



“God’s Wisdom”

*Saturday, March 6, 2021 at 5:00 pm*  
*Sunday, March 7, 2021 at 11:00 am*

## THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT (Traditional Service)

### AS WE GATHER

When the Israelites were encamped by Mount Sinai, just out of slavery in Egypt and far from the Promised Land, God wisely gave them the Ten Commandments. They are engraved in our historic churches and capitol buildings. Their perfect demands require a Savior for us. Jesus was so jealous for God’s Law that He cleansed the temple before cleansing us of our sin by giving the temple of His body. In His wisdom, God did what we could not: He kept His own Law for us and then chose us to be the Body of Christ today. None of us has kept the commandments; we and our spiritual ancestors reflect our weaknesses in faith and action. But in the process, God’s wisdom shows forth: When we are weak, He is strong. Today is a day to boast about God’s grace and His Son, Christ crucified, the power and wisdom of God.

### WE WELCOME FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

Epiphany Lutheran Church offers many resources and programs to help you and your children grow in your faith relationship with Jesus Christ. Our nursery has staffed personnel every Sunday from 7:30 AM – 12:30 PM. The nursery is not staffed on Saturday night, but still available for your use. Well children, ages infant to four (4) years, are welcome. ***There are new requirements to ensure the health and safety of our children posted on the doors.*** Each Sunday morning worship service has a special children’s message, and we offer Sunday school, except for holidays, for ages 3-adult at 9:30 am. If you need assistance, please ask an usher or elder to direct you to the bathrooms, nursery, or classrooms.

*Please stand for portions of service marked with asterisk (\*).*

THE PRELUDE

Laura Moes, Accompanist

RINGING OF THE BELL

THE WELCOME

Pastor Chris Matthis

ELDER PRAYER

**\*OPENING HYMN**

*"The Gospel Shows the Father's Grace"*

LSB 580



1 The Gos - pel shows the Fa - ther's grace, Who sent His  
2 It sets the Lamb be - fore our eyes, Who made the a -  
3 It brings the Sav - ior's righ - teous - ness To robe our  
4 It is the pow'r of God to save From sin and



Son to save our race, Pro - claims how Je - sus  
ton - ing sac - ri - fice, And calls the souls with  
souls in roy - al dress; From all our guilt it  
Sa - tan and the grave; It works the faith which



lived and died That we might thus be jus - ti - fied.  
guilt op - pressed To come and find e - ter - nal rest.  
brings re - lease And gives the trou - bled con - science peace.  
firm - ly clings To all the trea - sures which it brings.

- 5 It bears to all the tidings glad  
And bids their hearts no more be sad;  
The weary, burdened souls it cheers  
And banishes their guilty fears.
- 6 May we in faith its message learn  
Nor thanklessly its blessings spurn;  
May we in faith its truth confess  
And praise the Lord, our righteousness.

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**+ PREPARATION +**

**\*INVOCATION**

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and ✠ of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

## \*CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: When we use the Ten Commandments and other parts of the moral code as a mirror, we see that we have fallen from the perfection of God's good creation and His perfect Law.

Who can discern his errors?

**People: Declare me innocent from hidden faults.**

Pastor: Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous sins;

**People: let them not have dominion over me!**

Pastor: Our gracious Lord has promised full and free forgiveness to all who call out to our heavenly Father in His name. Let us therefore confess our sins to God, our heavenly Father.

**People: O God, we confess that we have sinned against You and one another in our thinking, speaking, and acting. Worse, in our fallen nature, we are sinful and unclean, and in the eyes of many we are weak, lowly people. But because You have graciously chosen us and worked faith in our hearts, we humbly ask for mercy for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ. Forgive, renew, and lead us in paths of righteousness.**

Pastor: The foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. We preach Christ crucified, and for us the word of the cross is the power of God. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

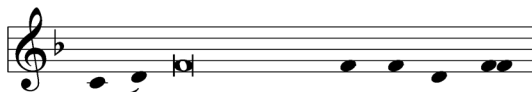
**People: Amen. Thanks be to God.**

Pastor: Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.

**People: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.**

## \*KYRIE

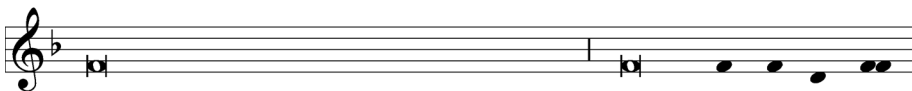
LSB pg. 152



Pastor: **A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



**People: G** Lord, have mer - cy.



Pastor: **A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



People: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



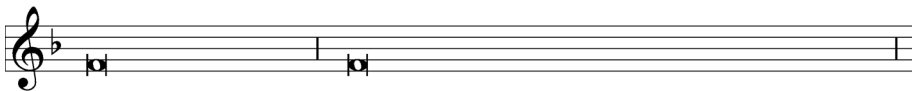
Pastor: **A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



People: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



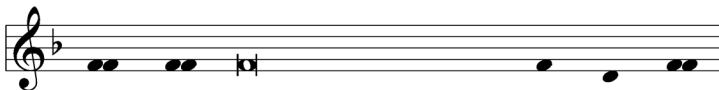
Pastor: **A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



People: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



Pastor: **A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



People: **C** A - men.

## **\*SALUTATION**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

## **\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: Let us pray. O God, who in wisdom created us, though we would become weak and rebellious creatures, knowing that Your Son's sacrifice of Himself on the cross would be necessary to save us,

People: **keep us strong in faith, so that we preach only Christ crucified and boast only in Your strong love and mercy toward us,**

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

People: **Amen.**

+ **WORD** +

## **OLD TESTAMENT**

*Exodus 20:1-17*

*(Ten Commandments)*

And God spoke all these words, saying,

"I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

"You shall have no other gods before me.

"You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

"You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.

"Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

“Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

“You shall not murder.

“You shall not commit adultery.

“You shall not steal.

“You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

“You shall not covet your neighbor’s house; you shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor’s.”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM**

### *Psalm 19*

Pastor: The heavens declare the glory of God,

**People: and the sky above proclaims His handiwork.**

Pastor: Day to day pours out speech,

**People: and night to night reveals knowledge.**

Pastor: There is no speech, nor are there words,

**People: whose voice is not heard.**

Pastor: Their measuring line goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world.

**People: In them He has set a tent for the sun,**

Pastor: which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber,

**People: and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy.**

Pastor: Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them,

**People: and there is nothing hidden from its heat.**

Pastor: The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul;

**People: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple;**

Pastor: the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart;

**People: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes;**

Pastor: the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever;

**People: the just decrees of the LORD are true, and righteous altogether.**

Pastor: More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold;

**People: sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb.**

Pastor: Moreover, by them is Your servant warned;

**People: in keeping them there is great reward.**

Pastor: Who can discern his errors?

**People: Declare me innocent from hidden faults.**

Pastor: Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me!

**People: Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.**

Pastor: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight,

**People: O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.**

△ **All: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

## **EPISTLE**

*1 Corinthians 1:18-31*

*(The "foolishness" of the cross)*

The word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom and our righteousness and sanctification and redemption. Therefore, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## \*HOLY GOSPEL

John 2:13-25

(Jesus cleanses the Temple.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the second chapter.



☐ Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting there. And making a whip of cords, he drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and oxen. And he poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. And he told those who sold the pigeons, "Take these things away; do not make my Father's house a house of trade." His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me."

So the Jews said to him, "What sign do you show us for doing these things?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking about the temple of his body. When therefore he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the Scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

Now when he was in Jerusalem at the Passover Feast, many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he was doing. But Jesus on his part did not entrust himself to them, because he knew all people and needed no one to bear witness about man, for he himself knew what was in man.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



☐ Praise to You, O Christ.

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pastor Chris Matthis





1 To Your tem - ple, Lord, I come, For it  
 2 I through Him am rec - on - ciled, I through  
 3 While Your glo - rious praise is sung, Touch my  
 4 While the prayers of saints as - cend, God of



is my wor - ship home. This earth has no  
 Him be - come Your child. Ab - ba, Fa - ther,  
 lips, un - loose my tongue That my joy - ful  
 love, to mine at - tend. Hear me, for Your



bet - ter place, Here I see my Sav - ior's face.  
 give me grace In Your courts Your love to trace.  
 soul may bless Christ the Lord, my righ - teous - ness.  
 Spir - it pleads; Hear, for Je - sus in - ter - cedes.

- 5 While I listen to Your Law,  
 Fill my soul with humble awe  
 Till Your Gospel bring to me  
 Life and immortality.
- 6 While Your ministers proclaim  
 Peace and pardon in Your name,  
 Through their voice, by faith, may I  
 Hear You speaking from the sky.
- 7 From Your house when I return,  
 May my heart within me burn,  
 And at evening let me say,  
 “I have walked with God today.”

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## \*CONFESSION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

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.

## OFFERING

*“Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” (2 Corinthians 9:7). We give our tithes and offerings to God as an act of worship in gratitude for the gifts He has first given us. If you wish to give electronically using a credit card or automated bank withdrawal, please scan the QR code with your smartphone or visit [www.epiphanylc.org](http://www.epiphanylc.org) and click on GIVE. As good stewards, please use credit wisely.*



*If you wish to mail your gift, send your check to Epiphany Lutheran Church, 550 E. Wolfensberger Rd., Castle Rock, CO 80109.*

[CLICK HERE TO GIVE ELECTRONICALLY](#)

## \*PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*After each petition is read Pastor says, “Let us pray to the Lord,” and Congregation responds with, “**Lord, have mercy.**”*

## \*LORD'S PRAYER *(Matthew 6:9-13)*

**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.**

## \*BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless You and keep you; the Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord look on you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

*Numbers 6:24-26*

People: Amen.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### \*CLOSING HYMN

*"Thine Forever, God of Love"*

LSB 687



- 1 Thine for - ev - er, God of love! Hear us from Thy throne a - bove;
- 2 Thine for - ev - er! Oh, how blest They who find in Thee their rest!
- 3 Thine for - ev - er, Lord of Life! Shield us through our earth - ly strife.
- 4 Thine for - ev - er! Shep-herd, keep These Thy frail and trem-bling sheep;
- 5 Thine for - ev - er! Thou our guide, All our wants by Thee sup - plied,



Thine for - ev - er may we be Here and in e - ter - ni - ty!  
Sav - ior, guard - ian, heav'n-ly friend, O de - fend us to the end!  
Thou, the life, the truth, the way, Guide us to the realms of day.  
Safe a - lone be - neath Thy care, Let us all Thy good-ness share.  
All our sins by Thee for-giv'n; Lead us, Lord, from earth to heav'n.

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## SERVING THE LORD THIS WEEKEND

(March 6-7, 2021)

**Readings:** *(Old Testament)* Exodus 20:1-17    *(Psalm)* Psalm 19  
*(Epistle)* 1 Corinthians 1:18-31    *(Holy Gospel)* John 2:13-25

	<b>5:00 pm</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	<b>11:00 am</b>
<b>Preacher</b>	<i>Pastor Chris Matthis</i>	<i>Pastor Chris Matthis</i>	<i>Pastor Chris Matthis</i>
<b>Elders</b>	<i>Joel Crosswhite</i>	<i>Michael Huntley</i>	<i>Richard Rath</i>
<b>Accompanist</b>	<i>Laura Moes</i>	<i>Praise Team</i>	<i>Laura Moes</i>
<b>Sound System</b>		<i>Mike Kozimko</i>	
<b>Video</b>	<i>Pastor Chris Matthis</i>	<i>Tim Schneider</i>	
<b>Acolytes</b>		<i>Brayden Olson</i>	<i>Shawn Clark</i>
<b>Altar Guild</b>	<i>Renee Minter</i>		
<b>Children's Message</b>	<i>Pastor Chris Matthis</i>	<i>Pastor Chris Matthis</i>	<i>Pastor Chris Matthis</i>
<b>Nursery</b>		<i>Eve Dawson</i>	<i>Ev Dawson</i>
<b>Greeters</b>			
<b>Lectors</b>	<i>Cathy Beers</i>	<i>Mitch Arndt</i>	<i>Chuck Jones</i>
<b>Snacks</b>	<b><i>Suspended</i></b>	<b><i>Suspended</i></b>	<b><i>Suspended</i></b>
<b>Ushers</b>			



### Epiphany Lutheran Church of Castle Rock, Colorado

550 E. Wolfensberger Rd. + Castle Rock, CO 80109 + Office: 303-688-4435

Website: [www.epiphanylc.org](http://www.epiphanylc.org)

ME SYSTEM LINK: <https://epiphanylc.ccbchurch.com/login.php>

Pastor Chris Matthis + Cell: 303-921-0717

[pastorchrismatthis@epiphanylc.org](mailto:pastorchrismatthis@epiphanylc.org)

(Pastor available by appointment)

DCE Kristin Schmidt + Cell: 951-775-6134 + Tu-F 8 am - 4 pm

[dce@epiphanylc.org](mailto:dce@epiphanylc.org)

Mrs. Donata Rolf + [office@epiphanylc.org](mailto:office@epiphanylc.org) + Office hours: M-F 8 am – 4 pm

Ms. Mary Wenkheimer, Choir Director + [choir@epiphanylc.org](mailto:choir@epiphanylc.org)

Ms. Debbie Stewart, Accounting Specialist + [accounting@epiphanylc.org](mailto:accounting@epiphanylc.org)



Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

*"We help people become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ"*