



Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church

www.old-swedes.org

215-389-1513

March 8, 2026
Third Sunday in Lent

Ministry Assistants Today

Lector: *Candace Roberts*
Intercessor: *Corin Micklewright*
Usher: *Mark Roberts*
Altar Guild: *Jeanette Woehr*
Celebrant: *Rev. Chris Micklewright*
Organist: *Adam Haines*

Ministry Assistants March 15

Lector: *Omega Moore*
Intercessor: *Charles Moore*
Usher: *Bob Jenkins*
Altar Guild: *Christine Pickup*
Celebrant: *Rev. Chris Micklewright*
Organist: *Adam Haines*

Welcome to Gloria Dei!

Today is the first Sunday of the season of Lent, during which we prepare for the celebration of Easter. Traditionally, this work of preparation is done through "self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word." However, it is also important to remember that we are never called to shame or despair. Rather, the traditional Lenten practices invite us to recognize our own limitations, so that we might come to a deeper understanding of God's love and mercy. So, please join us today, and throughout Lent, as we prepare to celebrate Easter.

Prelude

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.
All **God's mercy endures forever.** *(All kneel or sit, as they are able)*
Celebrant Hear the commandments of God to God's people:
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage. You shall have no other gods but me.
People **Amen. Lord have mercy.**
Celebrant You shall not make for yourself any idol.
People **Amen. Lord have mercy.**
Celebrant You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.
People **Amen. Lord have mercy.**
Celebrant Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.
People **Amen. Lord have mercy.**
Celebrant Honor your father and your mother.
People **Amen. Lord have mercy.**
Celebrant You shall not commit murder.
People **Amen. Lord have mercy.**
Celebrant You shall not commit adultery.
People **Amen. Lord have mercy.**
Celebrant You shall not steal.
People **Amen. Lord have mercy.**
Celebrant You shall not be a false witness.
People **Amen. Lord have mercy.**
Celebrant You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.
People **Amen. Lord have mercy.**
Celebrant If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
Let us therefore confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *(Silence is kept for a moment)*
All **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**
Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.
All **Amen.** *(all stand, as they are able)*

Hymn # S96

Lord, Have Mercy

Hymnal 1982

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.
All **Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

First Reading

Exodus 17:1-7

Candace Roberts

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?"
(continued...)

But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

All Thanks be to God.

Psalm 95

Come, let us sing to the LORD; *

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *

and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the LORD is a great God, *

and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *

and the heights of the hills are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it, *

and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *

and kneel before the LORD our Maker.

For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. *

Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

Harden not your hearts, as your forebears did in the wilderness, *

at Meribah, and on that day at Massah, when they tempted me.

They put me to the test, *

though they had seen my works.

Forty years long I detested that generation and said, *

"This people are wayward in their hearts; they do not know my ways."

So I swore in my wrath, *

"They shall not enter into my rest."

Second Reading

Romans 5:1-11

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person-- though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. (or if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

All Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **John (4:5-42)**.

All **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" They left the city and were on their way to him.

Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something." But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon

Rev. Chris Micklewright

After the sermon, there will be a few moments for quiet reflection. Then the congregation stands to reaffirm our faith using the Nicene Creed. Some elements may be strange or confusing – and you are always invited to engage in further conversation and reflection around the Creed, the sermon, or any part of the liturgy.

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father,
the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius
Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the
right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living
and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the
giver of life, who proceeds from the Father
and the Son. With the Father and the Son he
is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic
Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the
forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People – Based on Psalm 91 *(leader and people pray responsively)* **Corin Micklewright**

Celebrant Beloved friends, in this season of repentance and healing, let us enter with Mary Magdalene and the other disciples into the grief and confusion of the hours following Jesus' death. As we wait in this darkness, may we draw hope from the example of the saints who have gone before us, and especially from God's faithfulness to walk with us in fearful times. *(Silent Pause)*

Intercessor To the God of just and inescapable truth, we pray for our leaders – in the church and in the world around us. May the light of your wisdom be a lens to illuminate justice and clarity in the eyes and hearts of those who wield power. *(Silent pause.)* Lord have mercy.

People Christ have mercy.

Intercessor To the God of immeasurable mercy and care, we pray for our divided nation, and for the needs of the most vulnerable among us. Today we particularly remember our trans siblings, and all who face the threat of violence from corrupt systems of power. *(Silent pause.)* Lord have mercy.

People Christ have mercy.

Intercessor To the God vast enough to know all sorrow, but tender enough to know every tear, we pray for the needs of the world, especially for those living in nations besieged by violence, and for those who are hungry today. *(Silent pause.)* Lord have mercy.

People Christ have mercy.

Intercessor To the God who is able to heal all wounds, we pray for the needs of our community, remembering especially: **Sara, Rev. John, Erica, Elia, Eulogio, Sheila, Emily, Monica, Amy, William, Betty, Dina, Gia, Beth, Seamus, Thomassina, Julie, Denise, Jason, Laurie, Peggy, Joanna, Mark, Margie, Bonnie, Keith, Connie, and Jack.**
(Long pause for further names.) Lord have mercy.

People Christ have mercy.

Intercessor To the God of the living and of the dead, we pray for Mary and the disciples, for all the saints who have gone before us, and for the recently departed.
(Long pause for names.) Lord have mercy.

People Christ have mercy.

Celebrant Merciful God, whose son Jesus Christ sacrificed himself on our behalf willingly and with great love, fill us with that same love, that it may unknot our hearts and ease our souls, and that we might share this love with all your creatures; all this we pray in the name of Jesus, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Peace, Announcements, & Offertory

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.** *(Please share the peace by greeting your siblings in Christ.)*

Pre-Offertory Hymn # 686

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Hymnal 1982

Offertory Sentence

Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving and raise a loud shout to him with psalms. *-Psalm 95:1-2*

Collecting an offering is a way for us to remember that all we have is a gift from God, and that we are to be responsible stewards of the gifts entrusted to us. Guests are welcome to support our work of worship, ministry, and preservation - but should feel no obligation to give. Electronic giving is possible using the QR code found on the back of the bulletin.

After the collection, the offering is brought forward as we stand to sing the following song of thanksgiving.

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all
crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host:
praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.
Thomas Ken, 1674 GENEVAN 134 (OLD HUNDREDDTH) L.M.

The Holy Communion – Book of Common Prayer, Prayer A

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth. You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Hymn # S129

The Sanctus

Hymnal 1982

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Celebrant Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and maker of all. Jesus stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

—On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

—After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Celebrant Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Celebrant We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever.

All *(In a LOUD voice!)* **AMEN!**

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

| | | |
|------------|---|--|
| All | 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, For ever and ever. Amen. |
|------------|---|--|

The Fraction and Invitation

Celebrant Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
All Have mercy upon us.

Celebrant Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
All Have mercy upon us.

Celebrant Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
All Grant us peace.

Celebrant This is the table not of the church but of our Lord Jesus. It is made ready for those who love him and those who want to love him more. So come, you who have much faith and you who have little, you who have been here often and you who have not been here long, you who have tried to follow and you who have failed. Come, because it is Jesus who invites you. It is his will that those who want him should meet him here.

Episcopal theology recognizes baptism as the formal entry into the Christian community, and baptism is normally a prerequisite to receiving communion. However, we also recognize that God meets us wherever we are on our journey of faith. Moreover, Jesus regularly welcomed and ate with people from outside of his normal community.

Therefore, all are welcome at this table - including children!

Kneel or stand at the rail, as you are comfortable. Gluten free wafers and grape juice are available – just hold up one finger to receive either of these alternative elements. The priest will distribute wafers, which you receive in your outstretched hands. If you wish to receive the cup, you may drink or dip your wafer; it is also okay to receive the wafer only – we believe that Jesus is fully present in each of the elements of communion.

If you prefer not to receive, you are still warmly invited to come forward and cross your arms to receive a blessing.

The Post-Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

All Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Solemn Prayer over the People

Celebrant Look mercifully on this your family, Almighty God, that by your great goodness they may be governed and preserved evermore; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Announcements *Please pick up a Upcoming Events sheet from the table in the back.*

Closing Hymn # 690

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Hymnal 1982

Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

***All are invited to listen to the postlude,
and then to join us for a time of fellowship in Riverside Hall.***

Gloria Dei Clergy and Staff

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Gloria Dei Vestry

*Gabrielle Barbour, Ann Brilliant, Angel Guido, Re Henning, Carol Jenkins (Rector's Warden),
Christine Pickup, Candace Roberts (Accounting Warden), Cathy Ufheil (Secretary), Jeanette Woehr*

Online Giving Available

It is possible to give to Gloria Dei on our website,
www.old-swedes.org/give, or using the QR code:

