

### 3 LENT

PRELUDE

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING SONG: **ACS 918** *"Now is the Time of Grace"*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the good companionship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Holy God, through your Son, you call us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace and teach us the wisdom that comes only through Jesus Christ, our savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen!**

*Here are words for the wise!*

**Exodus 20:1-17**

Then God spoke all these words: I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments. You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your

daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you. You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Word of God; Word of Life. **R/ Thanks be to God!**

### **Psalm 19**

**All:** The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.

**Women:** There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard; yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun, which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy, and like a strong man runs its course with joy. Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them; and nothing is hid from its heat.

**Men:** The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes; the fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

**Women:** More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb. Moreover by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

**Men:** But who can detect their errors? Clear me from hidden faults.

**Women:** Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.

**All:** Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

*A brief treatise on foolishness, wisdom, and power. "What a world!"*

### **1 Corinthians 1:18-25**

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Word of God; Word of Life. **R/ Thanks be to God!**

*Sometimes it's good and wise to be angry.*

### **John 2:13-22**

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!"

His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" But Jesus was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken. The Gospel of the Lord. **R/Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: **ELW 723** *"Canticle of the Turning"*

PRAYERS

WE PLEDGE GOD'S PEACE TO EACH OTHER

CONSECRATION OF BREAD AND WINE

The Lord is with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to  
the Lord, our God.

**It is right to offer our thanks and praise.**

PREFACE and WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE 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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION:

Here is bread for the journey - a feast for hungry hearts. All are welcome!

DISTRIBUTION HYMN: **ELW 705** *"God of Grace and God of Glory"*

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER OF GOOD COURAGE:

Lord God, **you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us, and your love supporting us, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

BLESSING

Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and ✠ give you peace.

**Amen.**

SENDING HYMN: **ELW 324** *"In the Cross of Christ I Glory"*

DISMISSAL: Go in peace. Share your bread.

**Thanks be to God.**