lord, quickly come  
To Thy final harvest home;  
Gather Thou Thy people in,  
Free from sorrow, free from sin,  
There, forever purified,  
In Thy garner to abide;  
Come, with all Thine angels, come,  
Raise the glorious harvest home.

*Stand*

O Lord, open my lips, Psalm 51:15  
**and my mouth will declare Your praise.**

Make haste, O God, to deliver me;  
**make haste to help me, O Lord.** Psalm 70:1

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.  
Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation.**

**PSALM 34 - *responsively***

<sup>1</sup> I will bless the LORD at all times;  
His praise shall continually be in my mouth.

<sup>2</sup> **My soul makes its boast in the LORD;  
let the humble hear and be glad.**

<sup>3</sup> Oh, magnify the LORD with me,  
and let us exalt His name together!

<sup>4</sup> **I sought the LORD, and He answered me  
and delivered me from all my fears.**

<sup>5</sup> Those who look to Him are radiant,  
and their faces shall never be ashamed.

<sup>6</sup> **This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him  
and saved him out of all his troubles.**

<sup>7</sup>The angel of the LORD encamps  
around those who fear Him, and delivers them.

<sup>8</sup>**Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good!  
Blessèd is the man who takes refuge in Him!**

<sup>9</sup>Oh, fear the LORD, you His saints,  
for those who fear Him have no lack!

<sup>10</sup>**The young lions suffer want and hunger;  
but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.**

<sup>11</sup>Come, O children, listen to me;  
I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

<sup>12</sup>**What man is there who desires life  
and loves many days, that he may see good?**

<sup>13</sup>Keep your tongue from evil  
and your lips from speaking deceit.

<sup>14</sup>**Turn away from evil and do good;  
seek peace and pursue it.**

<sup>15</sup>The eyes of the LORD are toward the righteous  
and His ears toward their cry.

<sup>16</sup>**The face of the LORD is against those who do evil,  
to cut off the memory of them from the earth.**

<sup>17</sup>When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears  
and delivers them out of all their troubles.

<sup>18</sup>**The LORD is near to the brokenhearted  
and saves the crushed in spirit.**

<sup>19</sup>Many are the afflictions of the righteous,  
but the LORD delivers him out of them all.

<sup>20</sup>**He keeps all his bones;  
not one of them is broken.**

<sup>21</sup>Affliction will slay the wicked,  
and those who hate the righteous will be condemned.

<sup>22</sup>**The LORD redeems the life of His servants;  
none of those who take refuge in Him will be condemned.**  
**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;**  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.

**Amen.**

OFFICE HYMN

*Our Father, Who from Heaven Above* 766

- 1 Our Father, who from heav'n above  
    Bids all of us to live in love  
As members of one family  
    And pray to You in unity,  
Teach us no thoughtless words to say  
    But from our inmost hearts to pray.
- 2 Your name be hallowed, Help us Lord,  
    In purity to keep Your Word,  
That to the glory of Your name  
    We walk before You free from blame.  
Let no false teaching us pervert;  
    All poor deluded souls convert.
- 3 Your kingdom come. Guard Your domain  
    And Your eternal righteous reign.  
The Holy Ghost enrich our day  
    With gifts attendant on our way.  
Break Satan's pow'r, defeat his rage;  
    Preserve Your Church from age to age.
- 4 Your gracious will on earth be done  
    As it is done before Your throne,  
That patiently we may obey  
    Throughout our lives all that You say,  
Curb flesh and blood and ev'ry ill  
    That sets itself against Your will
- 5 Give us this day our daily bread,  
    And let us all be clothed and fed.  
Save us from hardship, war, and strife;

In plague and famine, spare our life,  
That we in honest peace may live,  
To care and greed no entrance give.

6 Forgive our sins, Lord, we implore,  
That they may trouble us no more;  
We, too, will gladly those forgive  
Who hurt us by the way they live.  
Help us in our community  
To serve each other willingly.

7 Lead not into temptation, Lord,  
Where our grim foe and all his horde  
Would vex our souls on ev'ry hand.  
Help us resist, help us to stand  
Firm in the faith, a mighty host,  
Through comfort of the Holy Ghost.

8 From evil, Lord, deliver us;  
The times and days are perilous.  
Redeem us from eternal death,  
And, when we yield our dying breath,  
Console us, grant us calm release,  
And take our souls to You in peace.

9 Amen, that is, so shall it be.  
Make strong our faith in You, that we  
May doubt not but with trust believe  
That what we ask we shall receive.  
Thus in Your name and at Your Word  
We say, "Amen, O hear us, Lord!"

**First Reading**

**Genesis 45:1-15**

<sup>1</sup> Then Joseph could not control himself before all those who stood by him. He cried, "Make everyone go out from me." So no

one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. <sup>2</sup> And he wept aloud, so that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. <sup>3</sup> And Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph! Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, for they were dismayed at his presence. <sup>4</sup> So Joseph said to his brothers, "Come near to me, please." And they came near. And he said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. <sup>5</sup> And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life. <sup>6</sup> For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are yet five years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. <sup>7</sup> And God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. <sup>8</sup> So it was not you who sent me here, but God. He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. <sup>9</sup> Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt. Come down to me; do not tarry. <sup>10</sup> You shall dwell in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, and your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. <sup>11</sup> There I will provide for you, for there are yet five years of famine to come, so that you and your household, and all that you have, do not come to poverty.' <sup>12</sup> And now your eyes see, and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see, that it is my mouth that speaks to you. <sup>13</sup> You must tell my father of all my honor in Egypt, and of all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here." <sup>14</sup> Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, and Benjamin wept upon his neck. <sup>15</sup> And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them. After that his brothers talked with him.

O Lord, have mercy on us.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

**Second Reading**

**Matthew 6:19-34**

[Jesus said] <sup>19</sup> “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, <sup>20</sup> but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. <sup>21</sup> For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

<sup>22</sup> “The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, <sup>23</sup> but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

<sup>24</sup> “No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.

<sup>25</sup> “Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? <sup>26</sup> Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? <sup>27</sup> And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? <sup>28</sup> And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, <sup>29</sup> yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one

of these. <sup>30</sup> But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? <sup>31</sup> Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' <sup>32</sup> For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. <sup>33</sup> But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

<sup>34</sup> "Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

O Lord, have mercy on us.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Sit*

**RESPONSORY - Lent**

Psalm 51:14; 59:1; 141:8

Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.

**Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.**

In You, O Lord, do I put my trust, leave me not, O Lord, my God.

**Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.**

Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.

**Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.**

**SERMON**

**Pastor Holm**

*Stand*

Let my prayer rise before You as incense,

**And the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.**

**MAGNIFICAT – Song of Mary**

Luke 1:46-55

My Soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior; for He has regarded the lowliness of His hand-maiden. For behold, from this day all generations will call me blessed. For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His name; and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has exalted the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent empty away. He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

**Kyrie**

Mark 10:47

**Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

Matthew 6:9-13

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.

O Lord, hear my prayer.  
And let my cry come to You.

## COLLECTS

### Prayer for the Disdain of Earthly Things

O holy God, heavenly Father, I call on You through Your beloved Son and through the Holy Spirit to draw my heart away from earthly things and to lift its desires toward heavenly things. As fire naturally rushes upward, so the spiritual fire of love and devotion in my heart is inclined to rise toward heaven. Just what are these earthly things? They are more fragile than glass, more unpredictable than the sea, more fleeting than the wind. I would be a fool to place my trust in these things and to seek in them true peace of the soul. Even if unwilling, in death a person must desert all earthly things. Work in me so I willingly desire to forsake them before death. Put to death in me the love of the world so a holy love of You may spring forth. Guard me with the help of the Holy Spirit so I will not love this world, which will only corrupt my heart.

The form of this world is passing away (1 Corinthians 7:31). Its momentary glory is passing away; the destruction of heaven and earth is near. Change my heart so I may be a lover of the life that remains forever, not of this world that flees so quickly. Everything in this world amounts to the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life (1 John 2:16). It is worthless to love the cravings of the flesh. It is dangerous to indulge in the lusts of the eyes. It is harmful to choose the pride of life. Those who are full of the earthly slop of pigs cannot truly love Christ, the heavenly bread of life (Luke 15:16). Those who are captive to the love of this world cannot freely raise their hearts to God. Where the vessel of the heart is full with the love of this age, there is no room left for God.

Extinguish in me, O God, the desire for earthly things. Take away the bonds that hold me captive to the love of worldly things. Purge and cleanse my heart so I may love You with a sincere love and cling to You with my whole heart. Why should

I love those things that are in the world (1 John 2:15)? They cannot satisfy the desire of my soul. My soul was created for eternity; only eternal things can satisfy it. Worldly things cannot in the slightest way return the love I give them. My soul will love eternal things because it will dwell with these things for eternity. I will send ahead the desires of my heart to the place where an eternal glory has been prepared for me. Where my treasure is, there my heart will be also (Matthew 6:21). Give to me the wings of a dove (Psalm 55:6) so I may be lifted to You on high and be hidden in the clefts of the rock (Song of Songs 2:14). Do not allow the diabolic hunter to capture me in the trap of love for the world and draw my soul back to earthly things. May the whole world become bitter to me so Christ alone may become sweetness to my soul.

**Amen.**

O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**BENEDICAMUS**

Psalm 103:1

Let us bless the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

**BENEDICTION**

2 Corinthians 13:14

The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

**Amen.**