

## FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 10, 2024 11:00 AM

### FOR THOSE DESIRING HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust in His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked first to speak with the Pastor. For further study, see Matthew 5:23ff; 10:32ff; 18:15-35; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.)

### THINK ABOUT THIS



We hear today of eternal life that is given to us because of God's great love for us, shown to us in perhaps the most famous Bible verse, John 3:16. This verse speaks of God's genuine love for us and the world shown in Jesus' death on the cross for us. The love of God never ends. God's love is present here and now and extends into eternal life as eternal love. May we be so encouraged by God's love to share it with others. Thanks be to God for such love!

### PRE-SERVICE MUSIC "Beautiful Savior"

*(Verse, Verse, Chorus, Verse, Chorus)*

**All my days I will sing this song of gladness,  
Give my praise to the Fountain of delights;  
For in my helplessness you heard my cry,  
And waves of mercy poured down on my life.**

**I will trust in the cross of my Redeemer;  
I will sing of the blood that never fails,  
Of sins forgiven, of conscience cleansed,  
Of death defeated and life without end.**

Chorus:

**Beautiful Savior, Wonderful Counselor,  
Clothed in majesty, Lord of history,  
You're the Way, the Truth, the Life.  
Star of the Morning, glorious in holiness,  
You're the risen One, heaven's Champion,  
And You reign, You reign over all!**

**I long to be where the praise is never ending,  
Yearn to dwell where the glory never fades,  
Where countless worshipers will share one song,  
And cries of "worthy" will honor the Lamb!**

Chorus:

## **WELCOME**

### **INVOCATION** *(Please stand)*

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

### **OPENING SENTENCES** *John 3:16*

God so loved the world,

**that He gave His only Son,**

that whoever believes in Him should not perish

**but have eternal life.**

Our Lenten journey leads us to the cross where Jesus gave His life,

**and then to the resurrection and eternal life.**

### **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

Though Christ has loved us with this genuine love that gives us eternal life, we sometimes ignore His love and refuse to share Christ's love with others. Still, our heavenly Father is merciful, and He invites us to draw near to Him in hope and confidence to ask for His grace.

*Silence for reflection.*

Heavenly Father,

**we have sinned against You and against our neighbors. We have not loved You with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not loved our enemies. Forgive us, renew our love, on account of Jesus. Amen.**

Jesus Christ was lifted up on the tree of the cross so that we might be forgiven. His genuine love is for the world and is for you. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen. We are forgiven by the genuine love of Jesus.**

**SONG "Follow You"** (based on Luke 18:22 & I Corinthians 15:58) *(Please be seated)*  
*(Verse, Chorus, Verse, Bridge, Chorus, Bridge, Chorus)*

**You live among the least of these  
The weary and the weak  
And it would be a tragedy  
For me to turn away  
All my needs You have supplied  
When I was dead You gave me life  
So how could I not give it away so freely?**

Chorus:

**And I'll...Follow You into the homes of the broken  
Follow You into the world  
Meet the needs for the poor and the needy, God  
Follow You into the world**

**Use my hands use my feet  
To make Your kingdom come  
To the corners of the earth  
Until Your work is done  
Faith without works is dead  
On the cross Your blood was shed  
So how could we not give it away so freely?**

Bridge:

**And I give all myself  
I give all myself  
I give all myself to You**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord Jesus Christ, You have loved us with an everlasting love that grants us eternal life. Burn Your love ever stronger within our hearts, Lord, so that we may love others as You have loved us; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen**

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

### Numbers 21:4–9

<sup>4</sup>From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. <sup>5</sup>And the people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food.” <sup>6</sup>Then the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. <sup>7</sup>And the people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and against you. Pray to the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. <sup>8</sup>And the LORD said to Moses, “Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live.” <sup>9</sup>So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



## Ephesians 2:1–10

<sup>1</sup>And you were dead in the trespasses and sins <sup>2</sup>in which you once walked,

following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—

among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.

<sup>4</sup>But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us,

<sup>5</sup>even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—

“Chiasm”

**by grace you have been saved—**

<sup>6</sup>and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,

<sup>7</sup>so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

<sup>8</sup>For by grace you have been saved through faith.

And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, <sup>9</sup>not a result of works, so that no one may boast. <sup>10</sup>For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works,

which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**John 3:14–21** *(Please stand)*

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the third chapter.

**Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>14</sup>[Jesus said:] “As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup>For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. <sup>18</sup>Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. <sup>19</sup>And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their deeds were evil. <sup>20</sup>For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. <sup>21</sup>But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his deeds have been carried out in God.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to You, O Christ.**

**NICENE CREED**

**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.**

**Children's Hymn of the Month "The Children Cry Hosanna" *(Please be seated)***

**The children shout, "Hosanna!"**

**And the men cry out, "Hosanna!"**

**And the women cry "Hosanna!"**

**O King of Israel.**

**Blessed is He who comes in the name**

**Who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Blessed is He who comes in the name**

**Who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**And the babies cry, "Hosanna!"**

**And the old men cry, "Hosanna!"**

**Everybody shouts "Hosanna!"**

**O King of Israel.**

**OBJECT LESSON**

## **SONG "Glorious Day"**

*(Verse, Chorus, Verse, Chorus, Verse, Chorus, Bridge, Chorus)*

**One day when Heaven was filled with His praises  
One day when sin was as black as could be  
Jesus came forth to be born of a virgin  
Dwelt among men, my example is He  
The Word became flesh and the light shined among us  
His glory revealed**

*Chorus:*

**Living He loved me! Dying He saved me!  
Buried He carried my sins far away!  
Rising He justified! Freely forever!  
One day He's coming!  
Oh glorious day! Oh glorious day**

**One day they led Him up Calvary's mountain  
One day they nailed Him to die on a tree  
Suffering anguish, despised and rejected  
Bearing our sins, my Redeemer is He  
The hands that healed nations, stretched out on a tree  
And took the nails for me! *(Chorus)***

**One day the grave could conceal Him no longer  
One day the stone rolled away from the door  
Then He arose, over death He had conquered  
Now is ascended, my Lord evermore  
Death could not hold Him, the grave could not keep Him  
From rising again *(Chorus)***

*Bridge:*

**One day the trumpet will sound for His coming  
One day the skies with His glories will shine  
Wonderful day, my Beloved One bringing  
My Savior Jesus is mine. *(Chorus)***

**MESSAGE "From Death to Life" (Ephesians 2:1-10) *(Please be seated)***

*(The offering will be received at the end of the service)*



**PRAYERS** *(Please stand)*

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT**

**HOLY COMMUNION**

*(Visitors, please read the statement at the beginning of this service folder)*

**WORDS OF OUR LORD**

**PEACE OF CHRIST**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Amen.**

**LAMB OF GOD**

**Christ, O Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world  
have mercy on us.**

**Christ, O Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world  
have mercy on us.**

**Christ, O Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world  
give us Your peace.**

**RECEIVING THE LORD'S SUPPER** *(Please be seated)*

**SONG "Your Grace Is Enough"**

*(Verse, Chorus, Verse, Chorus, Chorus, Ending)*

**Great is Your faithfulness, oh God.**

**You wrestle with the sinner's heart,**

**You lead us by still waters into mercy,**

**And nothing can keep us apart.**

**Chorus:**

**So, remember Your people, remember Your children,**

**Remember Your promise, oh God.**

**Your grace is enough, Your grace is enough,**

**Your grace is enough for me.**

**Great is Your love and justice, God.  
You use the weak to lead the strong,  
You lead us in the song of Your salvation,  
And all Your people sing along.**

**Chorus:**

**Ending:**

**Your grace is enough, heaven reaching down to us.  
Your grace is enough for me.  
God, I see Your grace is enough;  
I'm covered in Your love.  
Your grace is enough for me, for me.**

## **SONG**

**"Holy Is The Lord" "** (based on Nehemiah 8:5-6,10)  
*(Verse, Chorus, Verse, Chorus, Bridge, Chorus)*

**We stand and lift up our voice,  
For the joy of the Lord is our strength.  
We bow down and worship Him now;  
How great, how awesome is He.**

**And together we sing, ev'ryone sing:  
Holy is the Lord God Almighty;  
The earth is filled with His glory.  
Holy is the Lord God Almighty;  
The earth is filled with His glory,  
The earth is filled with His glory.**

**Bridge:**

**It is rising up all around;  
It's the anthem of the Lord's renown.  
It is rising up all around;  
It's the anthem of the Lord's renown.**

**PRAYER OF THANKS** *(Please stand)*

...

**Amen**

**BLESSING**

**SONG “May The Peace of God”** *(Please remain standing)*

*(verse, refrain, verse, refrain)*

**May the peace of God our heavenly Father,  
And the grace of Christ the risen Son,  
And the fellowship of God the Spirit  
Keep our hearts and minds within His Love. Refrain:**

Refrain:

**And to Him be praise for His glorious reign  
From depths of earth to the heights of heaven.  
We declare the name of the Lamb once slain –  
Christ eternal, the King of kings.**

**May the peace which passes understanding,  
And this grace which makes us what we are,  
And this fellowship of His communion  
Make us one in spirit and in heart. Refrain**

**LEAVING**

**OFFERING** *(The offering plates are in the back of the church).*

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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