



# King of Kings

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent  
March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023

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## AS WE GATHER

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### TODAY'S THEME

Pharaoh hardened his heart against God's signs. Sometimes we wish God were the enemy. It might make more sense of our experiences. To make God our enemy we do things He stands against. Instead of hardening ourselves against God, we should harden ourselves against sin. We should be a fortress that sin cannot penetrate because we have sided with

### WELCOME

Good morning! We are glad you are with us today. If you need assistance this morning, please feel free to speak to an usher. They are near the glass doors at the back of the room. Our Nursery and Cry Room are on the right side of the Sanctuary. Feel free to use them! We ask that you to please clean up after your child(ren).

### HOLY COMMUNION

We are celebrating the sacrament of Holy Communion today. We invite those desiring to be guests at the Lord's Table who:

1. Believe Jesus Christ is their Lord and Savior.
2. Believe that in, with, and under the bread and wine they receive the true body and blood of Christ.
3. Confess their sin, seek the assurance of forgiveness, and intend, with God's help, to amend their sinful life.

It is our desire that everyone who comes to receive Holy Communion to be in unity of faith with the community of King of Kings. More information about what we believe is available on our website: [www.KingofKingsTX.org/what-we-believe](http://www.KingofKingsTX.org/what-we-believe)

The ushers will direct people forward to the altar rail. The Body of Christ is offering first. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. Red wine is offered next in the small cups in the tray. Alcohol-free white grape juice is available in the cups in the center of the tray. The pastor will give a blessing to children and to those who do not desire to receive Communion or are new to the Lutheran tradition. Simply cross your arms over your chest at the rail to receive the blessing.

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# ORDER OF WORSHIP

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## PRE-SERVICE VIDEO

## WELCOME

### **HYMN: Christ, the Lord of Hosts, Unshaken**

*LSB 521:1,3-4,6*

Christ, the Lord of hosts, unshaken  
By the devil's seething rage,  
Thwarts the plan of Satan's minions;  
Wins the strife from age to age;  
Conquers sin and death forever;  
Slams them in their steely cage.

Long on earth the battle rages,  
Since the serpent's first deceit;  
Twisted God's command to Adam,  
Made forbidden fruit look sweet.  
Then the curse of God was spoken:  
"You'll lie crushed beneath His feet!"

Jesus came, this word fulfilling,  
Trampled Satan, death defied;  
Bore the brunt of our temptation,  
On the wretched tree He died.  
Yet to life was raised victorious;  
By His life our life supplied.

Jesus, send Your angel legions  
When the foe would us enslave.  
Hold us fast when sin assaults us;  
Come, then, Lord, Your people save.  
Overthrow at last the dragon;  
Send him to his fiery grave.

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## **EXHORTATION & CONFESSION OF SINS**

*LSB 184*

*Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

**People: Amen.**

*Pastor: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.*

*Our help is in the name of the Lord,*

**People: who made heaven and earth.**

*Pastor: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,*

**People: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

*Pastor: O almighty God, merciful Father,*

**People: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

## **ABSOLUTION**

*LSB 184*

*Pastor: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

**People: Amen.**

## **INTROIT**

*Psalm 25:1–2, 15–18, 20*

*Pastor: My eyes are ever toward the Lord, for he will pluck my feet out of the net.*

**People: Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted.**

*Pastor: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.*

**People: O my God, in you I trust; let me not be put to shame; let not my enemies exult over me.**

*Pastor: The troubles of my heart are enlarged; bring me out of my distresses.*

**People: Consider my affliction and my trouble, and forgive all my sins.**

*Pastor: Oh, guard my soul, and deliver me!*

**People: Let me not be put to shame, for I take refuge in you.**

**All: (sung) Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

## **KYRIE**

*LSB 186*

Lord, have mercy upon us  
Christ, have mercy upon us  
Lord, have mercy upon us

## **SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY**

*Pastor: The Lord be with you.*

**People: And with thy spirit.**

*Pastor: Let us pray. 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.*

**People: Amen.**

## **FIRST READING: Exodus 8:16-24**

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Say to Aaron, 'Stretch out your staff and strike the dust of the earth, so that it may become gnats in all the land of Egypt.'" And they did so. Aaron stretched out his hand with his staff and struck the dust of the earth, and there were gnats on man and beast. All the dust of the earth became gnats in all the land of Egypt. The magicians tried by their secret arts to produce gnats, but they could not. So there were gnats on man and beast. Then the magicians said to Pharaoh, "This is the finger of God." But Pharaoh's heart was hardened, and he would not listen to them, as the LORD had said.

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Rise up early in the morning and present yourself to Pharaoh, as he goes out to the water, and say to him, 'Thus says the LORD, "Let my people go, that they may serve me. Or else, if you will not let my people go, behold, I will send swarms of flies on you and your servants and your people, and into your houses. And the houses of the Egyptians shall be filled with swarms of flies, and also the ground on which they stand. But on that day I will set apart the land of Goshen, where my people dwell, so that no swarms of flies shall be there, that you may know that I am the LORD in the midst of the earth. Thus I will put a division between my people and your people. Tomorrow this sign shall happen."'" And the LORD did so. There came great swarms of flies into the house of Pharaoh and into his servants' houses. Throughout all the land of Egypt the land was ruined by the swarms of flies.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## **SECOND READING: Ephesians 5:1–9**

<sup>1</sup>Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. <sup>2</sup>And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

<sup>3</sup>But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. <sup>4</sup>Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving. <sup>5</sup>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. <sup>6</sup>Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. <sup>7</sup>Therefore do not associate with them; <sup>8</sup>for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light <sup>9</sup>(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true).

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL READING: Luke 11:14–28**

*Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the eleventh chapter.*

**People: Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>14</sup>Now [Jesus] was casting out a demon that was mute. When the demon had gone out, the mute man spoke, and the people marveled. <sup>15</sup>But some of them said, "He casts out demons by Beelzebul, the prince of demons," <sup>16</sup>while others, to test him, kept seeking from him a sign from heaven. <sup>17</sup>But he, knowing their thoughts, said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and a divided household falls. <sup>18</sup>And if Satan also is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand? For you say that I cast out demons by Beelzebul. <sup>19</sup>And if I cast out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges. <sup>20</sup>But if it is by the finger of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. <sup>21</sup>When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own palace, his goods are safe; <sup>22</sup>but when one stronger than he attacks him and overcomes him, he takes away his armor in which he trusted and divides his spoil. <sup>23</sup>Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters.

<sup>24</sup>"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.' <sup>25</sup>And when it comes, it finds the house swept and put in order. <sup>26</sup>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."

<sup>27</sup>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!" <sup>28</sup>But he said, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!"

*Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.*

**People: Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

## **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

*Nicene Creed*

**All: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **HYMN: Lord, of Our Life**

*LSB 659*

Lord of our life and God of our salvation,  
Star of our night and hope of ev'ry nation:  
Hear and receive Your Church's supplication,  
Lord God Almighty.

See round Your ark the hungry billows curling;  
See how Your foes their banners are unfurling  
And with great spite their fiery darts are hurling,  
O Lord, preserve us.

Lord, be our light when worldly darkness veils us;  
Lord, be our shield when earthly armor fails us;  
And in the day when hell itself assails us,  
Grant us Your peace, Lord:

Peace in our hearts, where sinful thoughts are raging,  
Peace in Your Church, our troubled souls assuaging,  
Peace when the world its endless war is waging,  
Peace in Your heaven.

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## THE MESSAGE: Harden

*Exodus 8:16-24*

## VOTUM

*Pastor: The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.*

**People: Amen.**

## OFFERTORY

*LSB 192*

Create in me a clean heart, O God  
and renew a right spirit within me  
Cast me not away from Thy presence  
and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me

Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation  
and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

## THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

*(After each prayer)*

*Pastor: ...Lord, in Your mercy:*

**People: Hear our prayer.**

*(Last prayer)*

*Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever,*

**People: Amen.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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# H O L Y C O M M U N I O N

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## PREFACE

*LSB 194*

*Pastor: The Lord be with you.*

**People: And with thy spirit.**

*Pastor: Lift up your hearts.*

**People: We lift them up unto the Lord.**

*Pastor: Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.*

**People: It is meet and right so to do.**

*Pastor: It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting*

*God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:*

## **SANCTUS**

*LSB 195*

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth  
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest

Blessed is He, blessed is He  
blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**All: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

## **THE WORDS OF OUR LORD**

### **PAX DOMINI**

*LSB 197*

*Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.*

**People: Amen.**

### **AGNUS DEI**

*LSB 197*

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God,  
that takest away the sin of the world,  
have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God,  
that takest away the sin of the world,  
have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God,  
that takest away the sin of the world,  
grant us Thy peace. Amen.



## THE DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

### HYMN: Renew Me O Eternal Light

LSB 704

Renew me, O eternal Light,  
And let my heart and soul be bright,  
Illumined with the light of grace  
That issues from Your holy face.

Remove the pow'r of sin from me  
And cleanse all my impurity  
That I may have the strength and will  
Temptations of the flesh to still.

Create in me a new heart, Lord,  
That gladly I obey Your Word.  
Let what You will be my desire,  
And with new life my soul inspire.

Grant that I only You may love  
And seek those things which are above  
Till I behold You face to face,  
O Light eternal, through Your grace.

*Text: Public domain*

### HYMN: Who Trust in God a Strong Abode

LSB 714

Who trusts in God a strong abode  
In heav'n and earth possesses;  
Who looks in love to Christ above,  
No fear that heart oppresses.  
In You alone, dear Lord, we own  
Sweet hope and consolation,  
Our shield from foes, our balm for woes,  
Our great and sure salvation.

Though Satan's wrath beset our path  
And worldly scorn assail us,  
While You are near, we shall not fear;  
Your strength will never fail us.  
Your rod and staff will keep us safe  
And guide our steps forever;  
Nor shades of death nor hell beneath  
Our lives from You will sever.

In all the strife of mortal life  
Our feet will stand securely;  
Temptation's hour will lose its pow'r,

For You will guard us surely.  
O God, renew with heav'nly dew  
Our body, soul, and spirit  
Until we stand at Your right hand  
Through Jesus' saving merit.

*Text: Public domain*

## **HYMN: The Gifts Christ Freely Gives**

*LSB #602*

The gifts Christ freely gives  
He gives to you and me  
To be His Church, His bride,  
His chosen, saved and free!  
Saints blest with these rich gifts  
Are children who proclaim  
That they were won by Christ  
And cling to His strong name.

The gifts flow from the font  
Where He calls us His own;  
New life He gives that makes  
Us His and His alone.

Here He forgives our sins  
With water and His Word;  
The triune God Himself  
Gives pow'r to call Him Lord.

The gifts of grace and peace  
From absolution flow;  
The pastor's words are Christ's  
For us to trust and know.  
Forgiveness that we need  
Is granted to us there;  
The Lord of mercy sends  
Us forth in His blest care.

The gifts are there each day  
The holy Word is read;  
God's children listen, hear,  
Receive, and they are fed.  
Christ fills them with Himself,  
Blest words that give them life,  
Restoring and refreshing  
Them for this world's strife.

The gifts are in the feast,  
Gifts far more than we see;

Beneath the bread and wine  
Is food from Calvary.  
The body and the blood  
Remove our ev'ry sin;  
We leave His presence in  
His peace, renewed again.

All glory to the One  
Who lavishes such love;  
The triune God in love  
Assures our life above.  
His means of grace for us  
Are gifts He loves to give;  
All thanks and praise for His  
Great love by which we live!

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## NUMC DIMITTIS

*LSB 199*

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant  
depart in peace according to Thy word,  
for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,  
which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people,  
a light to lighten the Gentiles  
and the glory of Thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen.

## POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

*Pastor: We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

**People: Amen.**

## SALUTATION & BENEDICAMUS

*LSB 201*

*Pastor: The Lord be with you.*

**People: And with thy spirit**

*Pastor: Bless we the Lord.*

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## BENEDICTION

LSB 202

*Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.*

**People: Amen.**

## CLOSING HYMN: Built on the Rock

LSB 645:1,5

Built on the Rock the Church shall stand  
Even when steeples are falling.  
Crumbled have spires in ev'ry land;  
Bells still are chiming and calling,  
Calling the young and old to rest,  
But above all the souls distressed,  
Longing for rest everlasting.

Grant, then, O God, Your will be done,  
That, when the church bells are ringing,  
Many in saving faith may come  
Where Christ His message is bringing:  
"I know My own; My own know Me.  
You, not the world, My face shall see.  
My peace I leave with you. Amen."

*Text: Public domain*

## SENDING

*Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.*

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## POST-SERVICE MUSIC

## SERVING OUR LORD IN WORSHIP

**PASTOR:** Rev, Norm Stoppenhagen

**MUSIC LEADER:** Joseph Childers

**WORSHIP ASSISTANT:** Randy Kieschnick / Larry Boriack

**READER:** Mark Raby

**MEDIA TECHS:** Davis Hicks / Vardhani Kolagani / Kelly Buffum / Michael Kolagani

**ALTAR GUILD:** Ann Bigelow / Terry Quarles / Vardhan Kalagani / Flavia Sirivella /  
Amber Sohl

**USHER:** Jim Cartwright / Lynn Holleran

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