

**FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT**

March 14, 2021 – 9 AM



**AS WE GATHER** Before coming to faith, we were dead in trespasses and sins. But while we were dead and helpless, God made us alive! In the Epistle, Paul writes that God saved us “being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which He loved us.” But we have not simply been made physically well, like the Israelites in the Old Testament Reading, but we have been given eternal life. The central reason is that “by grace you have been saved through faith.” We are His workmanship of “faith tested” and in the light of Christ, it is obvious that the credit for whatever works we do by faith must go to our gracious God.

**† IN DOMINE JESU †**

*(In the Name of Jesus)*

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME** “This is the day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it.” *Psalm 118:24*

**GATHERING HYMN**

**“Amazing Grace”**

*LSB 744 vs. 1-3*

1 A - maz - ing grace— how sweet the sound— That  
 2 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, His  
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but  
 Word my hope se - cures; He will my shield and  
 have al - read - y come; His grace has brought me

now am found, Was blind but now I see!  
 por - tion be As long as life en - dures.  
 safe thus far, His grace will lead me home.

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**INVOCATION**

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

**OPENING SENTENCES**

*Numbers 21:9; Ephesians 2:4-5; John 3:16*

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

**C: he would look at the bronze serpent and live.**

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

**C: made us alive together with Christ.**

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

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

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

1 John 1:8–9; Psalm 107:1–2; Ephesians 2:4–5, 8; John 3:17

P: Let us confess our sins to our gracious heavenly Father. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

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

P: God's steadfast love endures forever! Let the redeemed of the LORD say so.

**C: Though we know Christ is preparing a home in heaven for us, we sometimes complain about our difficulties on our journey here much like the Israelites traveling in the wilderness. We are sinful and unclean at heart and often follow the desires of the body and the mind.**

P: God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which He loved us,

**C: made us alive together with Christ.**

P: God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world,

**C: but in order that the world might be saved through Him.**

P: By grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen. Thanks be to God.**

## † THE LIVING WORD †

### RESPONSE HYMN

### "Amazing Grace"

LSB 744 vs. 4-5

4 Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail And  
5 When we've been there ten thousand years, Bright  
mor - tal life shall cease, A - maz - ing grace shall  
shin - ing as the sun, We've no less days to  
then pre - vail In heav - en's joy and peace.  
sing God's praise Than when we'd first be - gun.

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### PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray together; **Lord Jesus, while we were still dead in sin, You came as one of us to die for us and bring us to eternal life. Give us strength of faith to look up to You each day of our sojourn until we see You face-to-face in eternity; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

Numbers 21:4–9

*(Israelites who look up to the bronze serpent live.)*

<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.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## EPISTLE

Ephesians 2:1–10

*(We are saved by grace.)*

<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.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## VERSE

John 3:16

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

*(All who look up to Jesus on the cross will be saved.)*

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

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

<sup>14</sup>And 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>[Jesus said:] "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."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

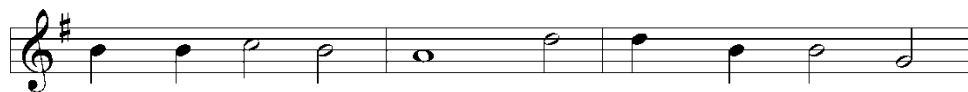
**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**"Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"**

*LSB 528 1, 3-5*



1 Oh, for a thou - sand tongues to sing My  
 3 Je - sus! The name that charms our fears, That  
 4 He breaks the pow'r of can - celed sin; He  
 5 Look un - to Him, ye na - tions; own Your



great Re - deem - er's praise, The glo - ries of my  
 bids our sor - rows cease; 'Tis mu - sic in the  
 sets the pris - 'ner free. His blood can make the  
 God, ye fall - en race. Look and be saved through



God and King, The tri - umphs of His grace!  
 sin - ner's ears, 'Tis life and health and peace.  
 foul - est clean; His blood a - vails for  
 faith a - lone, Be jus - ti - fied by grace.

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**SERMON**

**"The Antidote!"**

*Numbers 21:4-9*

**HYMN OF RESPONSE**

**"Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"**

*LSB 528 6-7*

**6 See all your sins on Jesus laid; The Lamb of God was slain.  
 His soul was once an off'ring made For ev'ry soul of man.**  
**7 To God all glory, praise, and love Be now and ever giv'n  
 By saints below and saints above, The Church in earth and heav'n.**

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## NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life † of the world to come. Amen.

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH** *(after petitions, Pastor prays "Lord in your mercy" please pray, "Hear our prayer")*

*(after all the petitions have been prayed, we commend all the prayers with these words)*

P: 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.

**C: Amen.**

## † CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER †

**THE LORD'S PRAYER** *(In preparation for the Lord's supper, we pray the prayer Jesus taught us)*

**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 PREPARATION** *(please take your communion vessel in hand for our Lord's Words of Institution)*

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

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and after giving thanks, He broke it and gave it to His 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 after supper, He took the cup, and after giving thanks He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this is My † blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of all your sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

**THE PEACE OF THE LORD**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. **C: And also, with you.**

**ONE BODY IN CHRIST** *(As brothers and sisters in Christ, as one body we communion with the invitation of the following words)*

P: Take and eat this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ given into death for all your sin.

P: Take and drink this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior shed for you for the forgiveness of all your sin.

P: The body and blood of our Lord strengthen and preserve you steadfast, in the true faith, to life everlasting. Know that His peace, joy, love and forgiveness is yours now and forever. Amen.

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P: Let us pray together; **O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we give thanks that through this Sacrament You have again strengthened our faith in Your saving grace that through Christ we are freed from being dead in sin to being alive to You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## OFFERING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BENEDICTION

*Numbers 6:24–26*

P: 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 His favor and † give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

### SONG OF SENDING

**“Come As You Are”**

*By: David Crowder*

### DISMISSAL

*Ephesians 2:10*

P: Go in peace and join Jesus on His mission! **C: Amen! We will! Amen!**

**† SOLI DEO GLORIA †**

(To God be the Glory)

### POST SERVICE MUSIC

*reprise!*

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# HOLY CROSS HAPPENINGS

March 14 – March 21, 2021

**WELCOME GUESTS AND MEMBERS!** Welcome to the Lord's House. God bless you as hear the Good News today of His unconditional love! Jesus promised wherever two or three are gathered in His name, His presence is there. Jesus is here! We pray and know He will bless you with faith, hope, and love for your daily life through His Word and Spirit! If you have any questions, please feel free to speak to one of our ushers or greeters.

**ADULT SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS** – The OT book of Nahum led by Rev. Robert Nowak continues today.

**Sales for hanging baskets will begin TODAY** - If this week's warmer weather has turned your thoughts towards spring, the Mission Board has some fun news for you. Hanging baskets from Gene Stark's Glacial Ridge Growers, Glenwood, will be available for purchase beginning on March 14. Plants will cost \$25 and payment is requested at the time of your order. There will be a limited number available so members should plan accordingly. The sale will continue until April 18 or until all available baskets have been purchased. Baskets will be delivered to Holy Cross the Friday before Mother's Day. The fund-raiser will support food for Haiti. See the March newsletter for more information.

**SOUP SUPPERS** -Please come to our soup suppers each Wednesday at 6:00 pm.**Sign up sheets** are now posted in the Commons. As always help is needed with various food categories as well as set up and clean up. We are taking safety measures as we come together to enjoy this fellowship opportunity. If **all** help, **all** can enjoy the soup suppers! Thank you! We will also be collecting a free will offering for PABLO support during the Lenten Soup Suppers.

**INFORMAL PRAYER TIME** –We will continue the informal time of prayer at Holy Cross on Wednesday evenings after the Lenten service until 8:00 pm in the sanctuary.

**MCKENNA VISITING UPDATE** – Please pick up a visitation guideline for McKenna crossing if interested in visiting Lohart, please call McKenna Crossing's office after reading the guidelines to schedule your appointment.

**HOLY COMMUNION** is celebrated today. Our belief and practice is Confessional. Jesus clearly teaches He is truly present in His supper in the bread and wine. We receive miraculously, in the gift of faith, His true body and blood, given and shed for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you have been baptized and confirmed in our church body, please commune with us. If you have questions about communing, please wait to commune until receiving instruction in one of our communion classes. Thank you.

## **SERVING TODAY - SUNDAY MARCH 14, 2021 9:00 AM**

<b>Elder/Communion</b>	Dave Albrecht
<b>Lector:</b>	Judy Weimer
<b>Ushers:</b>	Meg Batchelder
<b>Acolyte:</b>	Allie Wagner
<b>AV:</b>	Eric Brown
<b>Offering Counters:</b>	Meg Batchelder & Michele Lein

**SERVING WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17, 2021 7:00 PM**

**Elder/Communion** Jon Dobberstein  
**Lector:** Dinah Gilberts  
**Ushers:** Brit Weimer  
**Acolyte:** Daniel Vannett  
**AV:** Vivian Jobst  
**Offering Counters:** Dave Albrecht & Denny Case

**SERVING SUNDAY, MARCH 21, 2021 9:00 AM**

**Elder/Communion** Brit Weimer  
**Lector:** Michele Lein  
**Ushers:** Dave Albrecht  
**Acolyte:** Morgan Schulze  
**AV:** Jason Eickhoff  
**Offering Counters:** Wendy Fitzwater & Doug Schulze

**CHURCH OFFICE REPORTS**

**RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE**

Contributions needed/month (General Fund): \$20,928.50  
Contributions received in January \$20,837.57

**SUNDAY, March 7, 2021 ATTENDANCE**

Worship: 58      Drive-up Communion: 5  
Communion: 52      Bible Class: 11  
Zoom: 4      Sunday School: 8 kids & 4 teachers

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10, 2021 ATTENDANCE**

Worship: 26



## THIS WEEK AT HOLY CROSS

- Sun. March 14 Fourth Sunday in Lent**  
9:00 am Worship w/Holy Communion also via Zoom  
10:00 am Bible Study  
10:15-10:45 am Drive-Up Communion
- Mon. March 15**  
5:30 pm Elder/Leader Meeting zoom
- Tue. March 16**  
8:00 am Men's Bible Study
- Wed. March 17**  
12:00 pm Happenings Articles Due  
6:00 pm Lent Soup Supper  
7:00 pm Lenten Service  
7:30 pm Informal Prayer in Sanctuary
- Thu. March 18**
- Fri. March 19**  
9:30 am Cleaning Crew
- Sat. March 20**
- Sun. March 21 Fifth Sunday in Lent**  
9:00 am Worship W/ Holy Communion also via Zoom  
10:00 am "Nahum" Bible Study in back of the Sanctuary  
10:15 -10:45 am Drive-Up Communion



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Music & Choir Director: Mui Cheng; Praise Music Director: Becca Tutewohl  
Office Ministry Assistants: Meg Batchelder and Dorene Oak  
Pastor James Jobst: (612) 615-2939