

Three weeks ago we heard John's gospel's version of Peter's confession of faith. This week we hear Mark's version, when Peter says, "You are the Messiah." In John, the stumbling block is Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh, given for the life of the world. In Mark too the scandal has to do with Jesus' words about his own coming death, and here Peter himself stumbles over Jesus' words. But Jesus is anointed (the meaning of "messiah") in Mark only on the way to the cross (14:3); so we are anointed in baptism with the sign of the cross.

## **GATHERING**

*Congregational Responses in Bold Print*

**PRELUDE**     *My Hope Is Built*     LINKER

## **CONFESSION**

*Blessed be the ☩ holy Trinity, the one who fashions us, the one who heals us, the one who reforms us again and again. **Amen.***

*Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power.  
Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

**Source of all life, we confess that we have not allowed your grace to set us free. We fear that we are not good enough. We hear your word of love freely given to us, yet we expect others to earn it. We turn the church inward, rather than moving it outward. Forgive us. Stir us. Reform us to be a church powered by love, willing to speak for what is right, act for what is just, and seek the healing of your whole creation. Amen.**

*God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us and to empower our lives in the world. Our sins are forgiven, ☩ God's love is unconditional, and we are raised up as God's people who will always be made new, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.***

**HYMN**     # 770     *Give Me Jesus*     GIVE ME JESUS

## **GREETING**

*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.***

**HYMN OF PRAISE #847**     *Come, Let Us Join Our Cheerful Songs*     (stz. 1 and 4 only)



1 Come, let us join our cheer-ful songs with an-gels round the throne:  
4 Let all cre-a-tion join in one to bless the sa-cred name



ten thou-sand thou-sand are their tongues, but all their joys are one.  
of God who sits up-on the throne, and to a-dore the Lamb.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

*Let us pray together. O God, through suffering and rejection you bring forth our salvation, and by the glory of the cross you transform our lives. Grant that for the sake of the gospel we may turn from the lure of evil, take up our cross, and follow your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.*

## WORD

### FIRST READING: Isaiah 50: 4-9a

*The image of the servant of the Lord is one of the notable motifs in the book of Isaiah. Today's reading describes the mission of the servant, whom early Christians associated with Jesus. Like Jesus, the servant does not strike back at his detractors but trusts in God's steadfast love.*

<sup>4</sup>The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens—wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught.

<sup>5</sup>The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. <sup>7</sup>The Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; <sup>8</sup>he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. <sup>9a</sup>It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

The Word of the Lord.      **Thanks be to God.**

### SECOND READING: James 3: 1-12

*This text uses various images to illustrate how damaging and hurtful the way we speak to and about others can be. Not only are we to control our speech, but what we say and how we say it are to reflect our faith.*

<sup>1</sup>Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. <sup>2</sup>For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. <sup>3</sup>If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. <sup>4</sup>Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. <sup>5</sup>So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! <sup>6</sup>And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature,

and is itself set on fire by hell. <sup>7</sup>For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, <sup>8</sup>but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. <sup>9</sup>With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. <sup>10</sup>From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. <sup>11</sup>Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? <sup>12</sup>Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## SR. CHOIR ANTHEM

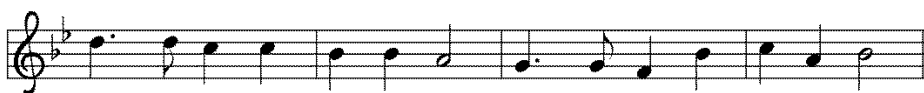
*Nearer, My God, To Thee* SEDIO



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav-ing word.



Let it burn like fire with-in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

## HOLY GOSPEL

*The Holy Gospel according to Mark the 8th chapter.*

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

### GOSPEL Mark 8:27-38

*This story provides the turning point in Mark's gospel. Peter is the first human being in the narrative to acknowledge Jesus as the Messiah, but he cannot accept that as the Messiah Jesus will have to suffer. Moreover, Jesus issues a strong challenge to all by connecting discipleship and the cross.*

<sup>27</sup>Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" <sup>28</sup>And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." <sup>29</sup>He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." <sup>30</sup>And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

<sup>31</sup>Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup>He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup>But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

<sup>34</sup>He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.

<sup>36</sup>For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? <sup>37</sup>Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? <sup>38</sup>Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**     *Rev. Robert Cochran*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**   #810     *O Jesus, I Have Promised*     MUNICH

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

*With voices united, let us confess our faith*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **THE PRAYERS**

*Freed by God in Christ to live and love and serve, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's beloved creation. (A brief silence.)*

... Lord, in your mercy,     **hear our prayer.**

*Into your wide embrace, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your boundless mercy through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.*

## **MEAL**

## **INTRODUCTION TO THE PEACE**

*The peace of Christ be with you always.*     **And also with you.**

*Share the Peace with one another!*

**OFFERING**     *Kirken den er et gammelt hus*     SEDIO

**OFFERTORY**   # 692     *We Are an Offering*     OFFERING

**We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you; we are an offering.**

**Lord use our voices, Lord use our hands, Lord use our lives, they are yours:**

**we are an offering.**

**All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.**

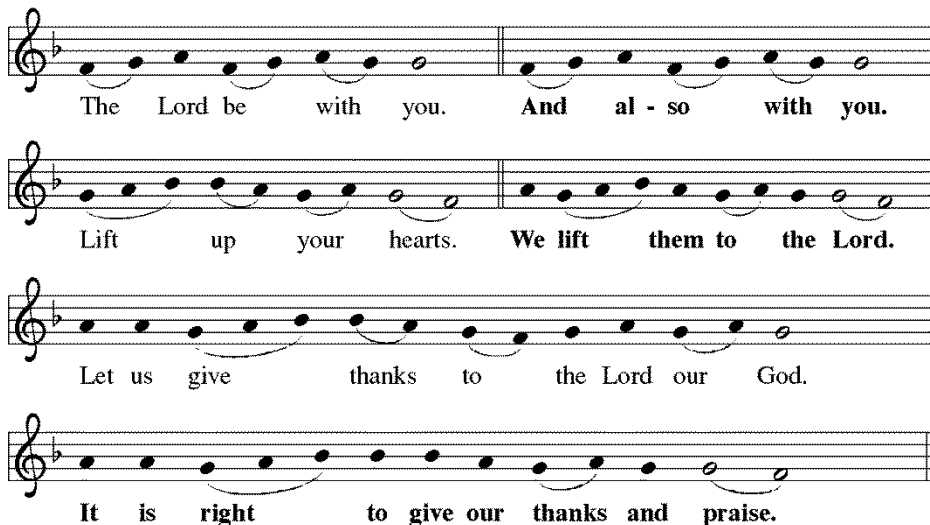
**We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you; we are an offering,**

**we are an offering.**

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

*Let us pray. God of life, you give us these gifts of the earth, these resources of our life and our labor. Take them, offered in great thanksgiving, and use them to set a table that will heal the whole creation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Light. Amen.*

## GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so 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 give our thanks and praise.

*It is indeed right.....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:*

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



San - to, san - to, san - to, mi co - ra - zón te a - do - ra.  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you.

Mi co - ra - zón te sa - be de - cir: San - to e - res Se - ñor.  
My heart is glad to say the words: You are ho - ly, God.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

*In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.*

*Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.*

## LORD'S PRAYER

*Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:*

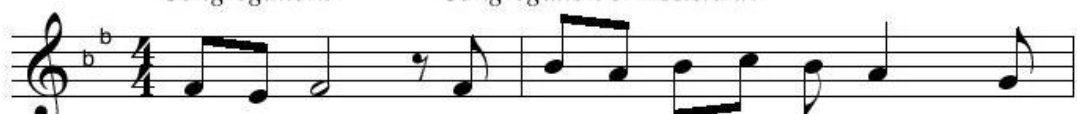
**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

*Speak to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread, and make us one with you.*

## LAMB OF GOD

*Congregation:*      *Congregation or Assistant:*



Lamb of God,      you take a - way the sin of the  
you break the chains of ha - tred and  
you are the way of jus - tice and  
you are the way of mer - cy and

*Congregation:*



world:      have mer - cy on us,      mer - cy on us,  
fear:  
peace:  
love.

**Final Stanza**  
*Congregation or Assistant:*

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you

*Congregation:*

take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,

grant us peace, grant us peace.

*The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. Amen.*  
**SENDING SONG #538 *The Lord Now Sends Us Forth*** (Note: repeat first section; then repeat second section)

The Lord now sends us forth with hands to serve and give,

to make of all the earth a bet - ter place to live.

The an - gels are not sent in - to our world of pain

to do what we were meant to do in Je - sus' name;

that falls to you and me and all who are made free.

Help us, O Lord, we pray, to do your will to - day.

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*Let us pray. Holy and compassionate God, in bread and wine you give us gifts that form us to be humble and courageous. May your words come to life in our serving and in our witness, that we might speak a living voice of healing and justice to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer. Amen*

## SENDING

### BLESSING

*God, creator of all things, speaking reformation into being; Jesus Christ, savior of the world, raising the dead; Holy Spirit, living voice, calling and enlightening the church: Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. Amen.*

**SENDING HYMN** #660 *Lift High the Cross* CRUCIFER

### DISMISSAL

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

**POSTLUDE** *Lift High the Cross* LEAVITT

*Moving One Step Closer to God.*

*www.1stLutheranChurch.org*

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