



MARCH 14TH, 2021
FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT
HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

As We Gather

The prophet Isaiah writes, "2 The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (Isaiah 9:2) Deep darkness and a great light. The words of the prophet are words that take us from hopelessness to assurance and comfort! But what is this light? A comet? A rocket? A beautiful sunrise? The great light, of course, is Jesus, THE light of the world—a light that breaks the darkness and takes us from the season of Lent to the glory of Easter. Until we get there, however, how does the light of Christ guide us in our lives? How does this light sustain us during the Lenten season? Let's discover together! Welcome to all who worship with us today!

PRELUDE

"The Savior Calls; Let Every Ear"

enneth T. Kosche

WELCOME AND GREETING

Pastor Tom Zucconi

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

P In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

P God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of Your people, turning us from our sin to live for You alone. Give us the power of Your Holy Spirit that, attentive to Your Word, we may confess our sins, receive Your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Gracious God,

C have mercy on us. In Your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by Your Spirit so that we may live and serve You in newness of life, to the honor and glory of Your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

C Amen.



- 1 Jesus, Thy blood and righteousness
My beauty are, my glorious dress;
Midst flaming worlds, in these arrayed,
With joy shall I lift up my head.**
- 4 Lord, I believe, were sinners more
Than sands upon the ocean shore,
Thou hast for all a ransom paid,
For all a full atonement made.**
- 5 When from the dust of death I rise
To claim my mansion in the skies,
This then shall be my only plea:
Jesus hath lived and died for me.**
- 6 Jesus, be endless praise to Thee,
Whose boundless mercy hath for me,
For me, and all Thy hands have made,
An everlasting ransom paid.**

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GREETING

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

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray....

C **Amen.**

RESPONSIVE PSALM*Let the Redeemed of the Lord Say So*

Psalm 107:1-9

R ¹ Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!

C ² Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom he has redeemed from trouble

R ³ and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

C ⁴ Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no way to a city to dwell in;

R ⁵ hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them.

C ⁶ Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress.

R ⁷ He led them by a straight way till they reached a city to dwell in.

**C ⁸ Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love,
for his wondrous works to the children of man!**

**ALL ⁹ For he satisfies the longing soul,
and the hungry soul he fills with good things.**

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

READING*The Bronze Serpent*

Numbers 21:4-9

⁴ 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. ⁵ 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." ⁶ Then the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. ⁷ 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. ⁸ 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." ⁹ 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.

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL READING*Jesus is the Light of the World*

John 3:14-21

¹⁴ And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶ "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ 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. ¹⁸ 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. ¹⁹ And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. ²⁰ For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. ²¹ But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord!

C Thanks be to God.

MUSIC MINISTRY*"Who You Say I Am"**Mary Sorensen***MESSAGE**

The Sustaining Light of Christ

*John 3**Pastor Tom**For Thought and Reflection*

Take some time this week to read **John 3** in its entirety. (It's not long, I promise!) Start with the story of Nicodemus and then read through to the end. Highlight any words or phrases that the Holy Spirit brings to your attention or gives you "cause to pause." Ask the Lord of Light to reveal to you the impact of these words and his faithfulness on your life TODAY and how you might live a life which reflects his power and love to the world around you. As Jesus says in Matthew 5:16, "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven!"

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day He rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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.**

THE PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Pastor Tom will lead the congregation in prayer.

P Into Your hands, eternal God, we offer our prayers, trusting Your love through, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

**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.**

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ~ SETTING TWO

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up unto the Lord.

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

SANCTUS

LSB, p. 178

**C Holy, holy, holy Lord,
Lord God of Power and Might;
Heav'n and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

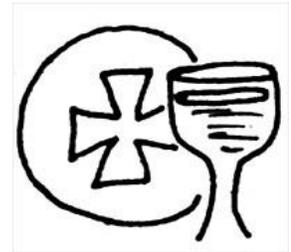
P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**



LAMB OF GOD

LSB, p. 180

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

"At the Cross"

Mary Sorensen

Congregation is invited to participate

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER AND BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.

C **Amen, amen, amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

“My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”

LSB 575

- 1. My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus’ blood and righteousness;
No merit of my own I claim
But wholly lean on Jesus’ name.** *Refrain*

***On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.***

- 2. When darkness veils His lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace;
In ev’ry high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil.** *Refrain*

- 3. His oath, His covenant and blood
Support me in the raging flood;
When ev’ry earthly prop gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay.** *Refrain*

- 4. When He shall come with trumpet sound,
Oh, may I then in Him be found,
Clothed in His righteousness alone,
Redeemed to stand before His throne!** *Refrain*

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POSTLUDE

“Prelude In a Minor”

J.S Bach

Don’t forget to send in prayer requests to admin@hcdallas.org. We miss you and love hearing from you! Also, please take advantage of our easy on-line giving option by visiting www.hcdallas.org, using the “GIVE” tab for your tithe or offering (U.S. Mail is fine too).

A special thank you to Angie Nitz, Barry and Marie Canning, Lisa Lai, Mike Zimmerman, Alex Zimmerman, Mary Sorensen, Jonathan Malone, Mark Heil, Joan Krause, and Bill Doehring for helping with our on-line worship during renovations.

Thank you for your continued prayers and financial support during 2021!