

The Third Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 3, 2024 – 10:30 a.m.



Welcome!

To our guests and visitors:

We are glad that you are here with us today!

If you have no church home, why don't you consider joining us? Please speak to Pastor Parrish after the service and enjoy a special gift for visiting with us today!

Amazing Love

My Lord, what love is this that pays so dearly;
That I, the guilty one may go free.
Amazing love, O what sacrifice,
The Son of God, giv'n for me;
My debt He pays and my death He dies,
That I might live, that I might live.

And so they watched Him die despised, rejected;
But O, the blood He shed flowed for me.
Amazing love, O what sacrifice,
The Son of God, giv'n for me;
My debt He pays and my death He dies,
That I might live, that I might live.

And now this love of Christ shall flow like rivers;
Come wash your guilt away, live again.
Amazing love, O what sacrifice,
The Son of God, giv'n for me;
My debt He pays and my death He dies,
That I might live, that I might live.

Amazing love, O what sacrifice,
The Son of God, giv'n for me;
My debt He pays and my death He dies,
That I might live, that I might live.
That I might live!

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Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
People: Amen.

Pastor: God invites us to gather in His name.
People: We are gathered to worship and praise.

Pastor: Our heavenly Father's house is a house of prayer for all the nations.
People: He gathers people from every corner of the earth to sing His praises.

Pastor: We listen to God's Word.

People: We hear the message proclaimed of Christ crucified.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Though this is a house of prayer, we do not always honor God's house as we should. Still, our heavenly Father is merciful, and He invites us ever into His house to ask for forgiveness.

Pastor: Heavenly Father,

People: we have sinned against You and against our neighbors. 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. Disrupt our sinfulness. Forgive us, renew us, and restore us, on account of Jesus. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy sent Jesus into our world, not only to disrupt our sinfulness but also to forgive us by His death and resurrection. 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.

People: Amen. We are forgiven because of Christ crucified.

Prayer of the Church

Pastor: Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, in righteousness You disrupted the sinful lives of those in the temple, pointing them to the purpose of Your Father's house.

Disrupt our sinful lives so that our church would be a home of prayer for all the nations; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Amazing Grace

Amazing grace how sweet the sound That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am 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.

My chains are gone, I've been set free. My God, my Savior has ransomed me.
And like a flood His mercy reigns, 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.

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

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

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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Old Testament Reading

Exodus 20:1-17

And God spoke all these words:

²“I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

³“You shall have no other gods before me. ⁴“You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below.

⁵ You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, ⁶ but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷“You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name. ⁸“Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work, ¹⁰but the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your male or female servant, nor your animals, nor any foreigner residing in your towns.

¹¹For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy. ¹²“Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³“You shall not murder.

¹⁴“You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵“You shall not steal.

¹⁶“You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

¹⁷“You shall not covet your neighbor’s house. You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or his male or female servant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

The Epistle Reading

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

¹⁸For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written: “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise; the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate.” ²⁰Where is the wise person? Where is the teacher of the law? Where is the philosopher of this age?

Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe. ²²Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, ²³but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

²⁵ For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength. ²⁶ Brothers and sisters, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth.

²⁷ But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. ²⁸ God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are, ²⁹ so that no one may boast before him. ³⁰ It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption. ³¹ Therefore, as it is written: “Let the one who boasts boast in the Lord.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

John 2:13-22

¹³ When it was almost time for the Jewish Passover, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴ In the temple courts he found people selling cattle, sheep and doves, and others sitting at tables exchanging money. ¹⁵ So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple courts, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables.

¹⁶ To those who sold doves he said, “Get these out of here! Stop turning my Father’s house into a market!” ¹⁷ His disciples remembered that it is written: “Zeal for your house will consume me.”

¹⁸ The Jews then responded to him, “What sign can you show us to prove your authority to do all this?” ¹⁹ Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days.” ²⁰ They replied, “It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?” ²¹ But the temple he had spoken of was his body. ²² After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they believed the scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

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.

Calvary

The Savior alone Carried the cross.
For all of my debts, He paid the cost.
Salvation complete, Forever I'm free.
Calvary covers it all.

Calvary covers it all. My sin and shame
Don't count anymore. All praise to the One
Who has ransomed my soul!
Calvary covers it all.

No power on earth, Not even the grave,
Can separate us From mercy and grace.
He is faithful to save; Oh His blood never fails.
Calvary covers it all.

Calvary covers it all. My sin and shame
Don't count anymore. All praise to the One
Who has ransomed my soul!
Calvary covers it all.

No one but Jesus Could make us pure as snow.
We stand in Your freedom. Calvary covers it all.

Calvary covers it all. My sin and shame
Don't count anymore. All praise to the One
Who has ransomed my soul!
Calvary covers it all.

Calvary covers it all. My sin and shame
Don't count anymore. All praise to the One
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All praise to the One Who has ransomed my soul!
Calvary covers it all.

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Sermon

Wrath-worthy

John 2:13-22

The Offering

Prayer of Blessing

Pastor: God of every blessing, we are filled with thanksgiving and joy for all that you provide in daily life. Accept and bless these offerings, that they might sustain your church and meet the deep needs of all your people through the many ministries they support. Teach us how to trust your promises and live as your faithful followers.

People: Amen

Prayer of the Church

Pastor: On our hearts imprint Your image,

People: blessed Jesus, King of grace.

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, lead Your church on earth to be a house of prayer for all the nations. Disrupt our petty preferences and cultural bias so that we might welcome people from every nation, language, and background. On our hearts imprint Your image,

People: blessed Jesus, King of grace.

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, as You delivered the people out of slavery in Egypt and taught them how to live as Your people, so teach us to live according to Your righteous instructions so that we may live peacefully with You and our neighbors. On our hearts imprint Your image,

People: blessed Jesus, King of grace.

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, You are well acquainted with grief and death. Bring Your comfort to all those who are suffering in grief, [*especially* . . .]. Point them to the hope that in Your Father's house are many rooms and that You have gone to prepare a place for us. On our hearts imprint Your image,

People: blessed Jesus, King of grace.

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, intercede for all those struggling with relationship issues, whether in friendships, family dynamics, marital struggles, or relationships within the church. We pray that You would bring repentance, forgiveness, and reconciliation in the midst of such struggle. On our hearts imprint Your image,

People: blessed Jesus, King of grace.

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, send Your strength to all missionaries, [*especially* . . .]. Embolden them to preach the power of Your cross. Encourage them in their service by the same message they proclaim that You have died and are risen for us and our salvation. On our hearts imprint Your image,

People: blessed Jesus, King of grace.

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, look with favor upon all who are sick, injured, and recovering, [*especially* . . .]. Have mercy upon them and restore them to health according to Your good and gracious will. On our hearts imprint Your image,

People: blessed Jesus, King of grace.

Pastor: Lord Jesus, we commend all of these people and situations into Your hands, for You have promised to hear our prayers and intercede for us, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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

The Invitation

P: This morning we have another opportunity to encounter God's real, tangible grace for us in this meal; that in, with, and under these simple elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus Christ given to us for the forgiveness of sins.

And so, we become what we eat. We are the body of Christ to be sent out into the world. So it's necessary and good that we partake of this meal; that we experience God's love for us in this way, that we share this family meal together. So if this is your confession I would invite you to join me as we confess together our faith.

C: I understand and admit that I have sinned against God, that I recognize my sin and humbly ask God to forgive me. I believe that Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior and that He is my only hope against sin, death, and the devil.

I believe that the risen Christ is really present in the Sacrament, and under the form of the bread and wine I receive this true body and blood for the forgiveness of my sin and the strengthening of my faith and life to the Lord and His Church by faithfully worshipping Him, cheerfully giving my time and resources, and joyfully sharing the Good News of Jesus with others.

Words of Institution

On the night He was betrayed,
He took the bread, gave thanks, and said,
"Take eat, my friends, this broken bread,
this is my body for forgiveness of your sin.
When you eat, my friends, this meal of love,
remember me and my love for you again."

On the night He was betrayed,
He took the cup, gave thanks, and said,
“Take drink, my friends, this cup of wine,
this is my blood for forgiveness of your sin.
When you drink, my friends, this cup of love,
remember me and my love for you again.”

**Oh, we are here, to thank You Lord,
for the bread and wine outpoured.
For it is Your body and Your blood
that You so lovingly and freely give to us.
So we praise You holy Lamb of God;
We love You our sweet Jesus.
We love You our sweet Jesus.
We love You our sweet Jesus.**

“On the Night” words and music by Mark Zehnder. Used by permission. CCLI#2960087.

Distribution

Take My Life

Take my life and let it be Consecrated, Lord, to Thee.
Take my moments and my days, Let them flow in ceaseless praise.
Take my hands and let them move At the impulse of Thy love.
Take my feet and let them be Swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take my voice and let me sing Always only, for my King.
Take my lips and let them be Filled with messages from Thee.
Take my silver and my gold, Not a mite would I withhold.
Take my intellect and use Ev’ry power as You choose.

Here am I, all of me. Take my life, it’s all for Thee.

Take my will and make it Thine, It shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is Thine own, It shall be Thy royal throne.
Take my love, my Lord I pour At Your feet its treasure store.
Take myself and I will be Ever, only, all for Thee.

Here am I, all of me. Take my life, it's all for Thee.
Here am I, all of me. Take my life, it's all for Thee.

*Take My Life" Words by Henry A. C. Malan. Arrangement and additional choruses by Chris Tomlin and Louie Giglio Copyright 2004
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Communion Dismissal

P: Now may this true body and blood, strengthen and preserve you in the one true faith until life everlasting.

Go in His peace.

C: Amen

Post-Communion Collect

Pastor: We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this Meal. Keep us steadfast in the true faith, ever hearing and proclaiming Christ crucified for all; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: 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 upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: Amen.

Cornerstone

My hope is built on nothing less, than Jesus' blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly trust in Jesus' Name. (REPEAT)

Christ alone. Cornerstone. Weak made strong in the Savior's love.
Through the storm, He is Lord. Lord of all.

When darkness seems to hide His face, I rest on His unchanging grace.
In ev'ry high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil. My anchor holds within
the veil.

Christ alone. Cornerstone. Weak made strong in the Savior's love.
Through the storm, He is Lord. Lord of all.

Christ alone. Cornerstone. Weak made strong in the Savior's love.
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Christ alone. Cornerstone. Weak made strong in the Savior's love.
Through the storm, He is Lord. Lord of all.

When He shall come with trumpet sound, oh may I then in Him be found.
Dressed in His righteousness alone. Faultless stand before the throne.

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