



March 10, 2024 - Fourth Sunday in Lent

As We Gather

If you were to conduct a survey of people's favorite Bible passages, verses from today's Epistle and Gospel would likely end up on the list, and rightly so. Verses in these lessons get to the heart of what our faith is all about. They get to the heart of what it is that makes Christianity different from all other world religions—things like grace, love, and sacrifice. These are verses that we should read, mark, learn, and remember! And in this Lenten season they point us to the cross and they encourage us to place our trust in Christ.

Service of Prayer and Preaching

Welcome

Hymn: LSB 435 "Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain"

Pastor: This is the day the Lord has made;

People: **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Pastor: From the rising of the sun to its setting,

People: **The name of the Lord is to be praised.**

Pastor: Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.

People: **In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.**

Pastor: He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all,

People: **How will he not also with him graciously give us all things?**

Pastor: Christ was wounded for our transgressions.

People: **He was bruised for our iniquities.**

Pastor: From the rising of the sun to its setting,

People: **The name of the Lord is to be praised.**

All: **Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

Pastor: God has called us to trust in him and to acknowledge Him in all our ways. Yet we often fail to trust in Him as we should. Still, our heavenly Father is merciful, and He invites us to draw near to Him in trust and confidence to ask for His grace.

(Moment of silence for personal confession and reflection.)

All: **Gracious God, we have sinned against You and against our neighbors. We have not trusted in You. We have not loved You with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not loved our enemies. Forgive us, renew our love, and strengthen our trust on account of Jesus and His cross. Amen.**

Pastor: Jesus Christ was lifted up on the tree of the cross so that we might be forgiven. His genuine love is for the world and is for you and me. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen. We are forgiven by the genuine love of Jesus.

Old Testament Canticle (*Music in hymnal: LSB pages 261 & 262*)

Refrain: **The Lord God is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation.**

With joy will you draw water from the wells of salvation. And you will say in that day: "Give thanks to the Lord, call upon His name, make known His deeds among the peoples, proclaim that His name is exalted." Refrain

Sing praises to the Lord, for He has done gloriously; let this be made known in all the earth. Shout and sing for joy, O inhabitants of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.
Refrain

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Refrain

Prayer of the Day

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty God, we place our trust in friends and family, in political leaders and authority figures. Yet sometimes we are disappointed by those in whom we trust; sometimes our trust is misplaced. Help us by your Spirit to trust you daily in all things and to turn to you with prayer and praise in all of the circumstances of our lives. You have sent your Son to be our Savior, and you will never fail us. Set his cross always before us to guide us in trusting you. Hear our prayer, and accept our praise in Jesus' name.

People: Amen.

First Reading - Numbers 21:4-9 (*The account of Moses putting a bronze snake on a pole so people could be saved, which foreshadows what Jesus did for us.*)

⁴They traveled from Mount Hor along the route to the Red Sea, to go around Edom. But the people grew impatient on the way; ⁵they spoke against God and against Moses, and said, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? There is no bread! There is no water! And we detest this miserable food!" ⁶Then the Lord sent venomous snakes among them; they bit the people and many Israelites died. ⁷The 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. ⁸The Lord said to Moses, "Make a snake and put it up on a pole; anyone who is bitten can look at it and live. ⁹So 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, they lived.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Hymn Response: LSB 702 "MY Faith looks Up To Thee" vs. 1 & 2

Epistle Reading – Second Reading - Ephesians 2:1-10 *(Paul assures us that we are saved by grace through faith in Jesus.)*

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

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn Response: LSB 744 “Amazing Grace”

Gospel Reading – Gospel Reading - John 3:14-21 *(We are reminded of the connection between what Moses did and what Jesus did as God provides the way of salvation for us.)*

¹⁴Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, ¹⁵that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him. ¹⁶For 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. ¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. ¹⁸Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son. ¹⁹This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed. ²¹But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what they have done has been done in the sight of God.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn Response: LSB 571 “God Loved The World So That He Gave”

Sermon: 1 Timothy 1:15 “Guided to Trust”

Confession of Faith: The Second Article

Pastor: As we reflect on how God intersects with His people and graciously meets our needs we speak the Second Article of the Apostles' Creed and its meaning, which relate the loving work of God the Son, for us.

All: And 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 in to 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.

Pastor: What does this mean?

All: I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

Offerings:

New Testament Canticle (*Music in hymnal: LSB pages 266 & 267*)

Refrain: Christ has been raised from the dead! Alleluia. Alleluia.

Christ our Passover Lamb has been sacrificed. Raised from the dead, He will never die again. Death has no more dominion over Him. Refrain

Dying, Christ dies to sin, once for all. Living, He lives to God. Count yourselves as dead to sin and alive to god in "Christ Jesus, our Lord. Refrain

Prayer of the Church

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, as we come before You with our prayers and petitions, we thank You for Your genuine love, and we pray, Jesus, may our hearts be burning

People: with more fervent love for You and trust in You.

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, show Your love to all those who have experienced broken families, homes, and churches. Surround them with Your love and with people who will love them as You love them. Jesus, may our hearts be burning

People: with more fervent love for You and trust in You.

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, extend Your love to all those who have abandoned the faith. Strengthen us to lovingly invite them toward Your genuine love for the world. Jesus, may our hearts be burning

People: with more fervent love for You and trust in You.

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, in Your earthly life You experienced the death of those You loved. Bring Your comfort to all those who are suffering in such grief, [*especially . . .*]. Point them to the hope of eternal life with You. Jesus, may our hearts be burning

People: with more fervent love for You and trust in You.

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, You have prepared many good works for us to do in our earthly lives. Give us courage to do those good works with joy, expecting nothing in return, knowing we are saved by grace alone. Jesus, may our hearts be burning

People: with more fervent love for You and trust in You.

Pastor: Lord, look with favor upon all who are sick, injured, and recovering, [*especially . . .*]. Have mercy upon them and restore them to health according to Your wisdom. Jesus, may our hearts be burning

People: with more fervent love for You and trust in You.

(Any special petitions will be included here)

Pastor: Lord Jesus, we commend all of these people and situations into Your hands, trusting in You; and in Your name we pray:

Lord's Prayer

All: 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.

Blessing

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Pastor: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

People: **Amen.**

Hymn: LSB 729 "I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus"

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Church News **ANNOUNCEMENTS for Week of March 10, 2024**
Grace Lutheran Church 1120 S. Park Ave. Aurora, MO
Church: 417-678-3603 Pastor Ken Lampe Cell: 417-366-3597
pastor@gracelutheranaurora.com

Family for the Week: **Bill and Diane Thompson**
Good Shepherd, Carthage - Rev. Silas Mehl

Prayers of Peace and Comfort:

Prayers of Thanks:

Prayers for Health and Healing:

Jim Troyke – (health and healing from heart issues)

Complete Prayer List:

Sandra Whelan – (health and healing from back surgery on March 5th)

Steve Hilton – (friend of Harold & Gwen Lampe – health and healing from cancer)

Ron Hicks – (friend of Glenda Enlow - health and healing)

June Winger – (Sharon Barlow's mother – health and healing)

Marty Jones – (Bobby Jones' mother - health and healing)

Debbie Porter – (friend of Harold & Gwen Lampe – recovery from frostbite)

Ernest Ramm – (Cheryl Lile's uncle – health and healing from stroke)

Janet Fisher – (daughter of Bill & Joanne Michel – health and healing from surgery)

Norma Kaiser – (friend of Gwen & Harold Lampe – health and healing from a stroke)

Jill Bode – (niece of Rachel Sanford – health and healing from cancer)

Alice Troyke – (health and healing from a fall)

Rick Bauer – (Gladys Bauer's son – health and healing)

Jackie Clark – (Micki Gettman's friend – healing from a broken hip)

Betty Gordon – (health and healing)

Linda Kennell – (Pastor Kennell's mother – health and healing)

Bob & Bev Hess – (health and healing from a fall)
Kathy Brown – (friend of Kathy Holle - health and healing)
Larry Moennig – (friend of Harold Lampe – health and healing)
Pat Michel – (Bill Michel’s Sister-In-Law – health and healing)
Gary Gardner – (health and healing)
Pastor Gary Griffin – (health and healing from cancer)
Thomas Williams – (Ruth Stoddard’s friend – health and healing)
Larry Swart – (friend of Bill Munden – health and healing)
Dean Hadley – (health and healing)
Kooper Tutten – (Jeeper Meyer’s Great-grandson - health and healing)
Sheryl Holle – (Kathy Holle’s cousin – health and healing from cancer)
Jeff Flatten – (great nephew of Kathy Holle – health and healing)
Steve Doss – (friend of Harold Lampe – health and healing)
Dorothea Dennis – (health and healing & peace and comfort)
Danata Hopkins – (continued health and healing)
Pete Doss – (friend of Harold Lampe – health and healing)
Ellie Armstrong – (friend of David Lampe – health and healing)
Margaret Seburn - (cousin of Joanne Michel - health and healing)
Randy Wallace – (brother-in-law of Micki Gettman – health and healing)
Diana Bauer – (daughter-in-law of Gladys Bauer - health and healing)
Jami Bauer – (relative of Gladys Bauer - peace and comfort)
Vicki Heppard – (relative of Gladys Bauer - health and healing from cancer)
Bob & Barbara Steinberg - (health and healing)
Ruth Stoddard – (health and healing)

THIS WEEK

Sunday	March 10th	9:00 am - Happy Half Hour 9:30 am - Fellowship 10:00 am – Service
Monday	March 11th	Braille in Freistatt - 9:00 am & 1:00 pm
Wednesday	March 13th	Pastor in Office Pizza – 6:00 pm Service – 7:00 pm with Pastor Lampe
Thursday	March 14th	Pastor in Office
Saturday	March 16th	Bauer Easter Family Dinner - 11:00 am – 3:00 pm Game Night – 6:00 pm - Pizza
Sunday	March 17th	9:00 am - Happy Half Hour 9:30 am - Fellowship 10:00 am – Service with communion

Birthdays: Tammy Stafford-Mar. 16

Anniversaries: NONE

Lenten Lunch, Wed., March 13th, at Aurora Presbyterian church. Grace is providing food for the event for a noon meal. There is a sign-up sheet in the entry way at church. Please bring food to Grace by 11:00 am the morning of March 13th.

Grace Planning Session: Saturday, March 23, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm. Lunch to follow. Please make plans to attend this important event. We would like as much input from current and new members as possible in planning this year's mission for Grace. If you can't come for the whole morning, come for just the time you have available. There is a sign-up sheet in the entry way.



Grace will be doing a Shine project as last year in helping out at Camp Barnabas. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex. Please consider signing up to help out. Our work day is April 20th.

BABY SHOWER - The Dorcas Ladies Aid/LWML will have an ingathering of baby items for the Springfield Lutheran Family and Children Services on Sunday, March 3rd, and Sunday, March 10th. Items needed by LCFS Hope Chest to serve their clients include:

1. Diapers, any size - They are receiving diapers through a diaper bank but it is not enough to meet the need.
2. New or gently used clothing, size 0 to 3 toddler
3. Onesies, especially long sleeve, **always needed**
4. Pacifiers, **always needed**
5. Baby wash/shampoo, **always needed**
6. Baby wipes, **always needed**
7. Diaper rash ointment, **always needed**
8. Baby lotion
9. Fingernail clippers
10. Teethers
11. Flannel receiving blankets
12. Baby quilts

Baby wipes are the biggest need at the present time.
Monetary donations are also welcome.

New Church Directory: Grace will be doing a new Church Directory. We would like to have pictures of new members and any current members wishing a new picture. Contact Charlie Chambers to get new photos.

Throughout this holy time, we are drawn to Calvary to live in hope, peace, trust and perseverance. The services in this series reveal how Christ and his cross serve as examples for us of how to live out our lives for and through our crucified Lord and Savior.

Mar. 10	1 Timothy 1:15	"Guided to Trust"
Mar. 17	Ephesians 6:18	"Guided to Perseverance"
Mar. 24	Duncan Cox	
Mar. 31	John 2:1-18	"Guided to New Life"

"Words That Last Forever" is the theme for our Midweek Lenten Services. We will listen to Jesus as He speaks from the cross 2000 years ago. And we will ponder the meaning of His words for our own lives in the 21st century.

Mar. 13	John 19:30	"Finished"	Ken Lampe
Mar. 20	John 19:28	"Thirst"	Jake Sletten
Mar. 28	Luke 22:19	"For You"	Ken Lampe (Maundy Thursday)
Mar. 29	Luke 23:46	"Hands"	Ken Lampe (Good Friday)

Lenten Devotion booklets are available under the mailboxes.



March

GREETERS:

03/10: Bill & Joanne Michel

03/17: Bill & Diane Thompson

03/24: Stan & Sharon Crandall

03/31: Charlie & Edee Chambers

USHERS:

03/10: David Lampe

03/17: Harold Lampe

03/24: Charlie Chambers

03/31: Bill Michel