

**Prayer:** Generous God, at this table of we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus Christ, the Bread of life. **Amen.**

## **Bell**

**Blessing:** Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and give you peace. **Amen.**

### **Sending Hymn: O Lord, throughout These Forty Days LBW#99**

O Lord, throughout these forty days you prayed and kept the fast; inspire repentance for our sin and free us from our past.

You strove with Satan and you won; your faithfulness endured; lend us your nerve, your skill and trust in God's eternal Word.

Though parched and hungry, yet you prayed and fixed your mind above; so teach us to deny ourselves that we may know God's love.

Be with us through this season, Lord, and all our earthly days, that when the final Easter dawns, we join in heaven's praise.

**Dismissal:** Go in Peace. Share your bread. **Thanks be to God.**

## **ANNUAL MEETING FOLLOWING SERVICE**

### **Mark your calendars:**

- **February 21 – Kirkebo - Lenten Service. Soup & sandwich at 6:15 with service starting at 7:00**
- **February 25 – 9:30 at Kirkebo. Nora Sunday School at 10:30.**
- **February 28 – Nora – Lenten Service. Soup & sandwich at 6:15 with service starting at 7:0**
- **March 3 – 9:30 service at Nora with Sunday School at 10:30.**
- **March 6 – Kirkebo – Lenten Service. Soup & sandwich at 6:15 with service starting at 7:00**

**Perley Parish  
First Sunday in Lent  
February 18, 2024**

## **Prelude and Bell**

### **Gathering Hymn: Today Your Mercy Calls Us (LBW#304)**

Today your mercy calls us to wash away our sin. However great our trespass, whatever we have been, however long from mercy our hearts have turned away, your precious blood can wash us and make us clean today.

Today your gate is open, and all who enter in shall find a Father's welcome and pardon for their sin. The past shall be forgotten, a present joy begiv'n, a future grace be promised, a glorious crown in heav'n.

Today our Father calls us; his Holy Spirit waits; his blessed angels gather around the heav'nly gates. No question will be asked us, how often we have come; although we oft have wandered, it is our Father's home.

O all-embracing Mercy, O ever-opening Door, what should we do without you when heart and eye run o'er? When all things seem against us, to drive us to despair, we know one gate is open, one ear will hear our prayer.

**Welcome and Announcements: Nora Annual Meeting today after our regular service. Potluck lunch to follow. No Sunday School.**

### **Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, +one God, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors. **Righteous God, we confess that we have sinned. We have failed to be honest. We have lacked the courage to speak. We have spoken falsely. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy. Amen.**

God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail. Claim the gift of God's mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**Prayer of the Day. Amen.**

**Psalm 25:1-10 (read responsively)**

To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul. **O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me.** Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame; let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous. **Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths.** Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long. **Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.** Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness' sake, O LORD! **Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.** He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way. **All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.**

**First Reading:** Genesis 9:1-10

**Second Reading:** 1 Peter 3:18-22

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

**The Holy Gospel according to Mark 1:9-15** Glory to you O Lord

The Gospel of our Lord, **Praise to you, O Christ**

**Message**

**Hymn of the Day/Offering: Chief of Sinners though I Be (#306, vss 1-3-5)**

Chief of sinners though I be, Jesus shed his blood for me, died that I might live on high, lives that I might never die. As the branch is to the vine, I am his and he is mine.

Only Jesus can impart balm to heal the wounded heart, peace that flows from sin forgiv'n, joy that lifts the soul to heav'n, faith and hope to walk with God in the way that Enoch trod.

O my Savior, help afford by your Spirit and your Word! When my wayward heart would stray, keep me in the narrow way; grace in time of need supply while I live and when I die.

**Offering Response:** We give thee but thine own, whatever that gift may be. All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O, Lord, from thee.

**Apostle's Creed**

***I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy catholic Church, the communion of the saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen***

**Prayers of the people** (Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**)

Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen**

As brothers and sisters in Christ, let us pray together the prayer that Jesus taught us: ***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. 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***

**Meal**

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

**In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all. Amen**

**Words of Institution**

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. **Pour out your Holy Spirit, that by this Holy Communion we may know the unity we share with all your people in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.** Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, **all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.**

At Jesus's table, heaven and earth are joined as one. Come and see.