

# **Fourth Sunday in Lent**

March 14, 2021



## **St. John's Lutheran Church of Parkville**

[www.stjohnsparkville.org](http://www.stjohnsparkville.org)

(410) 665-1234

After hour emergency: (443) 844-9314

[Office@stjohnsparkville.org](mailto:Office@stjohnsparkville.org)

Text SJPARKVILLE to 22828 to join our email list.

March 14, 2021

**FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT**

**WELCOME**

**PRELUDE**

*Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*

*Dale Wood*

(© 2001 Sacred Music Press)

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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

**Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**

**Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

**GATHERING HYM**

*Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*

*ELW 779*

- |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Amazing grace! how sweet the sound<br>that saved a wretch like me!<br>I once was lost, but now am found;<br>was blind, but now I see.       | 2 | 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,<br>and grace my fears relieved;<br>how precious did that grace appear<br>the hour I first believed! |
| 3 | Through many dangers, toils, and snares<br>I have already come;<br>'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,<br>and grace will lead me home. | 4 | The Lord has promised good to me;<br>his word my hope secures;<br>he will my shield and portion be<br>as long as life endures.                |

5 When we've been there ten thousand  
years,  
bright shining as the sun,  
we've no less days to sing God's praise  
than when we'd first begun.

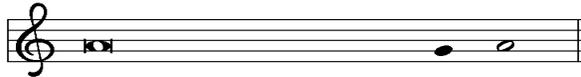
*(Text: John Newton, 1725-1807, alt., sts. 1-4; anonymous, st. 5; Music: W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1853; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1851-1921, alt.)*

## GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be  
with you all.

**And also with you.**

## KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



**Lord, have mer - cy.**



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



**Lord, have mer - cy.**



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



**Lord, have mer - cy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,  
 let us pray to the Lord. **Lord have mer - cy.**  
 Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

**WORD**

**FIRST READING**

**Numbers 21:4-9**

From Mount Hor [the Israelites] set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. 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 detest this miserable food.” Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. And the LORD said to Moses, “Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.” So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM**

**Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22**

Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good,  
 for God’s mercy endures forever.

**Let the redeemed of the LORD proclaim  
 that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe,**  
 gathering them in from the lands;  
 from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

**Some were fools and took rebellious paths;  
 through their sins they were afflicted.**

They loathed all manner of food  
and drew near to death's door.

**Then in their trouble they cried to the LORD  
and you delivered them from their distress.**

You sent forth your word and healed them  
and rescued them from the grave.

**Let them give thanks to you, LORD, for your steadfast love  
and your wonderful works for all people.**

Let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving  
and tell of your deeds with shouts of joy.

## **SECOND READING**

**Ephesians 2:1-10**

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Return to the Lord*

Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful  
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

## **GOSPEL**

**John 3:14-21**

The Holy Gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said: "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

### HYMN OF THE DAY

*I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say*

*ELW 611 (vv.1, 2)*

1 I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
"Come unto me and rest;  
lay down, O weary one, lay down  
your head upon my breast."  
I came to Jesus as I was,  
so weary, worn, and sad;  
I found in him a resting-place,  
and he has made me glad.

2 I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
"Behold, I freely give  
the living water, thirsty one;  
stoop down and drink and live."  
I came to Jesus, and I drank  
of that life-giving stream;  
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,  
and now I live in him.

*(Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808-1889; Music: English folk tune)*

### PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

*After each petition* Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

**PEACE** The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

### OFFERING PRAYER

Faithful God, you walk beside us in desert places, and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven. Accompany us in this meal, that we may pass over from death to life with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

#### DIALOGUE

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.**

### PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## **HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

*(The elements that are consecrated in the service will be distributed after the service beginning at 11:30 am in drive-up style in the church parking lot.)*

## **SENDING**

### **BLESSING**

You are what God made you to be: created in Christ Jesus for good works, chosen as holy and beloved, freed to serve your neighbor. God bless you ✝ that you may be a blessing, in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity.

**Amen.**

1 Christ, the life of all the living,  
 Christ, the death of death, our foe,  
 Christ, yourself for me once giving  
 to the darkest depths of woe:  
 through your suffering, death, and merit  
 life eternal I inherit.  
 Thousand, thousand thanks are due,  
 dearest Jesus, unto you.

*(Text: Ernst Christoph Homburg, 1605-1681; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878; Music: Das grosse Cantional, Darmstadt, 1687)*

### Announcements

- **Sunday, March 28<sup>th</sup> – Palm/Passion Sunday- We will celebrate 1<sup>st</sup> Communion. This service will be livestreamed at 10 am with Outdoor Drive-Thru Communion and the Distribution of Palms at 11:30 am in the parking lot. Please call the church office to sign up.**
- **Join us online for our remaining Midweek Holden Evening Prayer Service beginning 12 noon each Wednesday during Lent. (3/10, 3/17 and 3/24)**
- **We will continue to live stream our worship services at 10 am on our YouTube Channel at <https://bit.ly/3nzgAWy> but services will be available any time after the live streaming.**



The beautiful flowers gracing our worship service today are given in honor of Hazel Numsen's 86<sup>th</sup> birthday by Joan Swank.

We are taking altar flower dedications for 2021. The dates available are: April 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>, June 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, July 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>.



We are excited to announce that we are resurrecting our St. John's Cares Program. This program is designed to cheer up students while they are away at school and to let them know that their church family is thinking of them. If you know of a college student who would like to receive a package, please have them fill out the form that is located in the newsletter or by contacting the church office. If you would like to make a donation to the program, items needed are: Target, Walmart or Weis gift cards – any denomination and Dunkin Donuts, McDonalds, Qdoba, Subway or Chick-Fil-A - \$10 gift cards. Thanks for your support of our Youth!



Our Confirmation Class will be completing some service projects during the next couple of months. One of their projects will be making cat and dog toys to donate to local animal shelters. Items needed are: baby socks (new or gently used – any colors/patterns), 2” foam balls (slightly larger than a golf ball), catnip, adult size cotton t-shirts (any colors –cotton on please – gently used are fine), adult tube-size socks (any color – new please) and tennis balls. We need all donations by the end of February.



The church directories have been distributed to those who were photographed. We purchased a few additional copies for anyone who might like to have a copy. They are available for a monetary donation.

Our clothing shed is open. All donations must be bagged. Acceptable donations are: All clothing, shoes, belts, purses, blankets, sheets, pillowcases, drapes, and stuffed toys. Thanks for your cooperation!



Are you doing any online shopping? Is so, support St. John’s when you shop. Go to: [smile.amazon.com/ch/52-6012034](https://smile.amazon.com/ch/52-6012034) and Amazon donates to Saint John’s Evangelical Lutheran Church of Parkville Inc

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

*Allegro*

*Handel, arr. Lani Smith*

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## Prayer List



Please remember the following individuals in your prayers.

**For health & healing:** John Kraft, Betty Hedgespeth, Larry Addison, Tammie Lindsay, Robert Scott, Lee Krieger, Suzanne Lindsay, Patty Schwab, Tom & Marion McDonough, Ardi Scarborough, Bett Murphy and Vickie Jasinski

**For family & friends:** Jay Snyder, John Snyder, Jessica Collett, Elizabeth Brooks, John Miller, Norma Weber, Karen Alban, Jean Bartenfelder, Kathy Thompson, Larry & Mary Tuley, Doug Adams, Linda Asplin, Robert Scott, Jr., Robert Scott, III, Dale Miller, Pam Harmen, Jessi Powers, Margaret Iovino, Bill Johnson, Karen Ehrenberg, Linda Fliegel, Cheryl Aydelotte, and Mary Jo Rother

**For the military and their families:** Jacob Verble, Lance Corporal Justin Ferro, Sgt. Stephen Peck, Staff Sgt. Brandan Hartmann, Michael Anthony Tucker, Chaplain A. J. Striffler and all

those in harm's way

**For those grieving family & friends of:** John Bartenfelder, Ann Powell, Richard Bauer and Bill Carroll

**For St. John's Caring Friends:** Trudy Anderson, Agatha Biensach-Daniels, Gladys Downs, Margaret Eubert, June Franz, Betty Glassband, Betty Hedgespeth, Leroy Hohne, Philip Kramer, Audrey Lentz, John Lotterer, Patrick O'Connell, Arthur Pulket, Mary Ann Reek, Patricia Sollanek, Cass Tracey, Emma Volz, Doris Warfield, and Clara Westphal