

4th Sunday in Lent
March 15, 2026

Opening Hymn #179
On My Heart Imprint Thine Image

1. On my heart imprint Thine image,
Blessed Jesus, King of Grace,
That life's riches, cares, and pleasures
Have no power Thee to efface.
This the superscription be:
Jesus, crucified for me,
Is my life, my hope's Foundation,
And my Glory and Salvation.

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.**

Gloria Patri

C ♪**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

The Kyrie

**C ♪ Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

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 – Isaiah 42:14-21

¹⁴For a long time I have held my peace; I have kept still and restrained myself; now I will cry out like a woman in labor; I will gasp and pant. ¹⁵I will lay waste mountains and hills, and dry up all their vegetation; I will turn the rivers into islands, and dry up the pools. ¹⁶And I will lead the blind in a way that they do not know, in paths that they have not known I will guide them. I will turn the darkness before them into light, the rough places into level ground. These are the things I do, and I do not forsake them. ¹⁷They are turned back and utterly put to shame, who trust in carved idols, who say to metal images, "You are our gods." ¹⁸Hear, you deaf, and look, you blind, that you may see! ¹⁹Who is blind but my servant, or deaf as my messenger whom I send? Who is blind as my dedicated one, or blind as the servant of the Lord? ²⁰He sees many things, but does not observe them; his ears are open, but he does not hear. ²¹The Lord was pleased, for his righteousness' sake, to magnify his law and make it glorious.

Psalm of the Day – Psalm 142

Antiphon – In ev'ry age, O Lord, You have been our refuge.

¹With my voice I cry out | to the Lord;*

with my voice I plead for mercy | to the Lord.

²I pour out my complaint be- | fore him;*

I tell my trouble be- | fore him.

³When my spirit faints within me, you | know my way!*

In the path where I walk

they have hidden a | trap for me.

⁴Look to the right and see: there is none who takes notice | of me;*

no refuge remains to me;

no one cares | for my soul.

⁵I cry to you, | O Lord;*

I say, “You are my refuge,

my portion in the land of the | living.”

⁶Attend to my cry, for I am brought | very low!*

Deliver me from my persecutors,

for they are too | strong for me!

⁷Bring me out of prison, that I may give thanks | to your name!

*

The righteous will surround me,

for you will deal bountifully | with me.

Antiphon – In ev'ry age, O Lord, You have been our refuge.

The Second Lesson – Ephesians 5:8-14

⁸For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of light is found

in all that is good and right and true), ¹⁰and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. ¹³But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, ¹⁴for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, “Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

Verse of the Day – Psalm 36:9

With you is the fountain of life; in your light do we see light.

The Gospel – John 9:1–7, 13–17, 34–39

¹As [Jesus] passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. ²And his disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³Jesus answered, “It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶Having said these things, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man’s eyes with the mud ⁷and said to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. . . . ¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, “He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see.” ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?” And there

was a division among them. ¹⁷So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?” He said, “He is a prophet.” . . .³⁴They answered him, “You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?” And they cast him out. ³⁵Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” ³⁶He answered, “And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?” ³⁷Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.” ³⁸He said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him. ³⁹Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.”

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 #524
In Thee, Lord, have I Put My Trust

1. In Thee, Lord, have I put my trust;
Leave me not helpless in the dust,
Let me not be confounded.
Let in Thy Word My faith, O Lord,
Be always firmly grounded.

2. Bow down Thy gracious ear to me
And hear my cries and prayers to Thee,
Haste Thee for my protection;
For woes and fear Surround me here.
Help me in mine affliction.

3. My God and Shield, now let Thy power
Be unto me a mighty tower
Whence bravely I defend me
Against the foes That round me close.
O Lord, assistance lend me.

4. Thou art my Strength, my Shield, my Rock,
My Fortress that withstands each shock,
My Help, my Life, my Treasure.
Whate'er the rod, Thou art my God;
Naught can resist Thy pleasure.

5. The world for me has falsely set
Full many a secret snare and net
To tempt me and to harm me.
Lord, make them fail, Do Thou prevail,
Let their disguise not charm me.

6. With Thee, Lord, have I cast my lot;
O faithful God, forsake me not,
To Thee my soul commending.
Lord, be my Stay, Lead Thou the way
Now and when life is ending.
7. All honor, praise, and majesty
To Father, Son, and Spirit be,
Our God forever glorious,
In whose rich grace We'll run our race
Till we depart victorious.

Sermon Text – Isaiah 42:14-21

Sermon

***By His Word of the Gospel, Jesus Calls Us Out of the
Darkness into His Marvelous Light***

Offertory

♪ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence; and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; and uphold me with Thy free spirit.

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: Great Physician, enlighten our eyes by Your blessed Gospel, and hide us in Your shelter in the day of trouble. Provide a home in Your Church for those cast out by this

world, and unite them with us in the pure confession of Your name.

**1. Jesus, priceless treasure,
Fount of purest pleasure,
Truest friend to me.**

**Ah, how long in anguish
Shall my spirit languish,
Yearning, Lord, for Thee?**

**Thou art mine,
O Lamb divine!**

**I will suffer naught to hide Thee,
Naught I ask beside Thee.**

P: Almighty Father, uphold in mercy all authorities, especially parents and the civil servants of our nation. Strengthen our homes, and keep families firm in the Christian faith. Preserve us from wickedness, and uphold order and justice for a peaceful life.

**2. In Thine arms I rest me;
Foes who would molest me
Cannot reach me here.
Though the earth be shaking,
Ev'ry heart be quaking,
Jesus calms my fear.**

**Lightnings flash
And thunder crash;
yet, though sin and hell assail me,
Jesus will not fail me.**

P: Lord God, You have promised that what we suffer does not condemn us, but instead displays Your glory. Sustain the afflicted in body or soul, [*especially* _____,] that they

would take heart, trust You for healing and find You even in the midst of their trials.

**3. Satan, I defy thee;
Death, I now decry thee;
Fear, I bid thee cease.
World, thou shalt not harm me
Nor thy threats alarm me
While I sing of peace.
God's great pow'r
Guards ev'ry hour;
Earth and all its depths adore Him,
Silent bow before Him.**

P: Blessed, O Lord, is everyone who is not offended by Your Christ. Give us faith to believe His blessed testament, seek His Word and Sacraments for the forgiveness of our sins, and confess Your truth with honest hearts.

**4. Hence, all earthly treasure!
Jesus is my pleasure,
Jesus is my choice.
Hence all empty glory!
Naught to me the story
Told with tempting voice.
Pain or loss,
Or shame or cross,
Shall not from my Savior move me
Since He deigns to love me.**

P: O Lord, those who wait for Your salvation have the promise that You will not forsake them. Lead those who wander in darkness through rough places, that they would find the way of righteousness and not be put to shame.

**5. Evil world, I leave thee;
Thou canst not deceive me,
Thine appeal is vain.
Sin that once did blind me,
Get thee far behind me,
Come not forth again.
Past thy hour,
O pride and pow'r;
Sinful life, thy bonds I sever,
Leave thee now forever.**

P: Lord of glory, You have gathered Your Church and sanctified us in Your truth. Guide and direct President Wilke and Visitor Pfeiffer. Preserve all vacant congregations, send laborers into Your harvest and sustain those whom You have sent.

**6. Hence, all fear and sadness!
For the Lord of gladness,
Jesus, enters in.
Those who love the Father,
Though the storms may gather,
Still have peace within.
Yea, whate'er
I here must bear,
Thou art still my purest pleasure,
Jesus, priceless treasure!**

P: All these things, O heavenly Father, we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, asking You to grant our prayers not for our sake but for His sake alone. Teach our hearts to be content with Your will and to trust that You will answer with what is best for us and at the right time for our need. Graciously receive our

prayers through ***please stand*** Jesus Christ, Your Son 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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