## 5th Sunday in Lent

### March 26, 2023

**The Season** The Church's Lenten worship is muted and quiet. For centuries, the Church has omitted her most jubilant songs of praise during this season of repentance. We will omit the use of "Alleluia" and the Song of Praise to reflect the somber nature of the season. Note, however, that the Sundays are designated as Sunday in Lent, not Sundays of Lent. The Sundays themselves are not considered part of the forty days, but are islands of refreshment in our Lenten walk. They are *Islands in the Son!* 

**The Sunday** Jesus will raise us from death to life. The crown jewel of the coming kingdom is the resurrection of the dead. On our Lenten walk to Calvary, the Church sees the Savior come face to face with death and defeat it completely. *Islands in the Son: An island that does not end after two weeks*.

# **Opening Hymn**

Not Unto Us CW 392



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 Tune: NOT UNTO US (12 10 13 10) Kurt J. Eggert, 1923–93. © 1975 Kurt J. Eggert. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

#### Stand

- M: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.
- C: And also with you.



# **CONFESSION OF SINS**

- M: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.
- C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.
- M: God our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. 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 Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen.

# **PRAYER AND PRAISE**

# Lord. Have Mercy Kyrie

- M: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.
- C: Lord, have mercy.
- M: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.

## C: Christ, have mercy.

M: For the well-being of your church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.

## C: Lord, have mercy.

- M: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:
- C: Amen

# Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

Eternal God and Father, help us to remember Jesus, who obeyed your will and bore the cross for our salvation that through his anguish, pain, and death we may receive forgiveness of sins and inherit eternal life; 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

THE WORD	
Choir	Strength for Tomorrow, Grace for Today (10:30)
	2

## **First Lesson:**

## 2 Kings 4:18-37

Death is the bitter lot we inherited from Adam. But God wants us to know that even in the face of a death as heartrending as this, he promises that whoever believes in him will live, even though he dies. So he lets Elisha pay an advance on the inheritance waiting for the coheirs of Christ, that we might know and believe that Jesus one day will raise us from death to life.

<sup>18</sup> The child grew, and one day he went out to his father, who was with the reapers. <sup>19</sup> He said to his father, "My head! My head!"

His father told a servant, "Carry him to his mother." <sup>20</sup> After the servant had lifted him up and carried him to his mother, the boy sat on her lap until noon, and then he died. <sup>21</sup> She went up and laid him on the bed of the man of God, then shut the door and went out.

<sup>22</sup> She called her husband and said, "Please send me one of the servants and a donkey so I can go to the man of God quickly and return."

<sup>23</sup> "Why go to him today?" he asked. "It's not the New Moon or the Sabbath." "That's all right," she said.

<sup>24</sup> She saddled the donkey and said to her servant, "Lead on; don't slow down for me unless I tell you." <sup>25</sup> So she set out and came to the man of God at Mount Carmel.

When he saw her in the distance, the man of God said to his servant Gehazi, "Look! There's the Shunammite! <sup>26</sup> Run to meet her and ask her, 'Are you all right? Is your husband all right? Is your child all right?"

"Everything is all right," she said.

<sup>27</sup> When she reached the man of God at the mountain, she took hold of his feet. Gehazi came over to push her away, but the man of God said, "Leave her alone! She is in bitter distress, but the LORD has hidden it from me and has not told me why."

<sup>28</sup> "Did I ask you for a son, my lord?" she said. "Didn't I tell you, 'Don't raise my hopes'?"

<sup>29</sup> Elisha said to Gehazi, "Tuck your cloak into your belt, take my staff in your hand and run. Don't greet anyone you meet, and if anyone greets you, do not answer. Lay my staff on the boy's face."

<sup>30</sup> But the child's mother said, "As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you." So he got up and followed her.

<sup>31</sup>Gehazi went on ahead and laid the staff on the boy's face, but there was no sound or response. So Gehazi went back to meet Elisha and told him, "The boy has not awakened."

<sup>32</sup> When Elisha reached the house, there was the boy lying dead on his couch. <sup>33</sup> He went in, shut the door on the two of them and prayed to the LORD. <sup>34</sup> Then he got on the bed and lay on the boy, mouth to mouth, eyes to eyes, hands to hands. As he stretched himself out on him, the boy's body grew warm. <sup>35</sup> Elisha turned away and walked back and forth in the room and then got on the bed and stretched out on him once more. The boy sneezed seven times and opened his eyes.

<sup>36</sup> Elisha summoned Gehazi and said, "Call the Shunammite." And he did. When she came, he said, "Take your son." <sup>37</sup> She came in, fell at his feet and bowed to the ground. Then she took her son and went out.(NIV)

## Psalm of the Day



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## Second Lesson

# Romans 8:11-19

The indwelling of the Spirit proves our possession of the crown jewel of the kingdom, the resurrection from the dead. If the Spirit is in us, God will most certainly grant true and real life to our mortal bodies. When the Spirit works fruits in our life, he proves to us that he dwells within us. God will give us life. The knowledge of our future glory lets us approach God without fear and bear suffering as children of God and coheirs with Christ.

<sup>11</sup> And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.

<sup>12</sup> Therefore, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation—but it is not to the flesh, to live according to it. <sup>13</sup> For if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live.

<sup>14</sup> For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. <sup>15</sup> The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, "*Abba*, Father." <sup>16</sup> The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. <sup>17</sup> Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory. (NIV)

## Verse of the Day

M: The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many. (Mark 10:45)

Stand

### Gospel

# John 11:17-27,38-45

When Christ saw the effects of death on his loved ones, he wept with them, but also promised them that one day even this last enemy would be defeated. Martha, too often remembered for her busyness, should be remembered for her confession of faith. She believed in Jesus' promise of a future resurrection, and so Jesus gave proof to her and to us that his promise is true.

<sup>17</sup> On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. <sup>18</sup> Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, <sup>19</sup> and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. <sup>20</sup> When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home.

<sup>21</sup> "Lord," Martha said to Jesus, "if you had been here, my brother would not have died.
<sup>22</sup> But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask."

<sup>23</sup> Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."

<sup>24</sup> Martha answered, "I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."

<sup>25</sup> Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; <sup>26</sup> and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

<sup>27</sup> "Yes, Lord," she replied, "I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world."

<sup>38</sup> Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. <sup>39</sup> "Take away the stone," he said.

"But, Lord," said Martha, the sister of the dead man, "by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days."

<sup>40</sup> Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?"

<sup>41</sup> So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. <sup>42</sup> I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me."

<sup>43</sup> When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" <sup>44</sup> The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face.

Jesus said to them, "Take off the grave clothes and let him go."

 $^{45}$  Therefore many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary, and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him. (NIV)

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

# C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be Seated



6 In life no house, no home My Lord on earth might have; In death no friendly tomb But what a stranger gave.
What may I say? Heav'n was his home But mine the tomb Wherein he lay. 7 Here might I stay and sing; No story so divine, Never was love, dear King, Never was grief like thine. This is my friend, In whose sweet praise I all my days Could gladly spend!

Text: Samuel Crossman, c. 1624-83, alt.

Tune: LOVE UNKNOWN (66 66 4444) John N. Ireland, 1879–1962. © John Ireland Trust. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Sermon(8:00) Islands in the Son: Romans 8:11-19 An Island Paradise That Does Not End After Two Weeks Good Confession (10:30)

Stand

#### **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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. 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, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian 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.

Be Seated

### Offering

Stand

### **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.

### THE SACRAMENT

- M: The Lord be with you.
- C: And also with you.
- M: Lift up your hearts.
- C: We lift them up to the Lord.
- M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.
- C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

## **Proper Preface**

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He made his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.



## Holy, Holy, Holy



## Words of Institution

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

- M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C: Amen.

# O Christ, Lamb of God



### Be Seated

Because God speaks of communing together as an expression of unity in faith and warns us against the dangers of not understanding what communion is, we practice close communion. WELS members are welcome to commune with us. Visitors, please speak with the pastor before communing. If you would like to learn more about communing with us in the future, please contact pastor.

## Distribution

#### Jerusalem the Golden CWS 728



Text:

Bernard of Cluny, 12th century THAXTED (76 76 76 D) Gustav Holst, 1874-1934, alt. Tune:

### Stand



Tune: GOTT SEI GELOBET UND GEBENEDEIET (PM) Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, Wittenberg, 1524, alt.

M: Hear the prayers of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son, may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, 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



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