

# HEARTS @ HOME



A Worship Service for Your Household

Sunday March 7, 2021

Third Sunday in Lent

RCL: John 2:13-22

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## + LITANY FOR LENT+<sup>1</sup>

Most holy and merciful God,

**We confess to you and to one another, and before the whole company of heaven, that we have sinned by our fault, by our own fault, by our own most grievous fault, in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**

We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength.  
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.  
**Have mercy on us, O God.**

We have shut our ears to your call to serve as Christ served us.  
We have not been true to the mind of Christ.  
We have grieved your Holy Spirit.  
**Have mercy on us, O God.**

We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength.  
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.  
**Have mercy on us, O God.**

We have shut our ears to your call to serve as Christ served us.  
We have not been true to the mind of Christ.  
We have grieved your Holy Spirit.  
**Have mercy on us, O God.**

Our negligence in prayer and worship,  
and our failure to share the faith that is in us, we confess to you.  
**Have mercy on us, O God.**

Our neglect of human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty, we confess to you.  
**Have mercy on us, O God.**

Our false judgments,  
our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, we confess to you.  
**Have mercy on us, O God.**

Our waste and pollution of your creation,  
and our lack of concern for those who come after us, we confess to you.  
**Have mercy on us, O God.**

Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.  
**Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.**

## + PRAYER +

Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## + SCRIPTURE +

- + **John 2:13-22, Exodus 20:1-17, Psalm 19, 1 Corinthians 1:18-25**
- + **Spark Story Bible:** The Ten Commandments (Pages 94-99)
- + **Northwest Synod of Wisconsin App:** Click the 'Bible' tab at the bottom.

## + REFLECTION ON GOD'S WORD +

**Option 1:** Click on your congregation's sermon video or live worship link

**Option 2:** Use the following questions for in-home conversation or personal reflection

**Option 3:** Use questions for reflection + Coloring Sheet (page 4)

### Questions:

- + Is it easy or difficult for you to picture Jesus' anger and frustration like this in the gospel text?  
Why do you think he reacted this way? Why is this story important?
- + Can you think of any current practices that would spark a reaction from Jesus like this?
- + As you get ready for the Easter season in your homes/congregations, how do you physically prepare to celebrate? How do you spiritually prepare?

## + APOSTLES' 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 saints,  
The forgiveness of sins,  
The resurrection of the body,  
And the life everlasting. Amen.

## + PRAYERS +

With all the people of God, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

- + We give thanks for the table-flippers, the truth-tellers, and those bold enough to speak up when our actions hurt our relationship with God and our relationships with other people; help us and guide, merciful God, in the way of Jesus. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**
- + God of light, you have created us in your image, capable of doing amazing things; grant us, also, your wisdom and compassion, so that we can understand how to be your hands and feet in the world. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**
- + As we begin to hear more birds, see little glimpses of new, green life, and feel the warmth of the sun around us, we give thanks for this beautiful planet, and are reminded once again to follow your call to care for it in any way we can. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**
- + There are many who struggle around us, God of grace, and we pray for all those who are physically or spiritually ill, grieving, lonely, addicted, recovering, victimized, oppressed, imprisoned, hungry, unemployed or underemployed, or suffering in any way; give us the ability to surround them with your love and support so that no one is left alone. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**
- + *Add your own prayers here...*

Loving God, we give all these prayers to you, trusting in your mercy and grace. **AMEN.**

### + OFFERING +

As people of faith we are called to continue strengthening the ministry of the church, even when we are physically distant. We invite you to prayerfully consider a gift to your congregation or the synod – as the body of Christ we work together to serve our neighbors.

### + LORD'S PRAYER +

Our Father in heaven,  
Hallowed be your name,  
Your kingdom come,  
Your will be done,  
On earth, as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
Now and forever. **AMEN.**

### + BLESSING EACH OTHER +

Using your pointer finger, dip it in the bowl of water and make the sign of the cross on another's forehead or the back of their hand saying, **"You are a beloved child of God."**  
Take turns until all in the household have been blessed.

*+ Text, tune, and arrangements used by permission of Augsburg Fortress License #12387-S +  
1 Lenten Litany found: <https://www.womenoftheelca.org/filebin/pdf/resources/LentPenitence.pdf>*

Other Lenten Ideas can be found here:  
<http://nswi.org/worship-faith-formation-at-home/lent-easter-planning>