

## Midweek Lent 3/18

### Announcements

### INVOCATION

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

PASTOR: Heavenly Father, as we gather today in Your triune name we ask for You to give us joy to hear Your Word. Lord we know that our ears are not always anxious to hear Your Word, our hearts are sometimes stubborn toward Your gifts, our eyes refuse to see the richness of Your grace, and our minds are often distracted by fears and things of the world. We look to You this evening and ask that because of Jesus Christ and His suffering and death that You would have mercy on us and hear our confession as we call to You in our need....

PASTOR: Brothers and sister, Jesus sees You and hears You. He promised to remove the heart of stone of His people and give them a heart of flesh. Know that the Lord has followed through on the promise to you and hear these words; in the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ I forgive You all your sins, in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit Amen.

#### PSALM 136:1-9 & 23-26

- 1 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever.
  - 2 Give thanks to the God of gods. His love endures forever.
  - 3 Give thanks to the Lord of lords: His love endures forever.
  - 4 to him who alone does great wonders, His love endures forever.
  - 5 who by his understanding made the heavens, His love endures forever.
  - 6 who spread out the earth upon the waters, His love endures forever.
  - 7 who made the great lights—His love endures forever.
  - 8 the sun to govern the day, His love endures forever.
  - 9 the moon and stars to govern the night; His love endures forever.
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- 23 He remembered us in our low estate His love endures forever.
  - 24 and freed us from our enemies. His love endures forever.
  - 25 He gives food to every creature. His love endures forever.
  - 26 Give thanks to the God of heaven. His love endures forever.

#### PETITIONS OF THE LORD'S PRAYER

PASTOR: What is the Fifth Petition of the Lord's Prayer

ALL: And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

PASTOR: What does this mean?

ALL: We pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would not look at our sins, or deny our prayer because of them. We are neither worthy of the things for which we pray, nor have we deserved them, but we ask that He would give them all to us by grace, for we daily sin much and surely deserve nothing but punishment. So we too will sincerely forgive and gladly do good to those who sin against us.

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PASTOR: What is the Sixth Petition of the Lord's Prayer

ALL: And lead us not into temptation.

PASTOR: What does this mean?

ALL: God tempts no one. We pray in this petition that God would guard and keep us so that the devil, the world, and our sinful nature may not deceive us or mislead us into false belief, despair, and other great shame and vice. Although we are attacked by these things, we pray that we may finally overcome them and win the victory.

### SERMON TEXT & MESSAGE

Matthew 13

Specific text read Matthew 13:1-9 & 18-23

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. <sup>2</sup> And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. <sup>3</sup> And he told them many things in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow. <sup>4</sup> And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. <sup>5</sup> Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, <sup>6</sup> but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. <sup>7</sup> Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. <sup>8</sup> Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. <sup>9</sup> He who has ears, let him hear."

"Hear then the parable of the sower: <sup>19</sup> When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. <sup>20</sup> As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, <sup>21</sup> yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. <sup>22</sup> As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. <sup>23</sup> As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

### PRAYER

#### LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. 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.

#### DOXOLOGY:

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.