

For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

Luke 19:10

COMPLINE LENT 2021

Officiant:

The Lord Almighty grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end. Amen.

Officiant: Our help is in the Name of the Lord;

People: The maker of heaven and earth.

Officiant: Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

Officiant and People:

Almighty God and Father, we confess to you, to one another, and to the whole company of heaven, that we have sinned, through our own fault, in thought, and word, and deed, and in what we have left undone. For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy upon us, forgive us all our sins, and by the power of your Holy Spirit raise us up to serve you in newness of life, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Officiant: May Almighty God grant us forgiveness of our sins, and the grace and comfort of his Holy Spirit. Amen.

Officiant: O God, make speed to save us. People: O Lord, make haste to help us.

Officiant: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

People: as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,

world without end. Amen.

The following, or another suitable Psalm, is sung or said.

PSALM 46

- ¹ God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
- ² Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,
- 3 though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.
- ⁴ There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.
- ⁵ God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns.
- ⁶ The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts.

- ⁷ The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.
- ⁸ Come, behold the works of the Lord, how he has brought desolations on the earth.
- ⁹ He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the chariots with fire.
- 10 "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"
- 11 The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.
- Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Luke 6:20-49

Vss. 20–23 The week of Sunday, Feb. 21

- ²⁰ And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said:
- "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.
- ²¹ "Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied.
- "Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh.
- ²² "Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man! ²³ Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets.

Vss. 24–26 The week of Sunday, Feb. 28

- ²⁴ "But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.
- ²⁵ "Woe to you who are full now, for you shall be hungry.
- "Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep.
- $^{\rm 26}$ "Woe to you, when all people speak well of you, for so their fathers did to the false prophets.

Vss. 27–36 The week of Sunday, Mar. 7

²⁷ "But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹ To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from one who takes away your cloak do not withhold your tunic either. ³⁰ Give to everyone who begs from you, and from one who takes away your goods

do not demand them back. ³¹ And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.

³² "If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³ And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴ And if you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount. ³⁵ But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. ³⁶ Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.

Vss. 37-42 The week of Sunday, Mar. 14

³⁷ "Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸ give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you."

³⁹ He also told them a parable: "Can a blind man lead a blind man? Will they not both fall into a pit? ⁴⁰ A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher. ⁴¹ Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? ⁴² How can you say to your brother, 'Brother, let me take out the speck that is in your eye,' when you yourself do not see the log that is in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take out the speck that is in your brother's eye.

Vss. 43-45 The week of Sunday, Mar. 21

⁴³ "For no good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit, ⁴⁴ for each tree is known by its own fruit. For figs are not gathered from thornbushes, nor are grapes picked from a bramble bush. ⁴⁵ The good person out of the good treasure of his heart produces good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure produces evil, for out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.

Vss. 46-49 The week of Sunday, Mar. 28

⁴⁶ "Why do you call me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do what I tell you? ⁴⁷ Everyone who comes to me and hears my words and does them, I will show you what he is like: ⁴⁸ he is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when a flood arose, the stream broke against that house and could not shake it, because it had been well built. ⁴⁹ But the one who hears and does not do them is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. When the stream broke against it, immediately it fell, and the ruin of that house was great."

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

A period of silence may follow. A suitable hymn may be sung.

GROUP DISCUSSION

See reflection questions beginning on page 8.

Officiant: Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;

People: For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.

Officiant: Keep me, O Lord, as the apple of your eye; People: Hide me under the shadow of your wings.

Officiant: Lord, have mercy upon us. **People: Christ, have mercy upon us.** Officiant: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Officiant and People:

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.

Officiant: O Lord, hear our prayer; People: And let our cry come to you.

Officiant: Let us pray.

The Officiant then says one or more of the following Collects. Other appropriate Collects may also be used.

Be present, O merciful God, and protect us through the hours of this night, so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of this life may rest in your eternal changelessness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Look down, O Lord, from your heavenly throne, illumine this night with your celestial brightness, and from the children of light banish the deeds of darkness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

One of the following prayers may be added

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. Amen.

Silence may be kept, and free intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered.

Pastor Aziz	Tessa K.	Jon, Carrie, Charlie,
Feb. 21-27	Feb. 28-Mar. 6	and Kieran D.
Enlarge the ministry of Pastor Aziz as he mentors, encourages, teaches, and supports pastors and Christian leaders in Kenya; especially leaders ministering in refugee camps, and those who have come from camps and are now able to pursue biblical studies. By your grace, Lord, provide a place for their church to meet as they have had to relocate.	Fill Tessa K's heart with joy and peace as she ministers to refugees in Turkey. May each woman and child she befriends see you in her. Protect her from all ills and draw her close to your heart.	Prosper the work of Jon and Carrie D. as tentmakers in the Middle East.¹ May their open and loving spirits be life and light to those around them. Shepherd Kiki while she is far away in high school in Germany. Thank you for the friendships she has made, and we pray that Charlie too, will find great gladness in the friendships he enjoys as he returns to school after the shutdowns.

¹ For the month of March, Jon will walk through and pray for a different neighborhood in his city. For him, this usually takes the form of a playlist of worship songs that he prays over from house by house but you can do it any way you like. If you would like to join him by praying for your own city/suburb, contact Fr. Paul to commit to pray and walk for at least 30 minutes every day for our cities during the month of March.

Together For Good	Arrive Ministries	Hope Academy
Mar. 14-20	Mar. 21-27	Mar. 28-Apr. 3
Enliven the ministry of Together For Good as many loving family volunteers are needed to support parents of young children who have no safety net to fall back on and very limited resources in times of crisis. Provide support in body, mind, and spirit to those who seek help.	Open doors to Arrive Ministry as they seek to demonstrate your love in practical, social and spiritual ways to immigrants and refugees arriving in MN. We especially pray for Church of the Redeemer's Karen family, the Htoos, and the support team coming alongside them. Soften their adjustment to life in MN and comfort them with your Presence as they miss family and friends left behind in the camp.	Bless the vision of Hope Academy as it seeks to foster hope in you, Lord, in youth of the inner-city through a Christ-centered education. We pray especially for Church of the Redeemer's chosen student, Emmanuel—for his protection, flourishing, academic, spiritual, and relational growth.

The Officiant and People say or sing the Song of Simeon (Luke 2:29-32) with this Antiphon

Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping; that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.

Lord, now let your servant depart in peace, according to your word.

For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared before the face of all people; to be a light to lighten the Gentiles,

and to be the glory of your people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping; that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.

Officiant: Let us bless the Lord. People: Thanks be to God.

The Officiant concludes with the following

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us, this night and evermore. Amen.

Lent 1: The Week of Sunday, February 21

Josh Lancette

Luke 6:20-23

1) As we enter Lent, what are you carrying, good or bad? How are you entering the season?

2) Where do you recognize you are living under the blessings of God? Where might you not be? Where do you hope to be? Where are you afraid of being?

Lent 2: The Week of Sunday, February 28

Gretchen Held

Luke 6:24-26

- 1) Let's think about our reactions to the highs and lows of life. What does your reaction tell you about the place of God in your life? Do you find yourself defaulting to questioning God in your circumstance? Ask God to reveal where you've been looking at the "illusion image" of your situation, and to instead show you His "reality image".
- 2) C.S. Lewis' "First Things First" principle puts it this way: "Put first things first and we get second things thrown in: put second things first and we lose both first and second things. We never get, say, even the sensual pleasure of food at its best when we are being greedy." How about you? Are there any areas in your life where you are putting second things first? Where would God be pleased to be the priority over the "second thing" even a good thing?
- 3) Where might your desires be diverted by one or more of the illusions in Jesus' "Woes"? Jesus says you would be better off poor, hungry, weeping or hated. For then at least you might turn from these empty things to Him, and find out what life is really about.

Lent 3: The Week of Sunday, March 7

Jon D

Luke 6:27-36

1) Pray for the help of the Holy Spirit to hear his voice if there is anyone that you need to forgive. Then play the linked song (Forgiveness: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n9J6xOT3Ldw) and listen to His voice. Seek to forgive anyone that comes to mind in obedience to His voice.

- 2) What rights are you hanging onto that prevent you from following these challenging verses? What needs to be surrendered to Him to enable you to walk free of the fear of losing, risking, or not being repaid?
- 3) Is there a "line of control" that indicates an area of your life not fully surrendered to Him? If your life truly and fully belongs to Him, is there an area that you find hardest to surrender?

Luke 6:37-42

- 1) Reflect upon Jesus' words in vss. 41-42. "Why do you see the log that is in your own eye but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? How can you say to your brother, 'Brother, let me take out the speck that is in your eye,' when you do not see the log that is in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take out the speck that is in your brother's eye." (emphasis mine). What is Jesus' presumption about the state of each party? What new standard is he teaching by using this parable?
- 2) Read 1 John 1:5-7 and Galatians 6:1-3. What messages do you take away from these verses and how do they work together with Luke 6:36-42 to illustrate the transformative power of love and forgiveness?
- 3) What is your response to the suggestion that removing the log in our own eye helps turn others' logs into specks? Do you agree or disagree? If you agree that this is true, what are the implications for our relationships among one another today?

Lent 5: The Week of Sunday, March 21

Luke 6:43-45

- 1) Why do you think Jesus employs such an uncompromising image?
- 2) How is this metaphor challenging to you?
- 3) Which habits of life store up "good treasure" in your heart? E.g., Psalm 1

4) Think of a person whose heart is filled with "good treasure." How does their life have an impact upon those around them?

Luke 6:46-49

- 1) What "words" or "sayings" (logoi) do I find myself regularly "putting into practice" in my life (Luke 6:47)? How many of these are the logoi of our culture? How many are genuinely Gospel logoi? As a disciple of the Lord (v. 46), am I usually alert to the differences? As a disciple, am I willing to "dig down deep" (v. 48) in order to excavate non-biblical thoughts and practices from my life?
- 2) Did any of the "torrents/floods" of 2020 lay bare my true foundations, for good or ill (v. 48, 49)? As we end the season of Lent, do I find myself holding more to a 'flood-less' Gospel or a Gospel that expects that floods will come? How can I reorient myself during this Easter season more towards the biblical portrait of discipleship we have seen in the Sermon on the Plain in Luke 6?
- 3) In what ways does Jesus—as True Man and True Teacher—exemplify the "sayings" *logoi* we have studied in Luke 6? During this Holy Week, spend time visualizing Jesus from His triumphant entry into Jerusalem, to the Crucifixion, through the Resurrection appearances. Think of His interactions with others, both the disciples he had chosen here in Luke (v. 12) and those enemies who ultimately killed him. In what specific ways did Jesus, our Perfect Teacher and Lord, live out his own lessons from the Sermon on the Plain in His final days on earth?
- 4) Lastly, unlike our Lord and Teacher, we are not perfect. None of us will perfectly follow these sayings in the Sermon on the Plain (Luke 6). Yet, as Jesus explains, only the disciple that made an effort "to do" the logoi of the Lord had a foundation that held fast when the torrent came. Listen to one (or both) of the following renditions of the song "He will hold me fast." As you listen, think of how a renewed focus on daily discipleship can help us more fully rest in the knowledge that Jesus "will hold us fast," by His grace, when the waves of life arrive.

Notes

40 Days of Generosity

'Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap.' - Tuke 6:38

Throughout the season of Lent, and as the focus of <u>our Good Friday offering</u>, we will be collecting to support St. Paul's Dormitory for orphans in Ma Ra Moe refugee camp in Thailand. Our connection to this dormitory is through our brothers and sisters at St. John's Karen Anglican Church.

Morning Prayer - Wednesdays, 7:30 a.m.

Join us in worship via Zoom on Wednesdays, 7:30 a.m. each week.

Morning Prayer follows a brief order of service lasting approximately 30 minutes that includes musical worship, scripture readings, a brief reflection on the day's scripture passage, and prayer. Login information and a downloadable orders of service is available at:

https://oftheredeemer.org/events/wednesday-worship-prayer/

Prayer for Youth & Children - Fridays, 12-12:30 p.m.

Join us in prayer via Zoom at noon on Friday, to pray for the next generation of leaders and Christ-followers – the precious ones in our church family, and beyond.

Visit https://oftheredeemer.org/events/friday-prayer/ to participate.

HOLY WEEK

Join us as we remember the events of Jesus's Passion and celebrate his resurrection and victory over sin and death. Visit oftheredeemer.org for details.

March 28 - Palm Sunday April 1 - Maundy Thursday April 2 - Good Friday April 3 - Easter Vigil April 4 - Easter Sunday

OUR MISSION:

Sharing in Christ's Ministry of Reconciliation through

Worship,

Testimony

& Faithful Presence

