



Oculi Sunday

## **The Third Sunday in Lent**

Jesus casts out demons

### **A Divided House Cannot Stand**

March 8th, Year of our Lord 2026

The Reverend William Foy, Pastor

About the cover art: You see man bound by death and the grave. The demonic spirits with their weapons are trying to scare off the Stronger Man who has come to steal away the devil's treasures: man, body and soul destined for hell. Jesus comes, and they are lifted up even as they are looking up onto their freedom from bondage. The graves are opened; the demons are being scattered, and their bonds are being loosed— all by Jesus at His Word. Notice the creatures that the demons ride: pigs, and remember when the Lord freed the man called Legion of his demon possession and cast the demons into the pigs, who then went over the cliff and were drowned in the abyss of the sea.

## Order of Worship – Divine Service - Setting 3

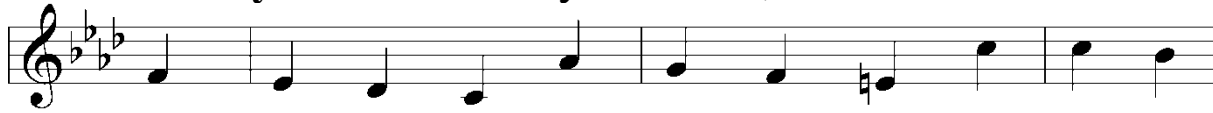
### Preludes-

*Time for silent prayer and preparation for confession*

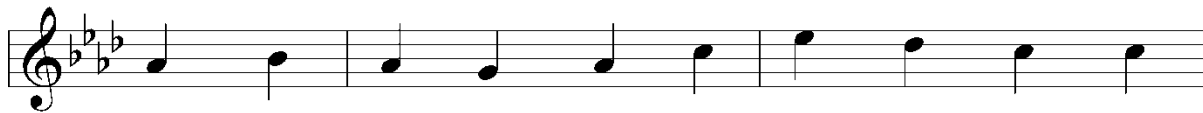
*Please rise and face the procession turning to the altar when the celebrant has passed by.*

### Procession Hymn- “As Surely as I Live,” God Said

614



1 “As sure - ly as I live,” God said, “I would not  
2 And so our Lord gave this com - mand: “Go forth and  
3 “All those whose sins you thus re - mit I tru - ly  
4 “What you will bind, that bound shall be; What you will



see the sin - ner dead. I want him turned from  
preach in ev - 'ry land; Be - stow on all My  
par - don and ac - quit, And those whose sins you  
loose, that shall be free; To My dear Church the



er - ror's ways, Re - pen - tant, liv - ing end - less days.”  
par - d'ning grace Who will re - pent and mend their ways.  
will re - tain Con - demned and guilt - y shall re - main.  
keys are giv'n To o - pen, close the gates of heav'n.”

5 The words which absolution  
give Are His who died that  
we might live; The minister  
whom Christ has sent Is but  
His humble instrument.

7

All praise to You, O Christ,  
shall be For absolution full  
and free, In which You show  
Your richest grace; From  
false indulgence guard our  
race.

6 When ministers lay on their  
hands, Absolved by Christ the  
sinner stands; He who by  
grace the Word believes The  
purchase of His blood  
receives.

8

Praise God the Father and the  
Son And Holy Spirit, Three in  
One, As was, is now, and so  
shall be World without end,  
eternally!



My eyes are ever | toward the LORD,\*  
for He will pluck my feet out | of the net.  
Turn to me and be gra- | cious to me,\*  
for I am lonely and af- | flicted.

P To You, | O LORD,\*  
I lift | up my soul.

C **O my God, in You I trust; let me not be | put to  
shame;\***  
**let not my enemies exult | over me.**  
**The troubles of my heart | are enlarged;\***  
**bring me out of my dis- | tresses.**

P Consider my affliction and my | trouble,\*  
and forgive | all my sins.  
Oh, guard my soul, and de- | liver me!\*Let me not be put to shame, for I take ref- | uge  
in You.

(Gloria Patri Omitted during Lent)

P My eyes are ever | toward the LORD,\*  
for He will pluck my feet out | of the net.  
Turn to me and be gra- | cious to me,\*  
for I am lonely and af- | flicted.

**Kyrie** **186**

**Gloria in Excelsis omitted until Easter**

**Salutation** **189**

**Collect of the Day** – *Prayed by Pastor*

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.

*Please be seated.*

**The Old Testament:**

**Jeremiah 26:1-15**

In the beginning of the reign of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, this word came from the LORD: “Thus says the LORD: Stand in the court of the LORD’s house, and speak to all the cities of Judah that come to worship in the house of the LORD all the words that I command you to speak to them; do not hold back a word. It may be they will listen, and every one turn from his evil way, that I may relent of the disaster that I intend to do to them because of their evil deeds. You shall say to them, ‘Thus says the LORD: If you will not listen to Me, to walk in My law that I have set before you, and to listen to the words of My servants the prophets whom I send to you urgently, though you have not listened, then I will make this house like Shiloh, and I will make this city a curse for all the nations of the earth.’”

The priests and the prophets and all the people heard Jeremiah speaking these words in the house of the LORD. And when Jeremiah had finished speaking all that the LORD had commanded him to speak to all the people, then the priests and the prophets and all the people laid hold of him, saying, “You shall die! Why have you prophesied in the name of the LORD, saying, ‘This house shall be like Shiloh, and this city shall be desolate, without inhabitant’?” And all the people gathered around Jeremiah in the house of the LORD.

When the officials of Judah heard these things, they came up from the king’s house to the house of the LORD and took their seat in the entry of the New Gate of the house of the LORD. Then the priests and the prophets said to the officials and to all the people, “This man deserves the sentence of death, because he has prophesied against this city, as you have heard with your own ears.”

Then Jeremiah spoke to all the officials and all the people, saying, “The LORD sent me to prophesy against this house and this city all the words you have heard. Now therefore mend your ways and your deeds, and obey the voice of the LORD your God, and the LORD will relent of the disaster that He has pronounced against you. But as for me, behold, I am in your hands. Do with me as seems good and right to you. Only

know for certain that if you put me to death, you will bring innocent blood upon yourselves and upon this city and its inhabitants, for in truth the LORD sent me to you to speak all these words in your ears.”

**Gradual-** *Chanted by the cantor*

**Ps. 9:19, 3**

Arise, O LORD! Let not | man prevail;\*

let the nations be judged be- | fore You!

When my enemies | turn back,\*

they stumble and perish before Your | presence.

**The Epistle:**

**Ephesians 5:1–9**

Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving. For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. Therefore do not associate with them; for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of Light (for the fruit of Light is found in all that is good and right and true),

*Please rise and face the procession as the Word of God enters into your midst. (Chanted by the congregation.)*



**To You I lift | up my eyes,\***

**O You who are enthroned in the | heavens!**

**Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hand of their | master,\***

**so our eyes look to the LORD our God, till He has mercy up- | on us.**

**Have mercy upon us, | O LORD,\*  
have mercy up- | on us.**

**The Holy Gospel:**

**Luke 11:14–28**

Now [Jesus] was casting out a demon that was mute. When the demon had gone out, the mute man spoke, and the people marveled. But some of them said, “He casts out demons by Beelzebul, the prince of demons,” while others, to test Him, kept seeking from Him a sign from heaven.

But He, knowing their thoughts, said to them, “Every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and a divided household falls. And if Satan also is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand? For you say that I cast out demons by Beelzebul. And if I cast out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges. But if it is by the finger of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own palace, his goods are safe; but when **One** stronger than he attacks him and overcomes him, He takes away his armor in which he trusted and divides his spoil. Whoever is not with Me is against Me, and whoever does not gather with Me scatters. When the unclean spirit has gone out of a person, it passes through waterless places seeking rest, and finding none it says, ‘I will return to my house from which I came.’ And when it comes, it finds the house swept and put in order. Then it goes and brings seven other spirits more evil than itself, and they enter and dwell there. And the last state of that person is worse than the first.”

As He said these things, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to Him, “Blessed is the womb that bore You, and the breasts at which You nursed!”

But He said, “Blessed rather are those who hear the Word of God and keep it!”

**Nicene Creed**

**191**

*Please be seated.*

**Hymn of the Day- Lord of our Life**

**659**



1 Lord of our life and God of our sal - va - tion, Star of our  
 2 See round Your ark the hun - gry bil - lows curl - ing; See how Your  
 3 Lord, be our light when world - ly dark - ness veils us; Lord, be our  
 4 Peace in our hearts, where sin - ful thoughts are rag - ing, Peace in Your



night and hope of ev - 'ry na - tion: Hear and re - ceive Your  
 foes their ban - ners are un - furl - ing And with great spite their  
 shield when earth - ly ar - mor fails us; And in the day when  
 Church, our trou - bled souls as - suag - ing, Peace when the world its



Church's sup - pli - ca - tion, Lord God Al - might - y.  
 fi - ery darts are hurl - ing, O Lord, pre - serve us.  
 hell it - self as - sails us, Grant us Your peace, Lord:  
 end - less war is wag - ing, Peace in Your heav - en.

**Sermon**

*Please rise.*

**Offertory**

192

**Prayer of the Church** (*Prayed by Pastor*)

**Service of the Sacrament**

**Preface**

194

**Proper Preface**

**Sanctus**

195

*Please Kneel/Stand*

**Lord's Prayer**

196

**The Verba - The Words Instituting the Lord's Supper**

**The Words of Our Lord**

197

**Pax Domini**

197

**Agnus Dei**

198

**What we believe: The Sacrament of the Altar**

We welcome to the Lord's Supper all those who are presently communicant members in good standing of Prince of Peace. If you have never received Holy Communion at Prince of Peace from Pastor Foy, please see him before you commune. Thank you

**Distribution**

**Distribution Hymns - *You may be seated.***

# All who believe and are Baptized

601



1 All who be - lieve and are bap - tized Shall see the Lord's sal - va - tion;  
2 With one ac - cord, O God, we pray: Grant us Your Ho - ly Spir - it.



Bap - tized in - to the death of Christ, They are a new cre - a - tion.  
Help us in our in - fir - mi - ty Through Je - sus' blood and mer - it.



Through Christ's re - demp - tion they shall stand A - mong the glo - rious,  
Grant us to grow in grace each day That by this sac - ra -



heav'n - ly band Of ev - 'ry tribe and na - tion.  
ment we may E - ter - nal life in - her - it.

# Water, Blood, and Spirit Crying

597



1 Wa - ter, blood, and Spir - it cry - ing, By their wit - ness  
2 In a wa - t'ry grave are bur - ied All our sins that  
3 Dark the way, yet Christ pre - cedes us, Past the scowl of  
4 Though a - round us death is seeth - ing, God, His two - edged  
5 Spir - it, wa - ter, blood en - treat - ing, Work - ing faith and



tes - ti - fy - ing To the One whose death - de - fy - ing  
Je - sus car - ried; Christ, the Ark of Life, has fer - ried  
death He leads us; Spreads a ta - ble where He feeds us  
sword un - sheath - ing, By His Spir - it life is breath - ing  
its com - plet - ing In the One whose death - de - feat - ing



Life has come, with life for all.  
Us a - cross death's rag - ing flood.  
With His bod - y and His blood.  
Through the liv - ing, ac - tive Word.  
Life has come, with life for all.

## Jesus, grant that balm and healing



1 Je - sus, grant that balm and heal - ing In Your ho - ly  
 2 Should some lust or sharp temp - ta - tion Fas - ci - nate my  
 3 If the world my heart en - tic - es With the broad and  
 4 Ev - 'ry wound that pains or grieves me By Your wounds, Lord,



wounds I find, Ev - 'ry hour that I am feel - ing Pains of  
 sin - ful mind, Draw me to Your cross and pas - sion, And new  
 eas - y road, With se - duc - tive, sin - ful vi - ces, Let me  
 is made whole; When I'm faint, Your cross re - vives me, Grant - ing



bod - y and of mind. Should some e - vil thought with - in  
 cour - age I shall find. Or should Sa - tan press me hard,  
 weigh the aw - ful load You were will - ing to en - dure.  
 new life to my soul. Yes, Your com - fort ren - ders sweet



Tempt my treach - 'rous heart to sin, Show the per - il, and from  
 Let me then be on my guard, Say - ing, "Christ for me was  
 Help me flee all thoughts im - pure And to mas - ter each temp -  
 Ev - 'ry bit - ter cup I meet; For Your all - a - ton - ing



sin - ning Keep me from its first be - gin - ning.  
 wound - ed," That the tempt - er flee con - found - ed.  
 ta - tion, Calm in prayer and med - i - ta - tion.  
 pas - sion Has pro - cured my soul's sal - va - tion.

5 O my God, my rock and tower,  
 Grant that in Your death I trust,  
 Knowing death has lost its power  
 Since You crushed it in the dust.  
 Savior, let Your agony  
 Ever help and comfort me;  
 When I die be my protection,  
 Light and life and resurrection.

*Please rise.*

*Nunc Dimitis (Gloria Patri omitted during Lent)*

# Thanksgiving

200

# Salutation and Benedicamus

201

# Benediction

202

*Please face the procession until the celebrant has passed and then face back towards the altar.*

# Closing Hymn- May God bestow on us His grace

823



1 May God be-stow on us His grace, With bless-ings rich pro-  
2 Thine o - ver all shall be the praise And thanks of ev - 'ry  
3 O let the peo-ple praise Thy worth, In all good works in -



vide us; And may the bright - ness of His face  
na - tion; And all the world with joy shall raise  
creas - ing; The land shall plen - teous fruit bring forth,



To life e - ter - nal guide us, That we His  
The voice of ex - ul - ta - tion. For Thou shalt  
Thy Word is rich in bless - ing. May God the



sav - ing health may know, His gra - cious will and plea - sure,  
judge the earth, O Lord, Nor suf - fer sin to flour - ish;  
Fa - ther, God the Son, And God the Spir - it bless us!



And al - so to the na-tions show Christ's rich - es with - out  
Thy peo-ple's pas - ture is Thy Word Their souls to feed and  
Let all the world praise Him a - lone, Let sol - emn awe pos -



mea - sure And un - to God con - vert them.  
nour - ish, In righ - teous paths to keep them.  
sess us. Now let our hearts say, "A - men!"

**Altar Flowers** The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for life as we celebrate Bill's birthday. The Lomas'

**Member information updates:** I need your help, please. I want to update the congregation directory and the weekly member dates of remembrance. Please fill out the form I will hand out after service. Your help and patience is truly appreciated. I also desire for updated pictures of everyone. Families have changed in size and I would like them to be current. Thank you very much. Pastor

**Midweek Soup & Salad before service:** Please plan on joining us for a light soup & salad dinner prior to our Lenten evening Worship Services beginning Wednesday March 11th thru March 25th at 6:00 pm. Please let us know if you plan to attend. A sign-up sheet is located on the Whiteboard in the foyer.

**Easter Flowers for Order:** Flowers to adorn the Altar. Please see Heidi, Pam or Joann to order your Easter plants to adorn the altar Easter Sunday. The cost of each plant is \$10.00. You may choose Daffodil, Tulip, Hyacinth, or Easter Lily. If you would like your flower in memory of a loved one please let us know. LAST DAY TO ORDER 3/15

**Easter Breakfast** Plan on joining us Sunday April 5th for Easter breakfast prior to our Worship Service. Breakfast begins at 7:30 am. A sign-up sheet is located in the foyer for attendance as well as items needed for breakfast.

**Thank You:** Daybreak shelter is very appreciative of our continued support through the delicious dinners we send. Thank you for your continued support of this mission project.

**Eggcellent Easter Egg Hunt:** Please mark your calendars for our Annual Egg Hunt Saturday March 28th at 1:00 pm. Sign-up sheets are located in the foyer for attendance and items needed for the egg hunt. We will need those items by March 8<sup>th</sup> so that we can prepare the eggs. Thank you. Please invite your family and friends to join the fun.

**Willows Easter Baskets:** A sign-up sheet for items for the Willow residents is now posted by our door. Donated items may be placed in the box marked Willows. If you prefer to make a cash donation to help purchase these items, a donation jar marked Willows is also available. Both the box and jar are located in Pastor's former office off the Narthex.

The Willows currently has 32 male and 36 female residents. Your continued support is greatly appreciated. Thank you,

**VBS ~ June 10-12, 2026 THEME: Who Is Jesus for ME?** We have just begun planning for this years VBS. Dates are June 10-12 in the evening. We will be putting up sign up sheets for the things needed after Easter as there is much to do for that High and Holy Season first. If you would like to help, our next planning meeting is **Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup> from 6-7:30 pm** please see Becky Wilburn. Thank you.

**Lutheran World Relief personal care kits.** A donation box is located in the office across from the counters office. Items needed new dark colored bath towels, nail clippers, tooth brushes, bars of bath soap & combs. Items may be placed in the box located in Pastor's former office off the Narthex.

**Seminary Gift Emporium** We will also continue to collect money for gift cards for the Seminary Gift Emporium throughout the year. A jar is located by the flower chart in the Narthex.

**Valpo Homeless Shelter Meal:** The shelter provides 3 meals for 50+ people in need everyday. Prince of Peace will deliver a meal March 21. A sign-up sheet of items needed is located in the foyer. Thank you for giving a meal for those in need.

**Seminary Clothing Co-op:** Please bring clothing bagged and in good condition with no stains or tears for men, women and children. Socks and undergarments must be new and in original package. If you are going to Ft. Wayne and would be willing to deliver some of the clothes, please see Joann.

**Eggs in the Kitchen fridge:** There are eggs this week. PLEASE ONLY TAKE 1! Your donations support various congregation projects, i.e. egg hunt candy, day break food, coffee hour, etc.

**SUNDAY - Bible Study:** We are the wisdom literature of King Solomon in the book of Proverbs after the Divine Service, in the Parish Hall. We begin at 10:45

**For the coming Week**

**Organist:** Jennifer Symer                      **Elders:** Josh, Carl, Jeff, Paul

**Altar Guild Servers:** Cheryl, Deb, Cathy, Helen

**Morning Divine Service:** Wednesday 11:00 am

**Weekday Bible Study:** Wednesday 11:45

**Bethesda Services:** Wednesday 4:00pm

**Veterans:** As requested with pastor.

**PRAYERS FOR:**

All who have either turned away from the Lord or do not heed His call  
All who mourn the loss of loved ones especially those martyred

**PRAYER FOR SHUT-INS:** Mike Foy, Darlene McDonald,  
Marilyn Skinner, Jim & Lois Brown, Ruth Koeppen

**THOSE IN THE MILITARY:** Craig McCall, Seneca Newkirk

**PRAYER FOR HEALING:**

Pat Maile – Dr Care

Jim Brown- Remission

Greg Mohlke Kidney issues

Ellen Strutz – Cancer

Mary Cruz – ALS

Betty Sut - Cancer

Marilyn Skinner – Cancer

Lillie Johnston – Alzheimers

Lois Brown – Parkinsons

Pete Sut – Cancer

Jerry Weingarden – Cancer

Bob Granzow – Dr Care

Robert Sprout - Cancer

Dave McCall – Dr Care

Bill Lomas – Lung issues

Jo Thompson – Cancer

Josh Hardesty - recovering

Ginny Fox - Cancer

Carol Becker – Dr Care

Nancy McIntosh - Cancer

Florence Farris – Cancer

Baron Edmiston – Cancer

Paula Rukavina – Cancer

Sibylle Horvath – Brain Tumor

*Please give the Church Office updates Thank you Pastor*

**THOSE EXPECTING A CHILD**

**THOSE CELEBRATING BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS**

Liam Mowbey 3/11

**THOSE CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS**

Becky Wilburn 3/8 William Dorulla 3/8 Tim Broviak 3/13

**THOSE CELEBRATING ANNIVERSARIES**

Steve & Tara Pierce 3/9

*"The love of husband and wife is the force that welds society together." - St. John Chrysostom, Homily 20 on Eph. 5*

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### Chrismon Corner



Lent 3 Lk 11.14-28 Blessed are those who hear God's Word & keep it

Crown of Life *Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. (James 1:12 ESV)*

We need to take heed of Our Lord's warning today lest the unclean spirit cast out of us at Baptism return and find us swept and put in order not only for him but also for seven of his friends. It would be better to have never been baptized than to fall away.

God threatens to punish all who break His commandments, even the baptized. In the worst of situations, God punishes sin with sin. He threatens to harden and blind those who fall into false security, impenitence, and intentional sins. He threatens to hand them over to their baser desires and turn His back on them. His threats are not insincere or deceptive.

This does not mean that He did not want to save those who fall away, that their Baptisms were invalid. He did save them. He still loves and wants them. But He gives to us, the baptized, free will. He does not make us His slaves.

That freedom is dangerous. Foolish though it is, we are tempted back to the slavery of sin. To our shame, we sometimes indulge our sins and flirt with disaster. Repent. If we persist in our sins, refusing God's grace, insisting on our own way, then we will be hardened, blinded, and eternally damned. God is not mocked.

God wants to receive into grace all who repent and believe in Christ. He has died for all. He loves all, even the worst of sinners. Yet, at the same time, and without contradiction, He also wants to punish those who turn away from holy prayer and entangle themselves again in the defilements of this world, and who outrage the Holy Spirit.

God threatens to punish all who break His commandments. Therefore we should fear His wrath and not do anything against them. But He also promises grace and

every blessing to those who keep these commandments. Therefore we should not despair. Instead, we should love and trust in Him. In giving us the Holy Spirit, God gives us the ability to resist sin. We do not have to give into it.

The Holy Spirit creates in us a desire to obey God's commandments and please Him. This is not only because we fear His wrath. It is also because we love and trust in Him. This is faith: to fear, love, and trust in God above all things. Faith desires to keep the Law, but faith which trusts that God is good and His Word is good and His Law is good. Faith wants to do better, wants to amend our lives, and desires to please Our Father. We love God's Law. We accept its judgments and its rules as truly good, even if they are out of place in our culture.

"Blessed is he who hears the Word of God and keeps it" means "blessed is he who hears the Word of God and says 'amen' to it." Blessed is he who believes it, who does not turn away from God and insist on his sins. Blessed is he who does not come to God on his own terms and demand his own ways, but who hears and keeps the Word of God.

He guards and keeps us, in the preaching of His Gospel, in His Word and Sacraments. It is not our response to the Gospel that casts our demons or which keeps them out. His sacrifice and gift do that. Yet, at the same time, we are not His slaves. We have free will. So when He calls upon us as His brothers and His bride to guard and keep His Word, we do so gladly because we love and trust in Him.

Guarding and keeping the full counsel of God, all of His Word, both Law and Gospel, repenting, confessing, receiving, and rejoicing, this is true blessedness.



### **Service Dates and times for Lent thru Easter**

**Mid-Week Wednesday Lenten Vesper Services – 7pm**

**(light soup supper at 6pm preceding service)**

**March 11<sup>th</sup>, March 18<sup>th</sup> & March 25<sup>th</sup>**

### **Holy week Evening Services**

**Maundy Thursday – April 2<sup>nd</sup> 7pm**

**Good Friday – April 3<sup>rd</sup> 7pm**

**April 5<sup>th</sup> The Resurrection of Our Lord - Easter Divine Service 9am**

**Breakfast 7:30am**