



We are a Christian community called to **worship** and sent to **serve**,  
welcoming all to **walk** with Christ and **grow** in faith.

### AS WE GATHER

You know the Fifth Commandment: You shall not murder. But do you really know it? “I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment” (Matthew 5:22). You know the Sixth Commandment: You shall not commit adultery. But “everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart” (Matthew 5:28). Because the heart of the matter is deeper, we need to hear, read, mark, learn, and take the Scriptures to heart again and again. For though God’s Word doesn’t change, we do. The changes and chances of life should drive us to discover anew every day the wisdom of God revealed by His Spirit through His eternal Word.

### WELCOME & INVOCATION

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

- P** In the name of the Father and of the  $\text{✠}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

### PSALM RESPONSE

Psalm 98:7–9; antiphon: v. 2

- P** The LORD has made known his salvation;  
**C** he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.  
**P** Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;  
**C** the world and those who dwell in it!  
**P** Let the rivers clap their hands;  
**C** let the hills sing for joy together before the LORD,  
**P** The LORD has made known his salvation;  
**C** he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

### HYMN: “CHRIST IS OUR CORNERSTONE”

LSB 912

1 Christ is our cor - ner - stone, On Him a - lone we build;  
2 Here may we gain from heav'n The grace which we im - plore,  
△ 3 Oh, then, with hymns of praise These hal - lowed courts shall ring;

With His true saints a - lone The courts of heav'n are filled. On His  
And may that grace, once giv'n, Be with us ev - er - more Un - til  
Our voic - es we will raise The Three in One to sing And thus

great love Our hopes we place Of pres - ent grace And joys a - bove.  
that day When all the blest To end - less rest Are called a - way.  
pro - claim In joy - ful song, Both loud and long, That glo - rious name.

Text: Latin, c. 8th cent.; tr. John Chandler, 1806–76, alt. Tune: John Darwall, 1731–89 Text and tune: Public domain

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

*Confession*

**P** God's Word tells us, "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C** But if we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

*Silence for reflection.*

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C** Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. 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.

**C** Amen.

## KYRIE

*Mark 10:47 LSB 204*



**C** Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

## GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

*Luke 2:14; John 1:29 LSB 204*



**C** 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;  
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;  
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!  
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.  
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,  
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.  
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—  
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray together:

**C** Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

<sup>15</sup>“See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. <sup>16</sup>If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. <sup>17</sup>But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, <sup>18</sup>I

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Deuteronomy 30:15–20*

declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. <sup>19</sup>I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, <sup>20</sup>loving the LORD your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.”

## NEW TESTAMENT READING

<sup>1</sup>But I, brothers, could not address you as spiritual people, but as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. <sup>2</sup>I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for it. And even now you are not yet ready, <sup>3</sup>for you are still of the flesh. For while there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not of the flesh and behaving only in a human way? <sup>4</sup>For when one says, “I follow Paul,” and another, “I follow Apollos,” are you not being merely human?

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*1 Corinthians 3:1–9*

<sup>5</sup>What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, as the Lord assigned to each. <sup>6</sup>I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. <sup>7</sup>So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. <sup>8</sup>He who plants and he who waters are one, and each will receive his wages according to his labor. <sup>9</sup>For we are God’s fellow workers. You are God’s field, God’s building.

## HOLY GOSPEL READING

<sup>21</sup>[Jesus said:] “You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.’ <sup>22</sup>But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, ‘You fool!’ will be liable to the hell of fire. <sup>23</sup>So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, <sup>24</sup>leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. <sup>25</sup>Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are going with him to court, lest your accuser hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you be put in prison. <sup>26</sup>Truly, I say to you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

*Matthew 5:21–37*

<sup>27</sup>“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ <sup>28</sup>But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart. <sup>29</sup>If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell. <sup>30</sup>And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body go into hell.

<sup>31</sup>“It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’ <sup>32</sup>But I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of sexual immorality, makes her commit adultery. And whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

<sup>33</sup>“Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but shall

perform to the Lord what you have sworn.’ <sup>34</sup>But I say to you, Do not take an oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, <sup>35</sup>or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it

is the city of the great King. <sup>36</sup>And do not take an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. <sup>37</sup>Let what you say be simply ‘Yes’ or ‘No’; anything more than this comes from evil.”

**P** This is the Gospel of our Lord.

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

## APOSTLE'S CREED

**C** 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  $\dagger$  everlasting. Amen.

## SPECIAL MUSIC

*Sunday School Children*

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### HYMN: “GOD OF GRACE AND GOD OF GLORY”

*LSB 850*

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, On Your peo - ple  
 2 Lo, the hosts of e - vil round us Scorn the Christ, as -  
 3 Cure Your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; Bend our pride to  
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion To the e - vils  
 pour Your pow'r; Crown Your an - cient Church's sto - ry;  
 sail His ways! From the fears that long have bound us  
 Your con - trol; Shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,  
 we de - plore; Let the gift of Your sal - va - tion  
 Bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom,  
 Free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom,  
 Rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom,  
 Be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom,  
 grant us cour - age For the fac - ing of this  
 grant us cour - age For the liv - ing of these  
 grant us cour - age Lest we miss Your king - dom's  
 grant us cour - age, Serv - ing You whom we a -  
 hour, For the fac - ing of this hour.  
 days, For the liv - ing of these days.  
 goal, Lest we miss Your king - dom's goal.  
 dore, Serv - ing You whom we a - dore.

Text: Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1878–1969 Tune: John Hughes, 1873–1932 Text and tune: Public domain

<b>Main Points:</b>	
<b>One thing NEW I learned:</b>	<b>What can I apply to my life?</b>

**OFFERING****PRAYER OF THE CHURCH***Incorporating the words of LSB 850*

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

Almighty God, the seas roar and the rivers clap their hands because You come to judge the earth. Receive our thanks that You declare us righteous by water and the Word, and grant that we would live in that baptismal grace until You come in glory. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

- P** Heavenly Father, You make us Your children in Baptism and desire that we grow and mature in the faith. Bless pastors, teachers, missionaries, parents and all who teach Your Word, and give us a constant desire to hear and obey it. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

- P** Almighty God, You condemn unrighteous anger even as You command, "You shall not murder." You have poured out Your righteous anger on Your Son at the cross, that we might be reconciled to You. Where there is division, move us to repent and seek reconciliation with one another so that we might live in peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

- P** God of life, You condemn sexually impure thoughts even as You command, "You shall not commit adultery." Deliver us from lustful thoughts and defend us from the temptations of pornography, that we may lead a sexually pure and decent life in what we say and do. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

- P** O God, the Author of truth, You command us, "You shall not swear falsely." Give us faith to acknowledge Your Word and, by Your strength, do what You command. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

- P** Lord of all, You judge the peoples in righteousness and equity. Give wisdom to our nation's authorities, preserve us from unjust division and cause us to love one another. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

- P** Lord, our God, You are our life and our length of days. Sustain and strengthen those who suffer sickness and affliction, [*especially* \_\_\_\_\_], and comfort all who mourn with the promise of everlasting life in Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

- P** Almighty God, You give growth to the Church by Your Holy Word and Sacraments. Preserve Your people from the false wisdom of the world, which creates division and follows after the winds of the age. Unite the Church in a common confession of Your truth, Your Word. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

- P** Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to You alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.****LORD'S PRAYER***Matthew 6:9-13*

- 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.

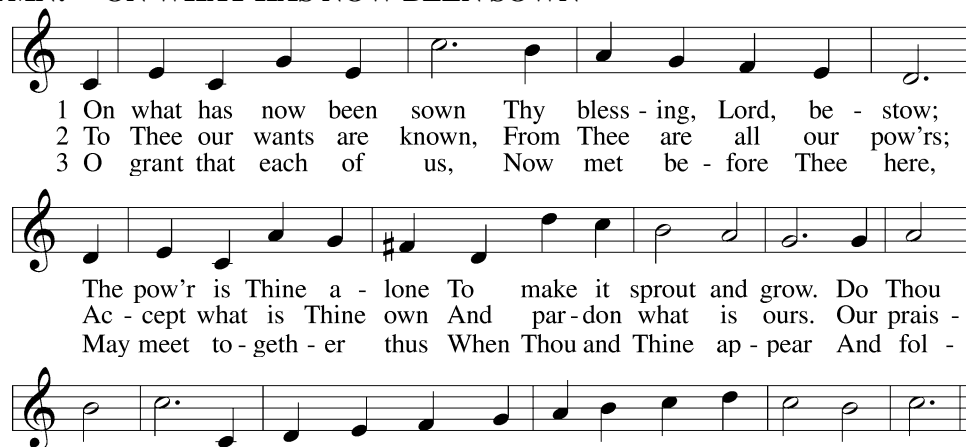
## BENEDICTION

- P** 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  $\text{✠}$  give you peace.
- C** Amen.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### HYMN: “ON WHAT HAS NOW BEEN SOWN”

LSB 921



1 On what has now been sown Thy bless - ing, Lord, be - stow;  
2 To Thee our wants are known, From Thee are all our pow'rs;  
3 O grant that each of us, Now met be - fore Thee here,

The pow'r is Thine a - lone To make it sprout and grow. Do Thou  
Ac - cept what is Thine own And par - don what is ours. Our prais -  
May meet to - geth - er thus When Thou and Thine ap - pear And fol -

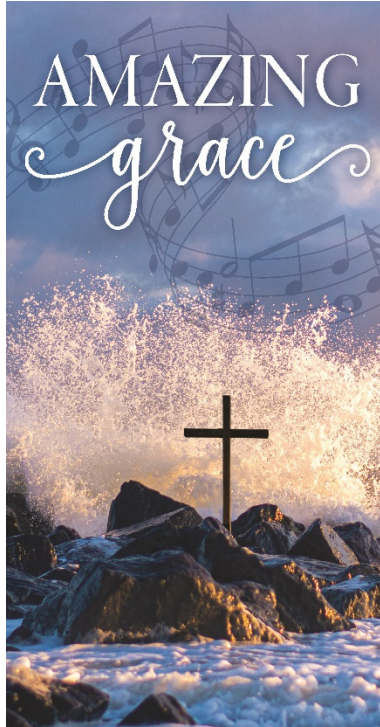
in grace the har - vest raise, And Thou a - lone shalt have the praise!  
es, Lord, and prayers re - ceive, And to Thy Word a bless - ing give.  
low Thee to heav'n, our home. E'en so, a - men, Lord Je - sus, come!

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt. Tune: John Darwall, 1731–89 Text and tune: Public domain

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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## LENT 2023



In honor of the 250th anniversary of the writing of “Amazing Grace,” this worship series for Lent by theologian Michael Hoy ties the words of the beloved song to our lives today as Christ’s disciples. Those in the Bible who experienced the amazing grace of God help us each week to realize that though we once were lost in sin, we now have been found by Jesus, and though we once were blind to God’s mercy, we now can see his love at work in us through our Savior’s death and resurrection.

**Ash Wednesday, February 22 • *David (Psalm 51:1)*:** We find comfort that King David confessed his sins to God and received amazing grace in God’s forgiveness and a connection to Jesus, the Savior.

**Week 1 • *Isaiah of Babylon (Isaiah 6:7)*:** We see God’s amazing grace at work in the life of the prophet Isaiah, who proclaimed to God’s people the salvation that was to come through the Suffering Servant.

**Week 2 • *The Prodigal Son (Luke 15:32)*:** We hear of the great love of a father who lavished amazing grace upon the Prodigal Son, a picture of our Heavenly Father’s lavish compassion toward us.

**Week 3 • *The Blind Man (John 9:24)*:** We witness Jesus bringing sight to a man born blind, giving the man the added spiritual vision to see the amazing grace of God found in Jesus, who heals us all.

**Week 4 • *The Woman at the Well (John 4:13-14)*:** We listen to Jesus teach a woman at the well of his amazing grace poured out for us abundantly, which satisfies our thirsting souls for all eternity.

**Week 5 • *Paul (1 Timothy 1:15)*:** We marvel at the story of amazing grace in the life of Paul, who turned from persecutor of Christ to proclaimer of our Lord through the mighty power of the Holy Spirit.

**Devotion booklets** available for use during Lent. Pick up at St. John.