

**Sunday, March 10, 2024, 11:15am**  
**Fourth Sunday in Lent**  
*Lent...It's All About?*



*To laugh is to risk appearing the fool...To weep is to risk appearing sentimental...To reach out for another is to risk involvement...To expose feelings is to risk exposing your true self...To place your ideas, your dreams before a crowd is to risk their loss...To love is to risk not being loved in return...To hope is to risk despair...To try is to risk failure.*

*But risks must be taken, because the greatest hazard in life is to risk nothing.*

*The person who risks nothing, does nothing, has nothing and is nothing.*

### ***Opening Song of Praise***

P: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: God so loved the world,

**C: that He gave His only Son,**

P: that whoever believes in Him should not perish

**C: but have eternal life.**

P: Our Lenten journey leads us to the cross where Jesus gave His life,

**C: and then to the resurrection and eternal life.**

P: Though Jesus has loved us with this genuine love that gives us eternal life, we sometimes ignore His love and refuse to share His love with others. Still, our heavenly Father is merciful, and He invites us to draw near to Him in hope and confidence to ask for His grace.

*(Silence for reflection)*

P: Heavenly Father,

**C: I have sinned against You and against my neighbors. I have not loved You with my whole heart. I have not loved my neighbors as myself. I have not loved my enemies. Forgive me, renew my love, on account of Jesus. Amen.**

P: Jesus was lifted up on the tree of the cross so that you might be forgiven. His genuine love is for the world and for you. As a called and

ordained servant of Jesus, 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.

**C: Amen. I am forgiven by the genuine love of Jesus.**

**?????? Confessional Praise Song**

***On Eagles' Wings***

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Together, we pray.

**C: Lord Jesus Christ, You have loved us with an everlasting love that grants us eternal life. Burn Your love ever stronger within our hearts, Lord, so that we may love others as You have loved us; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**Children's Time**

**Numbers 21:4–9**

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Ephesians 2:1–10**

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

P: The Holy Gospel and Sermon Text, according to St. Matthew, the 26th Chapter,

**C: Glory to You, O Lord.**

**(Matthew 26:57-58)**

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

***Sermon Praise Song***

## **The Sermon**

*It's All About (distant) Discipleship*

## **The Gathering of our Gifts and Tithes**

### **The Prayers of His Children**

P: Jesus, may our hearts be burning,

**C: with more love for You.**

P: ...one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen. 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.**

## **God's Benediction**

## ***Sending Praise Song***