



March 27, 2022

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

Rev. Ken Bersche

Janis Lapham, Organist  
Maggie Kent, Secretary

## Prelude

### Processional Hymn *Please Stand*

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

- ♪ Come, Thou Fount of ev’ry blessing, Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;  
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, Call for songs of loudest praise,  
While the hope of endless glory Fills my heart with joy and love,  
Teach me ever to adore Thee; May I still Thy goodness prove.
- ♪ Here I raise my Ebenezer\*, Hither by Thy help I’ve come;  
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure, Safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger, Wand’ring from the fold of God;  
He, to rescue me from danger, Interposed His precious blood.
- ♪ Oh, to grace how great a debtor Daily I’m constrained to be;  
Let that grace now like a fetter Bind my wand’ring heart to Thee:  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it; Prone to leave the God I love.  
Here’s my heart, O take and seal it. Seal it for Thy courts above.
- ♪ Oh, that day when freed from sinning, I shall see Thy lovely face;  
Clothed then in the blood-washed linen, How I’ll sing Thy wondrous grace!  
Come, my Lord, no longer tarry; Take my ransom’d soul away;  
Send Thine angels soon to carry Me to realms of endless day.

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 686-Text: Robert Robinson 1735-90*

*Tune: Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, Harrisburg 1813; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.*

\*“Ebenezer” means “Thus far has the Lord helped us” and was the name given to the stone of remembrance. 1 Samuel 7:12

## Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

*Matthew 28:19b*

**Amen.**

## Confession and Absolution

Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,

**And cleanse me from my sin!**

Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love;

**According to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.**

*Psalms 51:1-2*

*A Time of Silence*

Merciful Father,

**We beg You, O Lord, to have mercy upon us sinners. Though we deserve nothing of Your kindness, deliver us according to the mercy You have promised in Your Son, Jesus Christ, and restore us as Your own sons and daughters. Forgive us all our sins, create in us new and contrite hearts, and instill in us the will and desire for all that is good and right and true. Make us to know Your will and grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. 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.

**Amen.**

## **The Prayer**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **Old Testament Reading** *Please Be Seated*

Isaiah 12:1–6

<sup>1</sup>You will say in that day:

“I will give thanks to you, O LORD, for though you were angry with me, your anger turned away, that you might comfort me.

<sup>2</sup>“Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation.”

<sup>3</sup>With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. <sup>4</sup>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.

<sup>5</sup>“Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be made known in all the earth.

<sup>6</sup>Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.”

## **The Epistle**

2 Corinthians 5:16–21

<sup>16</sup>From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. <sup>17</sup>Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. <sup>18</sup>All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup>that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. <sup>20</sup>Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup>For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

## **Gradual Hymn**

“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”

♪ Joyful, joyful we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love!

Hearts unfold like flow’rs before Thee, Praising Thee, their sun above.

Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, Drive the gloom of doubt away.

Giver of immortal gladness, Fill us with the light of day.

♪ All Thy works with joy surround Thee, Earth and heav’n reflect Thy rays,

Stars and angels sing around Thee, Center of unbroken praise.

Field and forest, vale and mountain, Flow’ry meadow, flashing sea,

Chanting bird, and flowing fountain Call us to rejoice in Thee.

## *Please Stand*

♪ Thou art giving and forgiving, Ever blessing, ever blest,  
Well-spring of the joy of living, Ocean-depth of happy rest!  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Fountain-head of love divine:  
Joyful, we Thy heav'n inherit! Joyful, we by grace are Thine!

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 803 -Text: Henry Van Dyke 1852-1933; Tune: Ludwig van Beethoven 1770-1827;  
adapt: Edward Hodges 1796-1867; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.*

## **Holy Gospel**

Luke 15:1–3, 11b–32

<sup>1</sup>Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. <sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.”

<sup>3</sup>So he told them this parable:

“There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup>And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’ And he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup>Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. <sup>14</sup>And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup>So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. <sup>16</sup>And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

<sup>17</sup>“But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! <sup>18</sup>I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. <sup>19</sup>I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.’” <sup>20</sup>And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup>And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ <sup>22</sup>But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. <sup>23</sup>And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. <sup>24</sup>For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.

<sup>25</sup>“Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup>And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. <sup>27</sup>And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.’ <sup>28</sup>But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, <sup>29</sup>but he answered his father, ‘Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup>But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!’ <sup>31</sup>And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup>It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.’”

## **Apostles' Creed**

### **Children's Message** *Please Be Seated*

## The Hymn

“Amazing Grace”

- ♪ Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, That saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost but now am found, Was blind but now I see!
- ♪ The Lord has promised good to me, His Word my hope secures;  
He will my shield and portion be As long as life endures.
- ♪ Through many dangers, toils, and snares I have already come;  
His grace has brought me safe thus far, His grace will lead me home.
- ♪ Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail And mortal life shall cease,  
Amazing grace shall then prevail In heaven’s joy and peace.
- ♪ When we’ve been there ten thousand years, Bright shining as the sun  
We’ve no less days to sing God’s praise Than when we’d first begun.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 744 -Text: John Newton 1725-1807, vv. 1-4; A Collection of Sacred Ballads, 1790, v. 5  
Tune: Columbian Harmony, Cincinnati, 1829; setting: Joseph Herl b.1959; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.

## Proclamation of the Word

“Everybody Loves a Story that Relates to Us”

Luke 15:1–3, 11–32

## Prayer of the Church *Please Stand*

*Each petition is concluded with the following:*

Lord, in Your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

## Lord’s Prayer

## Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

*Numbers 6:24–26*

**Amen.**

## Recessional Hymn *Please Be Seated*

“Today Your Mercy Calls Us”

- ♪ Today Your mercy calls us To wash away our sin. However great our trespass,  
Whatever we have been, However long from mercy Our hearts have turned away,  
Your precious blood can wash us And make us clean today.
- ♪ Today Your gate is open, And all who enter in Shall find a Father’s welcome  
And pardon for their sin. The past shall be forgotten, A present joy be giv’n,  
A future grace be promised, A glorious crown in heav’n.
- ♪ Today our Father calls us; His Holy Spirit waits; His blessed angels gather  
Around the heav’nly gates. No question will be asked us How often we have come;  
Although we oft have wandered, It is our Father’s home.
- ♪ O all-embracing Mercy, O ever-open Door, What should we do without You  
When heart and eye run o’er? When all things seem against us, To drive us to despair,  
We know one gate is open, One ear will hear our prayer.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 915-Text: Oswald Allen 1816-78; Tune: Friedrich K. Anthes 1812-c.1957;  
Setting: The Lutheran Hymnal 1941; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.

## Postlude

**Door Offering** *You may place your offering in the plate at the door as you leave.*