

THIRD WEDNESDAY IN LENT

March 3, 2021

Trinity Free Lutheran Church

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OPENING

O LORD, open my lips,

And my mouth will declare Your praise.

PSALM 51:15

Make haste, O God to deliver me;

Make haste to help me, O LORD.

PSALM 70:1

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.*

Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation. Amen.

PSALM 32:1-5 (ESV)

¹ Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.

² *Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity,
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.*

³ For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away
through my groaning all day long.

⁴ *For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;
my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.*

⁵ I acknowledged my sin to you,
and I did not cover my iniquity;

*I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,"
and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.*

#69: "AH, HOLY JESUS, HOW HAST THOU OFFENDED"

¹ Ah, holy Jesus, how hast Thou offended,
That man to judge Thee hath in hate pretended?
By foes derided, by Thine own rejected,
O most afflicted!

² Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon Thee?

Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone Thee.

'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied Thee:

I crucified Thee.

³ For me, kind Jesus, was Thine incarnation,
Thy mortal sorrow, and Thy life's oblation;
Thy death of anguish and Thy bitter passion,
For my salvation.

⁴ Therefore, kind Jesus, since I cannot pay Thee,
I do adore Thee, and will ever pray Thee:
Think on Thy pity and Thy love unswerving,
Not my deserving.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: EXODUS 14:19-31 (ESV)

¹⁹ Then the angel of God who was going before the host of Israel moved and went behind them, and the pillar of cloud moved from before them and stood behind them, ²⁰ coming between the host of Egypt and the host of Israel. And there was the cloud and the darkness. And it lit up the night without one coming near the other all night.

²¹ Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided. ²² And the people of Israel went into the midst of the sea on dry ground, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left. ²³ The Egyptians pursued and went in after them into the midst of the sea, all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen. ²⁴ And in the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and of cloud looked down on the Egyptian forces and threw the Egyptian forces into a panic, ²⁵ clogging their chariot wheels so that they drove heavily. And the Egyptians said, "Let us flee from before Israel, for the LORD fights for them against the Egyptians."

²⁶ Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots, and upon their horsemen." ²⁷ So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to its normal course when the morning appeared. And as the Egyptians fled into it, the LORD threw the Egyptians into the midst of the sea. ²⁸ The waters returned and covered the chariots and the horsemen; of all the host of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea, not one of them remained. ²⁹ But the

people of Israel walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.

³⁰ Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. ³¹ Israel saw the great power that the LORD used against the Egyptians, so the people feared the LORD, and they believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

EPISTLE LESSON: TITUS 3:3-8 (ESV)

³ For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another. ⁴ But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, ⁵ he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. ⁸ The saying is trustworthy, and I want you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to devote themselves to good works. These things are excellent and profitable for people.

RESPONSE TO THE LESSONS

Deliver me, O LORD, My God,
for you are the God of my salvation. *PSALM 51:14*

***Rescue me from my enemies,
protect me from those who rise against me.*** *PSALM 59:1*

In You, O LORD, do I put my trust,
leave me not, O LORD, my God. *PSALM 141:8*

***Rescue me from my enemies,
protect me from those who rise against me.*** *PSALM 59:1*

Deliver me, O LORD, My God,
for you are the God of my salvation. *PSALM 51:14*

***Rescue me from my enemies,
protect me from those who rise against me.*** *PSALM 59:1*

SPECIAL MUSIC

Lane Lindseth

OFFERING RESPONSE

We give Thee but Thine own, whate'er the gift may be.

All that we have is Thine alone, a trust O Lord from Thee. Amen.

#360: "DAY OF MY BAPTISM"

1 I am baptized—O blessed day
On which my sins were washed away,
When Heaven's grace upon me smiled
And I became God's holy child.

2 Oh, let me daily help receive
Thy word of pardon to believe.
When I am tempted, make me strong
To choose the right and hate the wrong.

3 So will I keep the promise giv'n
When I was made an heir of heav'n,
My Savior joyfully confess,
And serve the Lord in holiness.

CATECHISM READING

III. How Can Water Do Such Great Things?

It is not the water, indeed, that does such great things, but the Word of God, connected with the water, and our faith which relies on that Word of God. For without the Word of God, it is simply water and no baptism. But when connected with the Word of God, it is a baptism, that is, a gracious water of life and a washing of regeneration in the Holy Spirit, as St. Paul says to Titus, in the third chapter: "He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior; so that being justified by His grace we would be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy statement."

IV. What Does Such Baptizing with Water Signify?

It signifies that the old Adam in us, together with all sins and evil lusts, should be drowned by daily sorrow and repentance and be put to death; and that the new man should daily come forth and rise to live before God in righteousness and holiness forever.

Where is it so written?

St. Paul writes in the sixth chapter of the Epistle to the Romans: “Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.”

GOSPEL LESSON: JOHN 3:1-8 (ESV)

¹ Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. ² This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him.” ³ Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.” ⁴ Nicodemus said to him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?” ⁵ Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. ⁶ That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ ⁸ The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

SERMON: “BAPTISM GIVES LIFE”

2 Kings 5:9-14

⁹ So Naaman came with his horses and chariots and stood at the door of Elisha’s house. ¹⁰ And Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, “Go and wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored, and you shall be clean.” ¹¹ But Naaman was angry and went away, saying, “Behold, I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand and call upon the name of the Lord his God, and wave his hand over the place and cure the leper. ¹² Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?” So he turned and went away in a rage. ¹³ But his servants came near and said to him, “My father, it is a great word the prophet has spoken to you; will you not do it? Has he actually said to you, ‘Wash, and be clean’?” ¹⁴ So he went down and dipped himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God, and his flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean.

John 1:29-33

²⁹ The next day [John] saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! ³⁰ This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.’ ³¹ I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel.” ³² And John bore witness: “I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³ I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ ”

John 3:22

After this Jesus and his disciples went into the Judean countryside, and he remained there with them and was baptizing.

John 4:1-2

¹ Now when Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard that Jesus was making and baptizing more disciples than John ²(although Jesus himself did not baptize, but only his disciples).

Romans 6:3-5

³ Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. ⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

1 Corinthians 10:1-2

¹ For I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ² and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea,

1 Corinthians 12:12-13

¹² For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³ For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

THE MAGNIFICAT

My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

LUKE 1:46-55

for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant.

For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name.

And his mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts;

he has brought down the mighty from their thrones
and exalted those of humble estate;

he has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
as he spoke to our fathers,
to Abraham and to his offspring forever.

#272: “BAPTIZED INTO THY NAME MOST HOLY”

1 Baptized into Thy name most holy,
O Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
I claim a place, though weak and lowly,
Among Thy seed, Thy chosen host;
With Christ I’m buried, dead to sin,
Thy Spirit now shall live within.

2 My loving Father, Thou dost take me
To be henceforth Thy child and heir;
My faithful Savior, Thou dost make me
The fruit of all Thy sorrows share;
Thou Holy Ghost, wilt comfort me,
When darkest clouds around I see.

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.

COLLECT

O Lord, hear my prayer,
And let my cry come to You.

PSALM 102:1

O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

BENEDICTION

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. *2 CORINTHIANS 13:14*

Amen.

WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP SERVICE THIS EVENING!

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

<u>Sun., Mar. 7</u>	“Behold His Glory” KNOX 1310 AM	7:30 am
	Sunday school (preschool-adult)	9:30 am
	Divine worship w/ Holy Communion	10:30 am
<u>Wed. Mar. 10</u>	Lenten service	7:00 pm
<u>Sun., Mar. 14</u>	Daylight saving time begins	
<u>Mon., Mar. 22</u>	Deacons meeting	6:30 pm
	Council meeting	7:00 pm

Remember to pray for those who are hurting or sick, those who have lost a loved one, young families with children, our nation, the AFLC, members & friends of Trinity, Pastor Dan and Alicia Antal.

3/7 Texts: Exodus 20:1-17; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; John 2:13-25