First Christian Reformed Church Sunday, March 29, 2020 ~ Fifth Sunday of Lent ~

Welcome

Call to Worship: Psalm 145:17-18, 21 The LORD is righteous in all his ways and kind in all his works. The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD, and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.

Grace Alone

Every promise we can make, Every prayer and step of faith; Every difference we will make is only by His grace. Every mountain we will climb, Every ray of hope we shine; Every blessing left behind is only by His grace.

Refrain: Grace alone which God supplies; Strength unknown He will provide. Christ in us, our cornerstone, We will go forth in grace alone.

Every soul we long to reach, Every heart we hope to teach; Everywhere we share His peace is only by His grace. Every loving word we say, Every tear we wipe away; Every sorrow turned to praise is only by His grace. *Refrain*

Lenten Reading: Matthew 12:38-41

Prayer of Confession

Scripture: Matthew 16:15-25 (ESV)

¹⁵ He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶ Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." ²⁰ Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

²¹ From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.
²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "Far be it from you, Lord! This shall never happen to you." ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man."
²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ²⁵ For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

Morning Prayer

How Firm a Foundation

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word! What more can He say than to you He hath said, You, who unto Jesus for refuge have fled?

Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed, For I am thy God and will still give thee aid; I'll strengthen and help thee, and cause thee to stand Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.

When through the deep waters I call thee to go, The rivers of woe shall not thee overflow; For I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless, And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

[At this time we encourage you to continue in home worship. Begin with prayer, taking time to pray for the many needs around us. Google a couple of your favorite hymns or songs, play them on your computer and listen or sing along. Re-read the morning Scripture text and spend some time reflecting on the message and discussing its implications and applications in our life.]

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