

**An Order for  
The Third Sunday Before Lent  
Sunday, February 28, 2021 | 11:00 am EET**

**The Gathering**

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

**Prayers of Penitence**

Hear the words of our Saviour Jesus Christ:  
'I am the light of the world.  
Whoever follows me  
shall never walk in darkness  
but shall have the light of life.'  
Let us therefore bring our sins into his light  
and confess them in penitence and faith.  
cf John 8.12

*There is a moment of silence in which we recollect all the thing we have done which we ought not to have done, and left undone those things which we ought to have done.*

**All Father eternal,  
giver of light and grace,  
we have sinned against you  
and against our neighbour,  
in what we have thought,  
in what we have said and done,  
through ignorance, through weakness,  
through our own deliberate fault.  
We have wounded your love,  
and marred your image in us.  
We are sorry and ashamed,  
and repent of all our sins.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
who died for us,  
forgive us all that is past;  
and lead us out from darkness  
to walk as children of light. Amen.**

Almighty God,  
who forgives all who truly repent,  
have mercy upon you,  
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,  
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,  
and keep you in life eternal;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**All Amen.**

**Hymn: Lord of All Hopefulness**

<https://youtu.be/PNILEI8rkSA>

1 Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,  
Whose trust, ever child-like, no cares can destroy,  
Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,  
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

2 Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,  
Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,  
Be there at our labors, and give us, we pray,  
Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.

3 Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,  
Your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace,  
Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,  
Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

4 Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,  
Whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm,  
Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,  
Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

**Collect**

Eternal God, whose Son went among the crowds  
and brought healing with his touch:  
help us to show his love,  
in your Church as we gather together,  
and by our lives as they are transformed  
into the image of Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**The First Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:5-12**

A reading from Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians.

- <sup>5</sup> For we do not proclaim ourselves;  
we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord  
and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake.
- <sup>6</sup> For it is the God who said,  
"Let light shine out of darkness,"  
who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the  
knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.
- <sup>7</sup> But we have this treasure in clay jars,  
so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God  
and does not come from us.
- <sup>8</sup> We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed;  
perplexed, but not driven to despair;  
<sup>9</sup> persecuted, but not forsaken;  
struck down, but not destroyed;  
<sup>10</sup> always carrying in the body the death of Jesus,  
so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies.
- <sup>11</sup> For while we live,  
we are always being given up to death  
for Jesus' sake,  
so that the life of Jesus  
may be made visible in our mortal flesh.
- <sup>12</sup> So death is at work in us,  
but life in you.

This is the word of the Lord.

*All Thanks be to God.*

**Psalm 139.1-5,12-18**

1 O Lord, you have searched me out and known me; ♦  
you know my sitting down and my rising up;  
you discern my thoughts from afar.

2 You mark out my journeys and my resting place ♦  
and are acquainted with all my ways.

3 For there is not a word on my tongue, ♦  
but you, O Lord, know it altogether.

4 You encompass me behind and before ♦  
and lay your hand upon me.

5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, ♦  
so high that I cannot attain it.

12 For you yourself created my inmost parts; ♦  
you knit me together in my mother's womb.

13 I thank you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; ♦  
marvellous are your works, my soul knows well.

14 My frame was not hidden from you, ♦  
when I was made in secret  
and woven in the depths of the earth.

15 Your eyes beheld my form, as yet unfinished; ♦  
already in your book were all my members written,

16 As day by day they were fashioned ♦  
when as yet there was none of them.

17 How deep are your counsels to me, O God! ♦  
How great is the sum of them!

18 If I count them, they are more in number than the sand, ♦  
and at the end, I am still in your presence.

**Glory to God, Source of all being,  
Eternal Word and Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen**

**Hymn: Halle, Halle, Halle** <https://youtu.be/xjf6bYQRbtU>

Halle, halle, hallelujah!  
Halle, halle, hallelujah!  
Halle, halle, hallelujah!  
Hallelujah, hallelujah!

**The Gospel Reading: Mark 2:23-3:6**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark  
*All Glory to you, O Lord.*

<sup>23</sup> One sabbath [Jesus] was going through the grainfields;  
and as they made their way his disciples began to pluck heads of grain.

<sup>24</sup> The Pharisees said to him,  
“Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the sabbath?”

<sup>25</sup> And he said to them,  
    “Have you never read  
        what David did  
        when he and his companions were hungry and in need of food?  
<sup>26</sup> He entered the house of God, when Abiathar was high priest,  
        and ate the bread of the Presence,  
            which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat,  
        and he gave some to his companions.”  
<sup>27</sup> Then he said to them,  
    “The sabbath was made for humankind,  
        and not humankind for the sabbath;  
    <sup>28</sup> so the Son of Man is lord even of the sabbath.”

<sup>3</sup> Again he entered the synagogue,  
    and a man was there who had a withered hand.

<sup>2</sup> They watched him to see  
    whether he would cure him on the sabbath,  
    so that they might accuse him.

<sup>3</sup> And he said to the man who had the withered hand,  
    “Come forward.”

<sup>4</sup> Then he said to them,  
    “Is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the sabbath, to save life or to kill?”  
But they were silent.

<sup>5</sup> He looked around at them with anger;  
    he was grieved at their hardness of heart  
    and said to the man,  
    “Stretch out your hand.”

He stretched it out, and his hand was restored.

<sup>6</sup> The Pharisees went out  
    and immediately conspired with the Herodians against him,  
    how to destroy him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
*All Praise to you, O Christ.*

### **Reflection**

**Hymn: God is Love, Let Heaven Adore Him**

[https://youtu.be/gyYWW\\_P9MH4](https://youtu.be/gyYWW_P9MH4)

1 God is love: let heaven adore him;  
God is love: let earth rejoice;  
let creation sing before him,  
and exalt him with one voice.  
He who laid the earth's foundation,  
he who spread the heav'ns above,  
he who breathes through all creation,  
he is Love, eternal Love.

2 God is love: and he enfoldeth  
all the world in one embrace;  
with unfailing grasp he holdeth  
every child of every race;  
and when human hearts are breaking  
under sorrow's iron rod,  
all the sorrow, all the aching  
wings with pain the heart of God.

3 God is love: and though with blindness  
sin afflicts the souls of men,  
God's eternal loving-kindness  
holds and guides us even then.  
Sin and death and hell shall never  
o'er us final triumph gain;  
God is love, so love for ever  
o'er the universe must reign.

**An Affirmation of Faith:** *Shema Yisrael* שמע ישראל

Let us recall the teaching of Jesus as we say:

**Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one.**

**Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul,  
with all your mind, and with all your strength.**

**This is the first and the great commandment.**

**The second is like it: Love your neighbour as yourself.**

**There is no commandment greater than these.**

**An Intercession.**

**The Lord's Prayer (Traditional Language)**

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has 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,**

**the power and the glory,**

**for ever and ever. Amen.**

**Announcements**

### **The Blessing**

May God,  
who in Christ gives us a spring of water welling up to eternal life,  
perfect in you the image of his glory;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.  
*All Amen.*

### **Hymn: I Saw The Light**

<https://youtu.be/h0oEq0bMnyA>

1 I wandered so aimless, life filled with sin,  
I wouldn't let my dear saviour in.  
Then Jesus came like a stranger in the night -  
praise the Lord! I saw the light.

*Chorus*        I saw the light, I saw the light  
                  No more in darkness, no more in night.  
                  Now I'm so happy no sorrow in sight  
                  Praise the lord I saw the light.

2 Just like a blind man I wandered along,  
worries and fears I claimed for my own.  
Then like the blind man that God gave back his sight  
Praise the lord I saw the light.

3 I was a fool to wander astray,  
straight is the gate and narrow the way.  
Now I have traded the wrong for the right -  
praise the Lord! I saw the light.

*Chorus*

### **Dismissal**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
*All In the name of Christ. Amen.*