

Our mission is to

## **Glorify God**

as we

#### Gather

around the Gospel to help people

#### Grow

in the **Gospel** and

Go

with the Gospel

**Welcome!** We thank God that you have joined us at worship today.

Restrooms are located in the basement. Hearing loop headphones and Large Print Hymnals are available from an usher.

If your children need to leave worship, please take them to the basement. A TV broadcasts the service in the basement.

Today we gather together in the presence of God. He is present among us in a special way through his Word and Sacrament. We acknowledge our sin and rejoice in the good news of forgiveness through the life and death of Christ. This is the focus of our worship.

# March 16, 2025 2nd Sunday in Lent



## No Detours Allowed

The door to God and the glory he has prepared for us stands wide open. However, he has mapped out a very specific pathway to that door. It is not an easy one. As it did with Jesus, this route takes us through opposition, suffering, and even death. While our human nature may cause us to want to take a detour around these things, Jesus own life shows us that no detour is allowed. His cross came before his crown. The same path lies ahead of us. However, at the end of it, through the open door, we are offered a reward far superior to anything the world can offer.

## **Opening Hymn**

Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways CW 705



- 1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways
- 2 Or der my foot steps by your Word, and
- 3 As sist my soul, too apt to stray, a
- 4 Make me to walk in your com-mands—'tis

keep his stat - utes still!

make my heart sin - cere; strict - er watch to keep,

a de-light-ful road—



Oh, that my God would grant me grace to know and do his will! let sin have no do - min-ion, Lord, but keep my con-science clear. and should I e'er for - get your way, re - store your wan - d'ring sheep. nor let my head or heart or hands of - fend a - gainst my God.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, abr., alt. Tune: William H. Havergal, 1793–1870 Text and tune: Public domain

#### Stand

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

## CONFESSION OF SINS AND ABSOLUTION

M: Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

C: Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

M: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

C: Almighty and merciful Father,

we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed our own selfish ways and the desires of our hearts.

We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.

We have done those things that we should not have done, and we have not done those things that we should have done.

Have mercy on us, Lord!

Spare us, forgive us, and restore us, according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

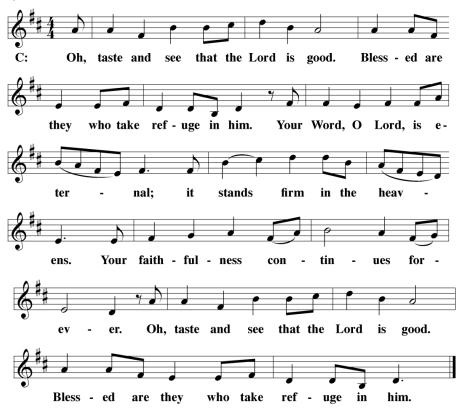
M: Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the (T) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

## C: Amen.

## PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

## Oh, Taste and See



## Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you see that we have no power to defend ourselves. Guard and keep us both outwardly and inwardly from all adversities that may happen to the body and all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

#### C: Amen.

Be Seated

## Choir (10:30 am)

## Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry in the dawning of the King. He the theme of heaven's praises robed in frail humanity. In our longing, in our darkness, now the light of life has come. Look to Christ, who condescended, took on flesh to ransom us.

By Matt Boswell, Matt Papa & Michael Bleeker Arranged by Dennis Allen 2013 McKinney Music, Inc,

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry, He the perfect Son of Man. In His living, in His stuff'ring, never trace nor stain of sin. See the true and better Adam, come to save the hellbound man, Christ the great and sure fulfillment of the law; in Him we stand.

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry, Christ the Lord upon the tree. In the stead of ruined sinners hangs the Lamb in victory.

See the price of our redemption, see the Father's plan unfold.

Bringing many sons to glory, grace unmeasured, love untold.

Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe. Sin had left a crimson stain, He washed it white as snow.

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry, slain by death the God of life. But no grave could e'er restrain Him, praise the Lord; He is alive! What a foretaste of deliv'rance, how unwavering our hope. Christ in power resurrected, as we will be when He comes. Christ in power resurrected, as we will be when He comes!

## THE WORD

First Lesson Jeremiah 26:8-15

Jeremiah knew the path the Lord had called him to walk—calling the nation to repent—might get him killed. In love for the Lord and for his nation, Jeremiah walked that path willingly.

<sup>8</sup>But as soon as Jeremiah finished telling all the people everything the LORD had commanded him to say, the priests, the prophets and all the people seized him and said, "You must die! <sup>9</sup>Why do you prophesy in the LORD's name that this house will be like Shiloh and this city will be desolate and deserted?" And all the people crowded around Jeremiah in the house of the LORD.

<sup>10</sup>When the officials of Judah heard about these things, they went up from the royal palace to the house of the LORD and took their places at the entrance of the New Gate of the LORD's house. <sup>11</sup>Then the priests and the prophets said to the officials and all the people, "This man should be sentenced to death because he has prophesied against this city. You have heard it with your own ears!"

<sup>12</sup>Then Jeremiah said to all the officials and all the people: "The LORD sent me to prophesy against this house and this city all the things you have heard. <sup>13</sup>Now reform your ways and your actions and obey the LORD your God. Then the LORD will relent and not bring the disaster he has pronounced against you. <sup>14</sup>As for me, I am in your hands; do with me whatever you think is good and right. <sup>15</sup>Be assured, however, that if you put me to death, you will bring the guilt of innocent blood on yourselves and on this city and on those who live in it, for in truth the LORD has sent me to you to speak all these words in your hearing." (NIV)



Text: Martin Nystrom Tune: Martin Nystrom

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**Second Lesson** 

Philippians 3:17-4:1

Paul explains that being a follower of Jesus means that our path in life will resemble his. Paul encourages us to not try and take detours as we journey toward heaven.

<sup>17</sup> Brothers, join together in imitating me and in paying attention to those who are walking according to the pattern we gave you. <sup>18</sup> To be sure, many walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. I told you about them often, and now I am saying it while weeping. <sup>19</sup> Their end is destruction, their god is their appetite, <sup>[a]</sup> and their glory is in their shame. They are thinking only about earthly things. <sup>20</sup> But our citizenship is in heaven. We are eagerly waiting for a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>21</sup> By the power that enables him to subject all things to himself, he will transform our humble bodies to be like his glorious body.

<sup>4:1</sup>So then, my brothers, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, in this way keep standing firm in the Lord, my dear friends. (EHV)

## Verse of the Day

M: Being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross! (Philippians 2:8 NIV)

Stand

Gospel Luke 13:31-35

The Pharisees offer Jesus a detour around danger and a shortcut to safety. But Jesus was determined to continue down the path he was on for us and our salvation.

<sup>31</sup>At that time some Pharisees came to Jesus and said to him, "Leave this place and go somewhere else. Herod wants to kill you."

<sup>32</sup>He replied, "Go tell that fox, 'I will keep on driving out demons and healing people today and tomorrow, and on the third day I will reach my goal.' <sup>33</sup>In any case, I must press on today and tomorrow and the next day—for surely no prophet can die outside Jerusalem!

<sup>34</sup>"Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing. <sup>35</sup>Look, your house is left to you desolate. I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord." (NIV)

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be Seated





Text (sts. 1–4): John Fawcett, 1740–1817, alt.; (Ref): Constance Dever, b. 1960

Tune: Constance Dever, b. 1960

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## Sermon

Philippians 3:17-4:1 Pastor David Ruddat

Stand

# **Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Be Seated

Please sign the friendship register located in your pew.

# Offering

Stand

Guests please don't feel a necessity to give an offering today. "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7).

# Prayer of the Church

# 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.

M: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

## Benediction

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

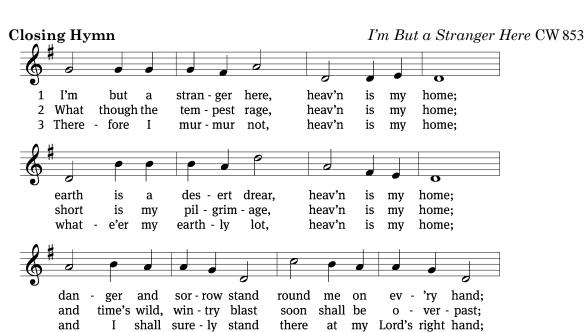
The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

Be Seated





home.

home.

I shall reach home at last, heav'n is my heav'n is my fa - ther - land, heav'n is my

Text: Thomas R. Taylor, 1807–1835, abr. Tune: Arthur S. Sullivan, 1842–1900 Text and tune: Public domain