



Lent Wednesday Worship
February 24, 2021



Welcome & Announcements

Opening Hymn: Joyous Light of Heavenly Glory

Joyous light of heavn'ly glory, loving glow of God's own face,
you who sing creation's story, shine on ev'ry land and race.
Now as evening falls around us, we shall raise our songs to you.
God of daybreak, God of shadows, come and light our hearts anew.

In the stars that grace the darkness, in the blazing sun of dawn,
in the light of peace and wisdom, we can hear your quiet song.
Love that fills the night with wonder, love that warms the weary soul,
love that bursts all chains asunder, set us free and make us whole.

You who made the heaven's splendor, ev'ry dancing star of night,
make us shine with gentle justice, let each reflect your light.
Mighty God of all creation, gentle Christ who lights our way,
loving Spirit of salvation, lead us on to endless day.

Lenten Dialog

Jesus Christ is the light of the world,
the light no darkness can overcome.

Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,
and the day is almost over.

Let your light scatter the darkness
and illumine your church.

Behold, now is the acceptable time;
now is the day of salvation.

Turn us again, O God of our salvation,
that the light of your face may shine upon us.

May your justice shine like the sun;
and may the poor be lifted up.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.

We call upon you, O Lord; come quickly and give ear to our voices as we call to you. Let our prayers be counted as incense before you and the lifting up of our hands as an evening sacrifice. Set a watch before our mouths, O Lord, and guard the door of our lips. Let not our hearts incline to any evil thing; let us not be occupied in wickedness with evildoers. But let our eyes be turned to you, O Lord God. For in you we take our refuge. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Scripture Readings

First Reading: Exodus 19:1-6, 20:1-2

At the third new moon after the Israelites had gone out of the land of Egypt, on that very day, they came into the wilderness of Sinai. They had journeyed from Rephidim, entered the wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness; Israel camped there in front of the mountain. Then Moses went up to God; the LORD called to him from the mountain, saying, 'Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the Israelites: You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. Now therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites.'

Then God spoke all these words: I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

L: Word of God; word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: Mark 12:28-31

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.'

L: Word of God; word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

The First Commandment: **I am the Lord your God, You shall have no other gods.**

What does this mean for us? **We are to fear, love, and trust God above anything else.**

The Second Commandment: **You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.**

What does this mean for us? **We are to fear and love God so that we do not use God's name superstitiously, or use it to curse, swear, lie, or deceive, but call on God in prayer, praise, and thanksgiving.**

The Third Commandment: **Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.**

What does this mean for us? **We are to fear and love God so that we do not neglect God's Word and the preaching of it, but regard it as holy and gladly hear and learn it.**

Lenten Homily: Pastor Dwight Rudquist

Notes:

Hymn of the Day: **Word of God, Come Down on Earth**

Word of God, come down on earth, living rain from heav'n descending;
touch our hearts and bring to birth faith and hope and love unending.
Word almighty, we revere you; Word made flesh, we long to hear you.

Word eternal, throned on high, Word that brought to life creation,
Word that came from heav'n to die, crucified for our salvation,
saving Word, the world restoring, speak to us, your love outpouring.

Word that speaks God's tender love, one with God beyond all telling,
Word that sends us from above God Spirit, with us dwelling,
Word of truth, to all truth lead us; Word of life, with one bread feed us.

Prayers

Hear my prayer, O Lord;
listen to my cry.

Keep me as the apple of your eye;
hide me in the shadow of your wings.

In righteousness I shall see you;
when I wake, your presence will give me joy.

Be present, merciful God, and protect us through the hours of this night, so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of life may find our rest in you. Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work or watch or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, comfort the afflicted, shield the joyous; all for your love's sake. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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 & Dismissal

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Almighty and merciful God, Father,+ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep us, this night and forevermore. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn: O Word of God Incarnate

O Word of God incarnate, O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky:
we praise you for the radiance that from the hallowed page,
a lantern to our footsteps, shines on from age to age.

The church from you, dear Master, received the gift divine;
and still that light is lifted o'er all the earth to shine.
It is the chart and compass that, all life's voyage through,
mid mists and rocks and quick-sands still guides, O Christ, to you.

Oh, make your church, dear Savior, a lamp of burnished gold
to bear before the nations your true light, as of old;
oh, teach your wand'ring pilgrims by this their path to trace,
till, clouds and darkness ended, they see you face to face.