**Morning Order of Worship**

March 15, 2020—9:30 AM

Third Sunday of Lent

REJOICING IN THE LORD

Prelude

Welcome

\*God’s Greeting

\*Opening Song of Worship

 *Beautiful, Wonderful Cross*

Lent Reading

APPROACHING THE LORD

Ministry of Music—*Hallelujah for the Cross*

Call to Confession—Psalm 63:1-4, 7, 8

Ministry of Music—*Room at the Cross for You*

Update from Serve Team—Meridian, MS

Congregational Prayer led by Brent Wallenburg

Offering for the Capital Fund

(After the offering, *Jesus Loves Me* will play and the children are then invited forward for the Children in Worship Dismissal)

Children in Worship Dismissal (Ages 3-5)

 The Blessing—**Congregation—The Lord be with you**

 Children—And also with you

**LISTENING TO THE LORD**

\*Song of Preparation

 *My Worth Is Not In What I Own*

Scripture: Nehemiah 8 (page 476)

Message: ***The Joy of the Lord Is Your Strength***

Prayer of Application

\*Hymn of Application

 *Therefore the Redeemed of the Lord*

**LEAVING TO LOVE AND SERVE THE LORD**

\*God’s Parting Blessing

\*Doxology

 HWC #176 vs. 1, 4—*Lead Me to Calvary*

\*Postlude

**Worship Participants**

Worship Leader: Rev. Ken Van Wyk

Pianist: Stephanie Walters

Ministry of Music: Noordeloos Choir

Readers: Fred Beach, Dave Zeinstra

*\*Please stand if you are able.*

**Lent Reading**—DAY 3 Gift of Rescue

**Reader:**

On this third Sunday of Lent we remember the first great sacrifice offered for freedom. Israel’s families chose a lamb to slaughter as a Passover lamb. When the angel of the Lord struck down all of the Egyptian firstborn sons, he passed over the homes of Israel who had provided the sacrifice God commanded and marked the door posts of their homes with the blood of the Lamb.

Listen to these words from Exodus 12 and imagine the feelings of the Israelites on that Passover night.

**Voice using handheld microphone from out of sight, maybe upstairs in the balcony, spoken slowly, lingering:**

 “When your children ask you, ‘What does this ceremony mean to you?’then tell them, ‘It is the Passover sacrifice to the Lord, who passed over the houses of the Israelites in Egypt and spared our homes when he struck down the Egyptians.’” Then the people bowed down and worshiped… *On that very day* the Lord brought the Israelites out of Egypt.”

**Reader:**

Father, just as the Israelites did on that first Passover, we mark our doorposts with Jesus’ blood so that Satan cannot enter into this place to cause ruin and death. We ask that you would come through the door of our hearts, so that we may enter into Your presence. Today may we choose you. Amen.

Because of the blood and cross of Christ, we are passed over and we live a life of worship in gratitude for the gift of rescue. Let us join in worship together.

Call to Confession—Psalm 63:1-4, 7, 8

### Psalm 63

#### A psalm of David. When he was in the Desert of Judah.

1You, God, are my God,
    earnestly I seek you;
 I thirst for you,
    my whole being longs for you,
 in a dry and parched land
    where there is no water.

2I have seen you in the sanctuary
    and beheld your power and your glory.
3Because your love is better than life,
    my lips will glorify you.
4I will praise you as long as I live,
    and in your name I will lift up my hands.

7Because you are my help,
    I sing in the shadow of your wings.
8I cling to you;
    your right hand upholds me.

**Morning Message—March 15, 2020**

Rev. Ken Van Wyk

***The Joy of the Lord Is Your Strength***

Nehemiah 8

After reconstruction there was a great need for reinstruction.

“The only solid basis for civilization is the Word of God.” Webster

I. Bible Reading at the Water Gate. (1-4)

 A. Seventh month – the month for feasts.

 B. Seemed to be a spontaneous gathering.

 C. Important factors:

 1. For families.

 2. Lasted for 6 hours.

II. Revival at the Water Gate. Six Characteristics: (5-18)

 A. Reverence for Scripture (5)

 B. Worship of God (6)

 C. Understanding the Scriptures (7-8)

 D. Sorrow for sin (9)

 E. Rejoicing in God’s Fellowship (10-12)

 F. Obedience to the Word (13-18)

Will you pray that God will begin a revival here?