

Service of the Word for the fourth Sunday in Lent

March 22nd 2020

426 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross *LSB 426*

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|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of Glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss
And pour contempt on all my pride. | 3 | See, from His head, His hands, His feet
Sorrow and love flow mingled down!
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet
Or thorns compose so rich a crown? |
| 2 | Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
Save in the death of Christ, my God;
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood. | 4 | Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a tribute far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all! |

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

G Amen.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

G **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

G Amen.

Psalm 142

¹With my voice I cry out to the LORD;
with my voice I plead for mercy to the LORD.

²I pour out my complaint before him;
I tell my trouble before him.

³When my spirit faints within me,
you know my way!

In the path where I walk
they have hidden a trap for me.

⁴Look to the right and see:
there is none who takes notice of me;
no refuge remains to me;
no one cares for my soul.

⁵I cry to you, O LORD;
I say, "You are my refuge,

my portion in the land of the living."

⁶Attend to my cry,

for I am brought very low!

Deliver me from my persecutors,
for they are too strong for me!

⁷Bring me out of prison,
that I may give thanks to your name!

The righteous will surround me,
for you will deal bountifully with me.

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.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 42:14–21

¹⁴For a long time I have held my peace;
I have kept still and restrained myself;
now I will cry out like a woman in labor;
I will gasp and pant.

¹⁵I will lay waste mountains and hills,
and dry up all their vegetation;
I will turn the rivers into islands,
and dry up the pools.

¹⁶And I will lead the blind
in a way that they do not know,
in paths that they have not known
I will guide them.
I will turn the darkness before them into light,
the rough places into level ground.
These are the things I do,
and I do not forsake them.

¹⁷They are turned back and utterly put to shame,
who trust in carved idols,
who say to metal images,
“You are our gods.”

¹⁸Hear, you deaf,
and look, you blind, that you may see!

¹⁹Who is blind but my servant,
or deaf as my messenger whom I send?
Who is blind as my dedicated one,
or blind as the servant of the LORD?

²⁰He sees many things, but does not observe them;
his ears are open, but he does not hear.

²¹The LORD was pleased, for his righteousness' sake,
to magnify his law and make it glorious.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading

Ephesians 5:8–14

⁸for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), ¹⁰and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. ¹³But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, ¹⁴for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Awake, O sleeper,
and arise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

John 9:1–7, 13–17, 34–39

¹As [Jesus] passed by, he saw a man blind from birth.

²And his disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³Jesus answered, “It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶Having said these things, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man’s eyes with the mud ⁷and said to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing.

¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, “He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see.” ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?” And there was a division among them. ¹⁷So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?” He said, “He is a prophet.”

³⁴They answered him, “You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?” And they cast him out.

³⁵Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” ³⁶He answered, “And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?” ³⁷Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.” ³⁸He said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him. ³⁹Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

744 Amazing Grace *LSB 744 sts. 1–5*

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|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Amazing grace—how sweet the sound—
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found,
Was blind but now I see! | 3 | Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come;
His grace has brought me safe thus far,
His grace will lead me home. |
| 2 | The Lord has promised good to me,
His Word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures. | 4 | Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail
And mortal life shall cease,
Amazing grace shall then prevail
In heaven’s joy and peace. |
| | 5 | | When we’ve been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We’ve no less days to sing God’s praise
Than when we’d first begun. |

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Sermon

Apostles' 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.**

Collect of the Day

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.

Prayers Intercessions and Thanksgivings

Lord's Prayer

P Taught by our Lord and trusting in 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.**

Blessing

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.**

763 When Peace, like a River LSB 763

- 1 When peace, like a river, attendeth my way;
 When sorrows, like sea billows, roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,
 It is well, it is well with my soul.
- ref It is well (It is well)
 with my soul, (with my soul),
 It is well, it is well with my soul.
- 2 Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
 Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate
 And hath shed His own blood for my soul. Refrain
- 3 He lives—oh, the bliss of this glorious thought;
 My sin, not in part, but the whole,
Is nailed to His cross, and I bear it no more.
 Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! Refrain
- 4 And, Lord, haste the day when our faith shall be sight,
 The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
The trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend;
 Even so it is well with my soul. Refrain

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