

APOSTLES' CREED

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.** ... In the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

THE OFFERING

OFFERING VOLUNTARY — Jill Sousek

COMMUNION

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER [TRADITIONAL]

COMMUNION VOLUNTARY — Jill Sousek [5 PM & 8 AM]
— *Ten Thousand Charms* by **ZION Choir** [10:30 AM]

BLESSING Receive the blessing of the Holy Trinity: God calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation, ☩ bless you now and always. **Amen.**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

SENDING

BENEDICTION

HYMN #595 — *Jesus Loves Me*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Believe the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE — Jill Sousek



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Third Sunday in Lent

WELCOME TO ZION

PRELUDE — Jill Sousek

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**



Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God, **have mercy on us through your steadfast love.**

For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:

Gracious God, **have mercy on us through your steadfast love.**

For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for Your word: Gracious God, **have mercy on us through your steadfast love.**

For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God, **have mercy on us through your steadfast love.**

For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdain the living water Christ offers: Gracious God, **have mercy on us through your steadfast love.**

For disregarding voices from the margin, and distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world: Gracious God, **have mercy on us through your steadfast love.**

For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life: Gracious God, **have mercy on us through your steadfast love.**

God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound. Through faith, the free gift of God, you have been clothed in Christ's righteousness. In the name of ☩ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts, and gives you life and peace. **Amen.**

HYMN #533 — *Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty* [vs. 1, 2, 5]

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And, also with you.**

Let us pray. **Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING — Exodus 17:1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, “Give us water to drink.” Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?” But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?” So Moses cried out to the Lord, “What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” The Lord said to Moses, “Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, “Is the Lord among us or not?”

SECOND READING — Romans 5:1-11

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person — though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But it is proof of God’s own love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of the Son of God, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by the life of the Son of God. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

The Holy Gospel according to St. John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL — John 4:5-42

Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.” (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, “How is it that you, a Jewish man, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?” (Jewish people do not share things in common with Samaritans.) 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.” The

woman said to him, “Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his children and his flocks drank from it?” Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.” The woman said to Jesus, “Sir, give me this water, so I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.” Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come back.” The woman answered him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband’; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!” The woman said to Jesus, “Sir, I see you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.” Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jewish people. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for such worshipers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and those who worship God must worship in spirit and truth.” The woman said to him, “I know the Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.” Jesus said to her, “Here I am, the one who is speaking to you.” Just then his disciples came. They were astonished he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you want?” Or, “Why are you speaking with her?” Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, “Come and see someone who told me everything I have ever done! Can this be the Messiah?” They left the city and were on their way to him. Meanwhile the disciples were urging Jesus, “Rabbi, eat something.” But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.” So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?” Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will and accomplish the work of the one who sent me. Do you not say, ‘Four months more, then comes the harvest’? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’ I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.” Many Samaritans from that city believed in Jesus because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.” So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and Jesus stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know this is truly the Savior of the world.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDRENS’ SERMON — Pastor Scott Ludford

THE SERMON — Pastor Scott Ludford

HYMN #335 — *Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross*