

Fourth Sunday of Lent, March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Zoom Service 10:30 AM

Immanuel Lutheran Church

Prelude: Amazing Grace, ELW 779

1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that  
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and  
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I  
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his  
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but  
grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that  
have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me  
word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and  
shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found; was blind, but now I see.  
grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!  
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.  
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5

Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1851–1921, alt.

## **Announcements**

### **Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.  
**Amen.**

Let us unmute ourselves, or, remaining muted, confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,  
**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.**  
**We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,**  
**by what we have done**  
**and by what we have left undone.**  
**We have not loved you with our whole heart;**  
**we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**  
**For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.**  
**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,**  
**so that we may delight in your will**  
**and walk in your ways,**  
**to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ.

By grace you have been saved.

In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

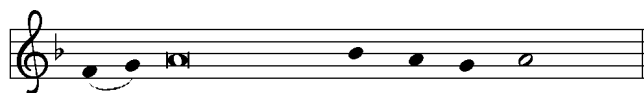
**Amen.**

### **Greeting**

**P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**A** And also with you!

# Kyrie



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



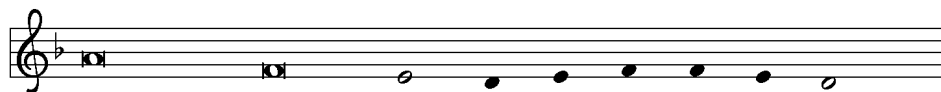
For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

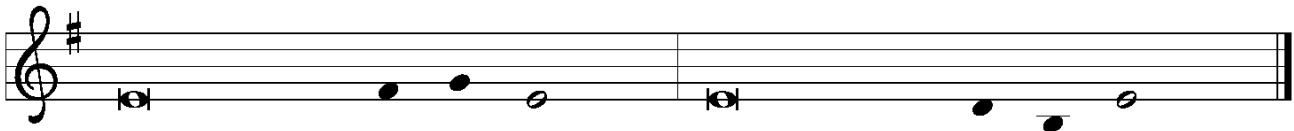
O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## Reading from the New Testament, Ephesians 2:1-10

<sup>1</sup>You were dead through the trespasses and sins <sup>2</sup>in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. <sup>3</sup>All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. <sup>4</sup>But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us <sup>5</sup>even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—<sup>6</sup>and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup>so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup>For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—<sup>9</sup>not the result of works, so that no one may boast. <sup>10</sup>For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

## Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.  
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<sup>1</sup>Give thanks to the Lord, for the | Lord is good,  
for God's mercy en- | dures forever.

<sup>2</sup>**Let the redeemed of the | Lord proclaim  
that God redeemed them from the hand | of the foe,**

<sup>3</sup>gathering them in | from the lands;  
from the east and from the west, from the north and | from the south.

<sup>17</sup>**Some were fools and took re- | bellious paths;  
through their sins they | were afflicted.**

<sup>18</sup>They loathed all man- | ner of food  
and drew near | to death's door.

<sup>19</sup>**Then in their trouble they cried | to the Lord  
and you delivered them from | their distress.**

<sup>20</sup>You sent forth your | word and healed them  
and rescued them | from the grave.

<sup>21</sup>**Let them give thanks to you, Lord, for your | steadfast love  
and your wonderful works | for all people.**

<sup>22</sup>Let them offer sacrifices | of thanksgiving  
and tell of your deeds with | shouts of joy.

## **GOSPEL: John 3:14-21**

[Jesus said:] <sup>14</sup>“Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

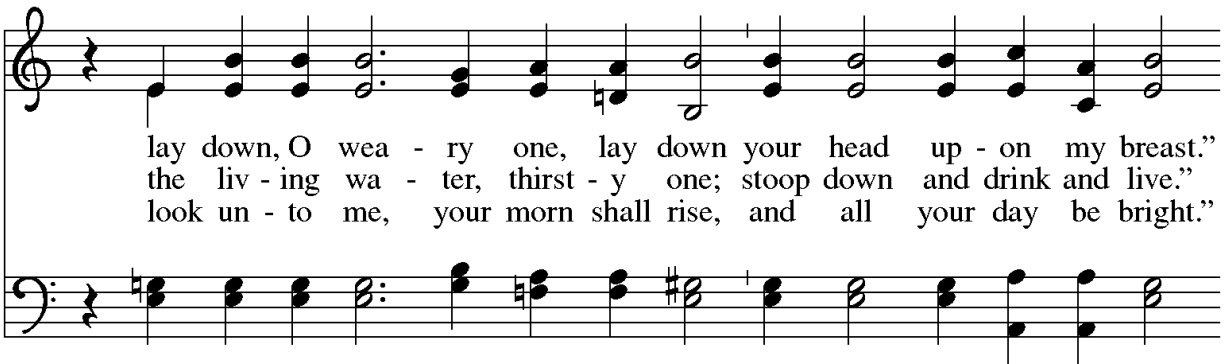
<sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. <sup>18</sup>Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. <sup>19</sup>And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. <sup>20</sup>For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. <sup>21</sup>But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

## **Sermon**

# HYMN: I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say, ELW 332



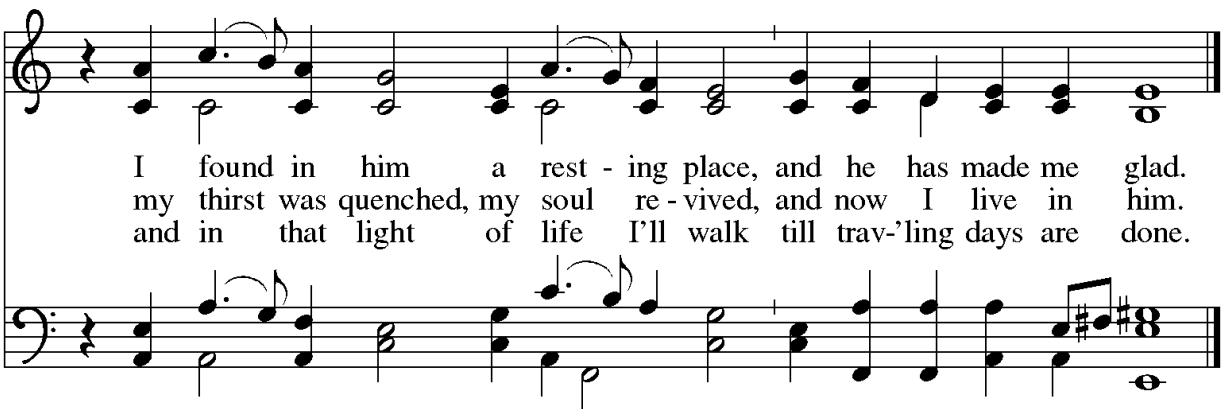
1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest;  
2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give  
3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light;



lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on my breast."  
the liv - ing wa - ter, thirst - y one; stoop down and drink and live."  
look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."



I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea - ry, worn, and sad;  
I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream;  
I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my star, my sun;



I found in him a rest - ing place, and he has made me glad.  
my thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.  
and in that light of life I'll walk till trav-'ling days are done.

## **Prayers of the People**

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need, responding muted or un-muted to each petition with the phrase, "Your mercy is great."

You sent your Son that the world might be saved through him. Inspire the witness of the church throughout the world. Empower missionaries, Bible translators, and ministries of service in your name. We pray for our bishops Elizabeth and Yehiel, our pastor Mark, our president Grace, our council, transition and reopening teams. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

From east to west your steadfast love is shown. Nourish seas and deserts, wilderness areas and cities. Give water to thirsty lands; nurture spring growth that feeds hungry creatures; bless farmers as they prepare for the growing season. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You revive our souls that we might live. We have worshipped online for a year now. Hold us close in your loving embrace and help us support each other and our community during this continuing pandemic. Bring relief to all suffering from Covid-19, for medical workers, first responders, those searching for meaningful work, those receiving as well as all who await a vaccine. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You sustained your people in the wilderness. Give courage to all who lead in times of crisis and scarce resources. Prosper the work of those who aid victims of famine and drought. Bring peace in places where scarce resources cause violence. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Your mercy endures forever. Deliver all who cry to you, especially those who are hungry or without homes. Give life in places where death seems triumphant; give healing to those who are sick and comfort to those who mourn. We pray especially for Steve Andes, Maren Baylaender, Rebecca Bernstein, Serena Bernstein, Babs Deacon, Laura Burdick, Mid Carlson, Lucas Forzley, Bob Fried, Kim Gann, Jennifer Grethe, Pat Helm, Jim Jung, John and Nancy, Judith Kratochvil, Gordon Larson, Elizabeth and Ernie's family, Elaine Nelson, Veronica Repasz, Lorrie Roche, Darryl Simchak, Alyssa Steinberg, George Stewart, Leslie Thais, and those that we name in our hearts (*pause for prayers*). Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

And now, siblings, for what else shall we pray, silent or spoken aloud? (*A longer period of silence.*) Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

By grace we have been saved. Fill this congregation to overflowing with that grace, that we show mercy to others. Nourish any in our midst who are hungry, especially children, and bless ministries of feeding and shelter. Enable us to return soon to hosting Café Immanuel and the warming shelter. Give us patience and courage when the way seems long. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Your Son was lifted up that whoever believes might have eternal life. We praise you for all who have died in Christ. Bring us with all the saints into the fullness of your promises. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**Peace**

### **Offertory Anthem: God So Loved the World by John Goss**

We worship God with our offerings. We give thanks for those who support Immanuel's life and mission. [We invite you to do that online](#) or by mail, and with your presence, prayer, and talents.

### **Offertory Prayer**

Faithful God, you walk beside us in desert places,  
and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven.

**Accompany us in this meal, that we may pass over from death to life  
with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

### **The 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.**

### **Prayer at the Table**

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.  
And for this we pray: **Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!**

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.  
And for this we pray: **Amen! Come, Holy Spirit!**

Through him all glory and honor is yours,  
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,  
in your holy Church, both now and forever.  
**Amen**

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.  
**A Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

### **Communion**

Come for all things are now ready; the gifts of God for the people of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**This is the body of Christ, given for you.**

*All communing may receive their bit of bread from God's hand, and may share with others in their household also using these words.*

**This is the blood of Christ, shed for you.**

*All communing may drink of the cup they have prepared, and may share with others in their household also using these words.*

*For those fasting, receive this prayer of blessing in God's presence:*

May God who loves you be truly present with the Spirit of grace, mercy and joy, uplifting and blessing you in the promise of neverfailing love God makes to God's children.

### **Table Dismissal**

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you, and keep you in God's grace.  
**Amen.**

### **Benediction**

You are what God made you to be:  
created in Christ Jesus for good works,  
chosen as holy and beloved,  
freed to serve your neighbor.  
God bless you ✠ that you may be a blessing,  
in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity.  
**Amen.**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Postlude**

**Coffee hour/Announcements**