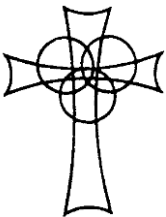
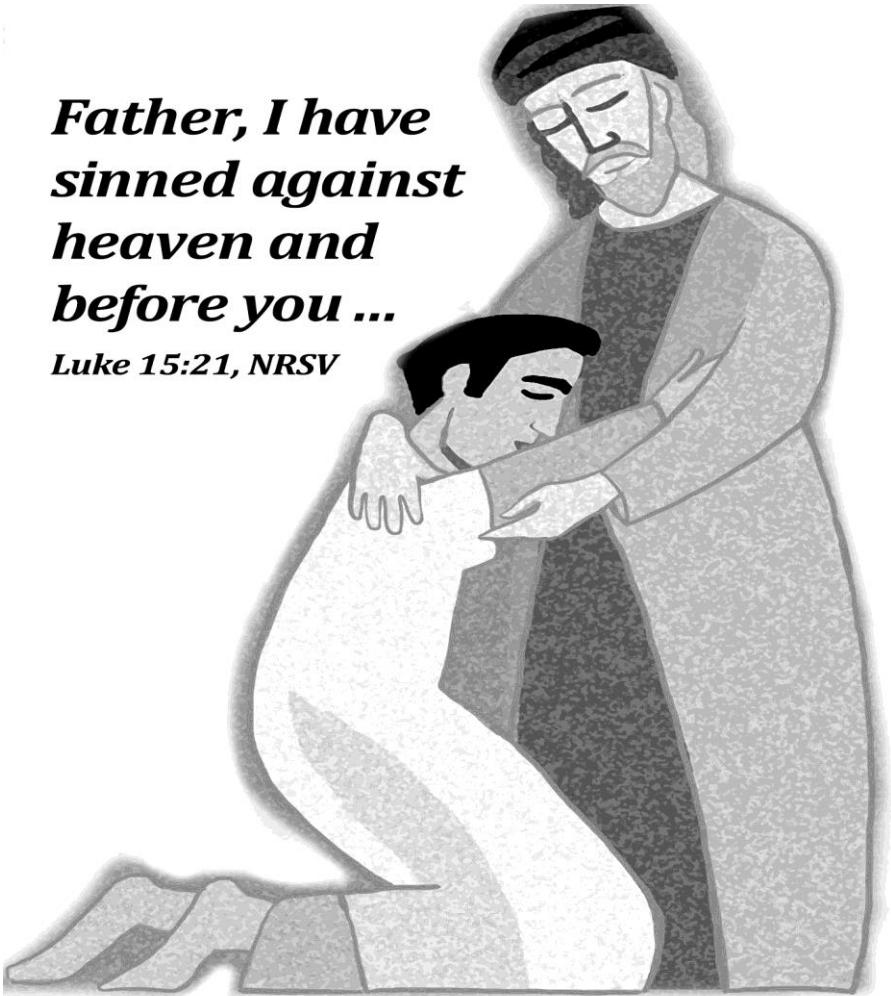


***Father, I have
sinned against
heaven and
before you ...***

Luke 15:21, NRSV



Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

4000 – 30th Street

at the intersection of 30th Street and Bunker Hill Road

Mount Rainier, Maryland 20712

The Reverend Peter A. Schiebel, Pastor

Church Office Phone: 301-864-4340

Church Web Site: www.tlcmr.org



A Member Congregation of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod



Lenten Midweek Vespers 2023
Chronicles of God's Amazing Grace

The Fourth Wednesday of Lent
March 15, 2023



**The Office of Vespers
in the Season of Lent**

Lutheran Service Book Page 229ff

✠ *Jesus, Mercy!* ✠



A Silent Prayer as we gather for worship:

Open, Lord, my mouth to bless Your holy Name; cleanse my heart of any worthless, evil, or distracting thoughts; enlighten my understanding; give me wisdom and love necessary to pray with attention, reverence, and devotion. Father, let my prayer be heard in Your presence, for it is offered through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

The Words of Welcome

The Congregation rises.

The Opening Hymn

Lutheran Service Book Hymn # 610

“Lord Jesus, Think on Me”



1 Lord Je - sus, think on me And purge a - way my sin;
2 Lord Je - sus, think on me, By anx - ious thoughts op - pressed;
3 Lord Je - sus, think on me A - mid the bat - tle's strife;
4 Lord Je - sus, think on me Nor let me go a - stray;
5 Lord Je - sus, think on me That, when this life is past,



From world-ly pas-sions set me free And make me pure with-in.
 Let me Your lov-ing ser-vant be And taste Your prom-ised rest.
 In all my pain and mis-er-y, O be my health and life!
 Through dark-ness and per-plex-i-ty Point out Your cho-sen way.
 I may the e-ter-nal bright-ness see And share Your joy at last.

Text: Synesius of Cyrene, c. 365–c. 414; tr. Allen W. Chatfield, 1808–96, alt.

Tune: William Daman, c. 1540–1591

Text and tune: Public domain

The Opening Versicles and *Gloria Patri*:

- P** O Lord, open my lips,
- C** and my mouth will declare Your praise.

- P** Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
- C** make haste to help me, O Lord.

- C** **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.
Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation.

The Congregation is seated.

✠ The Psalmody ✠

The Psalm of the Day

Psalm 38; antiphon: verse 21

- P** ^{Ant.} Do not forsake me, O LORD!
 O my God, be not far from me!
- P** ¹ O LORD, rebuke me not in your anger,
 nor discipline me in your wrath!
- C** ² **For your arrows have sunk into me,**
and your hand has come down on me.

P ³There is no soundness in my flesh
because of your indignation;
there is no health in my bones
because of my sin.

C ⁴**For my iniquities have gone over my head;
like a heavy burden, they are too heavy for me.**

P ⁵My wounds stink and fester
because of my foolishness,

C ⁶**I am utterly bowed down and prostrate;
all the day I go about mourning.**

P ⁷For my sides are filled with burning,
and there is no soundness in my flesh.

C ⁸**I am feeble and crushed;
I groan because of the tumult of my heart.**

P ⁹O Lord, all my longing is before you;
my sighing is not hidden from you.

C ¹⁰**My heart throbs; my strength fails me,
and the light of my eyes—it also has gone from me.**

P ¹¹My friends and companions stand aloof from my plague,
and my nearest kin stand far off.

C ¹²**Those who seek my life lay their snares;
those who seek my hurt speak of ruin
and meditate treachery all day long.**

P ¹³But I am like a deaf man; I do not hear,
like a mute man who does not open his mouth.

C ¹⁴**I have become like a man who does not hear,
and in whose mouth are no rebukes.**

P ¹⁵But for you, O LORD, do I wait;
it is you, O Lord my God, who will answer.

C ¹⁶**For I said, “Only let them not rejoice over me,
who boast against me when my foot slips!”**

P ¹⁷For I am ready to fall,
and my pain is ever before me.

C ¹⁸**I confess my iniquity;
I am sorry for my sin.**

P ¹⁹But my foes are vigorous, they are mighty,
and many are those who hate me wrongfully.

C ²⁰**Those who render me evil for good
accuse me because I follow after good.**

P ²¹Do not forsake me, O LORD!
O my God, be not far from me!

C ²²**Make haste to help me,
O Lord, my salvation!**

C **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 ^{Ant.}Do not forsake me, O LORD!
O my God, be not far from me!

Silence is kept for a time of meditation on the Word

P Let us pray.

Lord, righteous and merciful God, do not punish us in Your hot displeasure, as we so richly deserve, but be gracious to us according to Your mercies, for we are poor and miserable. Do not remember the guilt of our many sins, but remember the bloody merits of Your Son. Strengthen our hearts with the comforting ministrations of Your Spirit, and preserve us in faith and hope unto our end; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**



The Office Hymn

Lutheran Service Book Hymn # 609

“Jesus Sinners Doth Receive”

We sing stanzas 1-4 and 7



1 Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive; Oh, may all this
 2 We de - serve but grief and shame, Yet His words, rich
 3 Sheep that from the fold did stray No true shep - herd
 4 I, a sin - ner, come to Thee With a pen - i -
 7 Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive; Al - so I have



say - ing pon - der Who in sin's de - lu - sions live
 grace re - veal - ing, Par - don, peace, and life pro - claim;
 e'er for - sak - eth; Wea - ry souls that lost their way
 tent con - fes - sion. Sav - ior, mer - cy show to me;
 been for - giv - en; And when I this earth must leave,



And from God and heav - en wan - der! Here is hope for
 Here our ills have per - fect heal - ing. Firm - ly in these
 Christ, the Shep - herd, gent - ly tak - eth In His arms that
 Grant for all my sins re - mis - sion. Let these words my
 I shall find an o - pen heav - en. Dy - ing, still to



all who grieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.
 words be - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.
 they may live: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.
 soul re - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.
 Him I cleave: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756

Tune: Neu-verfertigtes Darmstädtisches Gesang-Buch, 1699, Darmstadt

Text and tune: Public domain



✠ The Service of the Word ✠

The First Reading

Isaiah 12:1-6

L A reading from Isaiah, chapter 12.

¹You will say in that day:

“I will give thanks to you, O LORD,
for though you were angry with me,
your anger turned away,
that you might comfort me.

²“Behold, God is my salvation;
I will trust, and will not be afraid;
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song,
and he has become my salvation.”

³With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. ⁴And you will say in that day:

“Give thanks to the LORD,
call upon his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples,
proclaim that his name is exalted.

⁵“Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously;
let this be made known in all the earth.

⁶Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.”

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.



The Second Reading

Ephesians 2:1-10

L A reading from Ephesians, chapter 2.

¹And you were dead in the trespasses and sins ²in 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— ³among 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. ⁴But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, ⁵even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— ⁶and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹not a result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

The Third Reading

Luke 15:11-32

L A reading from Luke, chapter 15.

¹¹[Jesus said:] “There was a man who had two sons. ¹²And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’ And he divided his property between them. ¹³Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. ¹⁴And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

¹⁷“But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! ¹⁸I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.’” ²⁰And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. ²¹And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against

heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’²² But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet.’²³ And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate.’²⁴ For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.

²⁵‘Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing.’²⁶ And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant.²⁷ And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.’²⁸ But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him,²⁹ but he answered his father, ‘Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends.’³⁰ But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!’³¹ And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours.’³² It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.’”

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

The Responsory for Lent:

P Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.

C Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.

P In You, O Lord, do I put my trust, leave me not, O Lord, my God.

C Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.

P Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.

C Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.

The Sermon

Chronicles of God’s Amazing Grace
The Prodigal Son: Grace for the Lost
Text: Luke 15:11-32

✠ The Canticle ✠

The Congregation rises.

The Canticle at Vespers: *Magnificat*

Luke 1:46b-55; antiphon: 2 Corinthians 6:2c

- P** Behold, now is the favorable time;
C behold, now is the day of salvation.
- P** My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior;
C for He has regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden.
- P** For behold, from this day all generations will call me blessed.
C For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His name;
- P** and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation.
C He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
- P** He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has exalted the lowly.
C He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent empty away.
- P** He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever.
C 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** Behold, now is the favorable time;
C behold, now is the day of salvation.

✠ The Prayers ✠

The Kyrie Eleison:

- P** O Lord,
C have mercy.
- P** O Christ,
C have mercy.
- P** O Lord,
C have mercy.

The Lord's Prayer:

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.

The Salutation and Collects:

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

The Collect for the Third Week in Lent:

P O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Collect for the Lenten Season:

P Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts that lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness we may receive from You full pardon and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

Other Prayers and Intercessions may be offered.

The Collect of Intercession:

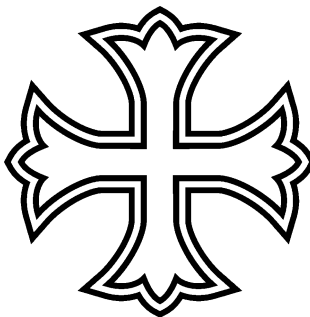
- P** Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give Your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and be present with all, for Your love's sake.
- C** **Amen.**

The Collect for Peace:

- P** O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

The *Benedicamus* and Blessing:

- P** Let us bless the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**
- P** The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C** **Amen.**



The Hymn to Depart

Lutheran Service Book Hymn # 878

“Abide with Me”

We sing stanzas 1-2 and 4-6



1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.
 2 I need Thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;
 4 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;
 5 I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless;
 6 Hold Thou Thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes;



The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.
 What but Thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?
 Earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;
 Ills have no weight and tears no bit - ter - ness.
 Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.



When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
 Who like Thy - self my guide and stay can be?
 Change and de - cay in all a - round I see;
 Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?
 Heav'n's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee;



Help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.
 Through cloud and sun - shine, O a - bide with me.
 O Thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.
 I tri - umph still if Thou a - bide with me!
 In life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847, alt.

Tune: William H. Monk, 1823–89

Text and tune: Public domain



The Silent Worship

The Parish Announcements

The Dismissal:

P Let us go in peace.

C **In the Name of the Lord. Amen.**

Acknowledgments

Vespers from Lutheran Service Book

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Lenten Worship at Trinity – 2023

Chronicles of God's Amazing Grace

Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 PM

Sunday Mornings at 9:30 AM

The Fourth Sunday in Lent – March 19, 2023

Divine Service of Word and Sacrament

The Blind Man: Grace for the Blind – John 9

The Fifth Wednesday of Lent – March 22, 2023

Lenten Vespers

Peter: Grace for the Fearful – Luke 22:54-62 & John 21:15-19

The Fifth Sunday in Lent – March 26, 2023

Divine Service of Word and Sacrament

Lazarus, Martha, & Mary: Grace for the Sorrowful – John 11

The Sixth Wednesday of Lent – March 29, 2023

Lenten Vespers

Paul: Grace for the Wretched – 1 Timothy 1:12-17



The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday – April 2, 2023

The Liturgy of Palm Sunday with the Commemoration of the Lord's Entrance into Jerusalem, the Solemn Reading of the Passion according to Saint Matthew, and the celebration of Holy Communion

The Crowd: Grace for the Loveless – Matthew 27:15-26

Holy (Maundy) Thursday – April 6, 2023

The Liturgy of Maundy Thursday with Confession and Absolution, the celebration of Holy Communion on the anniversary of its institution, and the Solemn Preparation of the Church for Good Friday

A Meal of Grace – Matthew 26:17-30

Good Friday – April 7, 2023

The Liturgy of Good Friday with the Adoration of the Cross, the Solemn Reading of the Passion according to Saint John, and the Solemn Prayers for the Church and the World

Coup de Grace – John 19:31-37

The Feast of the Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter Day – April 9, 2023

The Festival Divine Service with Hymns, Special Music, the Renewal of Baptismal Vows, and the celebration of Holy Communion

Amazing Grace: Now and Forever – Colossians 3:1-4

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4000 – 30th Street
at the intersection of 30th Street and Bunker Hill Road
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Sunday Mornings:
Adult Bible Study – 8:30 AM
Worship with Holy Communion – 9:30 AM

Midweeks in Lent:
Lenten Vespers
Wednesday Evenings – 7:00 PM

*Worship Services are livestreamed on Facebook Live
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