

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 14, 2021

Virtual Bulletin with Holy Communion

Hill Avenue Grace Lutheran Church

Rev. Zachary W. Johnson, Pastor

Donna Menzies, Assistant to the Pastor, Visitation & Spiritual Care

Douglas Shabe, Director of Music

Grace Lee, Organist

Michelle Tune, Soprano

Order of the Liturgy

Prelude

"Sacred Prelude No.1"

James Michael Stevens

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, the keeper of the covenant, the source of steadfast love, our rock and our redeemer.

Amen.

God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Fountain of living water,

pour out your mercy over us. Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free. Rebuild what we have ruined and mend what we have torn. Wash us in your cleansing flood. Make us alive in the Spirit to follow in the way of Jesus, as healers and restorers of the world you so love. Amen.

Beloved, God's word never fails. The promise rests on grace: by the saving love of Jesus Christ, the wisdom and power of God, your sins are ✚ forgiven, and God remembers them no more. Journey in the way of Jesus.

Amen.



Hill Ave Grace
Lutheran Church



Centennial Celebration 1919-2019

Christ, Be Our Light

ELW 715

OPENING HYMN



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for
 2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for
 3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for
 4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for
 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
 has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
 bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
 shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
 to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.



Refrain
 Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell

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GREETING

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect 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: Numbers 21:4-9

Lector: Steve Rose

⁴From Mount Hor [the Israelites] set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. ⁵The 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 detest this miserable food.” ⁶Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷The people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸And the LORD said to Moses, “Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.” ⁹So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 *The congregation responds with the bold verses.*

¹Give thanks to the LORD, for the | LORD is good, for God’s mercy en- | dures forever.

²**Let the redeemed of the | LORD proclaim**

that God redeemed them from the hand | of the foe,

³gathering them in | from the lands;

from the east and from the west, from the north and | from the south.

¹⁷**Some were fools and took re- | bellious paths; through their sins they | were afflicted.**

¹⁸They loathed all man- | ner of food and drew near | to death’s door.

¹⁹**Then in their trouble they cried | to the LORD**

and you delivered them from | their distress.

²⁰You sent forth your | word and healed them and rescued them | from the grave.

²¹**Let them give thanks to you, LORD, for your | steadfast love**

and your wonderful works | for all people.

²²Let them offer sacrifices | of thanksgiving and tell of your deeds with | shouts of joy.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 2:1-10

Lector: Sue Rose

¹You were dead through the trespasses and sins ²in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. ³All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. ⁴But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us ⁵even when we were dead through 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 ages to come 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 the result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,
 slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

GOSPEL: John 3:14-21

[Jesus said:] ¹⁴“Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed.

²¹But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

The Gospel of our Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Pastor Zach Johnson

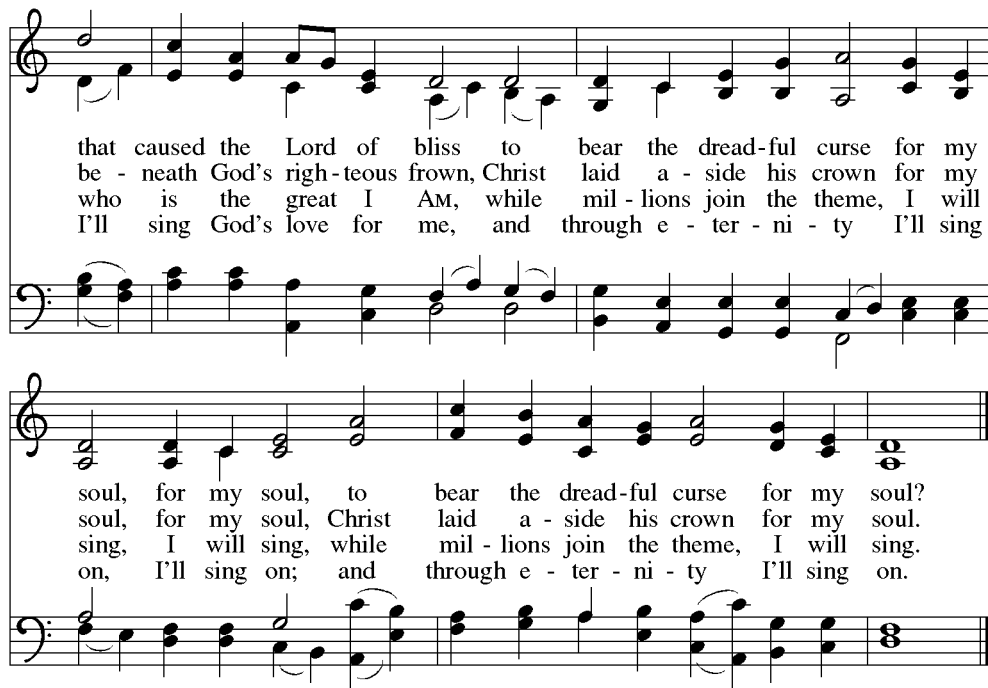
HYMN OF THE DAY

“What Wondrous Love Is This”

ELW 666

1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
 2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when
 3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and

won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this
 I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when I was sink - ing down
 God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,



that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my
be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my
who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will
I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing

soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.
sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.
on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.
Music: WONDROUS LOVE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. Paul J. Christiansen, 1914–1997, alt.
Arr. © 1955 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Assistant Anita Mork

Each petition ends with "Hear us, O God", The assembly responds with "Your mercy is great."

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The presiding and the assembly share a virtual sign of peace.

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

HOLY COMMUNION

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PREFACE

Spoken by the presiding minister.

It is indeed right...we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

All speak the words together.

Holy, holy, holy, Lord. Lord God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

The presiding minister begins the prayer.

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age...Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

The presiding minister and the assembly speak the following words together.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread (*each plate of bread may be raised at this time*), **and gave thanks; broke it, and give it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me** (*bread plate may be lowered*).

Again, after supper, he took the cup (*cup of wine/grape juice may be raised at this time*), **gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sins. Do this for the remembrance of me** (*cup of wine/grape juice may be lowered*).

The presiding minister continues the Eucharistic prayer.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

O God of resurrection and new life...Grace our table with your presence. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

Reveal yourself to us...Send us forth, burning with justice, peace and love. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us...

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

All are invited into a time of reflection before they receive communion. During this time, you may prepare your hearts to receive the sacrament. Once ready, you may commune yourself and those around you with the bread and wine/grape juice. A representative from each household may say the following—bread: "The body of Christ given for you." Wine/grape juice: "The blood of Christ shed for you."

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep in his grace, now and forever.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

All speak the prayer together.

God of steadfast love, at this table you gather your people into one body for the sake of the world. Send us in the power of your Spirit, that our lives bear witness to the love that has made us new in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BENEDICTION

You are what God made you to be: created in Christ Jesus for good works, chosen as holy and beloved, freed to serve your neighbor. God bless you ☩ that you may be a blessing, in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Christ, the Life of All the Living

ELW 339

1 Christ, the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the death of death, our foe,
 2 You have suf - fered great af - flic - tion and have borne it pa - tient - ly,
 3 Then, for all that bought my par - don, for the sor - rows deep and sore,

Christ, your - self for me once giv - ing to the dark - est depths of woe:
 e - ven death by cru - ci - fix - ion, ful - ly to a - tone for me;
 for the an - guish in the gar - den, I will thank you ev - er - more;

through your suf - f'ring, death, and mer - it life e - ter - nal I in - her - it.
 for you chose to be tor - ment - ed that my doom should be pre - vent - ed.
 thank you for the groan - ing, sigh - ing, for the bleed - ing and the dy - ing,

Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you.
 Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you.
 for that last tri - um - phant cry, praise you ev - er - more on high.

Text: Ernst Christoph Homburg, 1605–1681; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
 Music: JESU, MEINES LEBENS LEBEN, *Das grosse Cantional*, Darmstadt, 1687

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

“I Bow the Kneel of My Heart”

+++++

Calendar This Week		
Sun 3/14/21	10:00 AM	Virtual Worship
Wed 3/17/21	7:00 PM	Virtual Mid-week Lent Service
Sat 3/20/21	9:30 AM	Food Shelf Open
Sun 3/21/21	10:00 AM	Virtual Worship
Sun 3/21/21	1:00 PM	Virtual Lenten Concert

Mark Your 2021 Calendar:	
Wednesdays in March	Virtual Mid-Week Lent Service
March 28th	Palm Sunday
April 1st	Maundy Thursday
April 2nd	Good Friday
April 4th	Easter Sunday

Join us this Sunday at 10am for our Virtual Worship via Zoom!

Check in a few minutes early and hear prelude by Grace! You may also join us on Facebook Live. We look forward to seeing your faces and worshipping together!

We will continue after our service on the same link for our fellowship time!

Hill Avenue Grace Lutheran Church is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Hill Avenue Grace Lutheran Church Worship

Time: Sundays at 10:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/95007590439?pwd=M2NmMUZCZzhMOUY0SG8xeHpXcU5RUT09>

Meeting ID: 950 0759 0439

Passcode: worship

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,95007590439#,,,,,0#,,4584517# US (San Jose)

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Dial by your location

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+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

Meeting ID: 950 0759 0439

Passcode: 4584517

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EASTER LILIES

We will decorate our sanctuary for Easter!

If you wish to purchase an Easter Lily plant, please complete the following form and place it **AND your check** (made payable to Hill Avenue Grace Lutheran) in an envelope and mail it to the church office. Please mark your checks for **EASTER LILIES** in the memo line. The cost per plant will be \$10.00.

Please complete the following form and turn it in by **Sunday, March 28th.**
That is the absolute deadline. Thank you!

I am donating \$ _____ for the following:

In memory of:

In honor of:

In thanksgiving for:

Other:

Given by: (Please list names as you want them to appear in the bulletin)

Envelope # _____

Questions? Please call the church office at 626-792-4169