

Today's Scripture Readings

Old Testament

Ezekiel 33:7-20

⁷“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand.

⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.

¹⁰“And you, son of man, say to the house of Israel, Thus have you said: ‘Surely our transgressions and our sins are upon us, and we rot away because of them. How then can we live?’ ¹¹Say to them, As I live, declares the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

¹²“And you, son of man, say to your people, The righteousness of the righteous shall not deliver him when he transgresses, and as for the wickedness of the wicked, he shall not fall by it when he turns from his wickedness, and the righteous shall not be able to live by his righteousness when he sins. ¹³Though I say to the righteous that he shall surely live, yet if he trusts in his righteousness and does injustice, none of his righteous deeds shall be remembered, but in his injustice that he has done he shall die. ¹⁴Again, though I say to the wicked, ‘You shall surely die,’ yet if he turns from his sin and does what is just and right, ¹⁵if the wicked restores the pledge, gives back what he has taken by robbery, and walks in the statutes of life, not doing injustice, he shall surely live; he shall not die. ¹⁶None of the sins that he has committed shall be remembered against him. He has done what is just and right; he shall surely live.

¹⁷“Yet your people say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just,’ when it is their own way that is not just. ¹⁸When the righteous turns from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it. ¹⁹And when the wicked turns from his wickedness and does what is just and right, he shall live by them. ²⁰Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ O house of Israel, I will judge each of you according to his ways.”

Epistle

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

¹I want you to know, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ²and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³and all ate the same spiritual food,

⁴and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. ⁵Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

⁶Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. ⁷Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play.”

⁸We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. ⁹We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, ¹⁰nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. ¹¹Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come.

¹²Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. ¹³No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

Holy Gospel

Luke 13:1-9

¹There were some present at that very time who told [Jesus] about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. ²And he answered them, “Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered in this way? ³No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. ⁴Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? ⁵No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.”

⁶And he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. ⁷And he said to the vinedresser, ‘Look, for three years now I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down. Why should it use up the ground?’ ⁸And he answered him, ‘Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and put on manure. ⁹Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®.

In Our Prayers this Week—

• *March missions of the month,*

Concordia Seminary in St. Louis and Seminarian Luke Konkel.

• *Peace among nations.*

• *The victims and families of all violence and disaster throughout the world.*

• *Phyllis Conrad, recovering from a fall.*

• *Keith Klein, recovering from surgery.*

• *Dan Niedfeldt, recovering from an eye procedure.*

• *Jim Schmitz, health issues.*

• *Ruth McKenna, health issues.*

• *Michelle Popp and all expectant mothers.*

• *David Shaver, brother of Sara Knepprath, hospitalized.*

All who are battling cancer:

- *Jayne Cotter*

- *Ed Friede*

- *Cindi Arnold, sister of Debi Taylor, receiving hospice care*

- *Rev. Brad Birtell, brother of Amy Assmann*

- *Jennifer Harrill, mother of Andrew Harrill*

- *Randy Heidemann, brother of Sandy Korb, recovering from brain surgery.*

Please also keep in prayer

—*our Seminarian, Vicar Luke Konkel;*

—*Rev. Eric Skovgaard, our district president;*

—*Matthew Harrison, synod president;*

—*the members, officers and auxiliaries of Emmanuel;*

—*our circuit congregation, St. John in Sherman Center and Rev. Christopher Gillespie;*

—*our Missionary Rev. James May and his family in Africa; and*

—*our shut-in Members, Donna Bloedel, Bob & Alice Denhardt, Ed Friede,*

Virginia Dowty and Bob Navis.

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT



“Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.”

Luke 13:4-5

EMMANUEL

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WE WELCOME all who gather with us around the Altar and Pulpit to hear the Word of God.

IF YOU ARE VISITING this morning, we are happy that you could join us today. *Please sign our guest book in the narthex.*

IF YOU DESIRE TO COMMUNE, please speak to the pastor before the service. Our altar is open to those who confess oneness with us in doctrine and are members in good standing of our congregation or sister congregations of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

YOUNG CHILDREN are always welcome in our service. Jesus said, *“Let the little children come to me...”* Activity bags are available in the narthex.

NEED ASSISTANCE with anything? Please speak to the pastor or the usher.

RESTROOMS are available in the back of the church or in the education wing.

We pray that you feel welcome in our congregation, that you are blessed by the service, and that you will come again.

JESUS CALLS YOU TO REPENTANCE

Unless you repent, you will all likewise perish” (Luke 13:3, 5). By this warning, the Lord would turn us away from wickedness and bring us to life in Himself. For He is patient with us, that we not be cut down in our sin but live and bear fruit in Him. As He lives, the Lord has *“no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live”* (Ezek. 33:11). So the Scriptures have been *“written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come”* (1 Cor. 10:11), that we should not desire evil but trust in Christ. He alone is faithful, the Rock who feeds us with His *“spiritual food”* and pours out His *“spiritual drink”* (1 Cor. 10:3–4).

THE FAMILY ALTAR

① **Verse of the Week** — **Luke 15:20** *“And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him.”*

② **Hymn of the Week** — LSB #571 — *“God Loved the World So That He Gave”*

③ **Collect of the Week** — *Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

④ **Daily Bible Readings** — **M:** Gen. 42:1-34, 38; Mark 12:1-12 **T:** Gen. 43:1-28; Mark 12:13-27 **W:** Gen. 44:1-18, 32-34; Mark 12:28-44 **Th:** Gen. 45:1-20, 24-28; Mark 13:1-23 **F:** Gen. 47:1-31; Mark 13:24-37 **Sat:** Gen. 49:29—50:7, 14-26; Mark 14:1-11 **Sun:** Ex. 1:1-22; Mark 14:12-31

⑤ **Preparing for Next Sunday** — *Lessons for Lent 4* (March 30, 2025):
Isaiah 12:1-6; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32; Psalm 32

⑥ **Devotions** — *Daily Lenten devotions are found in The Hand of the Lord devotional.*

Third Sunday in Lent

MARCH 23, 2025

Greeters — *Chris Neumann Family*

Elder — *Chris Neumann*; Usher — *Mark Mathe*

Altar Guild — *Mandy Neumann*; Jr. Altar Guild — *Allyson Neumann*

Acolyte — *Kai Reysen*

Organist — *Mrs. Terry Ourada*

Pastor — *Rev. Paul W. Marks*

Introit (*sung responsively after confession & absolution*) Psalm 5:4-8; antiphon: Psalm 1:6



For the LORD knows the way of the | righteous,*
but the way of the wicked will | perish.
For you are not a God who delights in | wickedness;*
evil may not | dwell with you.
The boastful shall not stand be- | fore your eyes,*
you hate all evil- | doers.
You destroy those | who speak lies,*
the LORD abhors the bloodthirsty and de- | ceitful man.
But I, through the abundance of your steadfast love, will en- | ter your house.*
I will bow down toward your holy temple in the | fear of you.
Lead me, O LORD, in your righteousness because of my | enemies;*
make your way straight be- | fore me.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
For the LORD knows the way of the | righteous,*
but the way of the wicked will | perish.

Collect (*spoken by pastor*)

O God whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Gradual (*sung responsively*) Hebrews 12:28

[O come, let us fix our eyes on] | Jesus,*
the founder and perfecter | of our faith,
who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despis- | ing the shame,*
and is seated at the right hand of the | throne of God.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Lutheran Service Book

Divine Service-Setting Three
page 184 and following

Hymn of Invocation..... #765

CONFESSON AND ABSOLUTION

Confession and Absolution.....p. 184

SERVICE OF THE WORD

◀ Introit..... *see left*

Kyrie.....p. 186

Salutation & Collect.....p. 189

Ezekiel 33:7-20

Ezekiel Is Israel's Watchman

◀ Gradual..... *see left*

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Warning Against Idolatry

Luke 13:1-9

The Parable of the Barren Fig Tree

Apostles' Creedp. 192

Hymn of the Day..... #824

Sermon — *“The Lenten Patience”*

Offertoryp. 192

Offering

Choir Anthem — *Beautiful Savior*

Prayer of the Church

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Communion Liturgy..... p. 194-198

Distribution.....p. 199

Please see communion statement above

Distribution Hymns..... #718

..... #627

Nunc Dimittis.....p. 199

Thanksgiving.....p. 200

Collectp. 201

Salutation & Benedicamus.....p. 201

Benediction.....p. 202

Hymn to Depart..... #861

