

The Lord says,  
"I WILL GUIDE YOU ALONG  
the best pathway for your life.  
I WILL ADVISE YOU  
—and watch over you—"  
PSALM 32:8

**Arlington Hills Lutheran Church**  
**March 27, 2022**

# Fourth Sunday of Lent

## March 27, 2022

### Introduction

*The psalm sets the tone this day: “Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!” Happy are those who have “become the righteousness of God” in the merits of Christ Jesus. Happy are those for whom the forgiveness of God has “rolled away . . . the disgrace” of former times. Happy is the father at the return of his prodigal son. Happy are we that our sins are forgiven for Jesus’ sake. Rejoice!*

**Prelude**                      “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”                      arr. Edwin T. Childs

### Welcome and Announcements

### Confession and Forgiveness

P: In the name of God,  
who makes a way in the wilderness,  
walks with us,  
and guides us in our pilgrimage.  
**Amen.**

.....*Silence is kept for reflection*.....

P: Holy One,  
**C: we confess that we have wandered far from you:  
we have not trusted your promises,  
we have ignored your prophets in our own day,  
we have squandered our inheritance of grace,  
we have failed to recognize you in our midst.  
Have mercy on us!  
Forgive us and turn us again to you.  
Teach us to follow in your ways,  
assure us again of your love,  
and help us to love our neighbor.  
Amen.**

P: Beloved in Christ, the Word draws near to you,  
and all who call out to God shall be saved.  
In Jesus, God comes to you again and again  
and gathers you under wings of love.  
In ✝ Jesus’ name, your sins are forgiven.  
God journeys with you and teaches you how to live in love.  
**C: Amen.**

**Hymn ELW# 807 “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”**

vs 1-3

**Greeting**

**P:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C:** **And also, with you.**

**Prayer of the Day**

**C:** **God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**First Reading: Joshua 5:9-12**

*By celebrating the Passover and eating the produce of the promised land instead of the miraculous manna that had sustained them in the desert, the Israelites symbolically bring their forty years of wilderness wandering to an end at Gilgal.*

<sup>9</sup>The LORD said to Joshua, “Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt.” And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

<sup>10</sup>While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the Passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. <sup>11</sup>On the day after the Passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. <sup>12</sup>The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

**Psalm 32** *(spoken responsively)*

*Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD. (Ps. 32:11)*

<sup>1</sup>Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven,  
and whose sin is put away!

<sup>2</sup>**Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt,  
and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

<sup>3</sup>While I held my tongue, my bones withered away,  
because of my groaning all day long.

<sup>4</sup>**For your hand was heavy upon me day and night;  
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**

<sup>5</sup>Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not conceal my guilt.  
I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD.” Then you forgave me the  
guilt of my sin.

<sup>6</sup>**Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble;  
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.**

<sup>7</sup>You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble;  
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

<sup>8</sup>**“I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go;  
I will guide you with my eye.**

<sup>9</sup>Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding;  
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you.”

<sup>10</sup>**Great are the tribulations of the wicked;  
but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.**

<sup>11</sup>Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD;  
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

## **Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21**

*One way to describe the gospel is the promise that in Christ everything is transformed into newness. All mistakes, all deliberate sins, all old history is reconciled with Christ's resurrection. This is Paul's strong message to the congregation in the city of Corinth.*

<sup>16</sup>From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. <sup>17</sup>So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! <sup>18</sup>All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup>that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. <sup>20</sup>So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup>For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

**P:** “Word of God, word of life,”

**C:** **Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation** (*please stand as you are able*)

**Gospel: Luke 15:1-3,11-32**

**P:** The holy gospel according to Luke the 15<sup>th</sup> Chapter

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Jesus tells a parable about a son who ponders his father's love only after he has spurned it. The grace he receives is beyond his hopes. That same grace is a crisis for an older brother who believes it is his obedience that has earned his place in the father's home.*

<sup>1</sup>Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] <sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

<sup>3</sup>So he told them this parable: <sup>11b</sup>"There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup>The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup>A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. <sup>14</sup>When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup>So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. <sup>16</sup>He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. <sup>17</sup>But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! <sup>18</sup>I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; <sup>19</sup>I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.'" <sup>20</sup>So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup>Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' <sup>22</sup>But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. <sup>23</sup>And get the fatted calf and kill it and let us eat and celebrate; <sup>24f</sup>for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

<sup>25</sup>"Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup>He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. <sup>27</sup>He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' <sup>28</sup>Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. <sup>29</sup>But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends.

<sup>30</sup>But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ <sup>31</sup>Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup>But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’ ”

P: This is the gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.** (*Please be seated*)

**Sermon**

“Mercy is Good - Grace is Amazing”

**Pr. Orval**

**Hymn of the Day** ELW# 448 vs1-4 “Amazing Grace”

**Apostles’ Creed**

**All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living  
and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Prayers of Intercession**

**Assisting Minister**

AM: Merciful God,

C: **receive our prayer.**

**Offering**

**Offering Music**

“Now the Silence”

arr. Anne Krentz Organ

**Offering Prayer**

P: Extravagant God, you have blessed us with the fullness of creation.

Now we gather at your feast where you offer us the food that satisfies. Take and use what we offer here, come among us, and feed us with the body and blood of Christ, in whose name we pray.

C: **Amen.**

## **Holy Communion**

### **Words of Institution**

**P:** Let us proclaim the mystery of our faith.

**All:** **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

### **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**

### **Distribution**

### **Prayer after Communion**

**P:** Blessed Jesus,  
in this rich meal of grace,  
you have fed us with your body, the bread of life.  
Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope  
to a world in need.

**C:** **Amen.**

## **Sending Hymn ELW# 342**

Vs 1-4

### **Blessing**

P: You are children of God,  
anointed with the oil of gladness  
and strengthened for the journey.  
Almighty God,  
motherly, majestic, and mighty,  
✠ bless you this day and always.

C: **Amen.**

..... *We invite the congregation to remain seated to enjoy the postlude* .....

### **Postlude**

“Allegro moderato”

by A. Guilmant

### **Dismissal**

P: Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

\* \* \* \*

### **Leading Worship Today**

**Pastor:** Rev. Dr. Mitch Kinsinger

**Pulpit Supply:** Pr. Orval Osmundson

**Organist/Pianist:** Barbara Rossow

**Assisting Minister:** Valerie Osmundson

**Livestream Producer:** Silvester Vivic

### **Worship Assistants**

**Ushers:** Charles and Elaine Rohrbach

**Office:** Carol Hansen

Copyright © 2021 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Permission to podcast / stream the music in this service obtained from

ONE LICENSE, License #72077. All rights reserved.”

Parts of the Liturgy reprinted from *EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP*, copyright © 2006 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress license #15484-LIT.

*Our service today will be live streamed if anyone would like to view our new website or be connected to Facebook. From [sundaysandseasons.com](http://sundaysandseasons.com).*

**Please pray this week for AHLC Members and friends:** Jerry Ekblad, Gary Winter, Betty Richter, Ron Hanson, Velta Krauze, Joanne Policone, Shirley Johnson, Margaret Cleary, MaryAnn Wistrom, John Lind, John Hollman, Deb Perry, Esther Hallgren, Jan Kowitz, Richard Edge, Jerry Schaber, Sharon Anderson, Roy Wong, Tom Nyman, Clair and Dona Haberman, Jackie Staples, Dean Anderson, Richard Johnson, and Priscilla Reeve.

**March Birthdays**

3 Carol Hansen  
6 Chris Anderson  
6 Nancy Seagren  
6 Nancy Swanson  
12 Alexander Connors  
12 Ethan Peterson  
18 Lu Warn  
21 Cheryl Hollman  
25 Carol Baldwin  
27 Linda McInerney  
28 Amanda Grace  
28 Justin Hanson  
29 Esther Hallgren  
29 Priscila Wieken  
31 Jacqueline Spiess

**Anniversaries**

10 Ron and Sharon Hanson 60 years  
12 Kevin and Priscila Wieken 12 years  
21 John and Cheryl Hollman 28 years  
24 David and Nancy Seagren 49 years

**April Birthdays**

4 Chuck Rohrbach  
4 Dylan Connors  
6 Cyd Young  
9 Ken Wagner  
9 Flora Larson  
15 Alyssa Ebert  
15 John Ibach  
19 Gary Clark  
20 Cindie Peterson  
24 Florence Rasmusson  
24 Becky Grace  
30 Jeanne Soban

**Anniversaries**

4 Richard and Koreen Pedginski 58 years  
10 Marion and Sven Anderson 65 years  
22 Amy and Mark Adams-Westin 27 years  
28 John and Stephanie Burgess 10 years  
28 Gary and Debra Gray 43 years  
29 David and Vicki O Conner 50 years

**Food Shelf:** As of today, we have 1100 pounds and monetary gifts to the East Side food shelf. *Currently hospitality is on hold today, we will resume on April 3, 2022*

**"Aluminum Can Collection, CANS for MISSION** - is scheduled (*after Easter*) Saturday and Sunday - April 23 & 24 – 9 a.m. - 11a.m. in the church parking lot. Before that, cans can be dropped at 1859 Arcade Street, DeeAnn and Bob Nelson's home - at your convenience, please call ahead **(651) 227-5668**. Thanks for support of our companion congregation of IDEGENDA.

## Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing



1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
 2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";  
 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.  
 and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.  
 let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan - d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end - less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,  
 Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan - d'ring from the fold of God;  
 Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good - ness prove.  
 he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.  
 Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.



## Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

1 A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, that  
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and  
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I  
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but  
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that  
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me  
 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and

now am found; was blind, but now I see.  
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!  
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.

## O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

1 O Love that will not let me go, I rest my wea - ry soul in  
2 O Light that fol - lowest all my way, I yield my flick - 'ring torch to  
3 O Joy that seek - est me through pain, I can - not close my heart to  
4 O Cross that lift - est up my head, I dare not ask to fly from

thee; I give thee back the life I owe, that  
thee; my heart re - stores its bor - rowed ray, that  
thee; I trace the rain - bow through the rain and  
thee; I lay in dust life's glo - ry dead, and

in thine o - cean depths its flow may rich - er, full - er be.  
in thy sun - shine's blaze its day may bright - er, fair - er be.  
feel the prom - ise is not vain that morn shall tear - less be.  
from the ground there blos - soms red life that shall end - less be.