

THE PARABLES
OF LENT
RECEIVE GRACE
THE PARABLE *of the* workers
in the vineyard
March 15, 2023

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Hymn “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” *LSB* 425

Please stand

Invocation

P We begin our service in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

Responsory

P In this holy season the Son of God humbles Himself so that we receive mercy.

C Humble me once again, O God, that my life would be pleasing and acceptable to You.

P In this holy season the Son of God reminds us that His heavenly Father provides us with everything we need, though we deserve nothing.

C Remind me, O God, of the privilege it is to serve in Your kingdom and of Your grace that provides everything that I need, though it is undeserved.

P In this holy season the Son of God enters into His Passion and death so that we are exalted.

C Grant me Your grace, O God, that my faith in Jesus would be pleasing and acceptable to You.

Confession and Absolution

P Too often in our selfishness we feel as though we deserve more than we receive. Let us confess the sins of our hearts and lives to our Lord who hears and forgives:

C Most merciful God, we confess that our very nature is sinful. We do not love You with all our heart, soul, mind and strength. We do not love our neighbors as ourselves. Far too often we feel as though we are slighted and deserve more than we receive. We are mistaken when we think that we ought to make great gain for simply doing what we have been called to do as Your children. By our selfishness we have sinned against You and against others in thought, word and deed. Forgive us, most holy God.

P The Lord Jesus came into this world to take upon Himself that which He did not deserve: He took on our suffering and death as a punishment for our sin and selfishness. Because He got what He did not deserve on the cross, we get what we do not deserve: forgiveness, life and salvation. Receive now the priceless gift He paid for: all of your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Be seated

Hymn of Response “We Sing the Praise of Him Who Died” LSB 429, vv. 1,2
(sing to the tune of TLH 178)

Epistle Reading ... Romans 9:14-24

¹⁴What shall we say then? Is there injustice on God’s part? By no means! ¹⁵For he says to Moses, “I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion.” ¹⁶So then it depends not on human will or exertion, but on God, who has mercy. ¹⁷For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, “For this very purpose I have raised you up, that I might show my power in you, and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth.” ¹⁸So then he has mercy on whomever he wills, and he hardens whomever he wills.

¹⁹You will say to me then, “Why does he still find fault? For who can resist his will?” ²⁰But who are you, O man, to answer back to

God? Will what is molded say to its molder, “Why have you made me like this?” ²¹Has the potter no right over the clay, to make out of the same lump one vessel for honored use and another for dishonorable use? ²²What if God, desiring to show his wrath and to make known his power, has endured with much patience vessels of wrath prepared for destruction, ²³in order to make known the riches of his glory for vessels of mercy, which he has prepared beforehand for glory—
²⁴even us whom he has called, not from the Jews only but also from the Gentiles?

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Special Music “Grace Greater Than Our Sin” ~Steve Denninger

Please stand for the Gospel Reading

Gospel Reading ... Matthew 20:1-16

¹“For the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard.

²After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard.

³And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴and to them he said, ‘You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.’

⁵So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. ⁶And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, ‘Why do you stand here idle all day?’ ⁷They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You go into the vineyard too.’ (continued...)

⁸And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.’ ⁹And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. ¹⁰Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. ¹¹And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, ¹²saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the

scorching heat.’ ¹³But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius?’ ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?’ ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first last.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Be seated

Sermon Hymn ... sung to the tune of LSB 424

1. We listen as the Word like scattered seed is sown,
For as each parable is heard Christ’s kingdom is made known.
2. Although you tend the vine, and labor all the day,
Should I not pay with what is mine, my grace and love display?
3. In ev’ry time of need, before the judgment throne,
Your work, O Lamb of God, I’ll plead, your merits, not my own.

Sermon

Tithes and Offering

Please stand

Prayers

Lord’s Prayer

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

Evening Prayer

P Together, let us pray the evening prayer.

C Abide with us Lord, for it is evening and the day is spent. Abide with us and with Your whole Church. Abide with us at the end of each day, at the end of our life, at the end of the world. Abide with us with Your grace and goodness, with Your holy Word and Sacrament, with Your grace and blessing. Abide with us and all the faithful, both now and forever. Amen

Benediction

P Receive the blessing of the Lord:

May the God of peace provide you with every good thing you need in order to do His will, and may He, through Jesus Christ, do in us what pleases Him. To God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be the glory forever and ever.

C Amen

Be seated

Closing Hymn “All Praise to Thee, My God This Night” LSB 883

Pastor Rev. John Stern	Elder Mark Prieve
Music Barbara Mrosko, Organist; Steve Denninger	
Worship Assistant Richard Delaske	

**Trumps’ Bible Study is sponsoring the Lenten Supper tonight,
serving Beef Stew.**