

**Martin Luther Church and School**  
**Oshkosh, Wisconsin**  
**The Third Sunday of Lent**  
**March 6 & 7, 2010**

*We worship according to the **Service of the Word, p. 38.***

**Hymn:** "For Christian Homes, O Lord, We Pray" (500)

**Invocation and Confession of Sins** (p. 38)

**Prayer and Praise** (p. 39)

**First Lesson** Numbers 16:23-40

<sup>23</sup> Then the LORD said to Moses, <sup>24</sup> "Say to the assembly, 'Move away from the tents of Korah, Dathan and Abiram.' "

<sup>25</sup> Moses got up and went to Dathan and Abiram, and the elders of Israel followed him. <sup>26</sup> He warned the assembly, "Move back from the tents of these wicked men! Do not touch anything belonging to them, or you will be swept away because of all their sins." <sup>27</sup> So they moved away from the tents of Korah, Dathan and Abiram. Dathan and Abiram had come out and were standing with their wives, children and little ones at the entrances to their tents.

<sup>28</sup> Then Moses said, "This is how you will know that the LORD has sent me to do all these things and that it was not my idea: <sup>29</sup> If these men die a natural death and experience only what usually happens to men, then the LORD has not sent me. <sup>30</sup> But if the LORD brings about something totally new, and the earth opens its mouth and swallows them, with everything that belongs to them, and they go down alive into the grave, <sup>[a]</sup> then you will know that these men have treated the LORD with contempt."

<sup>31</sup> As soon as he finished saying all this, the ground under them split apart <sup>32</sup> and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them, with their households and all Korah's men and all their possessions. <sup>33</sup> They went down alive into the grave, with everything they owned; the earth closed over them, and they perished and were gone from the community. <sup>34</sup> At their cries, all the Israelites around them fled, shouting, "The earth is going to swallow us too!"

<sup>35</sup> And fire came out from the LORD and consumed the 250 men who were offering the incense.

<sup>36</sup> The LORD said to Moses, <sup>37</sup> "Tell Eleazar son of Aaron, the priest, to take the censers out of the smoldering remains and scatter the coals some distance away, for the censers are holy— <sup>38</sup> the censers of the men who sinned at the cost of their lives. Hammer the censers into sheets to overlay the altar, for they were presented before the LORD and have become holy. Let them be a sign to the Israelites."

<sup>39</sup> So Eleazar the priest collected the bronze censers brought by those who had been burned up, and he had them hammered out to overlay the altar, <sup>40</sup> as the LORD directed him through Moses. This was to remind the Israelites that no one except a descendant of Aaron should come to burn incense before the LORD, or he would become like Korah and his followers.

**Psalm 38** (p.81)

*Sunday in the 10:30 service the students of Martin Luther School sing "The First Song of Isaiah" in place of the Psalm.*

**Second Lesson** 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

*Warnings From Israel's History*

<sup>1</sup>For I do not want you to be ignorant of the fact, brothers, that our forefathers were all under the cloud and that they all passed through the sea. <sup>2</sup>They were all baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea. <sup>3</sup>They all ate the same spiritual food <sup>4</sup>and drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank from the spiritual rock that accompanied them, and that rock was Christ. <sup>5</sup>Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them; their bodies were scattered over the desert.

<sup>6</sup>Now these things occurred as examples<sup>[a]</sup> to keep us from setting our hearts on evil things as they did. <sup>7</sup>Do not be idolaters, as some of them were; as it is written: "The people sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in pagan revelry."<sup>[b]</sup> <sup>8</sup>We should not commit sexual immorality, as some of them did—and in one day twenty-three thousand of them died. <sup>9</sup>We should not test the Lord, as some of them did—and were killed by snakes. <sup>10</sup>And do not grumble, as some of them did—and were killed by the destroying angel.

<sup>11</sup>These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the fulfillment of the ages has come. <sup>12</sup>So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall! <sup>13</sup>No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.

**Gospel** Luke 13:1-9 *Repent or Perish*

<sup>1</sup>Now there were some present at that time who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mixed with their sacrifices.

<sup>2</sup>Jesus answered, "Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans because they suffered this way? <sup>3</sup>I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish.

<sup>4</sup>Or those eighteen who died when the tower in Siloam fell on them—do you think they were more guilty than all the others living in Jerusalem? <sup>5</sup>I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish."

<sup>6</sup>Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree, planted in his vineyard, and he went to look for fruit on it, but did not find any.

<sup>7</sup>So he said to the man who took care of the vineyard, 'For three years now I've been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and haven't found any. Cut it down! Why should it use up the soil?'

<sup>8</sup>" 'Sir,' the man replied, 'leave it alone for one more year, and I'll dig around it and fertilize it. <sup>9</sup>If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it down.' "

**Hymn:** "You Parents, Hear What Jesus Taught" (516)

**Sermon** 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Learn the Lord of the Past so You Can Stand Firm in Faith Today

**Apostles' Creed** (p. 41)

**Offering**

**Prayer, Lord's Prayer, and Blessing** (pp. 43-44)

**Hymn:** "How Blest Are They Who Hear" (325)