

## **March 23, 2025 – Third Sunday in Lent**

*We are called to let our light shine as instruments of the Holy Spirit so all may know God's love.*

### **Confession and Forgiveness**

Often, we overlook the daily provision we've received and choose instead to focus on things we do not yet have. Let us confess our sins of ingratitude and greed together.

**God of abundance, we confess we overlook your daily provision. We take your gifts for granted, longing for what we do not have instead of treasuring what we do. Our hearts are often filled with envy, and our desires pull us away from gratitude. Forgive us, O God. Open our eyes to your faithfulness and teach us to live with contentment and thanksgiving. We trust that you provide all we truly need. Amen.**

Beloved, hear this good news: Our compassionate God is faithful to pardon our sins and will set us on the paths of gratitude and generosity. Receive forgiveness ✠ and be at peace. **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

### **Opening Hymn "Build Us Up, Lord"**

1 Build us up, Lord, build us up;  
set in us a strong foundation.  
Lead us to do your holy will;  
form and shape your new creation.  
Build us up, Lord, build us up;  
as we guide and teach each other,  
help us to share your love with the world:  
every sister, every brother.

#### *Refrain*

Growing in Christ, we plant seeds  
for the kingdom;  
we follow in faith what's begun!  
Lord, set in our hearts  
the power of your word  
to spread the news of your Son!

2 Build us up, Lord, build us up;  
let our lives reflect your glory.  
Cast away all our doubts and fears;  
help us tell the world your story.  
Build us up, Lord, build us up;  
help us bear good fruit for you,  
Lord, give us vision and keep us sure.  
Grant us faith that's steadfast and true. [Refrain]

### **Greeting**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

**God our provider, you call us into community. Banish our emptiness, and meet us in ordinary things like our daily bread. As we gather in worship, open our hearts to your voice and our hands to your provision. Teach us to trust in your abundance, to share what we have, and to pray boldly. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.**

### **First Reading – Isaiah 55:1-9**

*Everyone who thirsts, come to the water; seek the Lord*  
Response: Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 63:1-8** *O God, eagerly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you.*

O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

**Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, that I might behold your power and your glory.**

For your steadfast love is better than life itself; my lips shall give you praise.

**So will I bless you as long as I live and lift up my hands in your name.**

My spirit is content, as with the richest of foods, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,  
**when I remember you upon my bed, and meditate on you in the night watches.**

For you have been my helper, and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.

**My whole being clings to you; your right hand holds me fast.**

### **Gospel: Matthew 6:9-13** *Bread for Each Day*

Before: The holy Gospel according to . . .

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

After: The Gospel of our Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **Message**

## Hymn of the Day "We Come to the Hungry Feast"

1. We come to the hungry feast  
hungry for a word of peace.  
To hungry hearts unsatisfied  
the love of God is not denied.  
We come, we come to the hungry feast.

2. We come to the hungry feast  
hungry for a world released  
from hungry folk of ev'ry kind,  
the poor in body, poor in mind.  
We come, we come to the hungry feast.

3. We come to the hungry feast  
hungry that the hunger cease,  
and knowing, though we eat our fill,  
the hunger will stay with us;  
still we come, we come to the hungry feast.

## Apostle's Creed

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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 the People

Response: God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

## Offering

## Giving Prayer

Holy God, **receive these humble gifts and bless those who give with steady daily provision. Help us steward these gifts wisely and multiply our resources to do good work in faith. Amen.**

## 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.**

## Announcements

## Blessing

As we go, may the love of God enfold us, the peace of Christ guide us, and the power of the Holy Spirit sustain us, ✠ now and forever. **Amen.**

## Closing Hymn "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

1 What a friend we have in Jesus,  
all our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry  
everything to God in prayer!  
O what peace we often forfeit,  
O what needless pain we bear,  
all because we do not carry  
everything to God in prayer!

2 Have we trials and temptations?  
Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged;  
take it to the Lord in prayer!  
Can we find a friend so faithful  
who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our every weakness;  
take it to the Lord in prayer!

3 Are we weak and heavy laden,  
cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious Savior, still our refuge--  
take it to the Lord in prayer!  
Do your friends despise, forsake you?  
Take it to the Lord in prayer!  
In his arms he'll take and shield you;  
you will find a solace there.

## Dismissal

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.  
**Thanks be to God!**