

Grace Lutheran Church

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Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 29, 2020



The law of the
Spirit of life **has**
set you free in
Christ Jesus

Preparing for Worship

- In your Bible or in the front section of the hymnal, read through today's appointed psalm: **PSALM 130**
- Review today's Scripture readings in the bulletin
- Focus on the Lord in prayer. Feel free to use our usual pre-service prayer:

Prayer before Worship

O Lord, my Creator, Redeemer, and Comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.

Invocation

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

+Service of the Word+

Introit

Ps. 116:1–4, 8; antiphon: Ps. 116:15

A Precious in the sight | of the LORD*
is the death | of his saints.

I love the LORD, because | he has heard*
my voice and my pleas for | mercy.

C **Because he inclined his | ear to me,*
therefore I will call on him as long | as I live.**

A The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol
laid | hold on me;*

I suffered distress and | anguish.

C **Then I called on the name | of the LORD:*
"O LORD, I pray, deliv- | er my soul!"**

A For you have delivered my | soul from death,*
my eyes from tears, my feet from | stumbling.

**All: Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;**

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

A Precious in the sight | of the LORD*
is the death | of his saints.

Kyrie

C **Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.**

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, who alone gives all life forever, in Jesus' suffering and death You have given us victory over sin, eternal death, and the power of the devil.

C Breathe into our bones and our souls Your life-giving Word, so that we rejoice in Your forgiveness and serve You and others in love and faithfulness;

P through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Epistle

Romans 8:1–11

¹There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. ³For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. ⁸Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Heb. 12:2

**ALL: O come, let us fix our eyes on Jesus,
the founder and perfecter of our faith,
who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross,
despising the shame,
and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.**

Verse

**ALL: These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the
Christ, the Son of God.**

Holy Gospel

John 11:17-27, 38-44

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eleventh chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹⁷Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, ¹⁹and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. ²⁰So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. ²¹Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you." ²³Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, ²⁶and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world."

³⁸Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. ³⁹Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days." ⁴⁰Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" ⁴¹So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you that you

have heard me. ⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me.”

⁴³When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out.” ⁴⁴The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Apostles' Creed

C **I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

Sermon

“Flesh and Spirit?”

Romans 8:1–11

Prayer of the Church

Lord's Prayer

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **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.**

Closing Collect

- P God of love and grace, by our Baptism into the death and resurrection of Your Son You have freed us from the old life of slavery to sin. You give to us His new life of holiness and love.
- C **Lead us, who are forgiven and renewed in Him, to always walk in newness of the Spirit, bearing faithful fruit for the sake of others and for Your kingdom to come.**
- P Through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C **Amen.**

Benedicamus and Benediction

- P Let us bless the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**
- P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord lift up His countenance and T give you peace.
- C **Amen.**

Sending

- P Go in Peace; serve the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God!**

Acknowledgments

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