

Order of Service for 3-10-21 Lent

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Opening Hymn: “*O Sacred Head Now Wounded*” – Hymn #449

Opening sentences (Jeremiah 29:11-13)

P: God says, “For I know the plans I have for you, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

C: Then you will call upon Me and come and pray to Me, and I will hear you.

P: You will seek Me and find Me,

C: when you seek Me with all your heart.

Psalm 38:

P: O Lord, rebuke me not in Your anger,

C: nor discipline me in Your wrath!

P: For Your arrows have sunk into me,

C: and Your hand has come down on me.

P: There is no soundness in my flesh because of Your indignation;

C: there is no health in my bones because of my sin.

P: For my iniquities have gone over my head;

C: like a heavy burden, they are too heavy for me.

P: My wounds stink and fester

C: because of my foolishness,

P: I am utterly bowed down and prostrate;

C: all the day I go about mourning.

P: For my sides are filled with burning,

C: and there is no soundness in my flesh.

P: I am feeble and crushed;

C: I groan because of the tumult of my heart.

P: O Lord, all my longing is before You;

C: my sighing is not hidden from you.

P: My heart throbs; my strength fails me,

C: and the light of my eyes—it also has gone from me.

P: My friends and companions stand aloof from my plague,

C: and my nearest kin stand far off.

P: Those who seek my life lay their snares;

C: those who seek my hurt speak of ruin and meditate treachery all day long.

P: But I am like a deaf man; I do not hear,

C: like a mute man who does not open his mouth.

P: I have become like a man who does not hear,

C: and in whose mouth are no rebukes.

P: But for You, O Lord, do I wait;

C: it is You, O Lord my God, who will answer.

P: For I said, “Only let them not rejoice over me,

C: who boast against me when my foot slips!”

P: For I am ready to fall,

C: and my pain is ever before me.

P: I confess my iniquity;

C: I am sorry for my sin.

P: But my foes are vigorous, they are mighty,

C: and many are those who hate me wrongfully.

P: Those who render me evil for good accuse me

C: because I follow after good.

P: Do not forsake me, O Lord!

C: O my God, be not far from me!

P: Make haste to help me,

C: O Lord, my salvation!

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.

Hymn “What God Ordains Is Always Good” – Hymn #760 vs. 1-2, 5-6

Jeremiah 20:1-3, 7-9, 11-13

P: Now Pashhur the priest, the son of Immer, who was chief officer in the house of the LORD, heard Jeremiah prophesying these things. Then Pashhur beat Jeremiah the prophet, and put him in the stocks that were in the upper Benjamin Gate of the house of the Lord. The next day, when Pashhur released Jeremiah from the stocks, Jeremiah said to him, “The LORD does not call your name Pashhur, but Terror on Every Side.

Jeremiah prayed, “O Lord, You have deceived me, and I was deceived; You are stronger than I, and You have prevailed. I have become a laughingstock all the day; everyone mocks me. For whenever I speak, I cry out, I shout, ‘Violence and destruction!’ For the word of the Lord has become for me a reproach and derision all day long. If I say, ‘I will not mention him, or speak any more in His name,’ there is in my heart as it were a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot.”

“But the LORD is with me as a dread warrior; therefore my persecutors will stumble; they will not overcome me. They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed. Their eternal dishonor will never be forgotten. O LORD of hosts, who tests the righteous, who sees the heart and the mind, let me see Your vengeance upon them, for to You have I committed my cause. Sing to the LORD; praise the LORD! For He has delivered the life of the needy from the hand of evildoers.”

Jeremiah 24: The Figs

P: After Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon had taken into exile from Jerusalem, Jeconiah the son of Jehoiakim, king of Judah, together with the officials of Judah, the craftsmen, and the metal workers, and had brought them to Babylon, the LORD showed me this vision: behold, two baskets of figs placed before the temple of the LORD. One basket had very good figs, like first-ripe figs, but the other basket had very bad figs, so bad that they could not be eaten. And

the LORD said to me, "What do you see, Jeremiah?" I said, "Figs, the good figs very good, and the bad figs very bad, so bad that they cannot be eaten."

Then the word of the LORD came to me: "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: Like these good figs, so I will regard as good the exiles from Judah, whom I have sent away from this place to the land of the Chaldeans. I will set My eyes on them for good, and I will bring them back to this land. I will build them up, and not tear them down; I will plant them, and not uproot them. I will give them a heart to know that I am the LORD, and they shall be My people and I will be their God, for they shall return to Me with their whole heart.

"But thus says the LORD: Like the bad figs that are so bad they cannot be eaten, so will I treat Zedekiah the king of Judah, his officials, the remnant of Jerusalem who remain in this land, and those who dwell in the land of Egypt. I will make them a horror to all the kingdoms of the earth, to be a reproach, a byword, a taunt, and a curse in all the places where I shall drive them. And I will send sword, famine, and pestilence upon them, until they shall be utterly destroyed from the land that I gave to them and their fathers."

Jeremiah 30:8-11a

P: "And it shall come to pass in that day, declares the LORD of hosts, that I will break his yoke from off your neck, and I will burst your bonds, and foreigners shall no more make a servant of him. But they shall serve the LORD their God and David their king, whom I will raise up for them."

"Then fear not, O Jacob my servant, declares the LORD, nor be dismayed, O Israel; for behold, I will save you from far away, and your offspring from the land of their captivity. Jacob shall return and have quiet and ease, and none shall make him afraid. For I am with you to save you, declares the LORD.

Message: *"Have We Been Deceived?"*

Hymn: *"My Soul Now Magnifies the Lord"* - **Hymn #934**

P: Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of Your name.

C: Deliver us and purge away our sins for Your name's sake.

P: Almighty and everlasting God, since You govern and sanctify the whole Christian church by Your Holy Spirit, hear our prayers for all its members, and mercifully grant that by Your grace we may serve You in true faith; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

Passion Reading: Mark 14:66-15:15

P: And as Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant girls of the high priest came, and seeing Peter warming himself, she looked at him and said, "You also were with the Nazarene, Jesus." But he denied it, saying, "I neither know nor understand what you mean." And he went out into the gateway and the rooster crowed. And the servant girl saw him and began again to say to the bystanders, "This man is one of them." But again he denied it. And after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter, "Certainly you are one of them, for you are a Galilean." But he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear, "I do not know this man

of whom you speak.” And immediately the rooster crowed a second time. And Peter remembered how Jesus had said to him, “Before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times.” And he broke down and wept.

And as soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. And they bound Jesus and led Him away and delivered Him over to Pilate. And Pilate asked Him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” And He answered him, “You have said so.” And the chief priests accused Him of many things. And Pilate again asked Him, “Have you no answer to make? See how many charges they bring against You.” But Jesus made no further answer, so that Pilate was amazed.

Now at the feast Pilate used to release for them one prisoner for whom they asked. And among the rebels in prison, who had committed murder in the insurrection, there was a man called Barabbas. And the crowd came up and began to ask Pilate to do as he usually did for them. And he answered them, saying, “Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?” For he perceived that it was out of envy that the chief priests had delivered Jesus up. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have Pilate release for them Barabbas instead. And Pilate again said to them, “Then what shall I do with the man you call the King of the Jews?” And they cried out again, “Crucify Him.” And Pilate said to them, “Why? What evil has He done?” But they shouted all the more, “Crucify Him.” So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, he delivered Him to be crucified.

P: Thanks be to God.

Prayer based on Jeremiah 21:

P: “But the LORD is with me as a dread warrior; therefore my persecutors will stumble; they will not overcome me.”

C: We may not be at war with a foreign country, but we are at war with the evil in this world: the pandemic and its continuing effects, those who take advantage of others, people who live for themselves, not others. And we need to see the war inside of us, as so often we are the ones who war against You and the good conscience You have given us.

P: “They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed. Their eternal dishonor will never be forgotten.”

C: It is hard for us to see that when so much evil continues in our world. Send Your Holy Spirit so that we trust in what You say, not in what we perceive.

P: “O LORD of hosts, who tests the righteous, who sees the heart and the mind, let me see Your vengeance upon them, for to You have I committed my cause.”

C: Lord, help us to place our lives into Your hands, trusting in You, alone to save us.

P: “Sing to the LORD; praise the LORD! For He has delivered the life of the needy from the hand of evildoers.”

C: We praise You, O God, for sending Your Son, Jesus to rescue us from sin and evil!

Prayers:

The Lord's Prayer:

Blessing: (Pastor)

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn: “*Now the Light Has Gone Away*” – Hymn #887