



March 17, 2024

The Fifth Sunday in Lent

Rev. Ken Bersche

*Janis Lapham, Organist
Maggie Kent, Secretary*

Prelude

Processional Hymn *Please Stand*

“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.

Holy Baptism *Please Be Seated*

Stone James Barrett

Invocation

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

Matthew 28:19b

Amen.

I love the Lord, because He has heard my voice and my pleas for mercy.

Because He inclined His ear to me, therefore I will call on Him as long as I live.

The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;

I suffered distress and anguish.

Then I called on the name of the Lord:

“O LORD, I pray, deliver my soul.

Psalm 116:1-4

Confession and Absolution

Though Jesus is our great High Priest, we have lived as if we did not need Him, as though our sin was not dire and deadly. Despite our self-centered failures, our heavenly Father is merciful, and because of Jesus, He invites us to draw near to His throne in confidence to ask for forgiveness.

A Time of Silence

Heavenly Father,

We have sinned against our neighbors and against You. We have sought to be served.

We have demanded others sacrifice for us. Forgive us, renew us, and humble us, for the sake of Jesus. Amen.

Almighty God in His mercy sent Jesus into our world to be our great High Priest, who came to serve and offer His life as a ransom for us. Christ died and is risen for you. 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. We are forgiven. Christ has sacrificed His life for us.

Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Kyrie

O Lord,

Have mercy on us.

O Christ,

Have mercy on us.

O Lord,

Have mercy on us.

Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 31:31–34

³¹“Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, ³²not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the LORD. ³³For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.”

The Epistle

Hebrews 5:1–10

¹For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. ²He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. ³Because of this he is obligated to offer sacrifice for his own sins just as he does for those of the people. ⁴And no one takes this honor for himself, but only when called by God, just as Aaron was.

⁵So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him,

“You are my Son, today I have begotten you”;

⁶as he says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek.”

⁷In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. ⁸Although he

was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. ⁹And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him, ¹⁰being designated by God a high priest after the order of Melchizedek.

Gradual Hymn *Music: "Sweet Hour of Prayer"*

"The Tree of Life"

- ♪ The tree of life with ev'ry good In Eden's holy orchard stood,
And of its fruit so pure and sweet God let the man and woman eat.
Yet in this garden also grew Another tree, of which they knew;
Its lovely limbs with fruit adorned Against whose eating God had warned.
- ♪ The stillness of that sacred grove Was broken, as the serpent strove
With tempting voice Eve to beguile And Adam too by sin defile.
O day of sadness when the breath Of fear and darkness, doubt and death,
Its awful poison first displayed Within the world so newly made.
- ♪ What mercy God showed to our race, A plan of rescue by His grace:
In sending One from woman's seed, The One to fill our greatest need-
For on a tree uplifted high His only Son for sin would die,
Would drink the cup of scorn and dread To crush the ancient serpent's head!
- ♪ Now from that tree of Jesus' shame Flows life eternal in His name;
For all who trust and will believe, Salvation's living fruit receive.
And of this fruit so pure and sweet The Lord invites the world to eat,
To find within this cross of wood The tree of life with ev'ry good.

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Holy Gospel *Please Stand*

Mark 10:35–45

³⁵And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came up to him and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." ³⁶And he said to them, "What do you want me to do for you?" ³⁷And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." ³⁸Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?" ³⁹And they said to him, "We are able." And Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized, ⁴⁰but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared." ⁴¹And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John. ⁴²And Jesus called them to him and said to them, "You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. ⁴³But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Nicene Creed

Children's Message *Please Be Seated*

The Hymn

“Great is Thy Faithfulness”

♪ Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father; There is no shadow of turning with Thee.

Thou changest not; Thy compassions, they fail not;

As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be.

~Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided; Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

♪ Summer and winter and springtime and harvest, Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness

To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. ~Great is...

♪ Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,

Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside. ~Great is....

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 809 - Text: Thomas O. Chisholm 1866-1960; Tune: William M. Runyan 1870-1957
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Proclamation of the Word

“So, you think you have it bad?”

Mark 10:35–45

Offering and Musical Offering

Prayer of the Church *Please Stand*

Each petition is concluded with the following:

What a priest we have in Jesus,

Who became our sacrifice.

Preface

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Colossians 3:1

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Psalms 136

Proper Preface

Sanctus Hymn

Music: “On my Heart Imprint Your Image,” Hymn 422

♪ Holy, holy, holy Jesus, Blessed Lord and King of all.

In Your pow’r and might come free us From the devil’s lies and thrall.

Let our proclamation be Sweet hosannas unto Thee.

As we journey through Lent’s wasteland, Hold us in Your scarred, yet graced hand.

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Words of Our Lord

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

Agnus Dei Hymn *Music: "On my Heart Imprint Your Image," Hymn 422*

♪ Lamb of God, for sinners given, In Your nail-pierced hands is balm.
Lamb of God, for sinners riven, In Your cross is peace and calm.
Let this proclamation rise: "I am baptized into Christ,"
Is my ward and my protection, And my death and resurrection.

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Distribution Hymn *Please Be Seated* "My Song Is Love Unknown"

♪ My song is love unknown, My Savior's love to me, Love to the loveless shown
That they might lovely be. Oh, who am I
That for my sake My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?

♪ He came from His blest throne Salvation to bestow; But men made strange, and none
The longed-for Christ would know. But, oh, my friend,
My friend indeed, Who at my need His life did spend!

♪ Sometimes they strew His way And His sweet praises sing; Resounding all the day
Hosannas to their King. Then "Crucify!"
Is all their breath, And for His death They thirst and cry.

♪ Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and spite? He made the lame to run,
He gave the blind their sight. Sweet injuries!
Yet they at these Themselves displease And 'gainst Him rise.

♪ They rise and needs will have My dear Lord made away; A murderer they save,
The Prince of Life they slay. Yet cheerful He
To suff'ring goes That He His foes From thence might free.

♪ In life no house, no home My Lord on earth might have; In death no friendly tomb
But what a stranger gave. What may I say?
Heav'n was His home But mine the tomb Wherein He lay.

♪ Here might I stay and sing, No story so divine! Never was love, dear King,
Never was grief like Thine. This is my friend,
In whose sweet praise I all my days Could gladly spend!

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 430 -Text: Samuel Crossman c.1624-83; Tune: John N. Ireland 1879-1902
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Prayer of Thanksgiving

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord lift up His countenance on You and + give You peace.

Amen.

Numbers 6:24-26

Recessional Hymn

"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

♪ What a friend we have in Jesus, All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry Ev'rything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit; Oh, what needless pain we bear—
All because we do not carry Ev'rything to God in prayer!

♪ Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged—Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness- Take it to the Lord in prayer.

♪ Are we weak and heavy laden, Cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge—Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In His arms He'll take and shield thee; Thou wilt find a solace there.

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 770 - Text: Joseph M. Scriven 1819-86; Tune: Charles C. Converse 1832-1918;
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Postlude