

SERVICE of WORD and PRAYER
from With One Voice

March 22, 2020



Messiah Lutheran Church

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4th Sunday in Lent

THE PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION

HYMN: "God, Whose Almighty Word" vs 1,2,4

God, Whose Almighty Word

400

1 God, whose al - might - y word
2 Lord, who once came to bring,
3 Spir - it of truth and love,
4 Ho - ly and bless - ed three,
Cha - os and
On your re -
Life - giv - ing,
Glo - ri - ous

dark - ness heard
deem - ing wing,
ho - ly dove,
Trin - i - ty,
And took their flight:
Heal - ing and sight,
Speed forth your flight;
Wis - dom, love, might!

Hear us, we hum - bly pray, And where the Gos - pel day
Health to the sick in mind, Sight to the in - ly blind:
Move on the wa - ter's face Bear - ing the lamp of grace,
Bound-less as o - cean's tide, Roll - ing in full - est pride,

Sheds not its glo - rious ray,
Oh, now to hu - man-kind Let there be light!
And in earth's dark - est place
Through the earth, far and wide,

THE GREETING & DIALOG

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

And also with you.

The word is near you,
on your lips and in your heart.

If you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord,
and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead,
you will be saved.

Faith comes from what is heard,
and what is heard comes through the word of Christ.

SCRIPTURE SONG

Refrain

I Sal - va - tion be - longs to our God and to
Christ the Lamb for - ev - er and ev - er.

II Great and won-der-ful are your deeds, O God of the u-ni-verse;
just and true are your ways, O Rul - er of all the na - tions.

Refrain

Who can fail to hon-or you, Lord, and sing the glo - ry of your name?

III For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One. All
na - tions will draw near and wor - ship be - fore you,
for your just and ho - ly works have been re - vealed.

Refrain

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

God of all mercy, by your power to heal and to forgive, graciously cleanse us from all sin and make us strong; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON

1 Samuel 16:1-13

16 The LORD said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.”² Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.” And the LORD said, “Take a heifer with you, and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.’³ Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.”⁴ Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, “Do you come peaceably?”⁵ He said, “Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

⁶ When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the LORD’s anointed is now before the LORD.”⁷ But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.”⁸ Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.”⁹ Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.”¹⁰ Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The LORD has not chosen any of these.”¹¹ Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.”¹² He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, “Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.”¹³ Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

THE PSALM

Psalm 23

¹The LORD¹ is my shepherd;
I shall not¹ be in want.
**2The LORD makes me lie down¹ in green pastures
and leads me be-¹ side still waters.**
**3You restore my¹ soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways¹ for your name's sake.**
**4Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall¹ fear no evil;**
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they¹ comfort me.
**5You prepare a table before me in the presence¹ of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is¹ running over.**
**6Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days¹ of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the¹ LORD forever.**

THE SECOND LESSON

Ephesians 5:8-14

⁸For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—⁹ for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. ¹⁰ Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹ Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹² For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; ¹³ but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴ for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake!

Rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: “Word of Life”

The musical notation consists of five staves of music in common time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is simple, featuring mostly quarter notes and eighth notes. The lyrics are repeated four times across the staves:

- Word of life, Je-sus Christ, all glo-ry to you!
- Word of life, Je-sus Christ, all praise to you!
- Our hearts burn with - in us while you o - pen to us the Scrip-tures.
- Word of life, Je-sus Christ, all glo-ry to you!
- Word of life, Je-sus Christ, all praise to you!

THE GOSPEL

John 9:1-41

⁹ As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ² His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³ Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. ⁴ We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. ⁵ As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶ When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, ⁷ saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁸ The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” ⁹ Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” ¹⁰ But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?”

¹¹ He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” ¹² They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.

¹³ They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind.

¹⁴ Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes.

¹⁵ Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.”

¹⁶ Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. ¹⁷ So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.”

¹⁸ The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹ and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” ²⁰ His parents answered, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; ²¹ but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” ²² His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. ²³ Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

²⁴ So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” ²⁵ He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” ²⁶ They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” ²⁷ He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” ²⁸ Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹ We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” ³⁰ The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he

comes from, and yet he opened my eyes.³¹ We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will.³² Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind.³³ If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.”³⁴ They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.

³⁵ Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?”³⁶ He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.”³⁷ Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.”³⁸ He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him.³⁹ Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.”

⁴⁰ Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?”⁴¹ Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.

HYMN: “God’s Word Is Our Great Heritage”

239 God’s Word Is Our Great Heritage



God’s Word is our great her - i - tage And shall be ours for - ev - er;



To spread its light from age to age Shall be our chief en - deav - or.



Through life it guides our way; In death it is our stay. Lord, grant while time shall



last Your Church may hold it fast Through-out all gen - er - a - tions.



THE SERMON

HYMN: “Amazing Grace”

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

448

F Dm Bb F

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, snares I
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to His

Dm F Am F

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
grace my fears re-lieved; How pre - cious did that
have al - ready come; 'Tis grace has brought me and
Word my hope se-cures; He will my shield and

Bb F Dm F C7 F

now am found; Was blind, but now I see.
grace ap - pear The hour I be - lieved!
safe thus far, And grace me home.
por - tion be As long en - dures.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

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 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.

Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;
pray in the Holy Spirit.

Keep yourselves in the love of God;
look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.
If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:
Everything old has passed away;
behold, everything has become new!

CONFSSION AND ABSOLUTION

God has given us the ministry of reconciliation.
Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

Gracious God,
Have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown, things done and left undone.
Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and
serve you in newness of life,
To the honor and glory of your holy name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another,
Agree with one another, live in peace.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

THE OFFERING

THE OFFERTORY: "Glory to You, God" vs. 2

(Advent to Transfiguration) Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
(Lent to Pentecost) Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
(Season after Pentecost) Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;

yours is the promise, the blessing, the birth.
Ours the rejoicing for Word given frame;
Ours the rejoicing for nature re-claimed;
Ours the rejoicing for spirits a-flame;
ours the thanksgiving to your ho-ly name.
Ours be the telling of deeds great-ly done;
yours be the glo-ry, O God, yours a-lone.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray.
Gracious God,
in the abundance of your steadfast love, you call us from death to life,
from silence to speech, from idleness to action. With these gifts we offer
ourselves to you, and with the Church through all the ages we give
thanks for your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

As God's people called to love one another,
Let us pray for the needs of the Church, the human family,
and all the world

God of mercy,
Hear our prayer.

All these things and whatever else you see that we need, grant us, O God,
for the sake of Christ who died and rose again, and now lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.
Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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 BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,
 bless you now and forever.

Amen.

HYMN: "When Peace, like a River" vs 1,2,4

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When Peace, like a River

1 When peace, like a riv - er, at - tend - eth my way;
 2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come,
 3 He lives— oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought;
 4 And, Lord, haste the day when our faith shall be sight,

When sor - rows, like sea bil - lows, roll; What -
 Let this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, That
 My sin, not in part, but the whole, Is
 The clouds be rolled back as a scroll, The

ev - er my lot, thou hast taught me to say,
 Christ hath re - gard - ed my help - less es - tate
 nailed to his cross, and I bear it no more.
 trum - pet shall sound, and the Lord shall de - scend;

It is well, it is well with my soul.
 And hath shed his own blood for my soul.
 Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
 E - ven so it is well with my soul.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

THE POSTLUDE