

Sunday, April 14, 2024, 9:00am

Amazingly More

Third Sunday of Easter



Amazingly More

Amazing is a commonly used word that has a rich history.

It came into common usage in the 14th century as a variant of the older root word “amasod”, which meant dazed, confounded, or overwhelmed with sudden surprise or wonder.

The word “amazing” shows up several times in hymns, from describing the action of God in the birth of Jesus as love amazing, to bringing to our hearts and minds that in His suffering to pay the price of our sins, our Lord showed amazing pity.

Two other hymns refer to the amazing grace of God, and in another hymn, the author of the text rejoices that God has done amazing things to me.

The Season of Easter is a time to be truly amazed and filled with the praise of our amazing Lord!

Prelude

#474, Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen

1 Alleluia! Jesus is risen! Trumpets resounding in glorious light! Splendor, the Lamb,
Heaven forever! Oh, what a miracle God has in sight! Refrain

ref Jesus is risen and we shall arise: Give God the glory! Alleluia!

2 Walking the way, Christ in the center Telling the story to open our eyes;
Breaking our bread, Giving us glory: Jesus our blessing, our constant surprise.
Refrain

3 Jesus the vine, We are the branches; Life in the Spirit the fruit of the tree; Heaven to earth,
Christ to the people, Gift of the future now flowing to me. Refrain

4 Weeping, be gone; Sorrow, be silent: Death put asunder, and Easter is bright.
Cherubim sing: “O grave, be open!” Clothe us in wonder, adorn us in light. Refrain

5 City of God, Easter forever, Golden Jerusalem, Jesus the Lamb, River of life,
Saints and archangels, Sing with creation to God the I AM! Refrain

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, 1926–2009

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P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

C: Amen.

P: We confess our sin to God, our merciful Father.

C: Almighty God, maker of all things, judge of all people, I admit and confess my sinfulness. I am by nature sinful, and I have not always lived as Your thankful and joyful child. I have turned away from You in my thinking, speaking, and doing. I have done the evil You forbid and have not done the good You demand. I repent and am truly sorry for my sins. Have mercy on me, gracious Father. Forgive me all that is past, blot out my sins, and with the power of the Holy Spirit, direct my life so that I serve You in true faithfulness, through Jesus Christ, my Lord.

P: God has promised forgiveness of sins to those who repent and turn to Him. May He keep you in His grace by the Holy Spirit and grant you a victorious life on earth and a

triumphant life with Him in heaven forever. As a called and ordained servant of Jesus, I forgive you your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit. As well-loved Easter people, rejoice and be glad! You are free indeed!

C: Amen.

P: Together, we pray,

C: Living Lord, You have commanded us to preach repentance and forgiveness of sins to all nations. To fulfill this command, we ask You to clothe us with the power from on high, Your Holy Spirit, that we may carry the amazing message of Your resurrection to the ends of the earth; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Children's Time

I'm Still Amazed

Voice Choir

Acts 3:11–21 [Sermon Text]

While the lame man who was now healed clung to Peter and John, all the people ran together to them in the portico called Solomon's, astounded. And when Peter saw it he addressed the people: "Men of Israel, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we have made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified His servant Jesus, whom you delivered over and denied in the presence of Pilate, when He had decided to release Him. But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And His name—by faith in His name—has made this man strong whom you see and know, and the faith that is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all. "And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that His Christ would suffer, He thus fulfilled. Repent therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that He may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets long ago."

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

1 John 3:1–7

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know Him. Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared;

but we know that when He appears we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him as He is. And everyone who thus hopes in Him purifies himself as He is pure. Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that He appeared to take away sins, and in Him there is no sin. No one who abides in Him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen Him or known Him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as He is righteous.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 24th chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

As they were talking about these things, Jesus Himself stood among them, and said to them, "Peace to you!" But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit. And He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? See My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself. Touch Me, and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet. And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, He said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave Him a piece of broiled fish, and He took it and ate before them. Then He said to them, "These are My words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in His name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And behold, I am sending the promise of My Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

#483, With High Delight Let Us Unite

- 1 With high delight Let us unite In songs of great jubilation. Ye pure in heart, All bear your part,
Sing Jesus Christ, our salvation. To set us free Forever, He Is ris'n and sends
To all earth's ends Good news to save ev'ry nation.
- 2 True God, He first From death has burst Forth into life, all subduing. His enemy
Doth vanquished lie; His death has been death's undoing.
"And yours shall be Like victory O'er death and grave,"
Saith He, who gave His life for us, life renewing.
- 3 Let praises ring; Give thanks, and bring To Christ our Lord adoration. His honor speed
By word and deed To ev'ry land, ev'ry nation. So shall His love

Give us above, From misery And death set free,
All joy and full consolation.

Text: Georg Vetter, 1536–99; tr. Martin H. Franzmann, 1907–76
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The Sermon *Amazingly More*

The Gathering of our Gifts and Tithes

The Prayers of His Children

P: Lord, in Your mercy. **C: Hear our prayer.**

P: God, hear our prayers in the name of Jesus,

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.

God's Benediction

#480, He's Risen, He's Risen

- 1 He's risen, He's risen, Christ Jesus, the Lord; He opened death's prison, the_ incarnate, true Word.
Break forth, hosts of heaven, in jubilant song
And earth, sea, and mountain their praises prolong.
- 2 The foe was triumphant when on Calvary The Lord of creation was nailed to the tree.
In Satan's domain did the hosts shout and jeer,
For Jesus was slain, whom the evil ones fear.
- 3 But short was their triumph; the Savior arose, And death, hell, and Satan He vanquished, His
foes. The conquering Lord lifts His banner on high;
He lives, yes, He lives, and will nevermore die.
- 4 O, where is your sting, death? We fear you no more; Christ rose, and now open is fair Eden's
door. For all our transgressions His blood does atone;
Redeemed and forgiven, we now are His own.
- 5 Then sing your hosannas and raise your glad voice; Proclaim the blest tidings that all may
rejoice. Laud, honor, and praise to the Lamb that was slain:
With Father and Spirit He ever shall reign.

Text: C. F. W. Walther, 1811–87, abr.; tr. Anna M. Meyer, 1867–1941, alt.
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The Postlude