



*making
change*

Week of Lent 3: Change of Circumstances

*We move from elementary to middle school,
or from our hometown to a new community.
We lose a job, or gain a child, or accomplish
a goal, or relinquish a dream. Through it all,
we learn to give thanks to God in
all circumstances.*

Opening Dialogue

(Psalms 62:2, 46:1-2)

For all our blessings, we give thanks to the Lord.

God is our rock and salvation, a help in times of plenty.

With all our burdens, we pray to the Lord.

God is our rock and salvation, a help in times of need.

In all our celebrations, we sing praise to the Lord.

God is our rock and salvation, a help in times of joy.

With all our grief, we cry to the Lord.

**God is our rock and salvation,
a help in times of sorrow.**

We will not fear, though the earth should change.

God is our rock and salvation; thanks be to God!

Prayer of the Day

O God our rock and salvation, you walk with us through all the ups and downs of life. Whatever our circumstances, bring us closer to you. Teach us to rejoice in the good times, find hope through the bad times, and always place our trust in you. In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

Hymn

“When We Are Living” ELW 639

Psalm 103:1-5, 13-18

¹Bless the LORD,
O my soul,
**and all that is within
me, bless his holy name.**

²Bless the LORD,
O my soul,
**and do not forget all
his benefits—**

³who forgives all your
iniquity,
**who heals all your
diseases,**
⁴who redeems your life
from the Pit,
**who crowns you with
steadfast love and mercy,**

⁵who satisfies you with
good as long as you live
**so that your youth is
renewed like the eagle's.**

¹³As a father has
compassion for his
children,
**so the Lord has
compassion for those who
fear him.**

¹⁴For he knows how we
were made;
**he remembers that we are
dust.**

¹⁵As for mortals, their days
are like grass;
**they flourish like a flower
of the field;**

¹⁶for the wind passes over
it, and it is gone,
**and its place knows it
no more.**

¹⁷But the steadfast love of
the Lord is from
everlasting to everlasting
on those who fear him,
**and his righteousness to
children's children,**

¹⁸to those who keep his
covenant
**and remember to do
his commandments.**

Psalm Prayer

Compassionate Father, you forgive all our sins and put them far from us. As an eagle to her young, you nourish and renew us with your tender love. Sustain us each day of our mortal life, that we may seek your healing for all who are in need, and bring us at last with saints and angels to bless and praise you forever; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Reading

1 Thessalonians 5:12-24

But we appeal to you, brothers and sisters, to respect those who labor among you and have charge of you in the Lord and admonish you; ¹³ esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves. ¹⁴ And we urge you, brothers and sisters, to admonish the idlers, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with all of them. ¹⁵ See that none of you repays evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to all. ¹⁶ Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray without ceasing, ¹⁸ give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹ Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰ Do not despise prophecies, ²¹ but test everything; hold fast to what is good; ²² abstain from every form of evil. ²³ May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely, and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound^[a] and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴ The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading

Luke 12:22-34

[Jesus said] to his disciples, “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. ²³ For life is more than food and the body more than clothing. ²⁴ Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! ²⁵ And which of you by worrying can add a single hour to your span of life?^[a] ²⁶ If then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about the rest? ²⁷ Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin,^[b] yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. ²⁸ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you, you of little faith! ²⁹ And do not keep seeking what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. ³⁰ For it is the nations^[c] of the world that seek all these things, and your Father knows that you need them. ³¹ Instead, seek his^[d] kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well. ³² “Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³ Sell your possessions and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

Hymn

“In the Cross of Christ I Glory,” ELW 324