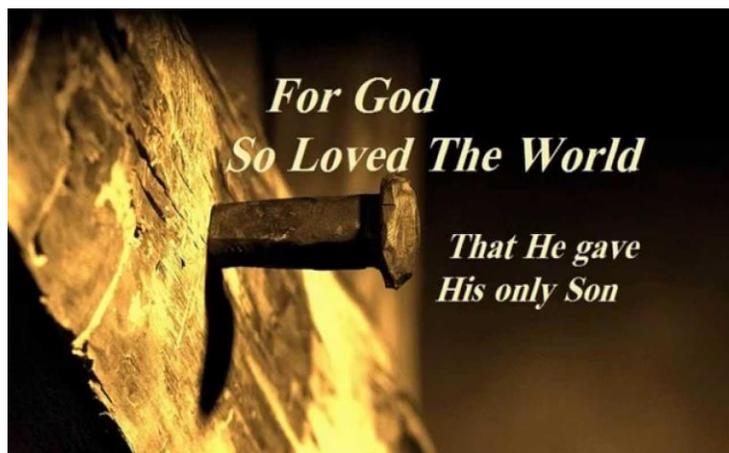


WELCOME

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 14, 2021



“FROM DEATH TO LIFE”

AS WE GATHER

Look out! There were snakes biting the Israelites, sent by God as punishment for complaining about the manna, that miraculous food He gave on the way to the Promised Land. But look up! See the bronze serpent Moses put on a pole. Everyone who looked up at the serpent will live. The serpent was a type of Christ, a parallel symbol in the Bible. We, too, have snakes—our discontent with God’s daily blessings and lack of faith in His promises. But as we look up in faith to Jesus, the Christ on the cross, we shall be saved. That faith is a gift of God in His grace. Jesus is the center of the gracious Good News. We are God’s workmanship, and now He holds the door open as we walk through, looking up to Jesus.

WELCOME

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING HYMN “My Faith Looks Up To Thee” (LSB 702)

**1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Calvary,
Savior divine:
now hear me while I pray, take all my guilt away,
O let me from this day be wholly thine.**

**2 May thy rich grace impart strength to my fainting heart,
my zeal inspire;
as thou hast died for me, O may my love to thee
pure, warm, and changeless be, a living fire.**

**3 While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs around me spread,
be thou my guide;
bid darkness turn to day, wipe sorrow's tears away,
nor let me ever stray from thee aside.**

**4 When ends life's transient dream, when death's cold, sullen
stream shall o'er me roll,
blest Savior, then, in love, fear and distrust remove;
O bear me safe above, a ransomed soul.**

INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Numbers 21:9; Ephesians 2:4–5;
John 3:16*

Pastor: Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone,

People: he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

Pastor: But God, . . . even when we were dead in our trespasses,

People: made us alive together with Christ.

Pastor: For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son,

People: that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

People: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Pastor: O almighty God, merciful Father,

People: I, a poor miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

Pastor: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

✠ WORD ✠

KYRIE

Pastor: Christ, the Lamb of God, who saved us while we were still sinners,

People: have mercy on us.

Pastor: Christ, the Lamb of God, once lifted upon the tree of the cross,

People: have mercy on us.

Pastor: Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

People: have mercy on us and grant us Your peace. Amen.

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Numbers 21:4–9* (*Israelites who look up to the bronze serpent live.*)

⁴ 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. ⁵ 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.” ⁶ Then the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. ⁷ 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. ⁸ 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.” ⁹ 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.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE *Ephesians 2:1–10* (*We are saved by grace.*)

2 And you were dead in the trespasses and sins ² 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— ³ 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. ⁴ But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, ⁵ even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— ⁶ and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in

Christ Jesus, ⁷ so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not a result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰ For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

VERSE *John 3:16 (spoken together)*

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

HOLY GOSPEL *John 3:14–21 (All who look up to Jesus on the cross will be saved.)*

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

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

¹⁴“And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that 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. ¹⁷ 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. ¹⁸ 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. ¹⁹ And this is the judgment: the light

has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. ²⁰ For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. ²¹ But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY “God Loved the World So That He Gave”
(*LSB 571, Sts. 1-4*)

**1 God loved the world so that He gave
His only Son the lost to save,
That all who would in Him believe
Should everlasting life receive.**

**2 Christ Jesus is the ground of faith,
Who was made flesh and suffered death;
All then who trust in Him alone
Are built on this chief cornerstone.**

**3 God would not have the sinner die;
His Son with saving grace is nigh;
His Spirit in the Word declares
How we in Christ are heaven's heirs.**

**4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son
Forgives all sins which you have done;
And, justified by Jesus' blood,
Your Baptism grants the highest good.**

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Timothy Oswald

CONFESSION OF FAITH – THE APOSTLES’ CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe 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 OF THE CHURCH

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts. *Colossians 3:1*

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *Psalms 136*

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, for in gracious love You sent Your only-begotten Son to die for us on a cross made by sinful humans and to rise to lead us from spiritual death to eternal life with You and saints and angels in heaven above; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, through whom with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS

(LSB, page 195)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;
Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He, blessed is He,
Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24;
Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: **“Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”**

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: **“Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”**

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

People: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Pastor: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI "Lord Jesus, Lamb of God" *TUNE: LSB 798*

**Lord Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us here.
You take away the sins of all, our Savior dear.
Your body and Your blood, Your sacrifice, give peace.
From threat'ning perils of our sin, grant us release.**

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+DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION+

By communing, a person says publicly that they -

- are baptized and confirmed*
- believe Christ's words*
- repent of their sins*
- fully agree with all that the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod teaches.*

How to receive –

- anyone may come to the altar but keep hands folded if not receiving Communion*
- the center of the tray has a cup with just a drop of wine for those who must minimize alcohol*
- smile, exude your joy, but keep a reverent demeanor as others commune*

DISTRIBUTION HYMN “I Stand Amazed”

**1 I stand amazed in the presence
Of Jesus the Nazarene,
And wonder how he could love me,
A sinner, condemned, unclean.**

Refrain:

**How marvelous! How wonderful!
And my song shall ever be;
How marvelous! How wonderful!
Is my Savior's love for me!**

**2 For me it was in the garden
He prayed, "Not my will, but thine;"
He had no tears for his own griefs,
But sweat drops of blood for mine. [Refrain]**

**3 He took my sins and my sorrows,
He made them his very own;
He bore the burden to Calv'ry,
And suffered and died alone. [Refrain]**

**4 When with the ransomed in glory
His face I at last shall see,
'Twill be my joy through the ages
To sing of his love for me. [Refrain]**

Charles H. Gabriel

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NUNC DIMITTIS

(LSB page 211)

**O Lord, now let Your servant depart in heav'nly peace,
For I have seen the glory of Your redeeming grace:
A light to lead the Gentiles unto Your holy hill,
The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.**

**All glory to the Father, all glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit, forever Three in One;
For as in the beginning, is now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding through all eternity.**

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray. O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through

Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

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.

CLOSING HYMN “Amazing Grace” *LSB 744*

**1 Amazing grace--how sweet the sound
 that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
 was blind, but now I see.**

**2 The Lord has promised good to me,
 His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
 as long as life endures.**

**3 Through many dangers, toils and snares
 I have already come:
His grace has brought me safe thus far,
 His grace will lead me home.**

**4 Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail,
and mortal life shall cease,
Amazing grace shall then prevail
in heaven's joy and peace.**

**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.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL *Ephesians 2:10*

Pastor: You are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. Therefore, go in peace as you serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

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- **Preacher:** **Rev. Dr. Timothy Oswald**
- **Liturgist:** **Rev. Maury Lind**
- **Organist:** **George Kelm**
- **Choir Director:** **Gail Feick**
- **Reader:** **George Kelm**
- **A/V Team:** **Stan & Cheryl Grey, Josh Walton**

- **Bowling is back! The following dates have been scheduled: March 14 & 28, April 11 & 25, May 23 (the 9th is Mothers' Day) 5:00 pm @ Towne & Country Lanes 264 S. Pine Street, in Burlington. Please contact Jim Tonkinson (773-275-4817) if you have any questions.**
- **Our shut-ins always appreciate hearing from you: Diane Gaertner -The Bay at Burlington Health & Rehab Ctr. 677 E. State Street, Burlington, WI 53105 Alma Paradies – 271 Quail Drive, Genoa City, WI 53128**
- **Please call (757-831-6948) or e-mail Pastor Oswald (oswald1@charter.net) with your prayer requests. We are not collecting prayer request cards.**

BIRTHDAYS

3/17 Nathan Oswald
 3/18 Ron Krantz
 3/20 Dave Peschke

Opportunities to Serve the Lord This Week

3/15/21 – 3/21/21

Monday: 6:00pm: Women of Hope Meeting

Wednesday: 8:00am: Men's Breakfast
4:30pm: Confirmation Class
7:00pm: Lenten Worship

Saturday: 9:30am: Worship Service

Sunday: 8:15am: Choir Rehearsal
9:00 am: Worship Service
10:20 am: Bible Study/Sunday School