

THE ORDER FOR OUR WORSHIP

PRELUDE - "This Sacred Hour" by Gilbert Martin.

page 167 - **CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION**

HYMN 825 - we sing, standing

LENTEN LITANY - see insert

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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. **Amen.**

(please be seated)

FIRST LESSON *(bulletin back page)*

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

PSALM 142 - we speak in unison

SECOND LESSON *(bulletin back page)*

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

page 173 - **VERSE FOR LENT** - all standing

GOSPEL *(bulletin back page)*

Before, all shout: **Glory to you, O Lord!**
After, all shout: **Praise to you, O Christ!**

HYMN 571 vs 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 - we sing, seated

SERMON

NICENE CREED - hymnal, back cover
all standing

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

all may kneel

Response: **Hear our prayer!**

OFFERTORY *During the gathering, the Parish Choir sings "Bought with a Price" by Natalie Sleeth (10:30). (for lyrics, see insert)*

page 177 - **SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT**

page 178 - **SANCTUS**

LORD'S PRAYER

page 179 - **WORDS OF OUR LORD**

SHARING OF PEACE

page 180 - **AGNUS DEI**

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

During the Distribution we sing HYMNS 545 & 861.

All are invited to commune who have been baptized and instructed in the Faith; who repent of their sins; who are committed to Christ and to the mission of his church; and who believe with us that we receive and share our Savior's Body and Blood in, with, and under the bread and the wine of the Sacrament - which gives us His forgiveness and makes us one Christian family.

All who commune, kindly sign your names in our Communicant Register, which is located on the narthex shelf along side our Guest Register.

page 182 - **POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE** - all standing

Page 183 - **POST-COMMUNION COLLECT**

page 183- **BENEDICTION**

HYMN 917 - we sing, standing

POSTLUDE - "Andante" by Beethoven.

NEWS AND NOTES

Last Sunday Here

Attending: 79 Offering: \$5,331

This Week Here

Wed - 6:00 PM - Soup, Salad, Bible Study
- 7:30 PM - Lent 4 Midweek Service
- 8:15 PM - Parish Choir Practice
Thu - 6:00 PM - Bell Choir Practice
Sat - 9:00 AM - Quilts of Valor

Please Join Us after the 8 AM service for fellowship and coffee. Thank you to Karen and Vicki for serving this morning!

Lenten Soup, Salad & Bible Study

This Wednesday, March 18th, will be our weekly Soup, Salad and Bible Study starting at 6:00 p.m. Look for sign up sheets on the bulletin board and plan to join us prior to our Lenten service at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday School - In today's lesson, "The Wise King," when God invites Solomon to ask for what he desires most, Solomon prays for wisdom to carefully lead the people. Pleased with this selfless request, God grants Solomon great wealth and honor in addition to his desired wisdom. Solomon wrote and collected many of the wisdom writings that make up the Book of Proverbs.

We are hosting a community-wide **Easter Egg hunt on Saturday, March 28th**, at 10:00 in the morning. This is open to the public. Please share with your friends! We are accepting plastic egg donations and candy donations. Thank you!

Kids Bulletins are always available here on the narthex table along with our regular Sunday Service bulletins. They are always linked with the day's Scripture readings. Kids - bring your own pencils.

A WORD ABOUT THE LESSONS

By His Word of the Gospel, Jesus Calls Us Out of the Darkness into His Marvelous Light The Lord is grieved by the spiritual blindness of His people, yet in mercy He does not forsake them. He restrains His anger and keeps His peace, until He opens their ears and eyes to hear and see Him. "For his righteousness' sake," He magnifies His Word and makes it glorious in the coming of Christ Jesus (Is. 42:21). Jesus turns "the darkness before them into light" (Is. 42:16) because He is "the light of the world" (John 9:5). The incarnate Son of God does the works of His Father and displays the divine glory in His own flesh "while it is day," until that night "when no one can work" (John 9:4). By the washing of water with His Word, He opens the eyes of the blind and grants rest to the weary. Therefore, though "at one time you were darkness," now "you are light in the Lord" (Eph. 5:8). By our Baptism into Christ, we live in the eternal day of His resurrection, wherein He shines upon us. As often as we fall back into the darkness of sin, He calls us by the Gospel to "awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead" (Eph. 5:14).