# As WE GATHER

**DURING LENT THIS YEAR**, we are preaching a series related to what theologians call the "passive obedience" of Jesus, which we are calling "All according to plan." Our installment this week is called Share the Plan. When faced with people who have lived with hostility to Christianity or its message, it is often daunting to communicate love. Jesus shows how seeing a greater plan is the key to overcoming hostility and unbelief.

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

JESUS REFUGE OF THE WEARY [LSB#423]

Jesus, Refuge of the weary, blest Redeemer, whom we love, Fountain in life's desert dreary, Savior from the world above, Often have Your eyes, offended, gazed upon the sinner's fall; Yet, upon the cross extended, You have borne the pain of all.

\*\*\*Please be seated\*\*\*

#### THE ANNOUNCEMENTS & GREETING

Pastor extends greetings on behalf of the congregation to our guests and those present for worship

(We greet one another with Jesus joy & peace and welcoming those visiting our fellowship)

#### INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father,

People: Oh come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

Pastor: and of the + Son,

People: Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise!

Pastor: and of the Holy Spirit.

People: For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods. Amen.

#### **OPENING SENTENCES**

- Pastor: Therefore, since we have been justified by faith,
- People: we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.
- Pastor: For while we were still weak,
- People: at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.
- Pastor: While we were still sinners,
- People: Christ died for us.

#### **O**PENING HYMN

JESUS REFUGE OF THE WEARY [LSB#423]

Do we pass that cross unheeding, breathing no repentant vow, Though we see You wounded, bleeding, see Your thorn-encircled brow? Yet Your sinless death has brought us life eternal, peace, and rest; Only what Your grace has taught us calms the sinner's deep distress.

Jesus, may our hearts be burning with more fervent love for You; May our eyes be ever turning to behold Your cross anew Till in glory, parted never from the blessed Savior's side, Graven in our hearts forever dwell the cross, the Crucified!

# CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: In His hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are His also. The sea is His, for He made it, and His hands formed the dry land.

People: Almighty Lord, our Creator, we confess to You we forget Your power and might, fail to trust in Your ever-providing hands, and are found lacking in our managing of this world You formed.

Pastor: Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker! For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand.

People: Almighty Lord, our Maker and Shepherd, we confess we like sheep have gone astray, listening to other voices of this world. We have not loved You with our whole heart and have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

Pastor: Today, if you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah, as on the day at Massah in the wilderness, when your fathers put Me to the test and put Me to the proof, though they had seen My work. For forty years I loathed that generation and said, "They are a people who go astray in their heart, and they have not known My ways." Therefore I swore in My wrath, "They shall not enter My rest."

People: Almighty Lord, like those You sent wandering in the wilderness, we justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Pastor: Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Almighty God, in His mercy, has given His Son to die for you, and for His sake forgives you all your sins. In this Lenten season as we journey closer to His cross, God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners,

# People: Christ died for us.

Pastor: As an ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the  $\square$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen. Oh come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise! For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

Hymn

LOOK DOWN IN MERCY ON US, LORD

Look down in mercy on us, Lord, Receive our prayers and praise, Eternal Father, Spirit, Word, For Your amazing grace.

# PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

People: O God, who calls, gathers, and enlightens us through Your Spirit, in comparison to Your perfection and glory we fall short and fail much, yet through Your Word of truth You reveal to us Your love for us in Your only-begotten Son, who died for us that we may know the incomparable riches of Your grace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE DAY

Pastor: Halfway through our Lenten journey to the cross this Third Sunday in Lent, we are reminded of the sinful waywardness of humanity and that despite our unfaithfulness, God answers with His grace. From the wilderness wandering in Exodus and His providing water from a rock to a grumbling people, to the Epistle truth of Him saving us even while we were sinners, to the Gospel where upon meeting a marginalized Samaritan woman Jesus would give the gift of living water that brings eternal life, we are also reminded of our own waywardness and sin. Yet through it all, our own hunger and thirst for righteousness and forgiveness are always met by the gift of our Savior Jesus Christ.

#### FIRST LESSON

#### Exodus 17:1–7

<sup>17:1</sup>All the congregation of the people of Israel moved on from the wilderness of Sin by stages, according to the commandment of the Lord, and camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. <sup>2</sup>Therefore the people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." And Moses said to them, "Why do you guarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" <sup>3</sup>But the people thirsted there for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?" <sup>4</sup>So Moses cried to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." <sup>5</sup>And the Lord said to Moses, "Pass on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel, and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. <sup>6</sup>Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb, and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it, and the people will drink." And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup>And he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the quarreling of the people of Israel, and because they tested the Lord by saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

+++ ENGLISH STANDARD VERSION +++

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.** 

#### SECOND LESSON

Romans 5:1–8

<sup>5:1</sup>Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>2</sup>Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. <sup>3</sup>More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, <sup>4</sup>and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup>and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

<sup>6</sup>For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup>For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— <sup>8</sup>but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

+++ ENGLISH STANDARD VERSION +++

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Hymn

## FATHER, I ADORE YOU [TOSB#40]

Father, I adore You, lay my life before You. How I love You; Jesus, I adore You, lay my life before You. How I love You; Spirit, I adore You, lay my life before You. How I love You.

Pastor: The Gospel according to Saint John: **People: Glory be to You, O Lord.** 

# THE HOLY GOSPEL

<sup>4:5</sup>So he came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup>Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour.

<sup>7</sup>A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, drink." <sup>8</sup>(For "Give me a his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) <sup>9</sup>The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?" (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." <sup>11</sup>The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? <sup>12</sup>Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his and sons his livestock." <sup>13</sup>Jesus said to her, "Evervone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, <sup>14</sup>but whoever drinks of the water that I will give John 4:5–26 (27–30, 39–42)

<sup>4:5</sup>llegó a un pueblo samaritano llamado Sicar, cerca del terreno que Jacob le había dado a su hijo José. <sup>6</sup>Allí estaba el pozo de Jacob. Jesús, fatigado del camino, se sentó junto al pozo. Era cerca del mediodía. <sup>7-8</sup>Sus discípulos habían ido al pueblo a comprar comida. En eso llegó a sacar agua una mujer de Samaria, y Jesús le dijo: Dame un poco de agua. <sup>9</sup>Pero como los judíos no usan nada en común con samaritanos, los la muier le respondió: ¿Cómo se te ocurre pedirme agua, si tú eres judío y yo soy samaritana? <sup>10</sup>Si supieras lo que Dios puede dar, y conocieras al que te está pidiendo aqua contestó Jesús—, tú le habrías pedido a él, y él te habría dado agua que da vida.

<sup>11</sup>Señor, ni siguiera tienes con qué sacar agua, y el pozo es muy hondo; ¿de dónde, pues, vas a sacar esa agua aue da vida? <sup>12</sup>¿Acaso eres tú superior a nuestro padre Jacob, que nos dejó este pozo, del cual bebieron él, sus hijos y su ganado? <sup>13</sup>Todo el que beba de esta aqua volverá a tener sed —respondió Jesús—, <sup>14</sup>pero el que beba del aqua que vo le daré, no volverá a tener sed jamás, sino que dentro de él esa agua se him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." <sup>15</sup>The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water."

<sup>16</sup>Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." <sup>17</sup>The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; <sup>18</sup>for you have had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true." <sup>19</sup>The woman said to him, "Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. <sup>20</sup>Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship." <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will vou worship the Father. <sup>22</sup>You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. <sup>23</sup>But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. <sup>24</sup>God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." <sup>25</sup>The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, will tell he us all things." <sup>26</sup>Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am he."

<sup>27</sup>Just then his disciples came back. They marveled that he was talking

convertirá en un manantial del que brotará vida eterna. <sup>15</sup>Señor, dame de esa agua para que no vuelva a tener sed ni siga viniendo aquí a sacarla.

<sup>16</sup>Ve a llamar a tu esposo, y vuelve acá —le dijo Jesús. <sup>17</sup>No tengo esposo —respondió la mujer. Bien has dicho que no tienes esposo. <sup>18</sup>Es cierto que has tenido cinco, y el que ahora tienes no es tu esposo. En esto has dicho la verdad. <sup>19</sup>Señor, me doy cuenta de que tú eres profeta. <sup>20</sup>Nuestros antepasados adoraron en este monte, pero ustedes los judíos dicen que el lugar donde debemos adorar está en Jerusalén.

<sup>21</sup>Créeme, mujer, que se acerca la hora en que ni en este monte ni en Jerusalén adorarán ustedes al Padre.<sup>22</sup>Ahora ustedes adoran lo conocen; que no nosotros adoramos lo que conocemos, porque la salvación proviene de los judíos.<sup>23</sup>Pero se acerca la hora, y llegado ya, en aue ha los verdaderos adoradores rendirán culto al Padre en espíritu y en verdad, porque así quiere el Padre que sean los que le adoren. <sup>24</sup>Dios es espíritu, y quienes lo adoran deben hacerlo en espíritu y en verdad. <sup>25</sup>Sé que viene el Mesías, al que llaman el Cristo —respondió la mujer—. Cuando él venga nos explicará todas las cosas. <sup>26</sup>Ése soy yo, el que habla contigo —le dijo Jesús.

<sup>27</sup>En esto llegaron sus discípulos y se sorprendieron de verlo hablando con una mujer, aunque ninguno le preguntó: «¿Qué pretendes?» o «¿De qué hablas con ella?» <sup>28</sup>La mujer dejó su cántaro, volvió al pueblo y le decía a la gente: <sup>29</sup> — with a woman, but no one said, "What do you seek?" or, "Why are you talking with her?" <sup>28</sup>So the woman left her water jar and went away into town and said to the people, <sup>29</sup>"Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?" <sup>30</sup>They went out of the town and were coming to him.

<sup>39</sup>Many Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me all that I ever did." <sup>40</sup>So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. <sup>41</sup>And many more believed because of his word. <sup>42</sup>They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Savior of the world."

Vengan a ver a un hombre que me ha dicho todo lo que he hecho. ¿No será éste el \*Cristo? <sup>30</sup>Salieron del pueblo y fueron a ver a Jesús.

<sup>39</sup>Muchos de los samaritanos que vivían en aquel pueblo creyeron en él por el testimonio que daba la mujer: «Me dijo todo lo que he hecho.» <sup>40</sup>Así aue cuando los samaritanos fueron a su encuentro le insistieron en que se quedara con ellos. Jesús permaneció allí dos días, <sup>41</sup>y muchos más llegaron a creer por lo que él mismo decía. 42— Ya no creemos sólo por lo que tú dijiste —le decían a la mujer—; ahora lo hemos oído nosotros mismos, sabemos V que verdaderamente éste es el Salvador del mundo.

+++ NUEVA VERSIÓN INTERNACIONAL +++

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord. **People: Praise to You, O Christ.** 

#### THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, Begotten not made, Being of one substance with the Father, By whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary And was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father; And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead; Whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit; The Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spoke by the Prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

# WORSHIP WITH TITHES AND OFFERINGS

**Note:** If you have a prayer request, please put it on a "Prayer Request Card" and the ushers will bring it forward with the offering.

### OFFERING HYMN

#### BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR [LSB#537]

Beautiful Savior, King of Creation, Son of God and Son of Man! Truly I'd love Thee, Truly I'd serve Thee, Light of my soul, my Joy, my Crown.

# Fair are the meadows, Fair are the woodlands, Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring; Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer; He makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.

## Beautiful Savior, Lord of nations, Son of God and Son of man! Glory and honor, praise, adoration Now and forevermore be Thine!

# THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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(Note: Please read "Our Communion Practice" on page 16.)

# THE PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who demonstrated His mercy and grace to sinners. While we were still weak, He died for the ungodly; while we were still sinners, He died for us. Through Your love in Christ beyond compare, prepare our hearts, minds, hands, and lips to celebrate this Meal and receive Your body and Your blood given and shed for us in sincerity and truth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

# THE SANCTUS

# Holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; Heav'n and earth are full of Thy Glory; Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest, Blessed is He, Blessed is He, Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.

# THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: 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;

**People:** For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

# THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

# THE PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always. **People:** Amen.

# THE AGNUS DEI

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, Have mercy upon on us, // 2x O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, Grant us Thy peace. Amen.

# THE DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMN LORD JESUS CHRIST, WE HUMBLY PRAY [LSB#623]

Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly pray That we may feast on You today; Beneath these forms of bread and wine Enrich us with Your grace divine.

Give us, who share this wondrous food, Your body broken and Your blood, The grateful peace of sins forgiv'n, The certain joys of heirs of heav'n.

By faith Your Word has made us bold To seize the gift of love retold; All that You are we here receive, And all we are to You we give.

One bread, one cup, one body, we, Rejoicing in our unity, Proclaim Your love until You come To bring Your scattered loved ones home.

Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly pray; O, keep us steadfast till that day When each will be Your welcomed guest In heaven's high and holy feast.

# POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: O God the Father, who in loving kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your people who have gone astray but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit, having obtained access by faith into Christ's grace in which we stand, rejoicing in the hope of Your glory, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **People:** Amen.

SERMON HYMN SPREAD THE REIGN OF GOD THE LORD [LSB#830]

Spread the reign of God the Lord, Spoken, written, mighty Word; Ev'rywhere His creatures call To His heav'nly banquet hall.

Tell how God the Father's will Made the world, upholds it still, How His own dear Son He gave Us from sin and death to save.

Tell of our Redeemer's grace, Who, to save our human race And to pay rebellion's price, Gave Himself as sacrifice.

SERMON

PASTOR ELY PRIETO

# THE CLOSING PRAYER

# THE BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord look upon you with favor,  $\blacksquare$  and give you peace. **People:** Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

SPREAD THE REIGN OF GOD THE LORD [LSB#830]

Tell of God the Spirit giv'n Now to guide us on to heav'n, Strong and holy, just and true, Working both to will and do.

Enter, mighty Word, the field; Ripe the promise of its yield. But the reapers, oh, how few For the work there is to do!

Lord of harvest, great and kind, Rouse to action heart and mind; Let the gath'ring nations all See Your light and heed Your call.

\*\*\*Please stand as Processional Cross exits\*\*\*

- ✤ To God Alone be All the Glory
  - ት A Dios sea toda la Gloria 🕆