

March 8, 2023  
3rd Midweek Lenten Service



**SINGING** WITH THE **EXILES**



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## ✠ Opening Prayer ✠

**Hymn: TLH #751**

*"God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It"*

### The Invocation

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- P** We worship in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

### Confession and Absolution

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- P** Behold the Father's love, *(John 3:17)*
- C** **For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.**
- P** Behold the Son's grace, *(Matthew 20:28)*
- C** **The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.**
- P** Behold the Spirit's patient teaching, *(1 Corinthians 2:12)*
- C** **Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God.**
- P** Please come to us Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
- C** **Show us Your love, show us Your grace, and bind us together through Your Gospel of peace.**
- P** Father in heaven, we come before You out of need. You provide all that we need for body and life. You shower us with blessings too numerous to count. But our response to your generous care falls short in every way.
- C** **We are sinful from birth, and we have also sinned against You daily through things we have said, thought, and done. We can do nothing to erase the record of our sins, and so we come before You seeking help for our greatest need. Forgive us Father, and take away our guilt.**

**Response: TLH #323**

*"With Broken Heart and Contrite Sigh"*

- 1. With broken heart and contrite sigh,  
A trembling sinner, Lord, I cry.  
Your pardoning grace is rich and free, --  
O God, be merciful to me!**

**4. Nor alms nor deeds that I have done,  
Can for a single sin atone.  
To Calvary alone I flee, --  
O God, be merciful to me!**

**P** God's Word says, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." It also tells us that God has in Christ reconciled the world to Himself, not charging our sin to us. Therefore, by the authority and command of our Lord Jesus, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. *(1 John 1:9; 2 Cor.5:19; John 20:21-23)*

**5. And now, redeemed from sin and hell,  
With all the ransomed throng I dwell,  
My raptured song shall ever be,  
God has been merciful to me!**

**6. Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all Creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, Ye heavenly host:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!**

**✠ Reading from the Passion History of Our Lord ✠**

**Response: WS #724**

*"Jesus, Remember Me"*

**C** *Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.  
Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom. (2x)*

**Confession of Faith**

Explanation to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Article

**C** I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord. He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sin, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and His innocent suffering and death. He did this that I should be His very own, live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in eternal righteousness, innocence, and joy; just as He is risen from death, lives and reigns in eternity. This is most certainly true.

## Isaiah 44:1-5

"But now hear, O Jacob my servant, Israel whom I have chosen! <sup>2</sup> Thus says the LORD

who made you, who formed you from the womb and will help you: Fear not, O Jacob my servant, Jeshurun whom I have chosen. <sup>3</sup> For I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground; I will pour my Spirit upon your offspring, and my blessing on your descendants. <sup>4</sup> They shall spring up among the grass like willows by flowing streams. <sup>5</sup> This one will say, 'I am the LORD's,' another will call on the name of Jacob, and another will write on his hand, 'The LORD's,' and name himself by the name of Israel."

✠ **Marked** ✠

**Sermon Hymn:** Tune of TLH #384

*"Sing We Exiles"*

- 1. Sing we exiles in our sadness, Though we wander dispossessed; Sing for hope of future rest. Jesus is our Way, our gladness, Straight'ning crooked paths we roam, Leading to our Father's home.*
- 2. Off we fear to be forgotten, Trampled in the dust of sin, Lost and broken deep within. Christ, Redeemer, Sole-begotten, Raise your kinsman from the dead; You have crushed the serpent's head.*
- 3. Sing we exiles in our yearning To be healed from ev'ry wrong; Sing the distant triumph song. Father, guide us in returning With repentance to Your will, Lead us ever homeward still.*

Luther's Morning Prayer & the Benediction

- ☞** In the name of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.  
I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

**Closing Hymn:** **WS #767** *"Church of God, Elect and Glorious"*