

Welcome to Pilgrim Lutheran Church

Pastor Don Short

Third Sunday in Lent

March 14, 2021

## **GATHERING AND WELCOME**

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, + one God,  
The keeper of the covenant,  
The source of steadfast love,  
Our rock and our redeemer  
**Amen.**

God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

*(Silence for reflection and self-examination.)*

Fountain of living water,  
**Pour out your mercy over us.**  
**Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free.**  
**Rebuild what we have ruined**  
**and mend what we have torn.**  
**Wash us in your cleansing flood.**  
**Make us alive in the Spirit**  
**to follow in the way of Jesus,**  
**as healers and restorers of the world you love.**

**Amen.**

How vast is God's grace! Through the power and promise of Jesus Christ, our sins are washed away and we are claimed as God's own beloved. Indeed, we are forgiven. In the wake of God's forgiveness, we are called to be the beloved community living out Christ's justice and the Spirit's reconciling peace.

**Amen**

## **Gathering Hymn~~Lead Me, Guide Me~~ELW #768**

### *Refrain*

**Lead me, guide me, along the way;  
For if you lead me, I cannot stray.  
Lord, let me walk each day with thee.  
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.**

**I am weak and I need thy strength and pow'r  
To help me over my weakest hour.  
Help me through the darkness thy face to see.  
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.**

### *Refrain*

*Help me tread in the paths of righteousness,  
Be my aid when Satan and sin oppress.  
I am putting all my trust in thee.  
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.*

### *Refrain*

*I am lost if you take your hand from me,  
I am blind without thy light to see.  
Lord, just always let me thy servant be.  
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.*

### *Refrain*

Reprinted by permission of License 731965-A OneLicense.net  
Text and music: Doris Akers Unichappell Music, Inc

## **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

### **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.**

## **KYRIE~~~~ELW #147**

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy**

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 mercy**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord have mercy**

Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

## **READINGS**

### **A reading from Numbers 21:4-9**

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. 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." Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. 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. 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." 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 Word of the Lord.**

Thanks be to God.

### **Let us read Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22**

**<sup>1</sup> O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;  
for his steadfast love endures for ever.**

**<sup>2</sup> Let the redeemed of the LORD say so,  
those he redeemed from trouble**

**<sup>3</sup> and gathered in from the lands,**

**from the east and from the west,  
from the north and from the south.**

<sup>17</sup> Some were sick through their sinful ways,  
and because of their iniquities endured affliction;

<sup>18</sup> **they loathed any kind of food,  
and they drew near to the gates of death.**

<sup>19</sup> Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,  
and he saved them from their distress;

<sup>20</sup> **he sent out his word and healed them,  
and delivered them from destruction.**

<sup>21</sup> Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love,  
for his wonderful works to humankind.

<sup>22</sup> **And let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices,  
and tell of his deeds with songs of joy.**

***A reading from Ephesians 2:1-10***

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 towards 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.

**The Word of the Lord.**

Thanks be to God.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**OR**  
*During Lent:*

Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,  
slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

### Holy Gospel according to John 3:14-21 **Glory to you O Lord**

And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. '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.

'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. 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. And this is the judgement, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. 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.'

This is the Gospel of our Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

## Hymn of the Day~~Amazing Grace~~ELW #779

A-maz-ing grace!—how sweet the sound	'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
That saved a wretch like me!	And grace will lead me home.
I once was lost, but now am found;	
Was blind, but now I see.	The Lord has prom-ised good to me;
	His word my hope se-cures;
'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,	He will my shield and por-tion be
And grace my fears re-lieved;	As long as life en-dures.
How pre-cious did that grace ap-pear	
The hour I first be-lieved!	When we've been there ten thou-sand
	years,
Through man-y dan-gers, toils and	Bright shin-ing as the sun,
snare	We've no less days to sing God's praise
I have already come;	Than when we'd first be-gun.

Reprinted by permission of License 731965-A OneLicense.net  
John Newton,  
Music: W. Walker, Southern Harmony; 1835; arr Edwin O. Excell

## APOSTLE'S 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.**

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Hear us O God ....

**Your mercy is great.**

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

## GATHERING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

### OFFERATORY HYMN

186                      Create in Me a Clean Heart

The musical score is written on four staves in a single system. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a 3/4 time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right  
spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take  
not your Ho-ly Spir-it from me. Re-store to me the joy of  
your sal-va-tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it.

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

**Faithful God,  
You walk beside us in desert places,  
And meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven.  
Accompany us in this meal,  
That we may pass over from death to life  
With Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
Amen.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING~~ELW pg 152

**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 God thanks and praise.

**... We praise your name and join their unending hymn:**

### *Hymn of Thanksgiving*



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.

## WORDS OF INSITUION

### 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**



## ***DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION***

### **POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

God of steadfast love,  
At this table you gather your people into one body for the sake of the world.  
Send us in the power of your Spirit,  
That our lives bear witness to the love that has made us new in Jesus Christ, our Savior  
and Lord.  
Amen.

### ***POST COMMUNION HYMN~~ Christ, The Life of All The Living~~ELW #339 v1 only***

Christ, the life of all the liv-ing, Christ, the death of death, our foe  
Christ, your-self for me once giv-ing to the dark-est depths of woe;  
through your suf-f'ing, death, and mer-it life e-ter-nal I in-her-it  
Thou-sand, thou-sand thanks are due, dear-est Je-sus, un-to you.

Reprinted by permission of License 731965-A OneLicense.net  
Text: Ernst Christoph Homburg; tr. Catherine Winkworth  
Public domain

### **BENEDICTION**

May the Lord Bless you and keep you  
May the Lord make his face to shine upon you  
May the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.  
In the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
Amen.

**SENDING HYMN~~I heard of Jesus Say~~ELW #611**

**I heard the voice of Je-sus say,**

**“Come un-to me and rest;**

**Lay down, O wea-ry one, lay down your head up-on my breast.”**

**I came to Je-sus as I was, so wea-ry, worn and sad;**

**I found in him a rest-ing place, and he has made me glad.**

**I heard the voice of Je-sus say,**

**“Be-hold, I free-ly give the liv-ing wa-ter, thirst-y one;**

**stoop down and drink and live.**

**I came to Je-sus, and I drank of that life-giv-ing stream;**

**My thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I live in him.**

**I heard the voice of Je-sus say,**

**“I am this dark world’s light;**

**look un-to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright.”**

**I looked to Je-sus and I found in him my star, my sun;**

**and in the light of life I’ll walk till trav-’ling days are done.**

Reprinted by permission of License 731965-A OneLicense.net  
Contributors: Robert Robertson, Hal H. Hopson

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Confirmation will meet March 16 at 5:30**

**All midweek Lenten message will be available online this year. Please check the church webpage each Wednesday for the midweek message. Thank you.**

**For Lent this year, we will be collecting personal care kits. There has been a plea through the ELCA for these kits. What is needed for these kits is:**

- 1. One light-weight bath size towel, dark color recommended.**
- 2. Two or three bath-size bars of soap equaling 8-9 oz, any brand in original wrapping.**
- 3. One adult-size toothbrush in it's original packaging.**
- 4. One sturdy comb, remove packaging.**
- 5. One metal nail clippers, remove the packaging.**

**When we have gathered all our kits at the end, the Sunday School children will put them together and the adults will pack them in boxes and get them mailed.**

## **THE DISMISSAL**

**Go in peace. Share the good news!**

Thanks be to God!

**Printed with permission of One License #731965-A**