



**THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT**  
**Sunday March 3, 2024**

Fourth & Alby Streets, Alton, Illinois  
(618) 465-3592 Email: firstpres1831@gmail.com



## **GATHERING**

### **PRELUDE**

### **Welcome and Announcements**

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

The law of the Lord revives the soul; the word of God makes the simple wise.

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, that we may become instruments of your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

✦ **Hymn:** *"Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation"* .....No. 417

### **CALL TO CONFESSION**

This is the proof of God's great love: that while we were sinners, Christ died for us.

### **CONFESSION OF SIN**

God of mercy, you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We are misled by pride, for we see ourselves pure when we are stained, and great when we are small. We have failed in love, neglected justice, and ignored your truth. Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin. Return us to paths of righteousness through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

### ***SILENT PRAYER***

### **ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Listen, the time has come at last. Look, now is the day of salvation! **Amen.**

## THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you! **And also with you.**

✦ **Gloria Patri**.....No. 579

## THE WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Gracious God, our way in the wilderness, guide us, by your Word, through these forty days, and minister to us with your Holy Spirit, so that we may be reformed, restored, and renewed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

### HEBREW LESSON

Exodus 20:1-17

(Pg 66)

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

### A READING FROM THE PSALMS

Psalms 19

(Pg 498)

### EPISTLE LESSON

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

(Pg 166)

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

*The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to John*

**Glory to you, O Lord**

### GOSPEL LESSON

John 2:13-22

(Pg 93)

*The Gospel of the Lord*

**Praise to you, O Christ**

**Message**.....Reverend Kyle Armentrout-Steward

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**Choral Response:** " *The Heavens are Telling*" .....arr. L.V. Beethoven  
*Text on the back*

## ✦ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**The Apostles' Creed (Ecumenical)**

(Pg 14)

# EUCHARIST

## INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

### GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

....Who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**Sanctus**.....Trisagion

....lives may proclaim the One crucified and risen:

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again...**

### SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

✦ **Hymn of Reflection: "Blessed Assurance"**.....No. 341

**The Lord's Prayer** (*DEBTS, DEBTORS*)

## SENDING

### OFFERING

✦ **DOXOLOGY**.....No. 592 (*Lyrics only*)

✦ **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

O God, we recognize that we have been blessed with great abundance. In offering these gifts, may we be strengthened to proclaim your faithfulness and your salvation this day and always. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

✦ **Hymn: "Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life"**.....No. 408

✦ **CHARGE and BENEDICTION**

✦ **POSTLUDE**

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### PARTICIPATING IN OUR SERVICE TODAY:

Message.....Reverend Kyle Armentrout-Steward  
Liturgist.....David Oates  
Music Director.....Mark Brooks  
Guest Choristers.....Eboni Stegall  
Audio/Streaming technician.....Claudia Droste

**NOTE: Where you see the " + " symbol, please stand if you are able.**

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## The Weeks Ahead

Today after service will be the congregational meeting to approve the P.N.C. This will be the only business conducted and will be a short meeting.

Every Sunday at 9am Pastor Study in the Fireside Room.

Season of Prayer March 10th -16th Deacons, 17th - 23rd Congregation, 24th - 30th Staff, and 31st Future of the Church.

## Volunteer Opportunities

If you need a ride to Sunday's service, please call the office at 618-465-3592. Thank you.

The deacons will be offering communion for homebound members. If you or someone you know is homebound and would like to receive communion, please contact the office.

"Over 55" is back running thanks to our church. For mor information, please reach out to Jacqueline Wiseman.

The Heavens are Telling the Lord's Endless Glory

The heavens are telling the Lord's endless glory,

Through all the earth His praise is found.

The seas re-echo the marvelous story:

O man, repeat that glorious sound!

The starry host He doth order and number,

He fills the morning golden springs,

He wakes the sun from his night curtained slumber;

O man, adore the King of Kings!

The heavens are His and the earth knows His favor,

His power in all things thou dost see;

The Lord of hosts who forever and ever thy God and Father still shall be.

He is thy maker whose love shall not waver.

A God of wisdom, ever kind;

Praise Him and love Him with all thy endeavor,

In Him salvation shalt thou find,

In Him salvation shalt thou find!