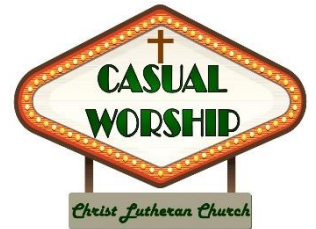


# 4th Sunday in Lent



## Christ Lutheran Church

Casual Worship ~ March 19, 2023

*(Fellowship Hall during winter months)*

### WELCOME

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who journeys with us these forty days,  
and sustains us with the gift of grace.

**Amen.**

Let us acknowledge before God and one another  
our need for repentance and God's mercy.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy God,

**we confess to you our faults and failings.**

**Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word;**

**we take for ourselves instead of giving to others;**

**we spoil rather than steward your creation;**

**we cause hurt though you call us to heal;**

**we choose fear over compassion.**

**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,  
as we seek to follow in your way of life.**

**Amen.**

Hear the good news:

God so loved the world that God gave the only Son,  
so that all may receive life.

This promise is for you!

God embraces you with divine mercy,

† forgives you in Christ's name,  
and revives you in the Spirit's power.

**Amen.**



# GATHERING SONG: *Open the eyes of My Heart Lord*

$\text{♩} = 112$  **CHORUS**

O - pen the eyes \_ of my heart, \_ Lord, \_ o - pen the eyes \_ of my heart; .

\_ I want to see You, \_ I want to see You. \_

**VERSE**

To see You high and lift - ed up, \_ shin-

- ing in the light of Your glo - ry. \_ Pour out Your pow'r and love; .

\_ As we sing ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly. \_

**BRIDGE**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, \_ ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly; \_

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, \_ I want to see You. \_

\_ see You. \_

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## 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.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## **READING: 1 Samuel 16:1-13**

<sup>1</sup>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.” <sup>2</sup>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.’” <sup>3</sup>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.” <sup>4</sup>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?” <sup>5</sup>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.

<sup>6</sup>When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the LORD’s anointed is now before the LORD.” <sup>7</sup>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.” <sup>8</sup>Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.” <sup>9</sup>Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.” <sup>10</sup>Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The LORD has not chosen any of these.” <sup>11</sup>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.” <sup>12</sup>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.” <sup>13</sup>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 Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

*Before the reading:* The Holy Gospel according to John, the 9th chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

## **GOSPEL READING: John 9:1-41**

*After the reading:* The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

**SONG OF THE DAY:** *Amazing Grace My Chains are Gone*

*Newton, Tomlin and Giglio*

*(See page 7)*

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

Eternal God, you seal us by the Holy Spirit and mark us with the cross of Christ forever in baptism. Inspire us by your love as together we strive for justice and peace in all the earth. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Creating God, by your word you have made all things, and you hate nothing you have made. Teach us to perceive the beauty of the breadth of your creation, from the grandest mountain range to the smallest springtime bud. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Powerful God, you anoint kings and establish rulers. Guide the work of heads of state and elected officials. Encourage them to lead with justice and to remove barriers that impede the well-being of all. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Shepherding God, you lead us beside still waters and restore our souls. Keep watch over those who weep; tend all who are sick and comfort those who grieve (*especially*). Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God our host, you fill us at your table with more than we could ever ask. Feed us with hunger for justice. Equip the feeding ministries of this congregation and community (*especially*). Nourish us so we can nourish our neighbors. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of history, with thanksgiving we remember our ancestors in faith who cared for your people. We praise you for the ways they formed the faith of others and continue to inspire us. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen**

## SHARING THE PEACE

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

*Greet those sitting next to you with these or similar words: "Peace be with you."*

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.**

Holy God, our living Water, and our merciful Guide, together with rivers and seas, wells and springs we bless and magnify you.

You led your people Israel through the desert and provided them water from the rock. We praise you for Christ, our Rock and our Water, who joined us in our desert, pouring out his life for the world.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his life, death, and resurrection, we await your salvation for all this thirsty world.

Pour out your Spirit on this holy food and on all the baptized gathered for this feast: wash away our sin, that we may be revived for our journey by the love of Christ. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

**Amen**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

The gifts of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God!**

*All baptized Christians are invited to receive the sacrament of our Lord's body and blood.*

*\*You may use any bread or crackers and wine or juice.*

*\*If others are with you, you may take turns sharing the bread and wine. Eat or give the bread, saying: "The body of Christ given for you." Drink or give the wine, saying: "The blood of Christ shed for you."*

*\*You may trace the sign of the cross on the forehead of children who do not yet commune and speak these or similar words to them: "The Lord bless you and keep you today and always."*

### **POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**Amen.**

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Embodied God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus.

With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love.

**Amen.**

## BENEDICTION

God, the giver of love, † Christ, the resurrection and the life, and the Holy Spirit of rebirth bless you in this Lenten journey.

**Amen.**

**SENDING SONG:** *O God You Search Me*

*ACS #1082*

*(See page 8)*

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



**This QR Code will link you to our securer online giving website. [www.christlutheranroanoke.org](http://www.christlutheranroanoke.org)**

*If you have brought a monetary offering, you may place it in an offering basket as you leave the Fellowship Hall.*

## Serving Today

**Preacher:** Pastor Dave Skole, **Presider:** Pastor Cindy Keyser, **Greeter:** Leah Savelyev, **Reader:** Leah Savelyev, **Technical Support:** Matt Covington, **Musician:** Kim Mucha, Warren Burger, Angie Covington, Michael Edwards, Gerry Oefelein, Bill Pearman, Tom Schulz.

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# *Amazing Grace*

*(My Chains Are Gone)*

*Newton, Tomlin, Giglio*

Amazing grace how sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me  
I once was lost but now I'm found  
Was blind but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear  
And grace my fears relieved  
How precious did that grace appear  
The hour I first believed

## *Chorus*

My chains are gone I've been set free  
My God my Savior has ransomed me  
And like a flood His mercy rains  
Unending love amazing grace

The Lord has promised good to me  
His word my hope secures  
He will my shield and portion be  
As long as life endures

## *To Chorus*

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow  
The sun forbear to shine  
But God who called me here below  
Will be forever mine  
Will be forever mine  
You are forever mine

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# O God, You Search Me



1 O God, you search me and you know me.  
2 You know my rest - ing and my ris - ing.  
3 Be - fore a word is on my tongue, Lord,  
4 Al - though your Spir - it is up - on me,  
5 For you cre - at - ed me and shaped me,



All my thoughts lie o - pen to your gaze.  
You dis - cern my pur - pose from a - far,  
you have known its mean - ing through and through.  
still I search for shel - ter from your light.  
gave me life with - in my moth - er's womb.



When I walk or lie down you are be - fore me:  
and with love ev - er - last - ing you be - siege me:  
You are with me be - yond my un - der - stand - ing:  
There is no - where on earth I can es - cape you:  
For the won - der of who I am, I praise you:



ev - er the mak - er and keep - er of my days.  
in ev - 'ry mo - ment of life or death, you are.  
God of my pres - ent, my past, and fu - ture, too.  
e - ven the dark - ness is ra - diant in your sight.  
safe in your hands, all cre - a - tion is made new.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Music: O GOD, YOU SEARCH ME, Bernadette Farrell

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