

King of Kings Lutheran Church

Connecting People to Christ Now and Forever

Midweek of Lent 3
March 15, 2023; 12:15pm

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Thank you for worshipping at home with us at King of Kings! Our prayer is that the Holy Spirit will draw you closer to the living God through your time of worship today and strengthen your connection to Christ our Savior.

HONORING GOD WITH OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

King of Kings believes firmly in the biblical principle of honoring God through our tithes and offerings. We consider giving to be an act of worship that both expresses and exercises our love and trust in the Lord as the source of all He has entrusted to us. If you are our guest today please know you are under no obligation to give. The mission and ministry of this church is supported by those who have committed themselves to this community of faith. If you do desire to give we ask only that you do so with a joyful heart. King of Kings offers a variety of ways to give:

- An offering basket is located at the rear of sanctuary/worship center where you can place your gift.
- **eGiving:** Scan the QR code or visit www.koklcms.org and look for the donations tab.
- **Text2Give:** You can text your gift to 844.969.0788. Simply enter the amount (no \$ is necessary) and send. It's that simple.



(NOTE: For both eGiving and Text2Give a one-time account set up will be necessary.)

Prelude

Greeting

Opening Hymn

“Light of Light, O Sole-Begotten” LSB 914

Light of Light, O Sole-Begotten Radiance of the Father’s face,
Word made flesh, who lived among us full of truth and full of grace,
Shine upon our human darkness; pierce the night that shrouds our race.

Word eternal, through Your being God created all we see,
When the empty spaces echoed with the Father’s “Let there be...”
Light and life burst from the glorious power of Your majesty!

Still Your brooding Spirit hovers over chaos dark and deep,
Calling out with invitation: “Rise, awaken from your sleep;
Christ the Lord will shine upon you and from death your soul shall keep.”

Come, Lord Jesus, by Your Spirit in our hearts Your work begin,
Bring the healing restoration of Your image lost by sin;
From Your fullness all receiving Grace on grace, new life within!

Text by Stephen P. Starke, tune by Henry Purcell
Lutheran Service Book #914

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Opening Sentences

P For our sake God made Jesus to be sin who knew no sin,

C so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.

P But He was wounded for our transgressions;

C He was crushed for our iniquities;

P upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace,

C and with His stripes we are healed.

Confession and Absolution

P Lord Jesus, search our hearts and minds that we may receive Your Word, share in Your Spirit, and be renewed in our relationships with You and with one another. With humble hearts, let us pray together:

C Lord Jesus, the Father’s only Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords, hear us as we pray.

P Darkness seeks to overtake us and rob us of the light, distracting us from Your never-failing presence in our lives.

C **Our rebellion against You in thought, word, and action is why You died for us—**
P to forgive our sins, to redeem our lives, and to cancel the debt we owe to God.

C **With hearts that are humble and lives ever grateful, help us to receive Your grace, bow before You in worship, and confess that You alone are Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

P Almighty God our heavenly Father shows His mercy to us in the sending of His Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, the true light of the world who scatters the darkness of our sin and shines upon us the bright beams of His mercy. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the \dagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Collect

P Let us pray together. Lord Jesus Christ,

C **You are the light of the world, and no amount of darkness in our world can overcome Your presence shining in our lives. Renew our hearts and minds during this Lenten season as we receive the promised treasures of Your Word; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Service of the Word

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 1:1-5

¹In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ²The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. ³And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle Reading

Ephesians 5:1-2, 8-14

¹Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. ²And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. . .

⁸For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), ¹⁰and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead

expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. ¹³But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, ¹⁴for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading

John 8:12-18

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹²Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows Me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." ¹³So the Pharisees said to Him, "You are bearing witness about Yourself; Your testimony is not true." ¹⁴Jesus answered, "Even if I do bear witness about Myself, My testimony is true, for I know where I came from and where I am going, but you do not know where I come from or where I am going. ¹⁵You judge according to the flesh; I judge no one. ¹⁶Yet even if I do judge, My judgment is true, for it is not I alone who judge, but I and the Father who sent Me. ¹⁷In your Law it is written that the testimony of two men is true. ¹⁸I am the one who bears witness about Myself, and the Father who sent Me bears witness about Me."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Sermon Hymn

"O Christ, Our True and Only Light" LSB 839

O Christ, our true and only light, enlighten those who sit in night;
Let those afar now hear Your voice and in Your fold with us rejoice.

Fill with the radiance of Your grace the souls now lost in error's maze;
Enlighten those whose inmost minds some dark delusion haunts and blinds.

O gently call those gone astray that they may find the saving way!
Let ev'ry conscience sore oppressed in You find peace and heav'nly rest.

Shine on the darkened and the cold; recall the wand'ers to Your fold.
Unite all those who walk apart; confirm the weak and doubting heart,

That they with us may evermore such grace with wond'ring thanks adore
And endless praise to You be giv'n by all Your Church in earth and heav'n.

Words by Johann Heermann (translated by Catherine Winkworth), music by Andächtige Haus-Kirche
Public Domain; Lutheran Service Book #839

Prayers

- P** Gracious God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we thank You for blessing us with the opportunity to meditate again on the cross of Christ and receive Your promised treasures.
- C** **Grant that the message of the Lamb of God slain for our salvation bring us the riches of Your pardon and peace.**
- P** Lead us to see that our sins caused Jesus' great agony in the garden, that our sins nailed Him to the cross of Calvary,
- C** **that He was forsaken by His Father so that we might never be forsaken, and that He died so that we may live.**
- P** Lord Jesus, grant that especially during this sacred season the treasured story of Your wondrous love for us would draw us closer to You.
- C** **Enable us to walk in the light of Your grace, knowing that You are truly the light of the world that darkness can never overcome.**
- P** Holy Spirit, lift up troubled souls everywhere. Grant wholeness to those hurting in heart, body, and mind. Work Your healing power in the lives of those in need, and in the lives of those we know and love.
- C** **All glory, honor, and praise be to You, with the Father and the Son, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

- 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.**

Benediction

- P** The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C** **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

“Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed” LSB 437

Verses 1, 3, 5

Alas! And did my Savior bleed, and did my sov'reign die?
Would He devote that sacred head for such a worm as I?

Well might the sun in darkness hide and shut his glories in
When God, the mighty maker, died for His own creatures' sin.

But drops of grief can n'er repay the debt of love I owe;
Here, Lord, I give myself away: 'Tis all that I can do.

Text by Isaac Watts; tune by Hugh Wilson
Lutheran Service Book #437

Announcements

Sending

- P** With boldness and courage we go now, believing this eternal truth...
- C** **God has not given us a spirit of fear but of power and authority to do the good works He has prepared for us to do. Amen.**

Acknowledgments

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