

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

March 7, 2021

Third Sunday of Lent

We Gather in God's Name . . .

PRELUDE

PRAYER OF PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

(for silent prayer during the prelude)

Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your Word and obey it, that we may become instruments of your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GREETING

*LITANY FOR LENT

One: O Christ, out of your fullness we have all received grace upon grace. You are our eternal hope; you are patient and full of mercy; you are generous to all who call upon you.

All: Save us, Lord.

One: O Christ, fountain of life and holiness, you have taken away our sins. On the cross you were wounded for our transgressions and were bruised for our iniquities.

All: Save us, Lord.

One: O Christ, obedient unto death, source of all comfort, our life and our resurrection, our peace and reconciliation:

All: Save us, Lord.

One: O Christ, Savior of all who trust you, hope of all who die for you, and joy of all the saints:

All: Save us, Lord.

One: Jesus, Lamb of God,

All: have mercy on us.

One: Jesus, bearer of our sins,

All: have mercy on us.

One: Jesus, redeemer of the world,

All: grant us peace.

(Brief Silence for Reflection)

One: God of love, as in Jesus Christ you gave yourself to us, so may we give ourselves to you, living according to your holy will. Keep our feet firmly in the way where Christ leads us; make our mouths speak the truth that Christ teaches us; fill our bodies with the life that is Christ within us. In his holy name we pray.

All: Amen

OPENING HYMN: "Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation" #416

Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the head and cornerstone,
Chosen of the Lord and precious, Binding all the church in one;
Holy Zion's help forever, And our confidence alone.

To this temple, where we call You, Come, O Lord of Hosts, today;
With Your wonted loving kindness Hear Your people as they
pray, And Your fullest benediction Shed within its walls away.

Here bestow on all Your servants What they ask of You to gain,
What they gain from You forever With the blessed to retain, And
here after in Your glory Evermore with You to reign.

Laud and honor to the Father, Laud and honor to the Son, Laud and
honor to the Spirit, Ever three and ever one; One in might and one
in glory While unending ages run.

*CALL TO CONFESSION

The Psalmist writes his hope that the words of his mouth and the meditations of his heart be acceptable to God, but our words and meditations are not always according to God's law and intentions. Let us confess where we have gone astray and sinned.

*SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful, God, we are often quick to call on you for our supplications and for our intercessions for friends and family. We can do this despite that our words in other times and our silent meditations can tear down or dishonor other people or your creation and purposes. Forgive our inappropriate words and thoughts and continue to mold us into the people you intend us to be. Transform the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts to be acceptable to you, O Lord, our rock and our redeemer. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news! The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, that we might be

dead to sin, and alive to all that is good. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

SHARING OF THE LAW

Our Lord Jesus said: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: Since we have been reconciled to God in Jesus Christ, let us be reconciled to one another. The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

. . . to Proclaim God's Word

FIRST READING Exodus 20:1-17 **p. 66**

EPISTLE READING 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 **p. 166**

***GOSPEL READING** John 2:13-22 **p. 93**

One: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON "Misusing God's House" Rev. Andy Smothers

INTERCESSIONS FOR LENT AND LORD'S PRAYER

One: Jesus, remember us when you come into your kingdom. Hear our intercessions. For your church around the world,

All: we ask new life.

One: For all who carry out ministries in your church,

All: we ask grace and wisdom.

One: For people who have accepted spiritual disciplines,

All: we ask inspired discipleship.

One: For Christians of every land,

All: we ask new unity in your name.

One: For Jews and Muslims, Hindus and Buddhists, and people of other faiths,

All: we ask your divine blessing.

One: For those who cannot believe,

All: we ask your faithful love.

One: For governors and rulers in every land,

All: we ask your guidance.

One: For people who suffer and sorrow,

All: we ask your healing peace.

(Brief silence for individual intercessions and requests. Pastor continues with brief intercessions.)

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

*CONFESSION OF FAITH *Heidelberg Catechism* (Question 93-95)

One: How are {the ten} commandments divided?

Many: Into two tables. The first has four commandments, teaching us how we ought to live in relation to God. The second has six commandments, teaching us what we owe our neighbor.

One: What does the Lord require in the first commandment?

Many: That I, not wanting to endanger my own salvation, avoid and shun all idolatry, sorcery, superstitious rites, and prayer to saints or to other creatures. That I rightly know the only true God, trust him alone, and look to God for every good thing humbly and patiently, and love, fear, and honor God with all my heart. In short, that I give up anything rather than go against God's will in any way.

One: What is idolatry?

Many: Idolatry is having or inventing something in which one trusts in place of or alongside of the only true God, who has revealed himself in the Word.

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S SUPPER

GREAT THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise

One: ...Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with choirs of angels and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

One: ...Accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving as a living and holy offering of ourselves, that our lives may proclaim the One crucified and risen.

All: Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life. Lord Jesus, come in glory.

One: ...Through Christ, all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit in the holy church, now and forever.

All: Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND CONFESSION

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

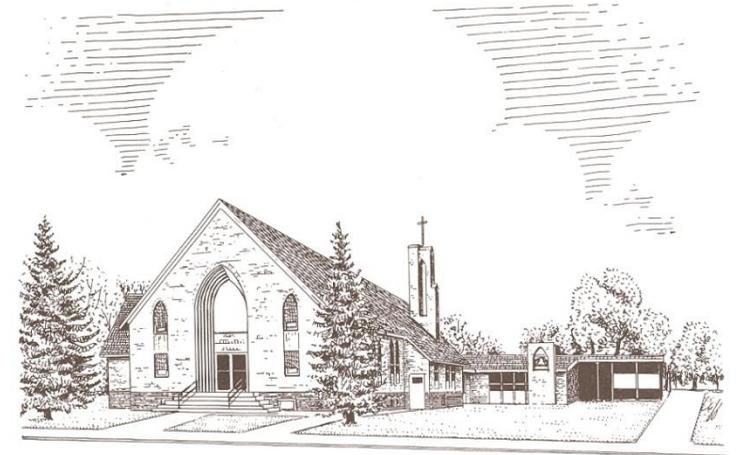
PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

... to Give Thanks to God ...

PRAYER OF DEDICATION *(IN UNISON)*

The Psalmist writes that your law is perfect, O Lord. It revives our souls. The decrees of the Lord are sure and make wise the simple. The precepts of the Lord are right and rejoice our hearts. The commandment of the Lord is clear and enlightens our eyes. In thankfulness for your law and your teachings, we offer these gifts from what you have given us in the name of Jesus, our Lord. Amen.

First Presbyterian Church



**123 Fourth Avenue SW
Conrad, Montana 59425
(406) 278 3043**

compres@3rivers.net

<https://www.conradfirstpres.org>

Interim Pastor: Rev. Andrew Smothers
Clerk of Session: Marla Bruner
Church Secretary: Wendi Dayrider

ⁱ Some service elements adapted from *Book of Common Worship* (1993).