

Laetare

The Fourth Sunday in Lent
The Sunday of the Feeding of the Five Thousand
The week of March 22, 2020



*The bread of God is He who comes down from heaven
And gives life to the world*

The Divine Service

†-- congregation stands

The Preparation

† The Litany

O Lord,
have mercy.

O Christ,
have mercy.

O Lord,
have mercy.

O Christ,
hear us.

God the Father in heaven,
have mercy.

God the Son, Redeemer of the world,
have mercy.

God the Holy Spirit,
have mercy.

Be gracious to us.
Spare us, good Lord.

Be gracious to us.
Help us, good Lord.

From all sin, from all error, from all evil; from the crafts and assaults of the devil; from sudden and evil death; from pestilence and famine; from war and bloodshed; from sedition and from rebellion; from lightning and tempest; from all calamity by fire and water; and from everlasting death:

Good Lord, deliver us.

By the mystery of Your holy incarnation; by Your holy nativity; by Your baptism, fasting, and temptation; by Your agony and bloody sweat; by Your cross and passion; by Your precious death and burial; by Your glorious resurrection and ascension; and by the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter:

Help us, good Lord.

In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death; and in the day of judgment:

Help us, good Lord.

We poor sinners implore You

to hear us, O Lord.

To rule and govern Your holy Christian Church; to preserve all pastors and ministers of Your Church in the true knowledge and understanding of Your wholesome Word and to sustain them in holy living; to put an end to all schisms and causes of offense; to bring into the way of truth all who have erred and are deceived; to beat down Satan under our feet; to send faithful laborers into Your harvest; and to accompany Your Word with Your grace and Spirit:

We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

To raise those who fall and to strengthen those who stand; and to comfort and help the weakhearted and the distressed:

We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

To give to all peoples concord and peace; to preserve our land from discord and strife; to give our country Your protection in every time of need; to direct and defend our president and all in authority; to bless and protect our magistrates and all our people; to watch over and help all who are in danger, necessity, and tribulation; to protect and guide all who travel; to grant all women with child, and all mothers with infant children, increasing happiness in their blessings; to defend all orphans and widows and provide for them; to strengthen and keep all sick persons and young children; to free those in bondage; and to have mercy on us all:

We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

To forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers and to turn their hearts; to give and preserve for our use the kindly fruits of the earth; and graciously to hear our prayers:

We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,

we implore You to hear us.

Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

have mercy.

Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

have mercy.

Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

grant us Your peace.

O Christ,

hear us.

O Lord,

have mercy.

O Christ,
have mercy.

O Lord,
have mercy. Amen.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this Lord, unto us all.

Amen.

The Service of the Word

† **Introit** *Psalm 122:1-2, 6, 8; antiphon: Isaiah 66:10a, 11a)*

Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her,
all you who love her;

**that you may nurse and be satisfied
from her consoling breast.**

I was glad when they said to me,
“Let us go to the house of the LORD!”

**Our feet have been standing*
within your gates, O Jerusalem!**

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem!
May they be secure who love you!

**For my brothers and companions' sake
I will say, “Peace be within you!”**

**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.**

Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her,
all you who love her;

**that you may nurse and be satisfied
from her consoling breast.**

† **Collect of the Day**

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.

Let us pray: Grant, we beseech You, almighty God, that we who deserve to be punished for our evil deeds, may mercifully be relieved by the comfort 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.

Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts that lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness we may receive from You full pardon and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Old Testament Reading *Exodus 16:2-21*

In those days the whole congregation of the people of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness, and the people of Israel said to them, “Would that we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the meat pots and ate bread to the full, for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.” Then the LORD said to Moses, “Behold, I am about to rain bread from heaven for you, and the people shall go out and gather a day's portion every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in My law or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather daily.” So Moses and Aaron said to all the people of Israel, “At evening you shall know that it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the LORD, because He has heard your grumbling against the LORD. For what are we, that you grumble against us?” And Moses said, “When the LORD gives you in the evening meat to eat and in the morning bread to the full, because the LORD has heard your grumbling that you grumble against Him—what are we? Your grumbling is not against us but against the LORD.” Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the people of Israel, ‘Come near before the LORD, for He has heard your grumbling.’” And as soon as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the people of Israel, they looked toward the wilderness, and behold, the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. And the LORD said to Moses, “I have heard the grumbling of the people of Israel. Say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread. Then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.’” In the evening quail came up and covered the camp, and in the morning dew lay around the camp. And when the dew had gone up, there was on the face of the wilderness a fine, flake-like thing, fine as frost on the ground. When the people of Israel saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat. This is what the LORD has commanded: ‘Gather of it, each one of you, as much as he can eat. You shall each take an omer, according to the number of the persons that each of you has in his tent.’” And the people of Israel did so. They gathered, some more, some less. But when they measured it with an omer, whoever gathered much had nothing left over, and whoever gathered little had no

lack. Each of them gathered as much as he could eat. And Moses said to them, “Let no one leave any of it over till the morning.” But they did not listen to Moses. Some left part of it till the morning, and it bred worms and stank. And Moses was angry with them. Morning by morning they gathered it, each as much as he could eat; but when the sun grew hot, it melted.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual & Tract *Psalm 122:1, 7 / Psalm 125:1–2, 5b*

I was glad when they said to me,

“Let us go to the house of the LORD!”

**Peace be within your walls
and security within your towers!**

Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount Zion,
which cannot be moved, but abides forever.

**As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the LORD surrounds His | people,
from this time forth and forevermore. Peace be upon Israel!**

† **Holy Gospel** *St. John 6:1–15*

The continuation of the Holy Gospel according to St. John.

Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

✠ *At that time,* Jesus went away to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, which is the Sea of Tiberias. And a large crowd was following Him, because they saw the signs that He was doing on the sick. Jesus went up on the mountain, and there He sat down with His disciples. Now the Passover, the feast of the Jews, was at hand. Lifting up His eyes, then, and seeing that a large crowd was coming toward Him, Jesus said to Philip, “Where are we to buy bread, so that these people may eat?” He said this to test him, for He Himself knew what He would do. Philip answered Him, “Two hundred denarii worth of bread would not be enough for each of them to get a little.” One of His disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said to Him, “There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish, but what are they for so many?” Jesus said, “Have the people sit down.” Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, about five thousand in number. Jesus then took the loaves, and when He had given thanks, He distributed them to those who were seated. So also the fish, as much as they wanted. And when they had eaten their fill, He told His disciples, “Gather up the leftover fragments, that nothing may be lost.” So they gathered them up and filled twelve baskets with fragments from the five barley loaves left by those who had eaten. When the people saw the sign that He had done, they said, “This is indeed the Prophet who is to come into the world!” Perceiving then that they were about to come and take Him by force to make Him king, Jesus withdrew again to the mountain by Himself.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

† **Nicene Creed** (*inside back cover of hymnal*)

Hymn of the Day 743 *Jesus, Priceless Treasure*

Sermon

† **Prayer of the Church**

Lord, in Your mercy,
hear our prayer.

At the conclusion: ... one God, now and forever.
Amen.

The Service of the Sacrament of the Altar

† **Preface and Sanctus**

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.
It is meet and right so to do.

It is truly meet, right, and salutary ... evermore praising You and saying:
Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; heaven and earth are full of Thy glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

† **Lord's Prayer**

† **Words of Our Lord**

† **Pax Domini**

The peace of ☩ the Lord be with you always.
Amen.

† **Agnus Dei** (*sung*)

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace.
Amen.

Distribution

Guests who have not previously received Holy Communion from Pastor Gerike are kindly asked to speak with him before approaching the altar for the first time.

Communicants may receive the Body of Christ either in the hand or directly in the mouth. Those who receive the Blood of Christ from the chalice are encouraged to take the bottom of the chalice with a hand to help guide it to their mouths.

Communicants are invited to pray the following before receiving the Sacrament:

O Lord, I am not worthy that You should enter under my roof;
but speak only Your Word, and my soul will be healed.

What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?
I will take the Cup of Salvation and call upon the Name of the Lord.

† Dismissal

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul unto life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

Amen.

† Post-Communion Collect

O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good.
and His mercy endureth forever.

Let us pray. ... one God, now and forever.

Amen.

† Salutation, Benedicamus, and Benediction

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Bless we the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

Amen.

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