

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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MISSION STATEMENT:

*In response to God's love for us, we **SERVE** God,
SUPPORT Christian fellowship,
And **SPREAD** the Good News of Jesus Christ to all people.*

Volume 78

March 27, 2022

No. 13

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Order of Worship –9:00 AM

AS WE GATHER – *No parable more fully describes the profound character of God's mercy than the prodigal son and the waiting father. We are the rebels who begin to think we deserve our heavenly Father's kindness and who demand from Him what is not our right to claim. But instead of disowning us, He meets us with joy, welcomes us with His forgiveness, restores our tattered righteousness with the robe of Christ's holiness, and sets His Table before us. This is what happens every Sunday as the Lord reclaims us from our sins, restores joy to our heavy hearts, reminds us of His baptismal promise, and feeds our body and soul with the body and blood of His Son. This is the source of our holy joy and this is the peace that passes all understanding.*

PRESERVICE MUSIC

"Today Your Mercy Calls Us"

by Jeffrey Bliersch

WELCOME

[♯Means please stand; ♪Means please be seated]

♪OPENING HYMN

Today Your Mercy Calls Us

LSB 915



1 To - day Your mer - cy calls us To wash a - way our sin.
2 To - day Your gate is o - pen, And all who en - ter in
3 To - day our Fa - ther calls us; His Ho - ly Spir - it waits;
4 O all - em - brac - ing Mer - cy, O ev - er - o - pen Door,



How - ev - er great our tres - pass, What - ev - er we have been,
Shall find a Fa - ther's wel - come And par - don for their sin.
His bless - ed an - gels gath - er A - round the heav'n - ly gates.
What should we do with - out You When heart and eye run o'er?



How - ev - er long from mer - cy Our hearts have turned a - way,
The past shall be for - got - ten, A pres - ent joy be giv'n,
No ques - tion will be asked us How of - ten we have come;
When all things seem a - gainst us, To drive us to de - spair,

(continued)



Your pre-cious blood can wash us And make us clean to - day.
A fu - ture grace be prom - ised, A glo - rious crown in heav'n.
Al - though we oft have wan - dered, It is our Fa - ther's home.
We know one gate is o - pen, One ear will hear our prayer.

Text: Oswald Allen, 1816–78, alt.; Tune: Friedrich K. Anthes, 1812–after 1857; Text and tune: Public domain

INVOCATION

P *In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.* **C** **Amen.**

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P *Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,*

C **and cleanse me from my sin!**

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

C **according to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.**

[Silence for meditation and reflection.]

P *Merciful Father,*

C **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.**

P *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.* **C** **Amen.**

P *May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.* **C** **Amen.**

INTROIT

Psalms 51:2–6; antiphon: v. 1

P *Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;*

C **according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.**

P *Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,*

C **and cleanse me from my sin!**

P *For I know my transgressions,*

C **and my sin is ever before me.**

P *Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight,*

C **so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment.**

P *Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,*

C **and in sin did my mother conceive me.**

P *Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being,*

C **and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart.**

All: **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P *Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;*

C **according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.**

LITANY OF REPENTANCE

- P** *O Lord, who came to call sinners to repentance,*
C **call them still that they may yet answer.**
- P** *Be merciful even to those who have no excuse for their sins*
C **but have hated You and the Father who sent You.**
- P** *Lord, who met the hardness of the thief,*
C **soften the hearts of all who are impenitent.**
- P** *You who did restore the woman caught in sin,*
C **restore all those who have fallen away from You.**
- P** *You who called Zacchaeus from the sycamore tree,*
C **arouse the careless and arrest the curious.**
- P** *You who spoke words of spirit and life,*
C **enlighten the ignorant and teach them Your way.**
- P** *Dispel the darkness of prejudice and correct all error;*
C **establish Your people in the truth of Your Gospel.**
- P** *You who called St. Matthew from the love of money,*
C **deliver all who live in slavery to the world.**
- P** *You who prayed for those who crucified You,*
C **look in compassion upon those who persecute Your servants.**
- P** *You who called out many devils,*
C **set free by Your grace all who are victims of their lies and ways.**
- P** *You who met with mercy the doubts of St. Thomas,*
C **deal gently with those who can scarcely believe.**
- P** *You who saved St. Peter from drowning,*
C **rescue all those who are weak and fearful.**
- P** *You who proclaimed deliverance to the captives,*
C **release the prisoners from the bonds of their sins.**
- P** *You who made the deaf to hear and the mute to speak,*
C **open deaf ears to the voice of Your Word and loosen our tongues to confess.**
- P** *You who raised the dead to life,*
C **quicken our souls by Your Holy Spirit to lives of faith and righteousness.**
- P** *You who came to save Your people from their sins,*
C **save us, O Lord, who put our trust in You.**
- P** *Lord, have mercy upon us.*
C **Christ, have mercy upon us.**
- P** *Lord, have mercy upon us.*
C **Save us, O Lord, for the sake of Your name. Amen.**

SALUTATION & COLLECT OF THE DAY

- P** *The Lord be with you.* **C** **And also with you.**
P *Let us pray.*

All: 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE DAY

P *The readings for the Fourth Sunday in Lent fill us with a cause for joy. From the prophet Isaiah comes the song of joy in the God who has become our Savior. In the Epistle, we are reminded that in Christ we are a whole new creation. In the familiar parable of the prodigal son, or, better named, the parable of the waiting father, we see the mercy of God that welcomes His wandering children back, forgives them of their sins, and restores them to be His own children again.*

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 12:1–6

(lesson is on the last page of the bulletin)

A *This is the Word of the Lord.*

G **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

2 Corinthians 5:16–21

(lesson is on the last page of the bulletin)

A *This is the Word of the Lord.*

G **Thanks be to God.**

VERSE

Luke 15:22a, 24a

All: The father said to his servants, “This my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.”

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 15:1–3, 11b–32

P *The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fifteenth chapter. G Glory to You, O Lord.*
(lesson is on the last page of the bulletin)

P *This is the Gospel of the Lord.*

G **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Blessed Is the Man, Forever Blest”



1 Blest is the man, for - ev - er blest, Whose guilt is
2 Blest is the man to whom the Lord Im - putes not
3 From guile his heart and lips are free; His hum - ble
4 How glo - rious is that righ - teous-ness That hides and



par - doned by his God, Whose sins with sor - row
his in - iq - ui - ties; He pleads no mer - it
joy, his ho - ly fear, With deep re - pen - tance
can - cels all his sins, While bright the ev - i -



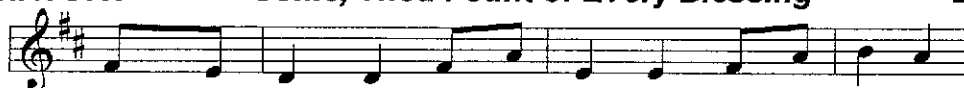
are con - fessed And cov - ered with his Sav - ior's blood.
of re - ward And not on works but grace re - lies.
well a - gree And join to prove his faith sin - cere.
dence of grace Though all his life ap - pears and shines!

SERMON**"THE PRODIGAL SON(S)"****Luke 15:1-3, 11-32**

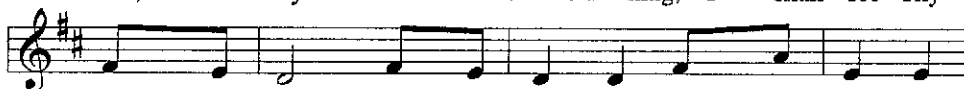
- I. The Parable of the Prodigal Son is really about two sons, both of whom sin against their father.
- II. As the father in the parable shows love, grace and patience to his sons, God shows love, grace and patience to us.

♪ APOSTLE'S CREED

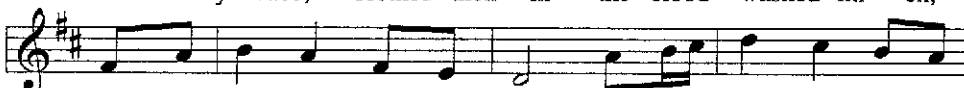
☑ I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there 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 / CHOIR SELECTION**"God So Loved the World"****♪ OFFERTORY*****Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*****LSB 686**

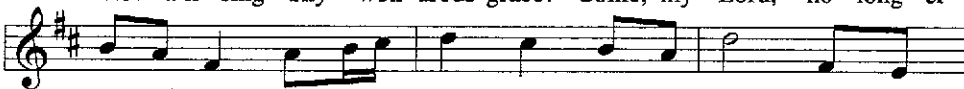
1 Come, Thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, Tune my heart to
 2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer, Hith - er by Thy
 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or Dai - ly I'm con -
 4 Oh, that day when freed from sin - ning, I shall see Thy



sing Thy grace; Streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing,
 help I've come; And I hope, by Thy good plea - sure,
 strained to be; Let that grace now like a fet - ter
 love - ly face; Clothed then in the blood - washed lin - en,



Call for songs of loud - est praise. While the hope of end - less
 Safe - ly to ar - rive at home. Je - sus sought me when a
 Bind my wan - d'ring heart to Thee: Prone to wan - der, Lord, I
 How I'll sing Thy won - drous grace! Come, my Lord, no long - er



glo - ry Fills my heart with joy and love, Teach me
 strang - er, Wan - d'ring from the fold of God; He, to
 feel it; Prone to leave the God I love. Here's my
 tar - ry; Take my ran - som'd soul a - way; Send Thine

(continued)



ev - er to a - dore Thee; May I still Thy good - ness prove.
res - cue me from dan - ger, In - ter - posed His pre - cious blood.
heart, O take and seal it, Seal it for Thy courts a - bove.
an - gels soon to car - ry Me to realms of end - less day.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735–90, alt.; Tune: Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, 1813, Harrisburg; Text and tune: Public domain

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** *As prodigals, we come into the arms of our heavenly Father, waiting even more for us to pray than we are to petition His mercy. Heavenly Father, we have all been one with Adam in the rebellion of our stubborn wills and in suffering the consequences of sin with its death. Grant us grace that we may return to You with humble hearts and rejoice in Your forgiveness so that our hearts may be at peace and we may be rescued from our guilt, shame, and despair. Lord, in Your mercy,*
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** *Blessed Lord, in Baptism You made us anew, raising up from the water a new person, created in Christ Jesus for good works. Give us the will and desire to do what is good, right, and pleasing in Your sight. Lord, in Your mercy,*
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** *Mighty God, deliver the nations from violence and war, and teach us generosity, compassion, and the path of peace. Bless our president, Congress, governor, legislature, and all who make, administer, and judge Your laws. Bless also those who labor for peace and justice even at the peril of their own lives. Lord, in Your mercy,*
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** *Merciful God, deliver us from rebellion and bitterness that we not only find a home in Your mercy but show forth Your grace, forgiveness, and joy to all those around us. Bless the missionary and church planter as they bring Your saving Word to those who have not heard it and plant congregations for Your people to gather around Your Word and Table. Lord, in Your mercy,*
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** *Compassionate Father, You know our needs even before we ask but still we cry to You on behalf of all the sick and those who suffer, [especially . . .]. Give them healing in accordance with Your will, grace to endure their affliction, and peace in the hour of death. Lord, in Your mercy,*
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** *O Blessed Lord, Your mercies are daily new and with fresh goodness You replenish the earth. Give us wisdom to use well all Your resources, and grant us giving hearts that we share with those in need all that You have given in abundance. Receive also these tithes and offerings, signs of our faith and symbols of our thanksgiving. Lord, in Your mercy,*
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** *O Lord, remembering the faithful who have gone before us, we ask You to keep us by Your grace through the days to come, that we not be lost to You again but kept in faith now until the day of the resurrection of the dead, when we shall join the saints in glory in Your presence forevermore; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, we pray.*
- C** **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

P O Lord Jesus Christ, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C 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

Numbers 6:24-26

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you His peace.

C Amen.

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C Thanks be to God.

CLOSING HYMN

"First Song of Isaiah"

[congregation invited to sing the verses and refrain.]

ISAIAH 12: 2-6*

JACK NOBLE WHITE



Sure-ly, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be a - fraid. For the



Lord is my strong-hold and my sure de-fense, and he will be my Sav - ior.

VERSE

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing
from the springs of salvation.
And on that day you shall say,
Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

REFRAIN

VERSE

Make his deeds known among the peoples;
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.
Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things,
and this is known in all the world.

REFRAIN

VERSE

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion,
ring out your joy,
For the great one in the midst of you
is the Holy One of Israel.

REFRAIN (sung twice)

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

[Birthday: *Bret Meythaler*]

POSTLUDE

“Sortie”

by George Blake

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Rob Hatton, Congregation Chairman..... 303-906-9395 / email: roberthatton1@googlemail.com  
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WE WISH TO THANK the following for their participation in our worship service this morning:

Acolyte Steve Rolen
Altar Guild Karen Batt & Marcella Marshall
Coffee Hosts Rob & Kristen Hatton
Counters..... Valerie Klein & Mackenzie Egan
Elder on Duty Tony Williams
Greeter Beth Tevah
Lay Reader..... Brian Albee
Organist / Music Director Beth Buss
 Special Music: Christ Choristers; Beth Buss, Director
Service Web Recorder Robert Showalter
Service Live Streaming Brian Albee
Ushers **Phil Vandre, *Naomi Kettner, Cameron Hatton
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