



**March 10, 2024**  
***Fourth Sunday in Lent***



*The promise God makes to Moses is the fourth of the Old Testament promises providing a baptismal lens this Lent: those who look on the bronze serpent will live. In today's gospel Jesus says he will be lifted up on the cross like the serpent, so that those who look to him in faith will live. When we receive the sign of the cross in baptism, that cross becomes the sign we can look to in faith for healing, for restored relationship to God, for hope when we are dying.*

***Good Morning and Welcome!***

Guests, we are so glad you are here.

If you are an online guest or member worshipping today, please leave a record of your visit, below. Thank you.

**[Online Guest Form](#)**

7740 HIGHWAY 72 W | (256) 721-0041 | MLUTHERAN.ORG

**SERVICE OF WORSHIP**

***Bread of Life from **With One Voice*****

*\* Please stand as you are able*

PRELUDE “Just as I am” (Dale Wood)

Melanie Payne, Organist

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTERLUDE

Notabella (11:00): “Wade in De Water” (Bill Ingram)

\*BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus.

**Amen.**

Held in God’s mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy God,

**we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.**

Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through † Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

With One Voice  
*A Lutheran Resource for Worship*  
© 1995, Augsburg Publishing House, All rights reserved.  
Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE # A-737597.  
Reprinted with permission under CCLI License No. 275546.  
All rights reserved. Images: SundaysandSeasons.Com  
All rights reserved. Used with permission

\*HYMN: “Give to Our God Immortal Praise!”

LBW 520



1 Give to our God im - mor - tal praise! Mer - cy and  
 2 He sent his Son with pow'r to save from guilt and  
 3 Give to the Lord of lords re - nown; the King of



truth are all his ways; won - ders of grace to  
 dark - ness and the grave. Won - ders of grace to  
 kings with glo - ry crown. His mer - cies ev - er



God be - long; re - peat his mer - cies in your song.  
 God be - long; re - peat his mer - cies in your song.  
 shall en - dure when lords and kings are known no more!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748  
 Music: DUKE STREET, attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

**\*THE GREETING**

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 KYRIE**



**Ⓐ** Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **Ⓔ** Lord, have mer - cy.  
*Lord, . . . . have mer - cy:*



**Ⓐ** Chri - ste e - le - i - son: **Ⓔ** Christ, have mer - cy.  
*Christ, . . . . have mer - cy:*



**Ⓐ** Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **Ⓔ** Lord, have mer - cy.  
*Lord, . . . . have mer - cy:*

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE**



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;



glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



☐ Lord God, heav-en - ly king, al-might- y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;



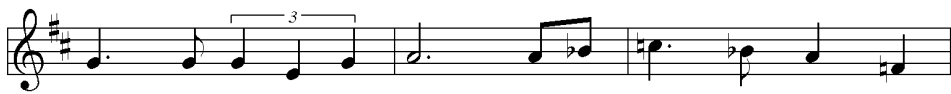
glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



☐ Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re-ceive our prayer.

Song Continues on Next Page →



☐ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



I  
II For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly



Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther, A - men.



☐ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth,



and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

\*THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

TEMPLE TALK

Tanya Rains - New Futures, Inc.

THE FIRST LESSON

Numbers 21:4-9

<sup>4</sup>From Mount Hor [the Israelites] set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. <sup>5</sup>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 detest this miserable food.” <sup>6</sup>Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. <sup>7</sup>The people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. <sup>8</sup>And the LORD said to Moses, “Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.” <sup>9</sup>So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

#### THE PSALM

*Psalm 107:1-3,17-22*

<sup>1</sup>Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good,  
for God’s mercy endures forever.

<sup>2</sup>**Let the redeemed of the LORD proclaim  
that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe,**

<sup>3</sup>gathering them in from the lands;  
from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

<sup>17</sup>**Some were fools and took rebellious paths;  
through their sins they were afflicted.**

<sup>18</sup>They loathed all manner of food  
and drew near to death’s door.

<sup>19</sup>**Then in their trouble they cried to the LORD  
and you delivered them from their distress.**

<sup>20</sup>You sent forth your word and healed them  
and rescued them from the grave.

<sup>21</sup>**Let them give thanks to you, LORD, for your steadfast love  
and your wonderful works for all people.**

<sup>22</sup>Let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving  
and tell of your deeds with shouts of joy.

#### THE SECOND LESSON

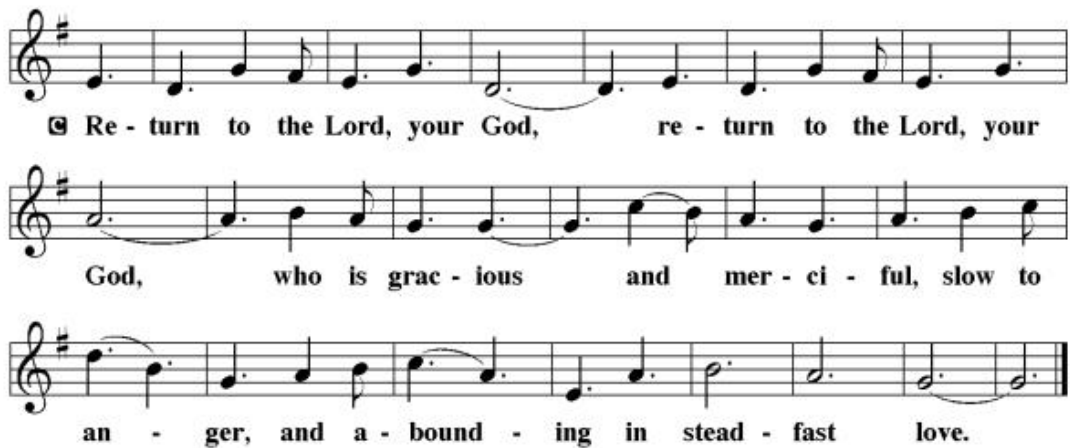
*Ephesians 2:1-10*

<sup>1</sup>You were dead through the trespasses and sins <sup>2</sup>in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. <sup>3</sup>All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. <sup>4</sup>But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us <sup>5</sup>even when we were dead through 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 ages to come 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 the result of works, so that no one may boast. <sup>10</sup>For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

#### CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Pr. Bill Schroeder

\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: “Return to the Lord, Your God”



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, re - turn to the Lord, your  
 God, who is grac - ious and mer - ci - ful, slow to  
 an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

**\*THE GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 3rd chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

**\*THE GOSPEL**

John 3:14-21

[Jesus said:] <sup>14</sup>“Just 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>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. <sup>18</sup>Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. <sup>19</sup>And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. <sup>20</sup>For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. <sup>21</sup>But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

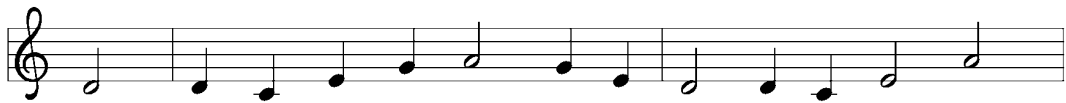
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**THE SERMON**

Pr. Kristine Schroeder

**\*HYMN: “What Wondrous Love Is This”**

LBW 385



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.

**\*THE APOSTLES' CREED**

**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**

**\*THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

**\*THE SHARING OF THE PEACE**



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

#### THE OFFERING

Notabella (8:30): "Wade in de Water" (Bill Ingram)

Choir Anthem (11:00): "God So Loved the World" (K. Lee Scott)

#### \*THE OFFERTORY: "Let the Vineyards be Fruitful, Lord"



Let the vine-yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown,  
that we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gath - er the hopes and dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we  
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence, Lord,  
and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

#### \*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal.

Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness.

Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace.

We pray this in your name.

Amen

#### \*GREAT THANKSGIVING & PREFACE

The Lord be with you.

And also 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.

\*THE SANCTUS: “Holy, Holy, Holy”



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and  
might, heav - en 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

\*THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

\*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 AGNUS DEI



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on

Song Continues on Next Page →

us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## THE DISTRIBUTION

### HYMN: "O Living Bread from Heaven"

LBW 197

- 1 O liv - ing Bread from heav - en, how well you feed your guest!
- 2 My Lord, you here have led me with - in your ho - liest place,
- 3 You gave me all I want - ed; this food can death de - stroy.
- 4 Lord, grant me then, thus strength - ened with heav'n - ly food, while here

The gifts that you have giv - en have filled my heart with rest.  
and here your - self have fed me with trea - sures of your grace;  
And you have free - ly grant - ed the cup of end - less joy.  
my course on earth is length - ened, to serve with ho - ly fear.

Oh, won - drous food of bless - ing, oh, cup that heals our woes!  
for you have free - ly giv - en what earth could nev - er buy,  
My Lord, I do not mer - it the fa - vor you have shown,  
And when you call my spir - it to leave this world be - low,

My heart, this gift pos - sess - ing, with prais - es o - ver - flows!  
the bread of life from heav - en, that now I shall not die.  
and all my soul and spir - it bow down be - fore your throne.  
I en - ter, through your mer - it, where joys un - min - gled flow.

Text: Johann Rist, 1606–1667; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829–1878, alt.  
Music: AURELIA, Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–1876

### HYMN: "My Song Is Love Unknown"

Verses 1-4

LBW 94



1 My song is love un - known, my Sav - ior's love to me,  
2 He came from his blest throne, sal - va - tion to be - stow;  
3 Some - times they strew his way and his sweet prais - es sing;  
4 Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and spite?



love to the love - less shown, that they might love - ly be.  
but men made strange, and none the longed-for Christ would know.  
re - sound - ing all the day ho - san - nas to their King.  
He made the lame to run, he gave the blind their sight.



Oh, who am I, that for my sake my Lord should take frail  
But, oh, my friend, my friend in - deed, who at my need his  
Then "Cru - ci - fy!" is all their breath, and for his death they  
Sweet in - ju - ries! Yet they at these them - selves dis - please, and



flesh and die? My Lord should take frail flesh and die?  
life did spend; who at my need his life did spend!  
thirst and cry, and for his death they thirst and cry.  
'gainst him rise; them - selves dis - please, and 'gainst him rise.

Text: Samuel Crossman, c. 1624–1683

Music: RHOSYMEDRE, John D. Edwards, 1806–1885

HYMN: "In the Quiet Consecration" (*not printed*)

*LBW (Green Hymnal) 223*

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE: "Thankful Hearts"

☩ Thank - ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry -  
 one what God has done. Let all who seek the  
 Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.  
 Send us with your prom - is - es, O God, and  
 lead us forth in joy with shouts of thanks -  
 giv - ing. A - men, a - men.

\*POST COMMUNION PRAYER

\*THE BLESSING

\*SENDING HYMN: "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

LBW 482



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the  
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the  
3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and  
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a



prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I  
death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that  
love flow min - gled down. Did e'er such love and  
trib - ute far too small; love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss and pour con - tempt on all my pride.  
charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.  
sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?  
so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: ROCKINGHAM OLD, adapt. Edward Miller, 1731–1807

## THE DISMISSAL

## POSTLUDE “A Mighty Fortress” (M. Luther/D. Cherwien)

## WE REMEMBER IN THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH TODAY

*Please refer to the names lifted up during the Prayers of the Church.*

**THE FLOWERS** today are given to the glory of God by Rick & LeeLinda Baggett in honor of LeeLinda's 70<sup>th</sup> birthday (Monday) and in appreciation to MLC's Comforter's Group. Saturday, March 16 is National Quilting Day.

**A NURSERY**, staffed by Sarah Walker, is through the double doors in the Narthex leading to the Sunday School classrooms. Newborns, toddlers, and children up to Pre-K are welcome.

**ALL ARE INVITED** to enjoy coffee, tea, and fellowship after worship in the Fellowship Hall.

**LENT CONTINUES THIS WEDNESDAY, March 13** Services of worship will take place at 12:00 and 7:00 p.m. through March 20. Unless otherwise designated, Lenten offerings will be shared equally with New Futures, Inc, of Huntsville and MLC's Kit Ministry.

**THANK YOU** to Tanya Rains, Executive Director of New Futures, Inc, for giving today's Temple Talk. New Futures will receive part of our Lenten offering this year.

**A FINANCE COMMITTEE TOWN HALL IS TODAY** at 9:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. On the agenda: A review of MLC's current financials and information about endowments.

**A CARD MAKING WORKSHOP / OPEN HOUSE** for all ages of paper crafters is Saturday, March 16 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. A variety of cards for expressing care will be made for use in Outreach. Card makers can also take home cards to send to loved ones. POC Peggy Mabry

**SHARE YOUR FAVORITE BIBLE VERSE** with Messiah youngsters as part of their March 24 Palm Sunday/Easter Egg Hunt and Party. The verses will be stuffed inside the eggs along with the other treats and items. Visit the display in the Narthex for instructions and slips of paper to fill out.

**MLC RUMMAGE SALE** is Saturday, April 6, 2024. Now is a great time to start sorting through those closets and attics for gently used items to donate! POC Paulette McNamara.

**KIT MINISTRY ITEM** - Dark Towels (52 x 27) **FOOD PANTRY** - Peanut Butter & Jelly (No Glass)

<u>Pastor</u>	Kristine Schroeder	<u>Acolytes</u>	
<u>Director of Music</u>	Randall Fields		(11:00)
<u>Organist/Accompanist</u>	Melanie Payne	<u>Greeters</u>	Virgil & Sue Burrer (8:30)
<u>Director of Outreach Ministries</u>	Claire Strand		Tom McNamara, (11:00)
<u>Communication &amp; Tech Director</u>	Meredith Kilby	<u>Lector</u>	Greg Kilby (8:30)
<u>Office Managers</u>	Bobbey Huwaldt		Pastor Bill Schroeder (11:00)
	Meredith Kilby	<u>Ushers</u>	Virgil & Sue Burrer (8:30)
<u>Nursery Attendant</u>	Sarah Walker		Tom McNamara, (11:00)
		<u>Cantor</u>	Emily Reed (11:00)
		<u>Altar Guild</u>	Janet Smith (8:30)
			Debbie Neely (11:00)
		<u>Sound/Stream Team</u>	Meredith Kilby (8:30)
			Meredith Kilby, Craig Martin 11:00)
		<u>Flower Guild</u>	Beverly Berry

## **\*\*CHURCH CALENDAR\*\***

9:45 a.m. - Outreach Craft project for all ages

9:45 a.m. - Sunday School for Adults, Town Hall (Finance Committee) Fellowship Hall

10:30 a.m. - Choir Rehearsal

6:30 p.m. - Notabella (Parish Hall)

*\*These services are live streamed on mlutheran.org*

### **Tuesday, March 12**

9:00 a.m. - Comforters

### **Wednesday, March 13**

12:00 p.m. - Lenten Service of Worship

5:30 p.m. - Wednesday Night Dinner - Soup Supper

7:00 p.m. - \*Lenten Service of Worship

7:45 p.m. - Messiah Choir

### **Thursday, March 14**

6:30 p.m. - Kit Ministry

### **Saturday, March 16**

9:00 a.m. - Band Led Worship Rehearsal

10:00 a.m. - Outreach Card Making Workshop

### **Sunday, March 17**

8:00 a.m. - Choir Rehearsal

8:30 a.m. - Service of Worship: *LBW Setting 2* w/the Lord's Supper

9:45 a.m. - Sunday School for All Ages

11:00 a.m. - \*Service of Worship: *Band Led* w/the Lord's Supper

5:00 p.m. - Jr/Sr Youth Group

6:30 p.m. - Notabella

*\*These services are live streamed on mlutheran.org*

### **LOOKING AHEAD**

**March 23** - Mulch Spreading, House of the Harvest Serving

**March 24** - Passion/Palm Sunday, Children's Easter Egg Hunt

**March 31** - Resurrection/Easter Sunday

**April 6** - MLC Rummage Sale

### **Attendance:**

February 25 - Online - 70    March 3 - 8:30 a.m. - 88, 11:00 a.m. - 49

**Offerings Counted March 3, 2024** (Includes e-giving from February)

### Online Giving



### SignUp Genius

