

A Guide to the Divine Service

9:00 a.m.

March 23, 2025

Oculi: The Third Sunday in Lent *Jesus Overcomes the Strong Man*

Like Pharaoh of old, their hearts were hard (Ex. 8:16-24). They did not recognize the finger of God, the power of the Holy Spirit at work in and through Jesus. So Jesus is accused of doing evil when in fact He is doing good! He casts out a demon from a mute man so that he is able to speak (St. Luke 11:14-28). But some said Jesus did this by the power of Beelzebub, Satan. Jesus is the Stronger Man who overcomes the strong man. He takes the devil's armor of sin and death and destroys it from the inside out by the holy cross. He exorcizes and frees us by water and the Word. We were once darkness, but now we are light in Christ the Lord (Eph. 5:1-9). As children of light, our tongues are loosed to give thanks to Him who saved us.



Readings for Next Sunday: Laetare: The Fourth Sunday in Lent

Prophecy of the Day:	Exodus 16:2-21
Epistle of the Day:	Galatians 4:22-5:1a
Holy Gospel of the Day:	St. John 6:1-15

Rev. Jeff Patterson
pastor@sslc-cos.org (719) 396-4710

Dr. Steven Hein
heinsteven@ix.netcom.com (719) 338-7891

www.sslc-cos.org
facebook/SotSLC

Oculi mei semper ad Dominum
“My eyes are ever toward the Lord”

[*Oculi: The Third Sunday in Lent*]
“Jesus and Beelzebub Sunday”

Shepherd of the Springs Lutheran Church
6755 Earl Drive, Suite #100
Colorado Springs CO 80918

*A Confessional, Evangelical, Sacramental, and Liturgical
Congregation of the Lutheran Confessions --
Where the Lutheran Reformation Lives!*

MEMBER: THE LUTHERAN CHURCH – MISSOURI SYNOD

NOTE ON PARTICIPATING IN THE LORD'S SUPPER

As intended by Christ and as practiced by the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church throughout history, "closed communion" is observed here, in which the Lord's Supper is distributed only to those who:

- (a) are baptized in the Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit;
- (b) have been instructed in the truth of Holy Scriptures as taught in the Lutheran Confessions, have been confirmed in this Lutheran faith and practice, and now embrace this same Lutheran faith in the same way that it is believed, taught, confessed, and practiced in this congregation;
- (c) believe that in this Sacrament the real Body and Blood of Christ are truly distributed to them and orally received by them, bestowing on them the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation;
- (d) repent of all their sins, and desire to receive God's forgiveness in this holy meal.

Guests at our services who are able to affirm these facts should speak to our pastor or the elder on duty before receiving the Sacrament. To other guests with us today, we express to you our sincere interest, friendship, and concern, and we assure you that it is for the spiritual welfare of all that we practice closed communion. Those desiring to learn more about our beliefs are asked to speak with our pastor.

[We rise and face the Processional Cross]

Processional Hymn "I Walk in Danger All the Way" #716

Confession of Sins and Holy Absolution p. 184

[Spoken] **The Service of the Word**
Introit

My eyes are ever toward the LORD,
for He will pluck my feet out of the net.
 Turn to me and be gracious to me,
for I am lonely and afflicted.
 To You, O LORD,
I lift up my soul.
 O my God, in You I trust; let me not be put to shame;
let not my enemies exult over me.
 The troubles of my heart are enlarged;
bring me out of my distresses.
 Consider my affliction and my trouble,
and forgive all my sins.
 Oh, guard my soul, and deliver me!
Let me not be put to shame, for I take refuge in You.
 (Ps. 25:1-2, 17-18, 20; antiphon: Ps. 25:15-16)

Gloria Patri, Kyrie p. 186
Gloria in Excelsis [omitted during Lent]
Salutation p. 189

Collect for Oculi: 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. **Amen!**

[We are seated]

Prophecy of the Day **Exodus 8:16-24**
[The Third and Fourth Plagues]
 This is the Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God!**

Catechism Review:

Third Chief Part: The Lord's Prayer **Booklet**

Epistle of the Day **Ephesians 5:1-9**
[Now you are Light in the Lord]
 This is the Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God!**

[We rise] **Tract**
 To You I lift up my eyes,
O You who are enthroned in the heavens!
 Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master.
so our eyes look to the LORD our God, till He has mercy upon us.
 Have mercy upon us, O LORD,
have mercy upon us.
 (Ps. 123:1-3a)

The Lord be with you. **And with thy spirit.**
 Holy Gospel of the Day **St. Luke 11:14-28**
[Jesus and Beelzebul]
 Responses to the Holy Gospel p. 190

Nicene Creed p. 191

[We are seated]

Hymn of the Day "Lord of Our Life" #659

Sermon

[We rise] **Offertory** p. 192

[We are seated]

The offering is received
God richly bless you for your support of His work among us!

[We rise] **Prayer of the Church**

[Please review our Communion Policy inside this Guide]

[Chanted] **The Service of the Sacrament** p. 194

[We are seated for the Distribution of the Body and Blood of Christ]

Hymn "Glory Be to Jesus" #433
 [We rise] **Doxology** #805

Dismissal, Nunc Dimittis, Thanksgiving, Salutation, Benedicamus, Benediction p. 199

[We are seated for announcements]

[We rise for the Recessional Hymn]

"Jesus, Refuse of the Weary" #423