

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 10 & 11, 2018

5:00 p.m. & 8:30 a.m.

AS WE GATHER

If you were to conduct a survey on a congregation's favorite passages from Scripture, both today's Epistle and Holy Gospel would likely end up among the most loved, and rightly so. Both of these sets of verses get to the heart of what the faith is all about. They get to heart of what it is that makes Christianity different from all other world religions—things like grace, love, and sacrifice. These big two passages are "For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast" (*Ephesians 2:8–9*) and "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life" (*John 3:16*). These are verses that we should read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest!

WE WELCOME

The Lutheran High School North Concert Band under the direction of Mrs. Hannah Pierson as they enhance our worship today with their music.

PRELUDE

5:00 "Today Your Mercy Calls Us"

Donald Rotermund

8:30 "Ere the World Began to Be"

Jack Stamp

The congregation turns and faces the cross as the procession approaches the altar reminding us that Christ leads us into the presence of God.

✠ PREPARATION ✠

Please stand

ENTRANCE HYMN

915 Today Your Mercy Calls Us

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of Your people, turning us from our sin to live for You alone. Give us the power of Your Holy Spirit that, attentive to Your word, we may confess our sins, receive Your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Gracious God,

People: **have mercy on us. In Your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by Your Spirit so that we may live and serve You in newness of life, to the honor and glory of Your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

People: **Amen.**

KYRIE

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Kyrie:



Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

Kyrie

Pastor: 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. **Kyrie**

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord. **Kyrie**

Pastor: Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord. **Kyrie**

Kyrie - text taken from The Lutheran Service Book
Original music copyright © Ryan Meyer, 2016

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray,

People: Eternal God, You so loved the world that You gave Your only Son into death for our sin. Take our lives, Lord, and use them to lift up Your Son so that all will be drawn to Him and find eternal life, for He lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

EXCHANGE OF PEACE

WELCOME

✘ WORD ✘

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Numbers 21:4–9

(Moses and the bronze serpent)

⁴ They traveled from Mount Hor along the route to the Red Sea, to go around Edom. But the people grew impatient on the way; ⁵ they spoke against God and against Moses, and said, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the desert? There is no bread! There is no water! And we detest this miserable food!"

⁶ Then the LORD sent venomous snakes among them; they bit the people and many Israelites died. ⁷ The people came to Moses and said, "We sinned when we spoke against the LORD and against you. Pray that the LORD will take the snakes away from us." So Moses prayed for the people.

⁸ The LORD said to Moses, "Make a snake and put it up on a pole; anyone who is bitten can look at it and live." ⁹ So Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, he lived.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

Ephesians 2:1–10

(God raised us up with Christ.)

¹ As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, ² in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. ³ All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath. ⁴ But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, ⁵ made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. ⁶ And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, ⁷ in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. ⁸ For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— ⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰ For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN

571 God Loved the World So That He Gave

Please stand

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

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

HOLY GOSPEL

John 3:14–21

(The Son of Man must be lifted up.)

¹⁴ Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up,

¹⁵ that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.

(continued on next page)

¹⁶ "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. ¹⁸ Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son. ¹⁹ This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰ Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed. ²¹ But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what he has done has been done through God."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE WORD

744 Amazing Grace

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Please stand

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.

OFFERING

5:00 "How Sweet the Sound"

John Leavitt

8:30 "Poem for Band"

John Tatgenhorst

Please stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

+++ Special Intercessions +++

Each concluding: Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy, **People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please turn towards the cross as it is carried out of the church, and remain facing it until the hymn is completed. This symbolizes our following Christ into the world as we leave.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

543 What Wondrous Love Is This

POSTLUDE

5:00 "What Wondrous Love Is This?"

Mark Hayes

8:30 "Doxology"

William Himes

Prepare for next weekend's worship by reading:
Jeremiah 31:31-34; Hebrews 5:1-10; Mark 10:35-45

*Scriptures taken from the Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide. www.zondervan.com
Hymns used by permission. OneLicense.net #A-725523 LSB Hymn License.net, Lutheran Service Builder.*

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 1. Copyright © 2017 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Serving at Chapel

Preacher:	Theodore Laesch	
Liturgists:	5:00 p.m.	David Shudy
	8:30 a.m.	Theodore Laesch
	11:00 a.m.	Clifford Bischoff
Lectors:	8:30 a.m.	George Tomazi
	11:00 a.m.	Matt Gahr
Acolytes:	5:00 p.m.	Zachary Oliver
	8:30 a.m.	Kayla Rainey
	11:00 a.m.	Jordan Moore
Concert Band:	Lutheran High School North	
Director:	Hannah Pierson	
Organist:	Carolyn Rusnak	
Radio Announcer:	Mike Powell	
Elder of the Week:	Stan Schwede	