



“From Death to Life”

Saturday, March 13, 2021 at 5:00 pm
Sunday, March 14, 2021 at 8:00 am & 11:00 am

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

AS WE GATHER

Before coming to faith, we were dead in trespasses and sins. But while we were dead and helpless, God made us alive! In the Epistle, Paul writes that God saved us “being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which He loved us.” But we have not simply been made physically well, like the Israelites in the Old Testament Reading, but we have been given eternal life. The central reason is that “by grace you have been saved through faith.” We are His workmanship and in the light of Christ, it is obvious that the credit for whatever works we do must go to our gracious God. We are together with Christ and already, as it were, “with Him in the heavenly places.” Now that’s really living!

WE WELCOME FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

Epiphany Lutheran Church offers many resources and programs to help you and your children grow in your faith relationship with Jesus Christ. Quiet activity bags for your little ones are available on the coat tree outside the sanctuary doors. Our nursery has staffed personnel every Sunday from 7:30 AM – 12:30 PM. The nursery is not staffed on Saturday night, but still available for your use. Well children, ages infant to four (4) years, are welcome. ***There are new requirements to ensure the health and safety of our children posted on the nursery doors.*** Each Sunday morning worship service has a special children’s message, and we offer Sunday school, except for holidays, for ages 3-adult at 9:30 am. If you need assistance, please ask an usher or elder to direct you to the bathrooms, nursery, or classrooms.

Please stand for portions of service marked with asterisk ().*

THE PRELUDE

Nathan Eickmann, Accompanist

RINGING OF THE BELL

THE WELCOME

Pastor Chris Matthis

ELDER PRAYER

***OPENING HYMN**

“Love in Christ is Strong and Living”

LSB 706



1 Love in Christ is strong and liv - ing, Bind - ing faith - ful
2 Love is pa - tient and for - bear - ing, Clothed in Christ's hu -
3 Love in Christ a - bides for - ev - er, Faint - ing not when



hearts in one; Love in Christ is true and giv - ing.
mil - i - ty, Gen - tle, self - less, kind, and car - ing,
ills at - tend; Love, for - giv - ing and for - giv - en,



May His will in us be done.
Reach - ing out in char - i - ty.
Shall en - dure un - til life's end.

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+ PREPARATION +

***INVOCATION**

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and ✠ of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

***CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

1 John 1:8–9; Psalm 107:1–2; Ephesians 2:4–

5, 8; John 3:17

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

People: **If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Pastor: God's steadfast love endures forever!

Let the redeemed of the LORD say so.

People: **Although we are on the way to the heavenly promised land, like the Israelites in the desert, we complain about many things. We are sinful and unclean at heart and often follow the desires of the body and the mind.**

Pastor: God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which He loved us,
People: made us alive together with Christ.

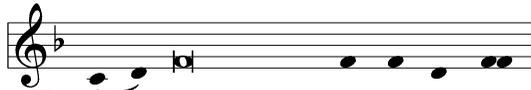
Pastor: God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world,
People: but in order that the world might be saved through Him.

Pastor: By grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing;
it is the gift of God. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ and
by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of
the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen. Thanks be to God.

***KYRIE**

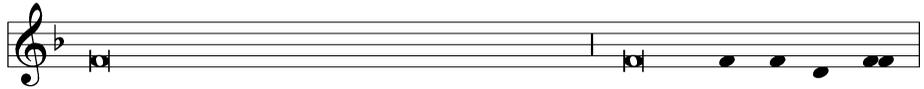
LSB pg. 152



Pastor: **A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



People: **G** Lord, have mer - cy.



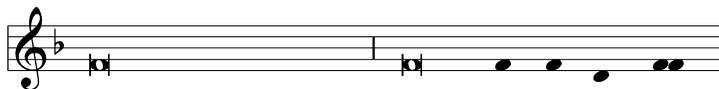
Pastor: **A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



People: **G** Lord, have mer - cy.



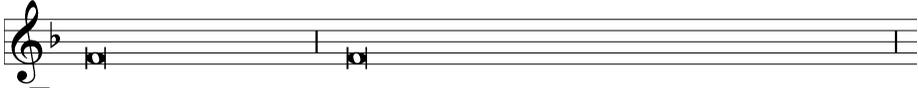
Pastor: **A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



People: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



Pastor: **A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



People: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



Pastor: **A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



People: **C** A - men.

***SALUTATION**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: 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.

People: **Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience;**

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

+ WORD +

OLD TESTAMENT

Numbers 21:4-9

(Moses and the bronze serpent)

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. And 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 loathe this worthless food." Then the Lord sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. And the people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned, for we have spoken against the Lord and against you. Pray to the Lord, that he take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, "Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live." So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Ephesians 2:1-10

(Saved by grace through faith—apart from works of the Law)

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

*LENTEN VERSE



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, and a-bound-ing in stead-fast love.

*HOLY GOSPEL

John 3:14-21

("God so loved the world that He gave His only Son...")

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the third chapter.



Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] "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, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their deeds were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his deeds have been carried out in God."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Marcy Pore (11:00 am)

SERMON HYMN

"God Loved the World So That He Gave"

LSB 571



1 God loved the world so that He gave His on - ly
2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, Who was made
3 God would not have the sin - ner die; His Son with
4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son For - gives all



Son the lost to save, That all who would in
flesh and suf - fered death; All then who trust in
sav - ing grace is nigh; His Spir - it in the
sins which you have done; And, jus - ti - fied by



Him be - lieve Should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
Him a - lone Are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.
Word de - clares How we in Christ are heav - en's heirs.
Je - sus' blood, Your Bap - tism grants the high - est good.

5 If you are sick, if death is near,
This truth your troubled heart can cheer:
Christ Jesus saves your soul from death;
That is the firmest ground of faith.

△ 6 Glory to God the Father, Son,
And Holy Spirit, Three in One!
To You, O blessèd Trinity,
Be praise now and eternally!

Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

Pastor Chris Matthis

*CONFESSION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth. And, in Jesus Christ His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING

“Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” (2 Corinthians 9:7). We give our tithes and offerings to God as an act of worship in gratitude for the gifts He has first given us. If you wish to give electronically using a credit card or automated bank withdrawal, please scan the QR code with your smartphone or visit www.epiphanylc.org and click on GIVE. As good stewards, please use credit wisely.



If you wish to mail your gift, send your check to Epiphany Lutheran Church, 550 E. Wolfensberger Rd., Castle Rock, CO 80109.

[CLICK HERE TO GIVE ELECTRONICALLY](#)

*PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

After each petition is read Pastor says, “Lord, in Your mercy,” and Congregation responds with, “Hear our prayer.”

*LORD'S PRAYER *(Matthew 6:9-13)*

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.

*BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless You and keep you; the Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord look on you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
Numbers 6:24-26

People: Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CLOSING HYMN**

“Lord of All Hopefulness”

LSB 738



1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,
2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,
3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,
4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,



Whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy:
Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
Your hands swift to wel - come, Your arms to em - brace:
Whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm:



Be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,
Be there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray,
Be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,
Be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray,



Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

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