

**GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
*(Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)*  
**LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS**  
**March 11, 2015**

**THE WEEK OF THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT**

**PRAYER UPON ENTERING CHURCH**

O God of grace and compassion, who sent Your only Son Jesus to be my Savior, grant me to live my life in thanksgiving to You for the pardon and peace Jesus has worked between us. In Him You have restored my brokenness and given to me the hope of eternal life. Empower me by the Holy Spirit to seek to be kind and compassionate to my neighbor and thereby share the love that You have for me and for all. I pray this in Jesus' holy name. Amen

**WELCOME**

As our Lord's Passion neared, Jesus went to Gethsemane to pray. He took His disciples with Him and from them He took Peter, James and John further to keep watch for Him as He prayed. He found them sleeping and He said to them, "Could you not watch with me one hour? Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing but the flesh is weak." (Matthew 26:41)

It is good for you to be here this evening for this time of Vespers as we gather around God's Word to be strengthened in our faith through the forgiveness of our sins and thereby given resolve to live as God's people through the trials and temptations of life. If you are visiting we would especially like to welcome you and encourage you to come and worship with us again. If you have any questions about Grace Lutheran Church we invite you to visit with our Pastor.

If you are in need of our restroom facilities they are located downstairs in this building or across the bridge on this floor level before entering the Fellowship Hall. A nursery for infants and toddlers is located downstairs for those who have need. If you have any questions please speak with an Usher or Greeter.

**AS WE GATHER**

**As We Gather** this evening we will hear another of our Lord's earthly stories that convey a heavenly truth. The story Jesus shared that we hear this evening is The Parable of the Good Samaritan. In this parable, a man beaten on the road gets help from an unlikely traveler after other travelers on the road between Jerusalem and Jericho failed to be of any help. This is not only a familiar parable but we are very often quick to give someone credit for being a "Good Samaritan" because they have gone above and beyond serving themselves for the sake of serving others who have need. As we consider our Lord's Passion we recognize that He gave Himself into death so that we might have redemption, the forgiveness of sins that gives eternal life!

# THE ORDER OF VESPERS FOR THE WEEK OF THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

Lighting of the Chancel Candles

Prelude

*Sonate for Harp: I. Massig Schnell - Paul Hindemith*

Ringing of the Church Bell

Opening Hymn: Jesus, Refuge of the Weary

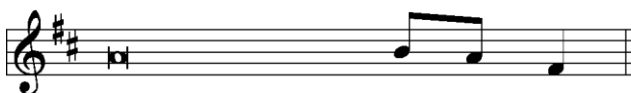
LSB 423

*Stand*

Versicles



**L** O Lord, o - pen my lips,



**C** and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.



**L** Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;



**C** make haste to help me, O Lord.



**C** Glo-ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.



*Lent:* Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our sal - va - tion.

*Sit*

## Readings

### Old Testament Reading

*Leviticus 19:13–18*

“You shall not oppress your neighbor or rob him. The wages of a hired servant shall not remain with you all night until the morning. You shall not curse the deaf or put a stumbling block before the blind, but you shall fear your God: I am the LORD.

“You shall do no injustice in court. You shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great, but in righteousness shall you judge your neighbor. You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not stand up against the life of your neighbor: I am the LORD.

“You shall not hate your brother in your heart, but you shall reason frankly with your neighbor, lest you incur sin because of him. You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD.

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Anthem

*Abide With Me*

## Epistle

*Romans 13:8–10*

Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Office Hymn: We Listen as the Word

*Tune: SOUTHWELL (LSB 431)*



1. We lis - ten as the Word like scat - tered seed is sown,  
2. The stran - ger's need was known, and which one of the three  
3. In ev - 'ry time of need, be - fore the judg - ment throne,



For as each par - a - ble is heard Christ's king - dom is made known.  
Had mer - cy and so he a - lone a neigh - bor proved to be?  
Your work, O Lamb of God, I'll plead, your mer - its, not my own.

## Passion Reading

*III. The Palace of the High Priest*

*Stand*



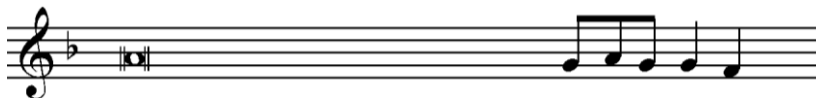
## Nunc Dimittis



Lord now let Your ser-vant de-part in peace accord-ing



to Your word. For my eyes have seen Your sal-va-tion,



which You have prepared before the face of all peo-ple,



a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glory of Your peo-ple Is - rael.



Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir-it,



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev - er. Amen.

*Sit*

**Offering**

*Sonate for Harp: III. Lied - Paul Hindemith*

*Stand*

# Prayer

## Kyrie

Mark 10:47



**C** Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

## Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13

**P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C** **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

## Salutation

2 Timothy 4:22



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with your spir - it.

## Collect of the Day

- P** Let us pray. O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



## Prayer of the Church

- P** Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

*Each petition ends with the following:*

- P** Lord, in Your mercy,  
**C** **hear our prayer.**

*The prayers conclude with the following:*

- P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.  
**C** **Amen**

## Collect for Peace

- P** 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.





## Benedicamus

*Psalm 103:1*



**L** Let us bless the Lord.



**C** Thanks be to God.

## Benediction

*2 Corinthians 13:14*



**P** The grace of our Lord † Je - sus Christ and the love of God



and the communion of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.



**C** A - men.

## Closing Hymn: Abide with Me

**LSB 878**

## Postlude

*Sonata in C minor: I. Allegro - Giovanni Battista Pescetti*



## Acknowledgments

Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing House.

## THOSE WHO SERVE

Pastor:	Rev. James C. Walter
Director of Parish Music:	Nathan Beethe
Reader:	Tim Loyd
Acolyte:	James Junkans
Harp:	Alisa Coffey
Ushers:	Shaun Baker, Ron Krueger Tim Sweeney, Greg Warren
Greeter:	Debbie Penny
Altar Guild:	Suzanne Raddle and Wilma Richter
Nursery Attendant:	Mary Ann Dyer

Our thanks to the Adult Choir for serving the Lenten dinner this evening.