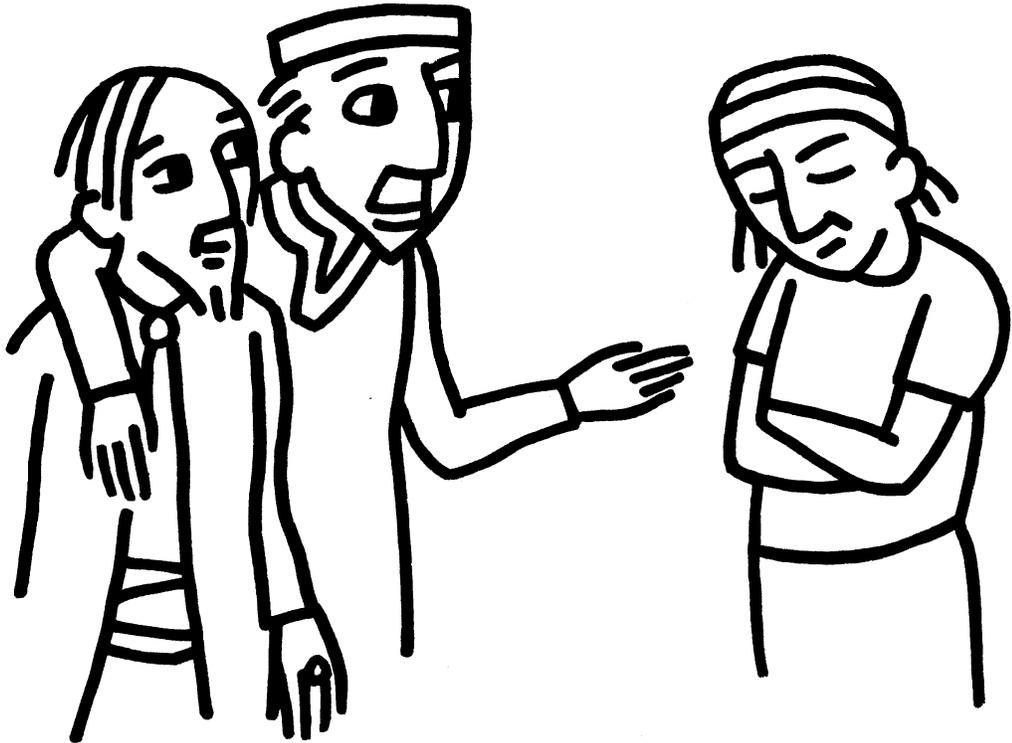


Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

March 27th, 2022

Fourth Sunday in Lent



The psalm sets the tone this day: "Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!" Happy are those who have "become the righteousness of God" in the merits of Christ Jesus. Happy are those for whom the forgiveness of God has "rolled away . . . the disgrace" of former times. Happy is the father at the return of his prodigal son. Happy are we that our sins are forgiven for Jesus' sake. Rejoice!

- PRELUDE
- WELCOME
- ANNOUNCEMENTS
- PRAYER REQUESTS

*For sections with an *, please stand as you are able*

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: In the name of God,
 who makes a way in the wilderness,
 walks with us,
 and guides us in our pilgrimage.

ALL: Amen.

Silence is kept for reflection.

L: Holy One,

**ALL: we confess that we have wandered far from you:
 we have not trusted your promises,
 we have ignored your prophets in our own day,
 we have squandered our inheritance of grace,
 we have failed to recognize you in our midst.
 Have mercy on us!
 Forgive us and turn us again to you.
 Teach us to follow in your ways,
 assure us again of your love,
 and help us to love our neighbor.
 Amen.**

L: Beloved in Christ,
 the Word draws near to you,
 and all who call out to God shall be saved.
 In Jesus, God comes to you again and again
 and gathers you under wings of love.
 In ✝ Jesus' name, your sins are forgiven.
 God journeys with you and teaches you how to live in love.

ALL: Amen.

***OPENING HYMN: Come, thou Font of Every Blessing**

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be;

streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas-ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
and I hope, by thy good plea-sure, safe-ly to ar - rive at home.
let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee.

While the hope of end-less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan-d'ring from the fold of God;
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.

teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove.
he, to res - cue me from dan-ger, in - ter - posed his pre-cious blood.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

The musical score consists of four systems, each with a vocal line in treble clef and a bass line in bass clef. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735-1790, alt.
Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

***GREETING**

L: The grace of our LORD Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

ALL: And also with you.

***KYRIE**



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



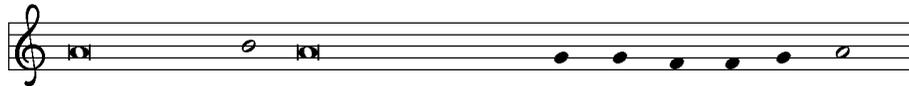
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - - men.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: The Lord be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

L: God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

ALL: Amen.

FIRST READING: Joshua 5:9-12

By celebrating the Passover and eating the produce of the promised land instead of the miraculous manna that had sustained them in the desert, the Israelites symbolically bring their forty years of wilderness wandering to an end at Gilgal.

L: ⁹The LORD said to Joshua, “Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt.” And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

¹⁰While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. ¹¹On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. ¹²The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

L: The word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: 32

Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD. (Ps. 32:11)

L: ¹Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven,
and whose sin is put away!

**ALL:²Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt,
and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

L: ³While I held my tongue, my bones withered away,
because of my groaning all day long.

**ALL:⁴For your hand was heavy upon me day and night;
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**

L: ⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt.

I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD.” Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

ALL:⁶Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble;
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.

L: ⁷You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

ALL:⁸“I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go;
I will guide you with my eye.

L: ⁹Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding;
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you.”

ALL:¹⁰Great are the tribulations of the wicked;
but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.

L: ¹¹Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD;
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

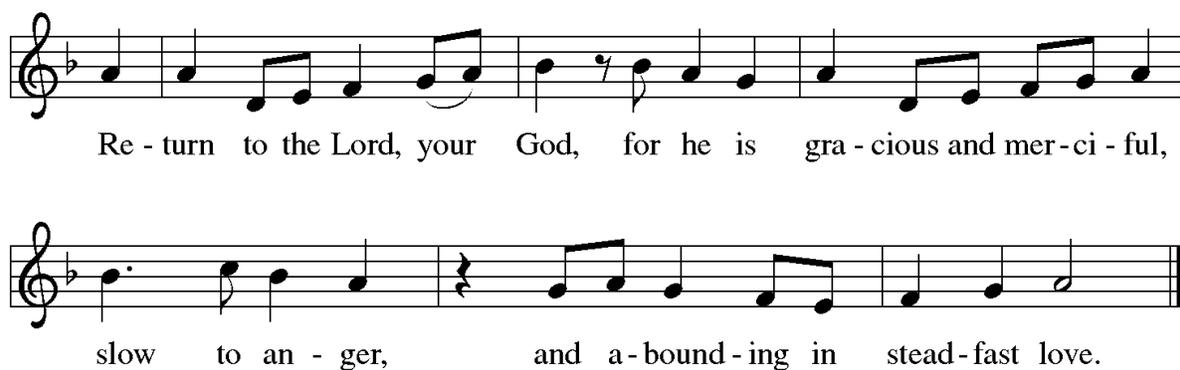
One way to describe the gospel is the promise that in Christ everything is transformed into newness. All mistakes, all deliberate sins, all old history is reconciled with Christ's resurrection. This is Paul's strong message to the congregation in the city of Corinth.

L: ¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! ¹⁸All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

L: The word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



***GOSPEL: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32**

Jesus tells a parable about a son who ponders his father's love only after he has spurned it. The grace he receives is beyond his hopes. That same grace is a crisis for an older brother who believes it is his obedience that has earned his place in the father's home.

L: The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

ALL: Glory to you, O Lord.

L: ¹Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] ²And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

³So he told them this parable: ^{11b}“There was a man who had two sons. ¹²The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. ¹³A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.”’ ²⁰So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ ²²But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate.

²⁵“Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard

music and dancing. ²⁶He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' ²⁸Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' ³¹Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³²But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.' ”

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

ALL: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon: Pastor Rick Mollenkopf-Grill

***HYMN OF THE DAY: Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling**

Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling

1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for
 2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for
 3 Oh, for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for

you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,
 you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,
 you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,

Refrain

watch - ing for you and for me.
 mer - cies for you and for me? "Come home, come home!
 par - don for you and for me. Come home, come home!

You who are wea - ry, come home." Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,

Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, "O sin - ner, come home!"

Text: Will L. Thompson, 1847-1909
 Music: THOMPSON, Will L. Thompson

***APOSTLES CREED**

ALL:

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

L: Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Each prayer ends with these words:

L: Merciful God,
All: Receive our prayer.

L: Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ.

All: Amen.

***THE SHARING OF THE PEACE**

L: The peace of the LORD be with you always.

ALL: And also with you.

**Please greet one another creatively – being mindful of physical distancing, with a sign of Christ's peace from where you are seated.*

*OFFERING PRAYER

Any financial gifts you wish to give towards the ministry of Trinity may be placed in the offering plate at the rear of the worship space. We give thanks for your sharing of your offerings this and every day.

L: Extravagant God,

ALL: you have blessed us with the fullness of creation.

Now we gather at your feast

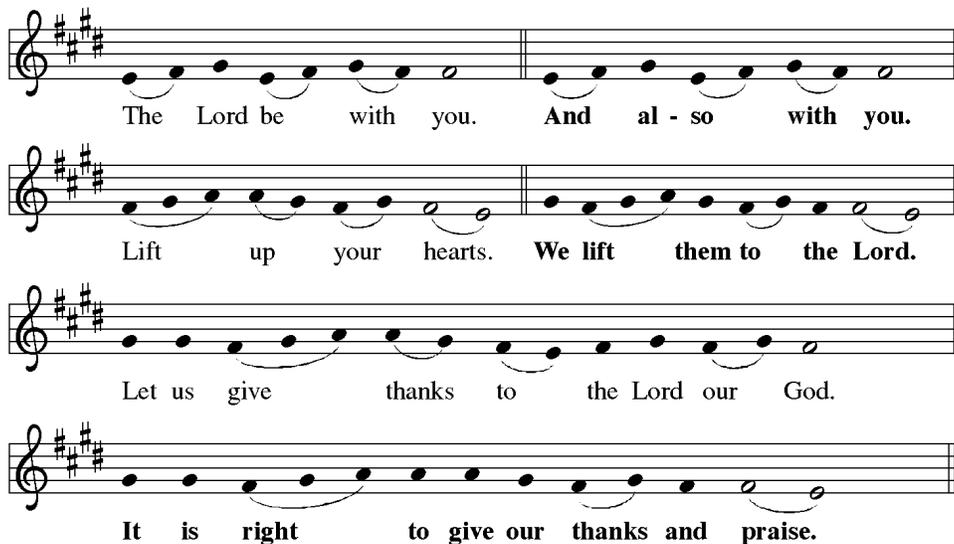
where you offer us the food that satisfies.

Take and use what we offer here, come among us,

and feed us with the body and blood of Christ,

in whose name we pray.

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

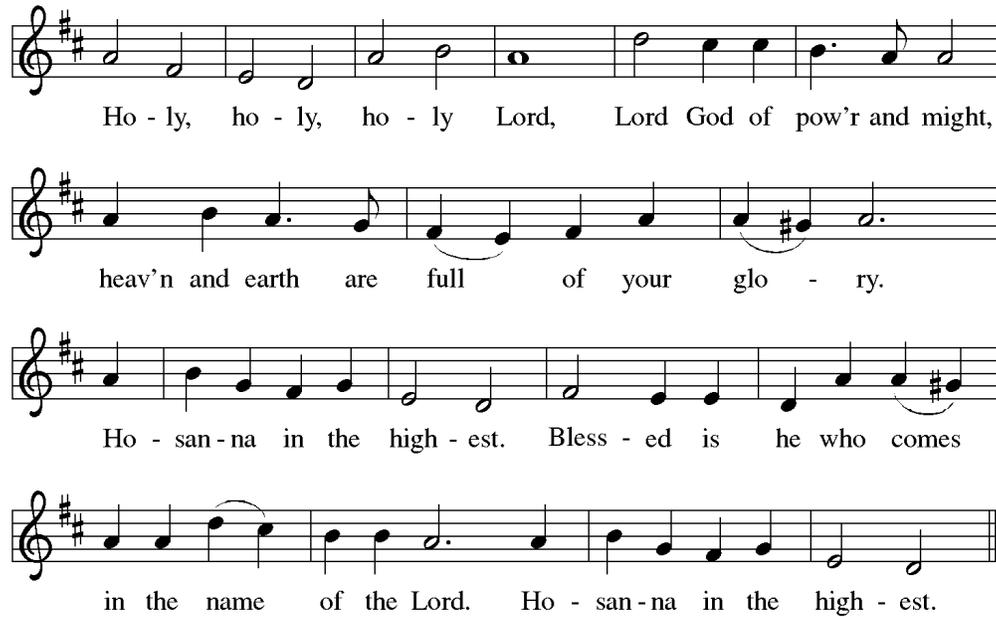


The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

L: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,
we may come to the fullness of your grace.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
 in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

L: In the night in which he was betrayed,
 Our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
 Broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
 Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.
 Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
 And gave it for all to drink, saying:
 This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
 Shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

*THE LORD'S PRAYER

L: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.
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.

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

L: Here is food and drink for the journey.
 Take and be filled.

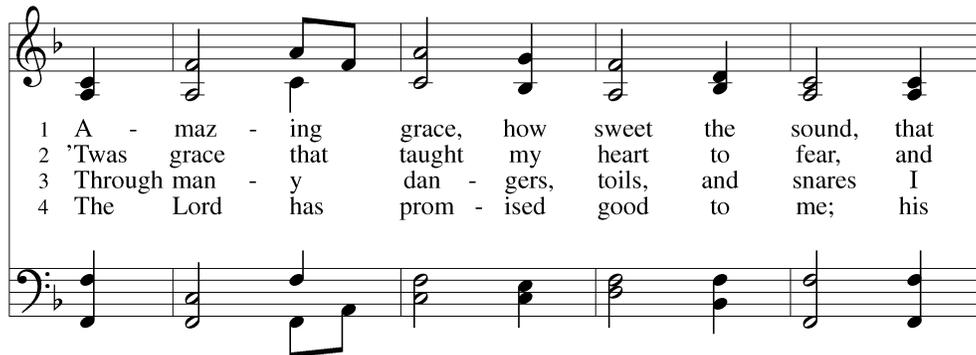
THE DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

The minister will give instruction on the distribution of communion.

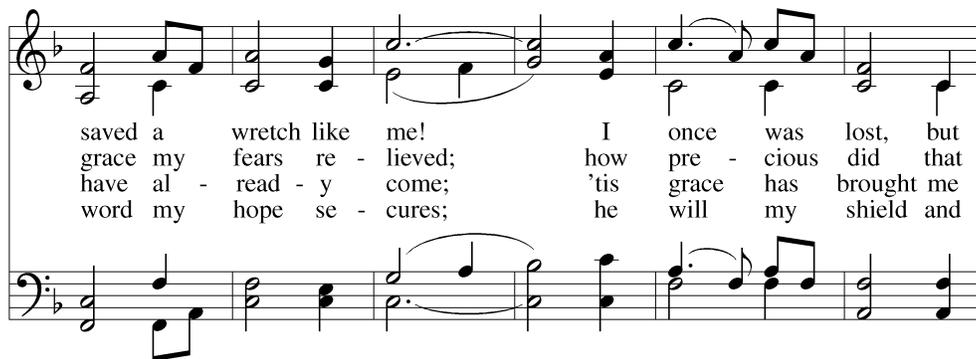
COMMUNION HYMN: Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

To be sung during the distribution of communion

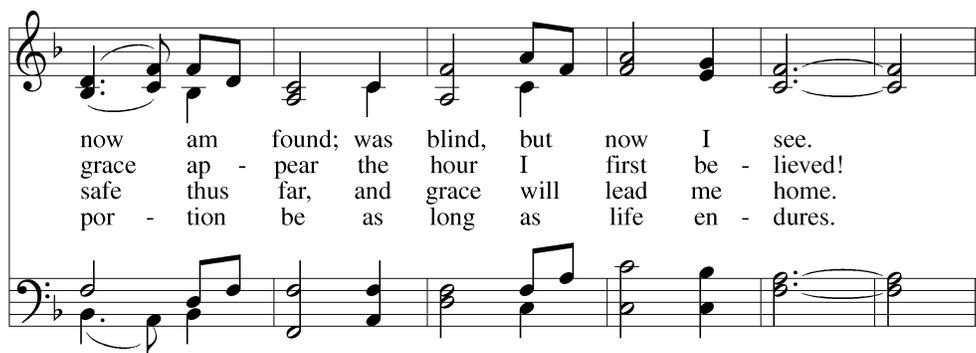
Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound



1 A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, that
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and



now am found; was blind, but now I see.
grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.

Text: John Newton, 1725-1807

Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

***POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

L: The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen and keep you in God's grace, now and forever.

ALL: Amen.

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

L: Blessed Jesus,
in this rich meal of grace,
you have fed us with your body, the bread of life.
Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope
to a world in need.

ALL: Amen.

***BLESSING**

L: You are children of God,
anointed with the oil of gladness
and strengthened for the journey.
Almighty God,
motherly, majestic, and mighty,
✠ bless you this day and always.

ALL: Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN: What Wondrous Love is This**

What Wondrous Love Is This

1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when
3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and

won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this
I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when I was sink - ing down
God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,

that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my
be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my
who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will
I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing

soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.
sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.
on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.
Music: WONDROUS LOVE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. Paul J. Christiansen, 1914–1997, alt.
Arr. © 1955 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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***DISMISSAL**

L: Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Office hours

Pastor Rick: Tuesdays & Thursdays 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Tracy: Tuesdays & Thursdays 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

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*God's love is powerful...powerful enough to wade through our doubts, fears, and challenges.
And, God's love is for YOU and ALL!*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please pray for:

- *The family and friends of Walt Wilkins & Hal Ferguson*
- *Strength and healing for:*
 - *Bill Beaky – back on chemo*
 - *Jessica Brown – healing*
 - *Annette Adamczak – strength*
 - *Jodi (Linda Laurie's daughter) –covid*
 - *Bob Say - cancer*
 - *John Lang - cancer*
 - *Eileen Kittel – awaiting cancer diagnosis & treatment*



Counters: April: Donna

Volunteers Needed

Thanks to all who joined yesterday for the yard cleanup. Extra hands will be needed for the indoor spring cleaning. Please join us on:

April 2nd at 9am

Lenten Midweek Devotions

Join for the final two Lenten Devotions on Wednesday **March 30th** and **April 6th**, from 6:30-7:15! We will take a look at *Lent in Plain Sight: A Devotion through Ten Objects* by Jill L. Duffield. God is often at work through the ordinary: ordinary people, ordinary objects, ordinary grace. Through the ordinary, God communicates epiphanies, salvation, revelation, and reconciliation. It is through the mundane that we hear God's quiet voice. *Lent in Plain Sight* draws our attention to ten ordinary objects that Jesus would have encountered on his way to Jerusalem.

This year our church will use the season of Lent to facilitate conversation and connection to each other and the meaning of this time in the church year. The goal of these devotions will be to focus on spiritual lessons and recognize how the seemingly ordinary can reveal the extraordinary presence of God in our lives.

Devotions will also be available via Zoom, use Meeting ID: 878 4162 1035 and Passcode: 952121

Lenten Diaper Collection

Our weekly count: 1502 and counting

This Lent the entire Upstate New York Synod is collecting...Diapers! What are the consequences of diaper need? One in three families suffers from diaper need in the US. Based on present funding in NYS and many other areas in the US, diapers cannot be purchased with food stamps. Babies who remain too long in a soiled diaper are exposed to increased health risks and concerns. Diaper need creates additional stress and concern for the family as well. Most child care centers, even free and subsidized facilities, require parents to provide a day's supply of disposable diapers; therefore, many parents cannot go back to work or school if they cannot leave their babies at child care.

Trinity is joining in to do something about this! We are collecting size 4, 5 and 6 disposable diapers that will be donated to *All Babies Cherished* in Batavia, an agency that helps with the needs of young families through support, education and supplies. You can add to the diaper stack that will be growing in front of the altar during Lent starting March 6th and ending April 13th!

Choir Rehearsals

Choir is meeting on Wednesday evenings immediately following Lenten Devotions (7:15 pm) **AND** on Sunday mornings before worship (8:00 am).

Spaghetti Supper

In years' past, Trinity's Youth group supported the Children's Hospital by way of a Spaghetti Supper. This tradition continued for a number of years, when Trinity's women took over the fundraiser and designating the beneficiary every year. People of the community look forward to this dinner. During the pandemic shutdown, the people of Trinity couldn't offer the dinner, but last year a drive-thru Spaghetti Supper was held...and WOW! What a success! This year it will be held **on Saturday April 23rd at 4:30pm**. We will once again offer spaghetti with tossed salad, bread and butter. In respect to our friends and neighbors who are still taking pandemic precautions, it will be a drive-thru format again. You are asked to check out the sign-up sheet posted in the narthex to see where you may be of help – either through donating ingredients or donating your time to help. All donations are gratefully accepted!

There will also be a drive-thru **bake sale** during the supper, with the proceeds going to support the people of Ukraine.

Upcoming:

- **Palm Sunday** is April 10th at 9:30am
- **Maundy Thursday** is April 14th at: 7:00pm
- **Good Friday** is April 15th at 8:00 pm
- **Easter Sunday** is April 17th at 9:30am