



## 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

March 10, 2024

### Opening Hymn #377 (v. 1-2, 5-6) *Salvation unto Us has Come*

1. Salvation unto us has come  
By God's free grace and favor;  
Good works cannot avert our doom,  
They help and save us never.  
Faith looks to Jesus Christ alone,  
Who did for all the world atone;  
He is our one Redeemer.
  
2. What God did in His Law demand  
And none to Him could render  
Caused wrath and woe on every hand  
For man, the vile offender.  
Our flesh has not those pure desires  
The spirit of the Law requires,  
And lost is our condition.
  
5. Yet as the Law must be fulfilled  
Or we must die despairing,  
Christ came and hath God's anger stilled,  
Our human nature sharing.  
He hath for us the Law obeyed  
And thus the Father's vengeance stayed  
Which over us impended.

6. Since Christ hath full atonement made  
And brought to us salvation,  
Each Christian therefore may be glad  
And build on this foundation.  
Thy grace alone, dear Lord, I plead,  
Thy death is now my life indeed,  
For Thou hast paid my ransom.

### **Invocation**

P We worship today in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C ♪ **Amen.**

### **Confession & Absolution**

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C ♪ **Who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord

C ♪ **And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sins.**

P Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto Thee that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against Thee by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Thine infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Thy grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**P & C O most merciful God, who has given Thine only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Thy Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of Thee and of Thy will and true obedience to Thy Word, to the end that by Thy grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, hath had mercy upon us and hath given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgiveth us all our sins. To them that believe on His name He giveth power to become the sons of God and hath promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C ♪ **Amen.**

### **The Salutation**

P The Lord be with you

C ♪ **And with thy spirit.**

### **The Collect for the Day**

P Let us pray..... who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C ♪ **Amen**

### **The First Lesson – 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.

## Psalm of the Day – Psalm 107:1-9

- <sup>1</sup>Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,  
**for his steadfast love endures forever!**
- <sup>2</sup>Let the redeemed of the LORD say so,  
**whom he has redeemed from trouble**
- <sup>3</sup>and gathered in from the lands,  
**from the east and from the west,  
from the north and from the south.**
- <sup>4</sup>Some wandered in desert wastes,  
**finding no way to a city to dwell in;**
- <sup>5</sup>hungry and thirsty,  
**their soul fainted within them.**
- <sup>6</sup>Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,  
**and he delivered them from their distress.**
- <sup>7</sup>He led them by a straight way  
**till they reached a city to dwell in.**
- <sup>8</sup>Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love,  
**for his wondrous works to the children of men!**
- <sup>9</sup>For he satisfies the longing soul,  
**and the hungry soul he fills with good things.**

## The Second Lesson – 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— <sup>3</sup>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—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.

### **The Gospel – John 3:14-21**

<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.”

### **Confession of Faith** ***Apostle's 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 Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary; Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven And sitteth on the**

**right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; The holy Christian Church, the communion of saints The forgiveness of sins; The resurrection of the body; And the life everlasting. Amen.**

### **Hymn of the Day #245**

#### ***God Loved the World So that He Gave***

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 that confide in Him alone  
Are built on this chief Corner-stone.

God would not have the sinner die,  
His Son with saving grace is nigh,  
His Spirit in the Word doth teach  
How man the blessed goal may reach.

4. Be of good cheer, for God's own Son  
Forgives all sins which thou hast done;  
Thou'rt justified by Jesus' blood,  
Thy Baptism grants the highest good.

5. If thou be sick, if death draw near,  
This truth thy troubled heart can cheer:  
Christ Jesus saves my soul from death,  
That is the firmest ground of faith.

6. Glory to God the Father, Son,  
And Holy Spirit, Three in One!  
To Thee, O blessed Trinity,  
Be praise now and eternally!

## **Sermon Text – Ephesians 2:1-10**

### **Sermon**

*Jesus Is Lifted Up on the Cross  
so that We May Look to Him and Live*

### **Offertory**

### **Offering of Thankful Hearts**

### **Prayer of the Church**

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

P: Lord of hosts, You gave Your only Son so that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. Bless the work of missionaries as they carry this Gospel to the ends of the earth, that many may hear of Your love in Christ Jesus and be saved through Him.

**<sup>1</sup> Oh, love, how deep, how broad, how high,  
Beyond all thought and fantasy,  
That God, the Son of God, should take  
Our mortal form for mortals' sake!**

P: Heavenly Father, You had Moses lift up the bronze serpent in the wilderness, thereby foreshadowing Your own Son's lifting up on the cross. Teach us to hear in the Old Testament the promises and pictures of the coming Christ, who is their Savior and ours.

**<sup>2</sup> He sent no angel to our race,  
Of higher or of lower place,  
But wore the robe of human frame,  
And to this world Himself He came.**

P: O Lord God, draw us into Your light. Expose wherever we, like Your people of old, have thought, spoken and acted against You,

that in repentance we might look to Your Son lifted up on the cross and be saved from Your righteous wrath.

**<sup>3</sup> For us baptized, for us He bore  
His holy fast and hungered sore;  
For us temptation sharp He knew;  
For us the tempter overthrew.**

P: O Lord, whose steadfast love endures forever, we lift up our voices in thanksgiving. You have redeemed us out of trouble and gathered us here to feed us, that our souls may not faint within us. Satisfy the longing of our hearts with Your Son's good things, His body and blood, that we may abide in Your eternal peace.

**<sup>4</sup> For us He prayed; for us He taught;  
For us His daily works He wrought,  
By words and signs and actions thus  
Still seeking not Himself but us.**

P: O God, You are our light and our salvation. Hide in Your shelter [\_\_\_\_\_ and] all who suffer in body, mind or soul. Keep them in their day of trouble from falling into faithless fear, and uphold them with Your peace in Christ.

**<sup>5</sup> For us by wickedness betrayed,  
For us, in crown of thorns arrayed,  
He bore the shameful cross and death;  
For us He gave His dying breath.**

P: Almighty God, You have set President Biden and Governor Walz as authorities over us for our good. Bless and sustain them with all they need to govern us, that we might be ruled wisely and in accord with Your will.

**<sup>6</sup> For us He rose from death again;  
For us He went on high to reign;  
For us He sent His Spirit here  
To guide, to strengthen, and to cheer.**



P: Gracious Lord, You have made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our trespasses and sins. Cause Your Spirit to be at work in us, that we may not carry out the sinful desires of our bodies and minds, but be Your workmanship in Christ Jesus, walking in the good works He has prepared for us.

**<sup>7</sup> All glory to our Lord and God  
For love so deep, so high, so broad;  
The Trinity whom we adore  
Forever and forevermore.**

P: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who taught us to pray:

### **The 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.**

### **The Benediction**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you,  
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you,  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.  
C ♪ **Amen, Amen, Amen.**

## **Closing Hymn #777** ***Amazing Grace***

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;  
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,  
And grace will lead me home.

4. 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.

## **Silent Prayer**

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