

THE SECOND WEDNESDAY IN LENT, March 3, 2021

(P: pastor; C: congregation)

OPENING LITANY AND CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit,

C: Amen.

P: O LORD my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me.

C: Sing praises to the LORD, O you his saints, and give thanks to his holy name.

P: For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a lifetime.

C: Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

P: You have turned for me my mourning into dancing;

C: You have loosed my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness.

P: With humble and repentant hearts, let us confess our sins unto God our Father.

C: O LORD, rebuke me not in your anger, nor discipline me in your wrath. Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am languishing; heal me, O LORD, for my bones are troubled. My soul also is greatly troubled. Turn, O LORD, deliver my life; save me for the sake of your steadfast love.

P: On the basis of your confession and the Lord's promise, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

FIRST LESSON: Romans 5:1-5

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

P: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

SECOND LESSON: Matthew 15:21-28

And Jesus went away from there and withdrew to the district of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and was crying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely oppressed by a demon." But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying, "Send her away, for she is crying out after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." And he answered, "It is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire." And her daughter was healed instantly.

P: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

MEDITATION, Amazing Grace for the Healed

HYMN: “Come to Calvary’s Holy Mountain”, LBW 301

(Text: Public Domain)

**Come to Calv’ry’s holy mountain, sinners, ruined by the fall;
Here a pure and healing fountain flows for you, for me, for all,
In a full, perpetual tide, opened when our Savior died.**

**Come in sorrow and contrition, Wounded, impotent, and blind;
Here the guilty, free remission, Here the troubled peace may find.
Health this fountain will restore; Those who drink shall thirst no more.**

**Those who drink shall live forever; ‘Tis a soul renewing flood.
God is faithful; God will never Break his covenant of blood,
Signed when our redeemer died, Sealed when he was glorified.**

PRAYER

P: Let us pray. Heavenly Father, there are so many people, family, friends, co-workers and neighbors, who are in need of your mercy and healing. Work through us to bring them comfort and hope in the name of Jesus, who is the Savior of all people.

C: Amen

LORD’S PRAYER

P: Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen

BLESSING

P: The Lord bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

C: Amen

CLOSING HYMN: “Amazing Grace”, st. 4

**The Lord has promised good to me,
His Word my hope secures;
He will my Shield and Portion be,
As long as life endures.**