

**Sunday, March 10, 2024**

**Prelude**

***Let Not Your Hearts be Troubled***

Let not your hearts be troubled, be not afraid  
Heaven and earth have been gathered, be not afraid

**Welcome**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God above all, who writes the law of love on our hearts,  
and who draws all people together through Jesus.

**Amen.**

Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Holy God,*

**We confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free.**

**We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold.**

**We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up.**

**We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred.**

**For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord.**

**Amen.**

Hear these words of grace: In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Out of love for the whole world,  
God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of new life.

**Amen.**

**Opening Hymn**

***O Jesus, I Have Promised***

1. O Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end,  
Remain forever near me, my master and my friend.  
I shall not fear the battle, if you are by my side,  
Nor wander from the pathway, if you will be my guide.
2. O let me feel you near me, the world is ever near,  
I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I hear.  
My foes are ever near me, around me and within,  
But, Jesus, then draw nearer, to shield my soul from sin.
3. O let me hear you speaking in accents clear and still,  
Above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will.  
Now speak to reassure me, to hasten or control,  
Now speak, and make me listen, O guardian of my soul.

## Invocation

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

## Kyrie

*Kyrie Eleison means "Lord have mercy."*

*Refrain:*

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,  
Kyrie eleison, every day.

1. For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all  
For this holy house, for all who worship and praise,  
Let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord... *(Refrain)*
2. That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor,  
That we may live out truth and justice and grace,  
Let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord... *(Refrain)*
3. For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family.  
For life and for love, for our work and our play,  
Let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord... *(Refrain)*

## Prayer of the Day

Great Lord of life, you have taught us that loving you and loving our neighbor  
is your greatest commandment. Teach us to love others as unconditionally as you love us.

**Amen.**

## Reading

### Mark 12:28-44

#### *The Widow's Gift*

One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?" Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." Then the scribe said to him, "You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that 'he is one, and besides him there is no other'; and 'to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,' and 'to love one's neighbor as oneself;—this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices." When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." After that no one dared to ask him any question. While Jesus was teaching in the temple, he said, "Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! They devour widows' houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation." He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."

## Message

## Hymn of the Day

## *Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us*

Lord of glory, you have bought us with your life-blood as the price,  
Never grudging for the lost ones that tremendous sacrifice.  
And with that have freely given blessings, countless as the sand,  
To the unthankful and the evil with your own unsparing hand.

Wondrous honor you have given to our humblest charity,  
In your own mysterious sentence, "You have done it all to me."  
Naked, sick, in prison, hungry, in the least, your face we view,  
Saying by your poor and needy, "Give as I have given to you."

Lord of glory, you have bought us with your life-blood as the price,  
Never grudging for the lost ones that tremendous sacrifice.  
Give us faith to trust you boldly, hope, to stay our souls on you,  
But, oh, best of all your graces, with your love our love renew.

## 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.**

## Sharing of the Peace

## Offering

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## Offertory Response

## *Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am*

Take, oh, take me as I am, summon out what I shall be,  
Set your seal upon my heart and live in me.

## Closing Prayer

Holy God, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world.  
Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy,  
that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

### **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**

May Almighty God, Creator, Christ, and Comforter, keep you in God's light, God's truth, and God's love, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **Closing Hymn**

### ***Lamb of God***

Your only Son, no sin to hide,  
But you have sent him from your side,  
To walk upon this guilty sod  
And to become the Lamb of God.

*Chorus:*

Oh Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God,  
I love the holy Lamb of God.  
Oh wash me in his precious blood,  
My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Your gift of love they crucified.  
They laughed and scorned him as He died.  
The humble king they named a fraud  
And sacrificed the Lamb of God. (*Chorus*)

I was so lost I should have died,  
But you have brought me to your side  
to be led by your staff and rod  
and to be called a lamb of God. (*Chorus*)

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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### **In Our Prayers this Week:**

*Prayer requests will remain in the bulletin for four weeks  
unless a longer duration is requested through the church office.*

Alden Hirsch, Jim Morrow, Stella Halvorson, Leon Fritzke, Dick Erickson, Rick Mann,  
Aiko Landgraf (niece of Sue Magnuson), Grace Peterson (mother of Denise Kaduk),  
Bob Nus (neighbor of Cindy Essen), Brianna Torvick (friend of Jamie Isakson)