

Third Sunday in Lent

March 7, 2021

10:00

Zion Lutheran Church Camas, Washington

Ministers: the entire congregation

Susan Dollinger, Associate Pastor

Pam Ensley, Youth Minister

Karen Rezabek, Praise Team

Patricia Hagensen, Administrative Assistant

Church office 834-4201; email info@zionluthcamas.org

Hours: Mon 8-12:00, Tues-Fri 8-5:00

“As a welcoming Body of Christ, we celebrate and share God’s saving grace for all.”

INTRODUCTION

The third covenant in this year’s Lenten readings is the central one of Israel’s history: the gift of the law to those God freed from slavery. The commandments begin with the statement that because God alone has freed us from the powers that oppressed us, we are to let nothing else claim first place in our lives. When Jesus throws the merchants out of the temple, he is defending the worship of God alone and rejecting the ways commerce and profit-making can become our gods. The Ten Commandments are essential to our baptismal call: centered first in God’s liberating love, we strive to live out justice and mercy in our communities and the world.

Welcome – Announcements

Call to Worship

Majestic God,

“The midnight skies tell of God’s glory, the midday sun displays holy handiwork.

Each new day speaks God’s language, and night after night knows more than it can tell.”

The testimonies of God are wonderful;

God’s law gives light to all who hear it.

If you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure,

Then you will find the knowledge of God. Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, the keeper of the covenant, the source of steadfast love, our rock and our redeemer. **Amen.**

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 is kept for reflection

Fountain of living water,

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.

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

Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Gathering Song

“Canticle of the Turning”

Number 723

1. My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great, and my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait. You fixed your sight on your plight, and my weakness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be about to turn?

Refrain:

My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn. Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn.

2. Though I am small, my God, my all, you work great things in me, and your mercy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be. Your very name puts the proud to shame, and to those who would for you yearn, You will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is about to turn.

Refrain:

My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn. Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn.

3. From the halls of power to the fortress tower, not a stone will be left on stone. Let the king beware for your justice tears ev'ry tyrant from his throne. The hungry poor shall weep no for the food they can never earn; there are tables spread, ev'ry mouth be fed, for the world is about to turn. *Refrain*
4. Though the nations rage from age to age, we remember who holds us fast: God's mercy must deliver us from the conqueror's crushing grasp. This saving word that our forebears heard is the promise which holds us bound, 'til the spear and rod can be crushed by God, who is turning the world around. *Refrain twice*

First Reading

Exodus 20:1-17

God spoke all these words: ²I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me. ⁴You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments. ⁷You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. ⁸Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

¹²Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you. ¹³You shall not murder. ¹⁴You shall not commit adultery. ¹⁵You shall not steal. ¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. ¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

L: Word of God, Word of life.

C: ***Thanks be to God.***

Psalms Reading

Psalms 19

The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament¹ proclaims his handiwork. ²Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge. ³There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard; yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun,⁵ which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy, and like a strong man runs its course with joy. ⁶Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them; and nothing is hid from its heat. ⁷The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple; ⁸the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes; the fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. ¹⁰More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb. ¹¹Moreover by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward. ¹²But who can detect their errors? Clear me from hidden faults. ¹³Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression. ¹⁴Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

The 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." Where 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. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

L: Word of God, Word of life.

C: ***Thanks be to God.***

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the second chapter.

C: ***Glory to you, O Lord.***

Gospel Reading John 2:13-22

The 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.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: ***Praise to you, O Christ!***

Message

Pr. Susan Dollinger

"Amazing Love"

Billy J. Foote

I'm forgiven, because you were forsaken
I'm accepted, you were condemned
I'm alive and well, your Spirit is within me
Because you died and rose again. *Repeat*

Chorus:

Amazing love, how can it be,
that You, my King, would die for me.
Amazing love, I know it's true,
And it's my joy to honor you,
In all I do, I honor you.

Bridge:

You are my King, You are my King,
Jesus, You are my King, Jesus, You are my King.
I'm forgiven, because you were forsaken
I'm accepted, you were condemned
I'm alive and well, your Spirit is within me
Because you died and rose again. *Chorus*

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence

There is no God before you. Purify the faith of your church, that your people place their trust in nothing beside you. Your name is holy. Guide your church, that in every situation your people's words and actions honor your name. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

The heavens declare your glory. Renew your creation. Provide leaders in the struggle for clean air and water; protect creatures and crops that rely on healthy ecosystems; give all people the willingness to repent when our way of life pollutes the earth and skies. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Your foolishness is wiser than human wisdom. Fill leaders with the foolishness of your peace and mercy. Your law defends the vulnerable. Work through legislators, judicial systems, and systems of law enforcement to protect the wellbeing and freedom of all. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Your weakness is stronger than human strength. Protect those who are vulnerable and give courage to all who are suffering, especially those we remember aloud and in our hearts. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

The cross of Christ is your power for all who are being saved. You call us to proclaim Christ crucified. Give clarity to this congregation and our leaders, so that we might follow Christ beyond our own habits and comfort. Clear out anything in our common life that would obscure the gospel or that serves our own interests. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: ***And also with you.***

Please share a time of peace online with one another using the chat comments or with someone next to you or spend this time in prayer.

"Thy Word Is A Lamp"

Amy Grant, Michael W. Smith

Refrain:

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet And a light unto my path

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet And a light unto my path.

When I feel afraid, I think I've lost my way
Still you're there right beside me.
Nothing will I fear as long as you are near,
Please be near me to the end. *Refrain*

I will not forget your love for me and yet,
my heart forever is wand'ring.
Jesus, be my guide, hold me to your side;
and I will love you to the end. *Refrain twice*

Ending:

You're the light unto my path.

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.

Benediction

P: You are what God made you to be: created in Christ Jesus for good works, chosen as holy and beloved, freed to serve your neighbor. God bless you † that you may be a blessing, in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity. ***Amen.***

Sending Song *"Great Are You, Lord"* Jason Ingram, Leslie Jordan
David Leonard

You give life, You are love
You bring light to the darkness
You give hope, You restore
Every heart that is broken

And great are You, Lord

It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise
We pour out our praise
It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise
To You only

You give life, You are love
You bring light to the darkness
You give hope, You restore
Every heart that is broken

And great are You, Lord

It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise
We pour out our praise
It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise
To You only

It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise
We pour out our praise
It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise
To You only

All the earth will shout
Your praise
Our hearts will cry
These bones will sing
Great are You, Lord (*repeat this verse twice more*)

It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise
We pour out our praise
It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise
To You only

Dismissal
Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God!

Our thanks to this morning's musicians: Brooke Danielson, Doug Danielson, Rick Schaal, Brandon Zarzana

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"Canticle of the Turning"

Text: Rory Cooney, based on the Magnificat; @1990 GIA Publications
Music: Irish traditional; STAR OF COUNTY DOWN

"Amazing Love"

Text: Billy J. Foote; CCLI #2456623; 1996 worshiptogether.com songs
(Admin. by EMI Christian Music Publishing)

"Thy Word Is A Lamp" Amy Grant, Michael W. Smith; CCLI #14301
1984 Word Music, LLC (a div. of Word Music Group, Inc.)
Meadowgreen Music Company (Admin. by EMI Christian Music Publishing)

"Great Are You, Lord" Jason Ingram, Leslie Jordan, David Leonard
CCLI # 6460220; 2012 Integrity's Alleluia! Music, Integrity's Praise!
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