

Sunday, March 1, 2020

9:15 a.m.

1st Sunday of Lent

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Gathering Of Disciples

Christian Church

(G.O.D.'s Church)

A Christian congregation

located in the Angel Chapel at the

Manitowoc Health and Rehabilitation Center

2021 South Alverno Road

Manitowoc, WI

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Please Greet One Another and Welcome Visitors

Announcing the Day

Today is about Jesus' temptation in the desert. His 40 day fast becomes the basis of our Lenten pilgrimage.

Order of Worship

Introductions and Announcements

Welcome

L: Let us now take a moment to center our hearts and minds on God in preparation for worship.

Call to Worship

L: Happy are the people whose sins are forgiven!

C: God's forgiveness is poured on them as a healing balm.

L: Happy are the people who place their trust in God.

C: God's presence is their guide and their strength.

L: Come, let us worship the God who forgives and heals us.

C: Let us celebrate God's presence with us each day.

The Service of Prayer and Praise

The Entrance Hymn

#248

"I Want to Walk as a Child of Light"

The Confession and Forgiveness

(Please stand if you are able)

L: Gracious God, **C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned away from you, knowingly and unknowingly. We have wandered from your resurrection**

life. We have strayed from your love for all people. Turn us back to you, O God. Give us new hearts and right spirits, that we may find what is pleasing to you and dwell in your house forever.

L: God turns to us in love. "I will put my spirit in you, and you shall live," says our God. All our sin is forgiven in the name of Jesus Christ, who is the free and abounding gift of God's grace for us. **C: Thanks be to God! Amen.**

The Kyrie

L: In Peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For the peace from above, for our salvation. Let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For this congregation and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious God.

C: Amen.

The Hymn of Praise (sung)

(Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days #252 vs 1, 5)
Lord, who throughout these forty days, for us did fast and pray, teach us with you to mourn our sins and close by you to stay.

Abide with us, that through this life of doubts and hope and pain, an Easter of unending joy we may at last attain!

L : The grace that is Christ's gift to us, the love of God and the unity of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

The Prayer of the Day

L: Lord, God, our strength,

C: the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated

The First Reading: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

¹⁵The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. ¹⁶And the LORD God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; ¹⁷but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die."

¹ Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?"

²The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from

the trees in the garden, ³ but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'"

⁴"You will not certainly die," the serpent said to the woman. ⁵"For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

⁶When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.

⁷Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

Psalm 32 (recited responsively)

¹Blessed is the one
whose transgressions are forgiven,
whose sins are covered.

²**Blessed is the one
whose sin the LORD does not count against them
and in whose spirit is no deceit.**

³When I kept silent,
my bones wasted away
through my groaning all day long.

⁴**For day and night
your hand was heavy on me;
my strength was sapped
as in the heat of summer.**

⁵ Then I acknowledged my sin to you
and did not cover up my iniquity.

I said, "I will confess
my transgressions to the LORD."

And you forgave
the guilt of my sin.

**⁶ Therefore let all the faithful pray to you
while you may be found;
surely the rising of the mighty waters
will not reach them.**

⁷ You are my hiding place;
you will protect me from trouble
and surround me with songs of deliverance.

**⁸ I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should
go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.**

⁹ Do not be like the horse or the mule,
which have no understanding
but must be controlled by bit and bridle
or they will not come to you.

**¹⁰ Many are the woes of the wicked,
but the LORD's unfailing love
surrounds the one who trusts in him.**

¹¹ Rejoice in the LORD and be glad, you righteous;
sing, all you who are upright in heart!

The Second Reading: Romans 5:12-19

¹² Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one
man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to
all people, because all sinned—

¹³ To be sure, sin was in the world before the law was given,
but sin is not charged against anyone's account where there

is no law. ¹⁴ Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of
Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not
sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who is a pattern
of the one to come.

¹⁵ But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died
by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's
grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man,
Jesus Christ, overflow to the many! ¹⁶ Nor can the gift of
God be compared with the result of one man's sin: The
judgment followed one sin and brought condemnation, but
the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification.

¹⁷ For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned
through that one man, how much more will those who
receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of
righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus
Christ!

¹⁸ Consequently, just as one trespass resulted in
condemnation for all people, so also one righteous act
resulted in justification and life for all people. ¹⁹ For just as
through the disobedience of the one man the many were
made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one
man the many will be made righteous.

L: The Readings for today. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation *(Please stand if you are able)*

Holy Ground #654

**C: We are standing on Holy Ground, and I know that there
are angels all around. Let us praise Jesus now; we are
standing in his presence on holy ground.**

L: The holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 4th Chapter
C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

The Gospel: Matthew 4: 1-11

¹Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ²After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. ³The tempter came to him and said, “If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.”

⁴Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”

⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. ⁶“If you are the Son of God,” he said, “throw yourself down. For it is written: “He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.”

⁷Jesus answered him, “It is also written: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

⁸Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. ⁹“All this I will give you,” he said, “if you will bow down and worship me.”

¹⁰Jesus said to him, “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.’”

¹¹Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

L: The Word of God. C: **For the People of God.**

The Message (*Please be seated*)

The Hymn of the Day

252

“Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days”

The Nicene Creed (*Please stand if you are able*)

L: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the Church

L: "Lord, in your Mercy" C: "Hear Our Prayer"

The Offering (Sung)

(Please be seated)

"Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow" #34

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. Amen.

The Offertory Prayer

L: Holy and gracious host, C: **you set a table where we feast as friends. Prepare us to witness to your goodness with every gift you have given us to share, that all people may know your peace through Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen.**

The Setting of the Table

L: The Peace of Christ be with all of you.

C: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to God.

L: Let us give our thanks to the Holy One.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

L: Almighty God, we rejoice in the light of your love as we praise you at all times and in all places. In the beginning, as you created the world, you said, "Let there be light." You looked and saw that the light was good. You made the sun, moon, and stars, that they might mark the seasons of the earth. You created us in your image, that we might live

in the light and care for your world. When anguish and despair darkened the earth, you sent your prophets to call the people to faithfulness and to proclaim your promises. To those in darkness, you sent a great light, that they might see your ways and rejoice before you. And so, with your people on earth, and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

(#738 – Holy, Holy, Holy Lord) sung

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are filled with your glory: Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

L: In great love you sent us Jesus, your Son who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

L: On the same night in which He was betrayed,

C: Jesus took bread, gave thanks, blessed and broke it; and gave it to His disciples saying;

L: Take, eat; this is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me. *(Pause as the bread is raised)*

L: Likewise, he also took the cup after supper, saying; *(Pause as the cup is raised)*

L: This cup is the new covenant in My blood which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

C: Do this also in remembrance of me.

L: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine.

C: Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, so that we may become one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until all things are made new. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer *(Please stand if you are able)*

L: Let us join together in the prayer that Jesus taught us and give praise with the ending acclamation given to us by his apostle, Mark. **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.**

Holy Communion

Holy Communion is served. Come now with joy to the table.

Post Communion Prayer

L: O God, **C: In the fullness of time, you sent your Son, Jesus Christ, the light of the world, to claim us as your own. He taught your ways, proclaimed the good news, and healed the sick. In him we see the light of your love. Through him, you have gathered us into the body of Christ and made us one, that we too might reflect your light to the world. Amen.**

The Benediction

L: Now is the acceptable time. Now is the day of salvation. Holy God, speaking, spoken and inspiring, bless us, unbind us and send us in love and in peace.
C: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Closing Hymn

501

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer"

The Closing

L: Go in peace. Share the good news.

C: Thanks be to God.

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Those Serving Us Today

Message:	Tom Reed
Leader:	Wendy Reed
Reader:	Julie Bubolz
Music:	Mari Roedig
Usher:	Barb Evenson/Matt Swadner/Terri Fish
Altar Prep:	Bev Griffin/Wendy Reed/Barb Evenson/Tom Reed

**Our next service will be on Sunday, March 8
at 9:15 am**

Next Church Meeting

The next church formation meeting will be held on **Tuesday, March 10 at 1:00 p.m.** at Linda Herzog's. Anyone wishing to help form this new community of believers is invited to attend.