



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

Isaiah

Welcome to our Amazing Grace series for Lent. In this service, we will 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. Our call in Lent is to speak that same message of salvation found in the suffering and death of Jesus, who came not to be served but to serve. *And he touched my mouth and said: "Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for."* Isaiah 6:7.

WELCOME & INVOCATION

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

- P** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

CHRIST, THE LIFE OF ALL THE LIVING

LSB 420

1 Christ, the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the death of
2 Thou, ah! Thou, hast tak - en on Thee Bonds and stripes, a
3 Thou hast borne the smit - ing on - ly That my wounds might
death, our foe, Who, Thy - self for me once giv - ing
cru - el rod; Pain and scorn were heaped up - on Thee,
all be whole; Thou hast suf - fered, sad and lone - ly,
To the dark - est depths of woe: Through Thy suf - f'rings,
O Thou sin - less Son of God! Thus didst Thou my
Rest to give my wea - ry soul; Yea, the curse of
death, and mer - it I e - ter - nal life in - her - it.
soul de - liv - er From the bonds of sin for - ev - er.
God en - dur - ing, Bless - ing un - to me se - cur - ing.
Thou-sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.
Thou-sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.
Thou-sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.

Text: Ernst Christoph Homburg, 1605–81; (sts. 1–2): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.; (st. 3): tr. Evangelical Lutheran Hymn-Book, 1912, St. Louis
Tune: Das grosse Cantional, 1687, Darmstadt Text and tune: Public domain

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 32:1-5

- P** Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.
C Blessed is the man against whom the Lord counts no iniquity,
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.
P For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.
C For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;
my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.
P I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity;
C I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,” and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

- P** As we come together to worship in the presence of God, we confess our sins and seek God’s grace and mercy. Isaiah was given a vision of God enthroned in the temple and the prophet was frightened by what he saw. He knew that he was a sinner in the presence of the holy God of Israel. With the prophet, we acknowledge and confess our sins to God and ask for his forgiveness.
C Almighty God, we know that we are sinners. We do not obey your holy law. We follow our sinful desires and listen to the temptations of the world around us. The prophet confessed that he was unclean. We too are unclean. We have sinned against you in our thoughts, words and actions. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins.
P An angel touched the prophet’s lips with a coal from the altar of sacrifice and said, “Your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for.” Isaiah’s guilt was taken away. His sins were forgiven. As God showed grace to the prophet, he has shown his grace to us through Jesus’ atoning death. I announce to you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
C I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, ‘I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,’ and you forgave the iniquity of my sin. (Psalm 32:5)
P The prophet Isaiah was forgiven and sent out to proclaim the message of God’s judgment and grace. We too are forgiven and sent out to serve and to witness in Jesus’ name. With the prophet, we answer God’s call:
C Here I am! Send me!

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-shipped 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 Almighty God, your amazing grace was displayed in the life of the prophet Isaiah. His guilt was taken away and his sins forgiven. You have, in grace, forgiven us through the atoning sacrifice of Jesus our Lord. You have called us to live in love and service toward others. As we go about our daily lives, help us by your Spirit to share with others the love of Jesus and the promise of salvation through faith in his name. Hear our prayer and accept our praise in the name of Jesus our Lord. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 6:1–8

¹In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple. ²Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. ³And one called to another and said:

“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory!”

⁴And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was

filled with smoke. ⁵And I said: “Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!”

⁶Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. ⁷And he touched my mouth and said: “Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for.”

⁸And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” Then I said, “Here am I! Send me.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Romans 10:14–17

¹⁴But how are they to call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? ¹⁵And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those

who preach the good news!” ¹⁶But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?” ¹⁷So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 9:35–38

³⁵And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction. ³⁶When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because

they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; ³⁸therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”

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 ✝ everlasting. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Little Lambs Choir – St. John students Pre-K-1st Grade

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

led by Mrs. Heidi Sue McCormick

AMAZING GRACE

LSB 744

1 A - maz - ing grace— how sweet the sound— That
2 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, His

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but
Word my hope se - cures; He will my shield and

now am found, Was blind but now I see!
por - tion be As long as life en - dures.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt. Tune: Columbian Harmony, 1829, Cincinnati Text and tune: Public domain

DRAMATIC READING

The Prophet Isaiah

Our dramatic readings are a little different from sermons you are used to hearing. The pastor will serve as narrator and a congregation member will share words from the Bible based on words the character spoke or wrote about God's amazing grace in their lives.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P Let us pray:

C O Lord, our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

- P** Almighty God, your grace is the favor you show to undeserving sinners. Just as you showed grace to the prophet Isaiah and forgave his sins, you have forgiven us for the sake of Jesus our Savior. Gracious Lord,
- C** **Have mercy on us and hear our prayer.**
- P** Almighty God, during this season of Lent, a time of repentance, we remember that Jesus was sacrificed for our sins on the altar of the cross. As Isaiah's sins were burned away with a coal from the temple altar, our sins are washed away in Jesus' blood. Gracious Lord,
- C** **Have mercy on us and hear our prayer.**
- P** Almighty God, we pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ who are suffering illness, sorrow and grief. Lead us by your Spirit to comfort them with the promises of your holy Word and to bring help to them in their time of need. Gracious Lord,
- C** **Have mercy on us and hear our prayer.**
- P** Almighty God, Isaiah was quick to answer your call. You sent him out with the message of your power and love. You asked, "Whom shall I send?" Bless the pastors, teachers, missionaries and others who answered your call and said, "Here I am. Send me." Watch over them and protect them as they proclaim the Gospel of salvation. By the power of your Spirit, extend your kingdom through the preaching of the good news. Gracious Lord,
- C** **Have mercy on us and hear our prayer.**
- P** Almighty God, you have forgiven our sins. Now, by the power of your Spirit, make us bold witnesses for our Savior. You ask, "Whom shall I send?" Lead us to answer with joy, "Here I am! Send me!"
- C** **Have mercy on us and hear our prayer. Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

- P** Taught by our LORD and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:
- 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

Isaiah 6:7-8

- P** "Your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for."
And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?"
- C** **Then I said, "Here I am! Send me."**
- 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 peace.
- C** **Amen**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HARK, THE VOICE OF JESUS CRYING

LSB 826



1 Hark, the voice of Je - sus cry - ing, "Who will go and work to - day?
2 If you can-not speak like an - gels, If you can - not preach like Paul,
3 If you can-not be a watch-man, Stand - ing high on Zi - on's wall,
4 Let none hear you i - dly say - ing, "There is noth-ing I can do,"



Fields are white and har-vests wait-ing— Who will bear the sheaves a-way?"
You can tell the love of Je - sus, You can say He died for all.
Point - ing out the path to heav - en, Of - f'ring life and peace to all,
While the mul - ti-tudes are dy - ing And the Mas-ter calls for you.



Loud and long the Mas-ter call-eth; Rich re-ward He of - fers thee.
If you can - not rouse the wick-ed With the judg-ment's dread a - larms,
With your prayers and with your boun-ties You can do what God com-mands;
Take the task He gives you glad-ly, Let His work your plea-sure be;



Who will an-swer, glad-ly say-ing, "Here am I, send me, send me"?
You can lead the lit - tle chil-dren To the Sav-ior's wait - ing arms.
You can be like faith-ful Aar-on, Hold - ing up the proph - et's hands.
An - swer quick-ly when He call-eth, "Here am I, send me, send me!"

Text (sts. 1–2, 4): Daniel March, 1816–1909, alt.; (st. 3): unknown, alt. Tune: Joseph Barnby, 1838–96 Text and tune: Public domain

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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The story of how “Amazing Grace” came to be is a fascinating and surprising account.

“Amazing Grace” is a Christian hymn penned by the English poet and Anglican clergyman John Newton to accompany a sermon he preached on New Year’s Day, 1773. Over the last 250 years, it has become an immensely popular hymn, particularly in the United States where it is used for both religious and secular purposes. The text for the hymn is drawn from 1 Chronicles 17:16-17, in which King David responds to the prophet Nathan’s words that God intends to continue David’s royal line for eternity. The text reads:

Then King David went in and sat before the LORD and said, “Who am I, O LORD God, and what is my house, that you have brought me thus far? And even this was a small thing in your sight, O God; you have also spoken of your servant’s house into the distant future. You regard me as someone of high rank, O LORD God!”

Newton wrote the words of “Amazing Grace” from his own personal experience. He was once a man far from faith who was brought near to God by a harrowing event in his life. In 1748, while Newton served as a sea captain of a ship in the Atlantic slave trade, a violent storm off the coast of Ireland struck his vessel so severely that he called out to God for mercy. This moment marked Newton’s turn toward God, what he called “the hour I first believed.” Eventually leaving sailing behind, Newton then began studying Christian theology and was ordained in the Church of England in 1764. He served as a minister in Olney, England, where he began writing hymns.

“Amazing Grace” was published in *Olney Hymns* in 1779 but was rarely sung in England. It was in the United States where the song would become widely known during the early 1800s. While the hymn was associated with more than 20 melodies over the years, in 1835, American composer William Walker set it to the tune known as “New Britain,” and the melody stuck. Today “Amazing Grace” remains one of the most recognizable songs in the English-speaking world.

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.

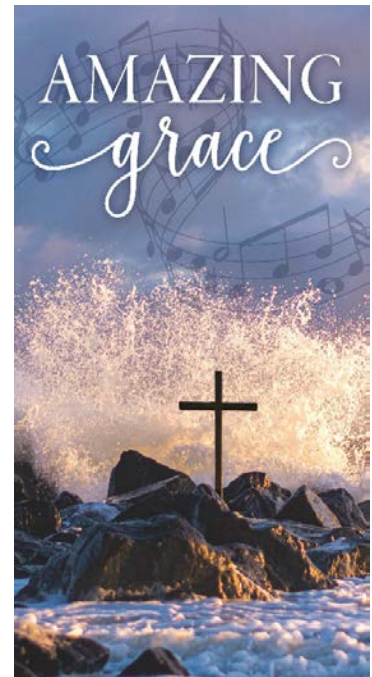
Week 1, February 26 • *Isaiah of Babylon (Isaiah 6:7)*: We see God’s amazing grace at work in the life of the prophet Isaiah, who proclaimed to God’s people the salvation that was to come through the Suffering Servant.

Week 2, March 5 • *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, March 12 • *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, March 19 • *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, March 26 • *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.