



Third Sunday of Lent
March 7, 2021
8:30am

Welcome to Zumbro Lutheran Church

Luke is generally referred to as the most universal gospel. Throughout Jesus' ministry in Galilee and also on the way to Jerusalem, he makes room for a wide assortment of people. There is room for Gentiles and Jews, Pharisees and tax collectors, women and men, and a lot of other people too. That means there is room for you!

In today's gospel, Jesus is questioned about whether tragedy befell people because they were more sinful than others. Jesus' short answer is "no." Then he uses their question as a teaching opportunity. Twice he instructs those listening by saying, "unless you repent, you will all perish as they did." We may initially read this as an unnecessarily stern warning. But read in the greater context of Luke's gospel, Jesus is calling people to reexamine their lives and priorities in light of God. Repentance serves as a universal way for people to participate in the work and reign of God. And as Jesus demonstrates in his parable, often that work involves making room when others let us down.

PRELUDE BOUND FOR THE KINGDOM (WARRENTON AND PROMISED LAND)
HANDBELL SEXTET

ARR. BILL INGRAM

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the keeper of the covenant, the source of steadfast love, our rock and our redeemer.

C: Amen.

L: God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

silence for reflection and self-examination

L: Fountain of living water,

C: pour out your mercy over us. Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free. Rebuild what we have ruined and mend what we have torn. Wash us in your cleansing flood. Make us alive in the Spirit to follow in the way of Jesus, as healers and restorers of the world you so love. Amen.

L: Beloved, if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (John 1:9)

C: Amen.

HYMN

JESUS IS A ROCK IN A WEARY LAND

Songleaders-verses; **All-refrain**

Refrain

**Jesus is a rock in a weary land,
a weary land, a weary land;
my Jesus is a rock in a weary land,
a shelter in a time of storm.**

No one can do like Jesus,
not a mumbling word he said;
he went walking down to Lazarus' grave,
and he raised him from the dead. *Refrain*

When Jesus was on earth,
the flesh was very weak;
he took a towel and girded himself
and he washed his disciples' feet. *Refrain*

Yonder comes my Savior,
him whom I love so well;
he has the palm of victory
and the keys of death and hell. *Refrain*

GREETING

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: God of grace and justice,

C: you call us to repentance so that our lives might reflect your ways in the world. Give us courage to name the ways we do not bear fruit, stir in us to live out your good news, and help us to show mercy when others let us down. Amen.

4 *all*

Lord, you have searched me and known me; you
 know when I sit, when I rise. You know my thoughts, you
2nd time to Coda
 know my heart, you know the ways of my life. You
 know the sound of my voice, you know the words of my
 tongue; you hold me close, you guide my ways, you
 know the ways of my life.

songleaders
 Where can I go to leave your spir - it? Where can I fall that
 you aren't near? If I say, The dark - ness will
 hide me, your bright light sets me free.

Coda
 life. You know the ways of my life. You
 know the ways of my life.

HOLY GOSPEL

LUKE 13:1-9 NRSV

¹At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. ²He asked them, ‘Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? ³No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. ⁴Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? ⁵No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.’ ⁶ Then he told this parable: ‘A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. ⁷So he said to the gardener, “See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?” ⁸He replied, “Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig round it and put manure on it. ⁹If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.” ’

L: The Gospel of the Lord,

C: Thanks be to God.

STORYTIME

JANETTE REEVES

SERMON

MAKING ROOM WHEN OTHERS LET US DOWN

PASTOR JASON BRYAN-WEGNER

all

My soul pro-claims the great-ness of the Lord, my
spir-it sings for joy in God my Sav-ior. You look with fa-vor up - on your ser-vant,
bless-ed is my name. You have done great things for me, ho - ly is — your
name. You send your mer-cy to those who fear you through ev - 'ry age.
You have shown the strength of your arm, you have scorned the thoughts of the proud,
you cast down the might - y, you have lift - ed the low - ly, ho - ly is your
name. You have filled the hun-gry with good things, you have left the rich with emp-ty
hands, you have come to the help of your peo-ple, ho - ly is your name.
You have kept your prom - ise of mer - cy, the prom-ise that you made to our
fore - bears; to A - bra'm and Sar - ah and their chil - dren for - ev - er,
ho - ly is your name. Ho - ly is your name. Ho - ly is your name.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L: Relying on the promises of God, let us pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

After each spoken petition
songleaders

all

Hear our prayer, O Lord. Hear our prayer, O Lord.

After final petition
songleaders

all

Hear our prayer, O Lord. Hear our prayer, O Lord. A - men.

EXPRESSIONS OF GRATITUDE

IN CHRIST ALONE (WITH CORNERSTONE) MEREDITH PRITCHARD AND JANETTE REEVES

ARR. JOEL RANEY

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

L: Lord, remember us when you come into your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C: 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.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

LAMB OF GOD

AARON DAVID MILLER



2

Lamb of God, Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world, have mer - cy on us, have
mer - cy on us, Lamb of God.
Lamb of God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world, grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

L: God of steadfast love, at this table you gather your people into one body for the sake of the world. Send us in the power of your Spirit, that our lives bear witness to the love that has made us new in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

L: You are what God made you to be: created in Christ Jesus for good works, chosen as holy and beloved, freed to serve your neighbor. God bless you ☩ that you may be a blessing, in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity.

C: Amen.

HYMN

THROUGH THE NIGHT OF DOUBT AND SORROW

Songleaders

Through the night of doubt and sorrow,
onward goes the pilgrim band,
singing songs of expectation,
marching to the promised land.
Clear before us through the darkness
gleams and burns the guiding light;
pilgrim clasps the hand of pilgrim
stepping fearless through the night.

All

**One the light of God's own presence
on the ransomed people shed,
chasing far the gloom and terror,
bright'ning all the path we tread.
One the object of our journey,
one the faith which never tires,
one the earnest looking forward,
one the hope our God inspires.**

**Onward, therefore, sisters, brothers;
onward, with the cross our aid.
Bear its shame, and fight its battle
till we rest beneath its shade.
Soon shall come the great awak'ning;
soon the rending of the tomb!
Then the scatt'ring of all shadows,
and the end of toil and gloom.**

SENDING

L: People of Zumbro, what is our mission?

C: Our journey of faith leads us to build bridges of understanding and peace, to reach out with compassion, and to share the hope of Jesus. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

CHROMATIC FUGUE
RALPH SCHORNACK, ORGAN

JOHANN PACHELBEL

PRAYERS FOR HEALING:

Melissa Stortz
Norman Waage
Duane Monson
David Newman
Marge Breuer

SYMPATHY TO:

The family of Eloise Grassle
Mary Hansen and Marcia Mahlman on the death of their father, Gordon Christianson

WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

PROCLAIMER-Pastor Jason Bryan-Wegner; **WORSHIP ASSISTANT**-Pastor Vern Christopherson; **LECTOR**-Sara Holmes; **STORYTIME**-Janette Reeves; **ORGAN AND PIANO**-Ralph Schornack; **GUITAR**-Bob Giere;
FLUTE-Kristy Giere; **SONGLEADERS**-Meredith Pritchard and Janette Reeves; **HANDBELL SEXTET**-Dorothy Bacon, Paul Bye, Stacy Freimuth, Pam Hammond, Sue Schwartz, Melanie Tschida; Kristy Giere, director

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GIVING TO ZUMBRO

Make a contribution in any of these ways:

1. Go to zumbrolutheran.org/give
2. Mail a check to Zumbro Lutheran Church
3. Text "ZUMBRO" TO 73256 and follow the link
4. Scan QR code with your phone camera at right and follow the prompts.



Our journey of faith leads us to build bridges of understanding and peace to reach out with compassion, and to share the hope of Jesus.
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