



John 3:16  
FOR GOD SO LOVED  
THE WORLD THAT HE  
GAVE HIS ONE AND ONLY SON,  
THAT WHOEVER BELIEVES IN  
HIM SHALL NOT PERISH  
BUT HAVE ETERNAL LIFE.

*Welcome to*  
**SAINT PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH - MISSOURI SYNOD

***Fourth Sunday in Lent***

March 10, 2024

"In Nomine Iesu"

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**WELCOME** to the friends who know us and to the stranger we would like to get to know. What is offered here is fellowship with a living Redeemer, membership in Christ's Church, and citizenship in His eternal Kingdom. May God's Spirit be upon the Word we receive and may His blessings be upon your worship.

**A special welcome** is extended to all our guests. We hope you will worship with us again soon. We do ask that everyone fill out the registration card found in your pew rack and hand it to the usher as you leave.

We would also like to invite you to worship with us on Wednesday evening. We continue our journey through Lent leading us to Christ's ultimate sacrifice. Worship service begins at 6:30 p.m.

**Prelude**  
**Welcome and Announcements**  
**Call to Worship ~ Ringing of the Bells**

**The Order of Worship**

Lutheran Service Book – page 184  
Divine Service Setting Three

**Invocation** (*please stand*)

- P In the name of the Father and of the (+) Son  
and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

**Our Catechism Moment – Office of the Keys**

- P What is the Office of the Keys?
- C **The Office of the Keys is that special authority which Christ has given to His Church on earth to forgive the sins of repentant sinners, but to withhold forgiveness from the unrepentant as long as they do not repent.**
- P Where is this written?
- C **This is what St. John the Evangelist writes in chapter twenty: The Lord Jesus breathed on His disciples and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.”**  
(John 20:22–23)
- P What do you believe according to these words?
- C **I believe that when the called ministers of Christ deal with us by His divine command, in particular when they exclude openly unrepentant sinners from the Christian congregation and absolve those who repent of their sins and want to do better, this is just as valid and certain, even in heaven, as if Christ our dear Lord dealt with us Himself.**

**Confession**

- P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,  
C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word  
and for self-examination.*

P O almighty God, merciful Father,  
All **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all  
my sins and iniquities with which I have ever  
offended You and justly deserved Your temporal  
and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry  
for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray  
You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of  
the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of  
Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious  
and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

### **Absolution**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a  
called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the  
grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the  
command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your  
sins in the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of  
the Holy Spirit.  
C **Amen.**

### **Service of the Word**

**Introit** *Ps. 27:3-5; antiphon: Ps. 27:1*

P The LORD is my light and my salvation;  
whom shall I fear?  
C **The LORD is the stronghold of my life;  
of whom shall I be afraid?**

P Though an army encamp against me,  
my heart shall not fear;  
C **though war arise against me,  
yet I will be confident.**

P One thing have I asked of the LORD,  
that will I seek after:

C that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the  
days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the  
LORD and to inquire in his temple.

P For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;

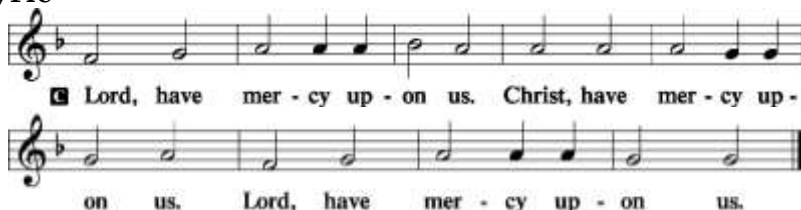
C he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;  
he will lift me high upon a rock.

All Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the  
Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and  
will be forever. Amen.

P The LORD is my light and my salvation;  
whom shall I fear?

C The LORD is the stronghold of my life;  
of whom shall I be afraid?

### Kyrie



### Salutation



### Collect of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are  
new every morning; and though we deserve only

punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



*(be seated)*

**Choir Anthem**      *"Take Now my Voice"*  
Words and Music by Douglas Nolan

**Old Testament Reading**

*Numbers 21:4-9*

<sup>4</sup> From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. <sup>5</sup> And the people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food." <sup>6</sup> Then the Lord sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. <sup>7</sup> And the people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned, for we have spoken against the Lord and against you. Pray to the Lord, that he take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. <sup>8</sup> And the Lord said to Moses, "Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live." <sup>9</sup> So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

**L**      This is the Word of the Lord.  
**C**      **Thanks be to God.**

## Epistle

*Ephesians 2:1-10*

<sup>1</sup>And you were dead in the trespasses and sins <sup>2</sup> in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— <sup>3</sup> among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. <sup>4</sup> But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, <sup>5</sup> even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— <sup>6</sup> and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup> so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup> For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, <sup>9</sup> not a result of works, so that no one may boast. <sup>10</sup> For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

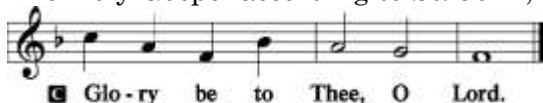
**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Holy Gospel *(please stand)*

*John 3:14-21*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter

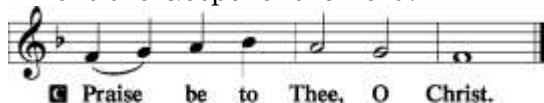


<sup>14</sup> And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup> that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup> "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has

not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. <sup>20</sup> For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. <sup>21</sup> But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



### Apostles' Creed

All 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.

*(be seated)*

### Children's Message

#### Hymn of the Day

*"God Loved the World So that He Gave"*      LSB #571

### Sermon



## Offering & Musical Offering



**C** Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

## Prayers of the Church

(After each portion of the prayers)

P Lord, in your mercy, **C Hear our prayer.**

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus  
and for all people according to their needs:

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we  
pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus  
Christ, our Lord.

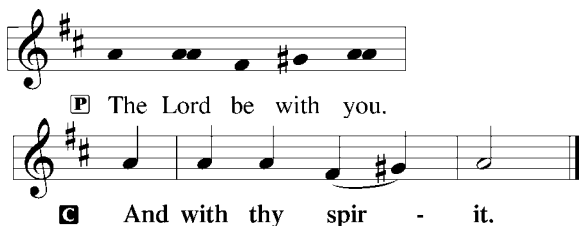
**C Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

**All 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.

### Salutation



### Benedicamus



### Benediction *(please stand)*

P The Lord bless thee and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine upon you  
and be gracious unto you.  
The Lord lift His countenance upon you  
and (+) give you peace.



Closing Hymn      “My Faith Looks Up To Thee”      LSB #702

### Silent Prayer

*(be seated)*

### Postlude

“Soli Deo Gloria”

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*For we are God's*  
**HANDIWORK, CREATED  
IN CHRIST JESUS TO  
DO GOOD WORKS, WHICH  
GOD PREPARED IN  
ADVANCE FOR US TO DO.**

**EPHESIANS 2:10**