

The Third Sunday in Lent
March 23, 2025

761 Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us, who put the Lord to the test and grumble, come before our God who is patient and kind, and confess our need for His mercy.

Silence for personal reflection and confession

Pastor: We humbly confess together today, on this day of salvation:
People: **I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.**

Pastor: Behold, Christ has died for you. Your guilt is taken away and your sin is atoned for. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of the Word and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
People: **Amen.**

Pastor: May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
People: **Amen.**

☩ **WORD** ☩

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People **Amen**

CHOIR ANTHEM *“My Savior and My God”*

OLD TESTAMENT *Ezekiel 33:7-20*

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE *1 Corinthians 10:1-13*

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

VERSE

Pastor: “As I live, declares the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked,

People: **But that the wicked turn from his way and live...”**

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 13:1-9*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, the thirteenth chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

(The Gospel is read.)

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

439 vs 1-5 Oh Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken

All 1 O dearest Jesus, what law hast
Thou broken
That such sharp sentence should on
Thee be spoken?
Of what great crime hast Thou to

make confession,
What dark transgression?

Men 2 They crown Thy head with
thorns, they smite, they scourge
Thee;

With cruel mockings to the cross
they urge Thee;
They give Thee gall to drink, they still
decry Thee;
They crucify Thee.

All 3 Whence come these sorrows,
whence this mortal anguish?
It is my sins for which Thou, Lord,
must languish;
Yea, all the wrath, the woe, Thou
dost inherit,
This I do merit.

Women 4 What punishment so strange
is suffered yonder!
The Shepherd dies for sheep that
loved to wander;
The Master pays the debt His
servants owe Him,
Who would not know Him.

All 5 The sinless Son of God must die in
sadness;
The sinful child of man may live in
gladness;
Man forfeited his life and is
acquitted;
God is committed.

SERMON

439 vs 6-11 Oh Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken

All 6 There was no spot in me by sin
untainted;
Sick with sin's poison, all my heart
had fainted;
My heavy guilt to hell had well-
nigh brought me,
Such woe it wrought me.

Women 9 For vainly doth our human
wisdom ponder—
Thy woes, Thy mercy, still
transcend our wonder.
Oh, how should I do aught that
could delight Thee!
Can I requite Thee?

Men 7 O wondrous love, whose
depth no heart hath sounded,
That brought Thee here, by foes
and thieves surrounded!
All worldly pleasures, heedless, I
was trying
While Thou wert dying.

All 10 Yet unrequited, Lord, I would not
leave Thee;
I will renounce whate'er doth vex
or grieve Thee
And quench with thoughts of Thee
and prayers most lowly
All fires unholy.

All 8 O mighty King, no time can dim
Thy glory!
How shall I spread abroad Thy
wondrous story?
How shall I find some worthy gifts
to proffer?
What dare I offer?

All 11 But since my strength will
nevermore suffice me
To crucify desires that still entice
me,
To all good deeds O let Thy Spirit
win me
And reign within me!

CREED *Apostles' Creed*

People: I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

People: **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.**

OFFERTORY LSB 439 vs 12-15 “Oh Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken”

All 12 I'll think upon Thy mercy without
ceasing,
That earth's vain joys to me no more
be pleasing;
To do Thy will shall be my sole
endeavor
Henceforth forever.

Women 14 But worthless is my
sacrifice, I own it;
Yet, Lord, for love's sake Thou wilt
not disown it;
Thou wilt accept my gift in Thy great
meekness
Nor shame my weakness.

Men 13 Whate'er of earthly good this
life may grant me,
I'll risk for Thee; no shame, no cross,
shall daunt me.
I shall not fear what foes can do to
harm me
Nor death alarm me.

All 15 And when, dear Lord, before Thy
throne in heaven
To me the crown of joy at last is
given,
Where sweetest hymns Thy saints
forever raise Thee,
I, too, shall praise Thee.

BENEDICTION *Hebrews 13:20–21; Numbers 6:24–26*

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: Amen.

809 Great Is Thy Faithfulness