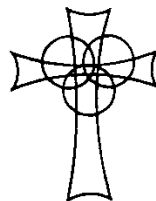


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*A Member Congregation of
 The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod*



The Sacred Season of Lent 2021
The Road Back to God

Midweek Lenten Devotions and Bible Study
The Fifth Wednesday of Lent
Memorial of Patrick, Missionary to Ireland and Bishop
March 17, 2021

Service of the Word in the Season of Lent

✠ *Jesus, Mercy!* ✠

The Opening Versicles:

Psalms 51:15, 70:1, 39:13

- P** O Lord, open my lips,
- C** and my mouth will declare Your praise.

- P** Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
- C** make haste to help me, O Lord.

- P** Hear my prayer, O Lord, and give ear to my cry;
- C** hold not Your peace at my tears.

- C** 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.
 Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation.

- P** ¹When Israel went out from Egypt,
the house of Jacob from a people of strange language,
- C** ²**Judah became his sanctuary,
Israel his dominion.**
- P** ³The sea looked and fled;
Jordan turned back.
- C** ⁴**The mountains skipped like rams,
the hills like lambs.**
- P** ⁵What ails you, O sea, that you flee?
O Jordan, that you turn back?
- C** ⁶**O mountains, that you skip like rams?
O hills, like lambs?**
- P** ⁷Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord,
at the presence of the God of Jacob,
- C** ⁸**who turns the rock into a pool of water,
the flint into a spring of water.**
- C** **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.**

^{14:10}When Pharaoh drew near, the people of Israel lifted up their eyes, and behold, the Egyptians were marching after them, and they feared greatly. And the people of Israel cried out to the LORD. ¹¹They said to Moses, “Is it because there are no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us in bringing us out of Egypt? ¹²Is not this what we said to you in Egypt, ‘Leave us alone that we may serve the Egyptians’? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness.” ¹³And Moses said to the people, “Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again. ¹⁴The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to be silent.”

¹⁵The LORD said to Moses, “Why do you cry to me? Tell the people of Israel to go forward. ¹⁶Lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the people of Israel may go through the sea on dry ground. ¹⁷And I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they shall go in after them, and I will get glory over Pharaoh and all his host, his chariots, and his horsemen. ¹⁸And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I have gotten glory over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his horsemen.”

¹⁹Then the angel of God who was going before the host of Israel moved and went behind them, and the pillar of cloud moved from before them and stood behind them, ²⁰coming between the host of Egypt and the host of Israel. And there was the cloud and the darkness. And it lit up the night without one coming near the other all night.

²¹Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided.

²²And the people of Israel went into the midst of the sea on dry ground, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left. ²³The Egyptians pursued and went in after them into the midst of the sea, all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen.

²⁴And in the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and of cloud looked down on the Egyptian forces and threw the Egyptian forces into a panic, ²⁵clogging their chariot wheels so that they drove heavily. And the Egyptians said, "Let us flee from before Israel, for the LORD fights for them against the Egyptians."

²⁶Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots, and upon their horsemen." ²⁷So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to its normal course when the morning appeared. And as the Egyptians fled into it, the LORD threw the Egyptians into the midst of the sea. ²⁸The waters returned and covered the chariots and the horsemen; of all the host of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea, not one of them remained. ²⁹But the people of Israel walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.

³⁰Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. ³¹Israel saw the great power that the LORD used against the Egyptians, so the people feared the LORD, and they believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

^{15:1}Then Moses and the people of Israel sang this song to the LORD, saying,

The Canticle

Cantemus Domino – The Song of Moses and Israel
Exodus 15:1b-6, 11-13, 17-18

P ^{1b}"I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously;
the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea.

C ²**The LORD is my strength and my song,
and he has become my salvation;**

P this is my God, and I will praise him,
my father's God, and I will exalt him.

C ³**The LORD is a man of war;
the LORD is his name.**

P ⁴"Pharaoh's chariots and his host he cast into the sea,
and his chosen officers were sunk in the Red Sea.

C ⁵**The floods covered them;
they went down into the depths like a stone.**

P ⁶Your right hand, O LORD, glorious in power,
your right hand, O LORD, shatters the enemy.

C ¹¹**"Who is like you, O LORD, among the gods?
Who is like you, majestic in holiness,
awesome in glorious deeds, doing wonders?**

- P** ¹²You stretched out your right hand;
the earth swallowed them.
- C** ¹³**“You have led in your steadfast love the people whom you have redeemed;
you have guided them by your strength to your holy abode.**
- P** ¹⁷You will bring them in and plant them on your own mountain,
the place, O LORD, which you have made for your abode,
the sanctuary, O Lord, which your hands have established.
- C** ¹⁸**The LORD will reign forever and ever.”**
- C** **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.**

The Scripture Study for the Day

The Road Back to God

A Journey towards Freedom: The Exodus

The Prayers:

- P** In penitence and faith let us make our prayer to the Father and to ask for His mercy and grace.
- For Your holy people, that they may, with Your aid, resist evil and grow in grace, we pray to You, O Lord:
- C** **Lord, graciously hear us.**
- P** For all those preparing for Baptism and confirmation, that they may live by every word that proceeds from Your mouth, we pray to You, O Lord:
- C** **Lord, graciously hear us.**
- P** For the leaders of the nations, that You will guide them in the ways of mercy and truth, we pray to You, O Lord:
- C** **Lord, graciously hear us.**
- P** For the needy, that they may not be forgotten, nor the hope of the poor be taken away, we pray to You, O Lord:
- C** **Lord, graciously hear us.**
- P** For the sick in body, mind, and spirit, that they may know Your power to heal, we pray to You, O Lord:
- C** **Lord, graciously hear us.**

P For the poor in spirit, that they may inherit the kingdom of heaven and see You face to face,
we pray to You, O Lord:

C **Lord, graciously hear us.**

P Let us commend the world, for which Christ suffered, to the mercy and protection of God, offering up to Him our prayers either silently or aloud.

Open prayer may be offered and silence is kept.

The Lord's Prayer:

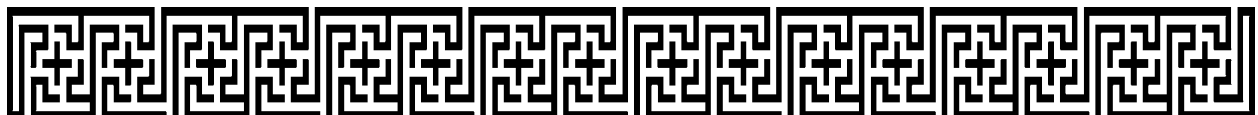
P Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

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.**

The Collect of the Week:

P Let us pray.
Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**



The Collect for the Memorial of Patrick, Missionary & Bishop:

- P** Almighty God, You chose Your servant Patrick to be a missionary to the Irish people who were wandering in darkness and error. You bound unto them the Trinitarian Name through Baptism and faith that they might dwell in the light of Christ. Bind unto us this same strong Name of the Trinity as we remember our Baptism and walk in His light, that we may come to dwell at last in the eternal light of the presence of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C** Amen.

The Collect for the Reading:

- P** O God, You once delivered Your people Israel from bondage under Pharaoh and led them by a pillar of cloud and fire through the sea to safety. Grant that we may so follow Christ that through the waters of Baptism we may daily die and rise with Him and walk in safety through the wilderness of this life until we see Your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** Amen.

The Collect for the Lenten Season:

- P** Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts that lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness we may receive from You full pardon and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.



The Closing Prayer:

from St. Patrick's Breastplate

- P** We pray:
C **Christ be with me, Christ within me,
Christ behind me, Christ before me,
Christ beside me, Christ to win me,
Christ to comfort and restore me.
Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,
Christ in hearts of all who love me,
Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.**

**I bind unto myself the Name,
The strong Name of the Trinity,
By invocation of the same,
The Three in One and One in Three.
By whom all nature hath creation,
Eternal Father, Spirit, Word:
Praise to the Lord of my salvation,
Salvation is of Christ the Lord! Amen.**

The Benediction:

- P** The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.
C **Amen.**

If you were unable to send questions to Pastor Schiebel via messaging during the Facebook Live video, you can email your questions to him at trinity-elc-pastor@verizon.net.

Acknowledgments

Brief Service of the Word from Lutheran Service Book Agenda and from Common Worship: Daily Prayer.

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