P. Let us pray as our Savior taught us...

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

--WORDS OF INSTITUTION

--SONGS FOR DISTRIBUTION "Come to the Table"

(Luke 14: 13-14a, 15-23: Matthew 11:28: I John 4:10) <u>Verse 1</u>...We all start on the outside, the outside looking in. This is where grace begins. We were hungry, we were thirsty, with nothing left to give. Oh, the shape that we were in. And just when all hope seemed lost, Love opened the door for us.

Chorus...(He said:) (So) come to the table. Come join the sinners who have been redeemed. Take your place beside the Savior. Sit down and be set free. Come to the table. (Come to the table.)

Verse 2...Come meet this motley crew of misfits, these liars and these thieves; there's no one unwelcome here. And that sin and shame that you brought with you, you can leave it at the door and let mercy draw you near. Chorus...

*Bridge...*To the thief and to the doubter, to the hero and the coward, to the prisoner and the soldier, to the young and to the older, all who hunger all who thirst, all the last and all the first, all the paupers and the princes, all who fail, you've been forgiven, all who dream and all who suffer: all who loved and lost another, all the chained and all the free, all who follow, all who lead, anyone who's been let down, all the lost, you have been found, all who have been labeled right or wrong, to everyone who hears this song:

Final Chorus...Come to the table. Come join the sinners; you have been redeemed. Take your place beside the Savior. Sit down and be set free. Sit down and be set free. Come to the table, come to the table. Sit down and be set free. Come to the table.

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"At the Foot of the Cross" (Matthew 11:28; Isaiah 61:3) Verse 1...At the foot of the cross, where grace and suffering meet, You have shown me Your love through the judgment You received; And You've won my heart, and You've won my heart; Now I can...

Chorus...Trade these ashes in for beauty, and wear forgiveness like a crown; Coming to kiss the feet of Mercy, I lay ev'ry burden down at the foot of the cross.

*Verse 2...*At the foot of the cross, where I am made complete. You have given me life through the death You bore for me; And You've won my heart, and You've won my heart; Now I can... Sing Chorus, then Final Chorus...

Final Chorus... I trade these ashes in for beauty, and wear forgiveness like a crown; Coming to kiss the feet of Mercy, I lay ev'ry burden down, I lay ev'ry burden down, I lay ev'ry burden down, at the foot of the cross, at the foot of the cross, at the foot of the cross, at the foot of the cross.

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-- COMMUNION DISMISSAL

P. The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart in peace.

--BENEDICTION

--CLOSING SONG "Beauty of the Cross" by Jonny Diaz Verse 1...At the cross I find the beauty of Your matchless grace. At the cross I see a King who died to take my place. It's the moment that You made me clean and pardoned my soul. Amazing grace that I would be alive unto Your throne. Not by my own will but solely by Your will alone. I'm unworthy of this love You are showing to me. I see my desperate need.

Chorus...The beauty of the cross is that there's One Who has redeemed my soul. The beauty of the cross is that I'm finally free and letting go. The beauty of the cross is that Your grace has found me just as I am.

Verse 2...Not by my own words that I may boast or I may come. But simply through Your Son, the sinless and Exalted One. Only through the cross am I made clean to draw near to You. Saved so that You would receive all glory due Your name. Everlasting God from age to age You never change. A true love story remains for all eternity that all the world would see. Chorus...

Bridge...My sinful soul could only be redeemed by the blood of a sinless King. So You came to the world that You had made; conquered sin on the cross and You rose from the grave. Chorus sung twice...

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P. Go in peace and serve the Lord!

C. Thanks be to God!

Pastor The Rev. Peter Gueldner Music Connection Team Soundboard Robert Sommers Lectors Johann, Nevaeh Weeg

Elder Wayne Meyer Worship Assistant Larry Hagre

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THE CONNECTION

March 3, 2024 10:30am



- -- PRESERVICE SONG "Indescribable"
- --ANNOUNCEMENTS
- --WORSHIP SONG "Above AII" (Colossians 1:15-20) Verse... Above all powers, above all kings, above all nature and all created things; Above all wisdom and all the ways of man, You were here before the world began. Above all kingdoms, above all thrones, above all wonders the world has ever known; Above all wealth and treasures of the earth, there's no way to measure what You're worth.

Chorus...Crucified, laid behind the stone: You lived to die. rejected and alone. Like a rose, trampled on the ground, You took the fall, and thought of me, above all.

Final Chorus... You were crucified, and laid behind the stone: You lived to die, rejected and alone. Like a rose, trampled on the ground, You took the fall, and thought of me, above all. Like a rose, trampled on the ground, You took the fall, and thought of me, above all.

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(Please stand)

INVOCATION

P. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C. Amen

-- CONFESSION OF SINS

- P. Let us confess our sins to God our Father.
- C. Most merciful God, in Your kindness and love You have saved us. You've rescued us from the coldness of our sin. Yet, we still struggle to share Your warmth in our daily living. Our thoughts don't always follow Your thoughts. Our ways often stray from Your ways. We sin against not only You, but against our neighbors, as well. Forgive us. dear Lord. Wrap us securely in Your love and lead us in Your good ways. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

--FORGIVNESS OF SINS

--STATEMENT OF WHAT WE BELIEVE

"This I Believe (The Creed)"

Verse 1...Our Father everlasting, the all creating One, God almighty. Through Your Holy Spirit, conceiving Christ the Son, Jesus our Savior.

Chorus...

I believe in God our Father, I believe in Christ the Son.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, Our God is three in One.

I believe in the resurrection, that we will rise again.

For I believe in the name of Jesus.

Verse 2... Our Judge and our Defender, suffered and crucified, forgiveness is in You.

Descended into darkness.

You rose in alorious life, forever seated high. Chorus...

Chorus 2...

I believe in life eternal. I believe in the virgin birth.

I believe in the saints' communion and in Your holy church.

I believe in the resurrection, when Jesus comes again.

For I believe in the name of Jesus.

For I believe in the name of Jesus.

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(Please sit)

--FIRST LESSON Exodus 20:1-17 (Johann Weeg)

¹And God spoke all these words, saying,

²"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.

⁴"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. ⁵You 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, ⁶but 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.

8"Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. 9Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, 10 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. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

12"Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³"You shall not murder.

¹⁴"You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵"You shall not steal.

¹⁶"You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

¹⁷"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."

L. Here ends the first reading.

--SECOND LESSON 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 (Nevaeh Weeg)

¹⁸The word of the cross is folly 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, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, ²³but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

²⁶For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong: ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom and our righteousness and sanctification and redemption. ³¹Therefore, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

L. Here ends the second reading. (Please stand)

--GOSPEL LESSON John 2:13-22

¹³The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting there. ¹⁵And 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 moneychangers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶And he told those who sold the pigeons, "Take these things away; do not make my Father's house a house of trade." ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written. "Zeal for your house will consume me."

(continued...)

¹⁸So the Jews said to him, "What sign do you show us for doing these things?" 19 Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ²⁰The Jews then said, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹But he was speaking about the temple of his body. ²²When 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.

P. Here ends the reading of the Gospel. (Please sit)

--CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

--OFFERING / MESSAGE SONG "Ancient Words"

*Verse 1...*Holy words long preserved for our walk in this world, they resound with God's own heart. O, let the ancient words impart. Words of life, words of hope, give us strength, help us cope. In this world where'er we roam, ancient words will guide us home.

Chorus...Ancient words, ever true, changing me and changing you; We have come with open hearts, O, let the ancient words impart.

Verse 2...Holy words of our faith handed down to this age, came to us through sacrifice. O, heed the faithful words of Christ. Holy words long preserved for our walk in this world, they resound with God's own heart. O, let the ancient words impart;

Sing Chorus twice, then...We have come with open hearts. O, let the ancient words impart.

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-- MESSAGE OF THE DAY The Rev. Peter Gueldner "THE HOUSE OF THE LORD VS. THE TEMPLE OF THE LORD"

(Please stand)

--PRAYERS

(Sung at beginning of prayers)

"The Spirit Intercedes For Us" (Romans 8:26)

The Spirit intercedes for us,

With sighs too deep for words to express, oh. oh. oh.

The pastor will conclude the prayers with: "Holy Spirit, in our weakness, help us to pray..."

(Sung at end of the prayers) "The Spirit Intercedes For Ús" (Romans 8:26)

The Spirit intercedes for us.

With sighs too deep for words to express, oh, oh, oh.

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(continued...)