



♣ Sunday, March 10, 2024
 ♣ Fourth Sunday in Lent
 ♣8:30 am Traditional Service

Welcome in Jesus' Name

May God richly bless you as you worship Him. If you are a guest with us, we want you to feel welcome; you honor us with your presence, and we are glad to have you here. Please fill out the Attendance Registration located in your bulletin. Prayer requests can also be made on the same insert. If you have a specific prayer request that you would like the Pastor to pray for during the Prayers of the Church, please fill out the bulletin insert and give it to an usher, who will then deliver it to the Pastor.

Holy Communion

We celebrate the Lord's Supper as part of our worship service, on the 1st& 3rd Sunday of the month during the 8:30am service and the 2nd& 4th Sunday during the 10:30am service. We invite those who share our confession of faith, namely, that Jesus is truly present in, with & under the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation to commune with us. Those who share a different confession or have not yet been instructed in the Lord's Supper are welcome to come forward and receive a blessing. We offer individual cups. The light-colored cups in the center are grape juice instead of wine. Pastor will be available prior to the worship service to answer any questions about Holy Communion.

To Our Guests

We often have guests in worship from all over the world. Please introduce yourself to Pastor or a Greeter before or after the worship service.

Restrooms

Restrooms and changing tables are located out the back of the sanctuary and down the hallway.

Out of respect for your fellow worshippers & those who have diligently prepared for this worship service, we ask that you **silence your cell phones** & keep conversation to a minimum prior to the service.

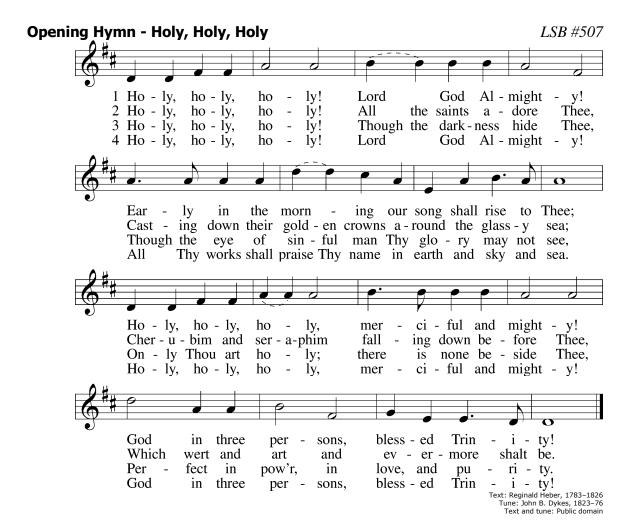
Large Print Bulletin: If you desire a sight-saving bulletin, please ask an usher.

Flowers on the Altar are given to the Glory of God by Irma Quiroz for blessings received.

Prelude in D Major, by William Fischer

Welcome and Announcements

Please Stand



Invocation

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

Opening Versicles

- P O Lord, open my lips,
- **C** and my mouth will declare Your praise.
- **P** Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
- make haste to help me, O Lord.
 Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation.

Responsive Reading

Psalm 107:1-9

- P Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!
- Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom he has redeemed from trouble
- and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.
- Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no way to a city to dwell in;
- **P** hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them.
- Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress.
- P He led them by a straight way till they reached a city to dwell in.
- Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love, for his wondrous works to the children of man!
- For he satisfies the longing soul, and the hungry soul he fills with good things.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.
- **P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament *Numbers* 21:4-9

A Consequences, when they are bad, are never fun. Israel felt they could act anyway towards God and get away with it. However, God reminds them how serious He was when He stated, "Abide in my ways." One thing to notice in this text, even after they called upon God, they still felt the pain of their sin, they still dealt with the consequence of their actions. Yet, God intervened and forgave them. I see it as a reminder that just because we seek forgiveness, it does not remove the pain of the original act. It reminds us to be cautious about how we act contrary to the Word of God. The Old Testament is from Numbers chapter 21:

The Bronze Serpent

⁴From 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. ⁵And 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." ⁶Then the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. ⁷And 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 takes away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸And 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." ⁹So 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.

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Epistle Ephesians 2:1-10

A For by grace you have been saved through faith. There are no other words to top that statement. Paul clearly reminds the Ephesians and us that grace is ours through Christ, and because of that grace we are God's workmanship to respond with good works and love for our neighbor; not to boast in the work we do, but simply to boast in and about God's love for us. The Epistle is from Ephesians chapter 2:

By Grace Through Faith

¹And you were dead in the trespasses and sins ²in 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— ³among 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. ⁴But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, ⁵even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— ⁶and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹not a result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Song of Praise - Now Thank we all our God

LSB #895 st. 1 & 3

- 1 Now thank we all our God
 With hearts and hands and voices,
 Who wondrous things has done,
 In whom His world rejoices;
 Who from our mothers' arms
 Has blest us on our way
 With countless gifts of love
 And still is ours today.
- △ 3 All praise and thanks to God
 The Father now be given,
 The Son, and Him who reigns
 With them in highest heaven,
 The one eternal God,
 Whom earth and heav'n adore;
 For thus it was, is now,
 And shall be evermore.

Text: Martin Rinckart, 1586–1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Text: Public domain

John 3:14-21

Holy Gospel

We often focus on John 3:16, and yet there is so much more that follows. John 3:17 clearly tells us that God did not send Jesus to condemn the world but to save it. Yes, Jesus brought judgment into the world, and will come again to judge, but His main purpose for coming was and is to save the lost. Those who believe in Him shall receive eternal life. The true Light will uncover all of this, and expose the darkness. Come into the light, and feel the grace of Jesus Christ. The Holy Gospel according to St. John the third chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁴[Jesus said:] "As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send

his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸Whoever 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. ¹⁹And 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. ²⁰For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. ²¹But 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."

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life

→ everlasting. Amen.

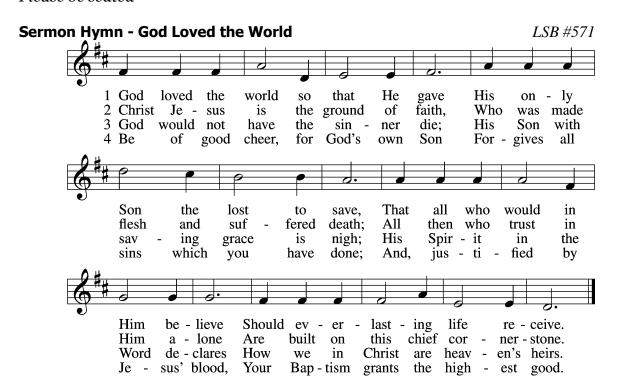
Prayer

P Let us pray.

O holy and most merciful God, You have taught us the way of Your commandments. We implore You to pour out Your grace into our hearts. Cause it to bear fruit in us that, being ever mindful of Your mercies and Your laws, we may always be directed to Your will and daily increase in love toward You and one another. Enable us to resist all evil and to live a godly life. Help us to follow the example of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and to walk in His steps until we shall possess the kingdom that has been prepared for us in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

Please be seated



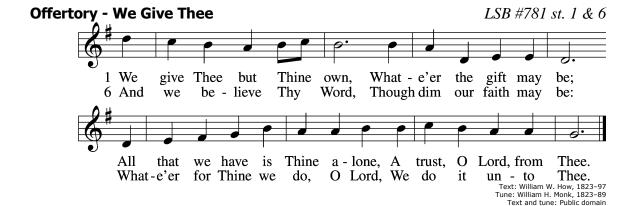
5 If you are sick, if death is near, This truth your troubled heart can cheer: Christ Jesus saves your soul from death; That is the firmest ground of faith. △ 6 Glory to God the Father, Son, And Holy Spirit, Three in One! To You, O blessèd Trinity, Be praise now and eternally!

> Text: Heiliges Lippen- und Hertzens-Opffer, c. 1778, Stettin; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt. Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–93 Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon John 3:17

Offering: "God Loved the World", by Jan Bender

Please stand



Versicles 286

- P Hear my prayer, O Lord;
- **C** let my cry come to You.
- P In the day of my trouble I call upon You,
- **C** for You answer me.
- P Hide Your face from my sins,
- **C** and blot out all my iniquities.
- P Create in me a clean heart, O God,
- and renew a right spirit within me.
- P Cast me not away from Your presence,
- and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.

- **P** Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,
- and uphold me with a willing spirit.
- **P** Because Your steadfast love is better than life,
- **C** my lips will praise You.
- **P** For You have been my help,
- and in the shadow of Your wings I will sing for joy.
- **P** Teach me Your way, O Lord, that I may walk in Your truth;
- **C** unite my heart to fear Your name.
- **P** I give thanks to You, O Lord my God, with my whole heart,
- and I will glorify Your name forever.
- P May all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You.
- May those who love Your salvation say evermore, "God is great!"
- **P** Save Your people and bless Your heritage!
- **©** Be their shepherd and carry them forever.
- **P** Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer;
- **C** listen to my plea for grace.

Prayer of the Church

- Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. For the faithful proclamation of Christ's saving name, that God's people may be strengthened in the true faith and His kingdom extended, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- For the holy Christian Church throughout the world and for all who confess the name of Christ, that God would guard and defend us from the temptations of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- For this congregation, its mission and its people; for the ability to meet the needs that arise as we do the work God has given us to do; and for the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- For those who have wandered from the faith, that the Holy Spirit would use us to call them home to the Father, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.

- For the government and all who have been set into positions of leadership, that they may use the authority entrusted to them honorably and for the good of the people, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- P For all who serve in worthy occupations, professions, arts, and sciences, that God would grant them skill and integrity in the performance of their responsibilities and valued service through their vocations, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For those who suffer from hunger, homelessness, poverty, or unemployment, that God's great mercy and love would preserve and relieve them, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- For those who are sick, hurting, or in need, that God would grant healing to their bodies and strength to bear their infirmities with patience and grace, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- For those who mourn, that in their time of sorrow they would not lose hope but rely on God's promise that He will never leave them or forsake them, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- Decord, heavenly Father, we gratefully remember the sufferings and death of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, for our salvation. Rejoicing in His victorious resurrection from the dead, we draw strength from His ascension before You, where He ever stands for us as our own High Priest. Gather us together from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to You alone we give all glory, honor, and worship, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Luther's Morning Prayer

- **P** Let us pray together:
- I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Lord's Prayer 241

- P Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:
- Our Father who art in heaven,
 hallowed be Thy name,
 Thy kingdom come,
 Thy will be done on earth

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,

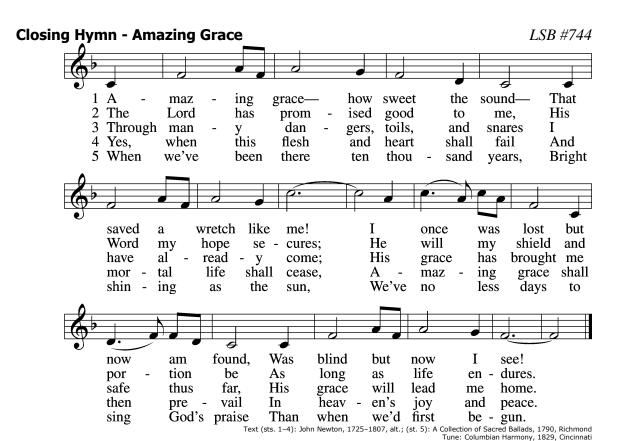
but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Benediction

- The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and

 → give you peace.
- C Amen.



Text and tune: Public domain

The Dismissal

P Go in peace and serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

Postlude: "Trumpet Tune", by Gordon Young

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book
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Gift Planning creates solutions for donors. A gift planning counselor is a built-in companion for the journey so that you don't have go through the process alone. You may not have experience in talking with professional advisors such as attorneys and tax advisors. You might not know the language they use or the right questions to ask. Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor can help. Contact Tony Hunt 260-222-1291 or tony.hunt@lfnd.org



Opportunities at Shepherd of the Coast

\$8:30 am - A traditional worship service in the classic Lutheran liturgical style.

₱9:30 am - Adult Bible Study and Sunday School

†10:30 am − Praise Service − A contemporary worship service that is geared to families with young children.

Church Staff

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