

**Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 19, 2023**

Welcome to our Amazing Grace series for Lent. In this week's service, we listen to Jesus teach a woman at the well of his amazing grace poured out for us abundantly, which satisfies our thirsting souls for all eternity.

Taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in him. Psalm 34:8

Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty again." John 4:13-14

Prelude – Lillian Pinkston

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer Concerns

Sharing of the Peace

Call To Worship - (Psalm 42:1-3, 8-11)

A: As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for you O God.

C: My soul thirst for God, for the living God.

A: When shall I come and appear before God?

C: My tears have been my food day and night, while they say to me all the day long, "Where is your God?"

A: By day the Lord commands his steadfast love,

C: and at night his song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life.

A: I say to God, my rock: "Why have you forgotten me?"

C: Why do I go mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?"

A: As with a deadly wound in my bones, my adversaries taunt me,

C: while they say to me all the day long, "Where is your God?"

A: Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me?

C: Hope in God; for I shall again praise him my salvation and my God.

Gathering Hymn – “Christ, the Life of All the Living” ELW #339

<https://youtu.be/u37KT8jtWWw>

by St. Paul Lutheran

Invocation

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

P: The Samaritan woman met Jesus as he rested beside the well. Jesus invited her to drink of the water of eternal life. We do not live according to God’s commands as we should, yet he looks on us in grace and love.

A time of prayer and silent reflection

P: Let us come before him confident in his steadfast love, to confess our sins and ask his forgiveness.

C: Almighty God, daily we sin against your commandments. We turn away from your Word and ways as we thirst after pleasures and temptations to satisfy our own desires. We are sorry for our sins and we thirst for your forgiveness. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins.

P: God has had mercy on us. He sent his Son to be our Savior. Jesus took our sins onto himself, suffering the penalty of death that we deserved. I announce to you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit. We are refreshed in the flood of his grace.

C: The living water that Jesus gives becomes a spring of water welling up to eternal life! Amen.

“Amazing Grace” ELW #779 Vss. 1&5

<https://youtu.be/Jbe7OruLk8I>

by Chris Tomlin

Kyrie

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen and Amen.

Lenten Hymn – “Crashing Waters at Creation” ELW #455

<https://youtu.be/rHp6QquWdhk>

by Sam Hills Worship

Prayer of the Day

A: Almighty God, the woman of Samaria came to the well that day seeking only the refreshment of ordinary, earthly water. Jesus offered to her what he offers to us, the life-giving water that wells up within us and overflows into eternal life.

C: You refresh us with your Spirit so that we will never thirst again. As the woman told others in her town that she had found the Messiah, lead us to be faithful witnesses for our Lord, so that people will believe in Jesus as their Savior and receive through him the refreshment of forgiveness and eternal life. Hear our prayer in Jesus' name. Amen.

The Word

Old Testament reading – Isaiah 55:1-3

Come, everyone who thirsts!

Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live; and I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David.

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

Psalm 98

He has remembered his steadfast love

Oh, sing to the LORD a new song! For He has done marvelous things; His right hand and His holy arm have gained Him the victory.

²The LORD has made known His salvation; His righteousness He has revealed in the sight of the [a]nations.

³He has remembered His mercy and His faithfulness to the house of Israel; All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

⁴Shout joyfully to the LORD, all the earth; Break forth in song, rejoice, and sing praises.

⁵Sing to the LORD with the harp, With the harp and the sound of a psalm,

⁶With trumpets and the sound of a horn; Shout joyfully before the LORD, the King.

⁷ Let the sea roar, and all its fullness, The world and those who dwell in it;

⁸ **Let the rivers clap *their* hands; Let the hills be joyful together before the LORD,**

For He is coming to judge the earth. With righteousness He shall judge the world, And the peoples with ^[b]equity.

Epistle reading – Revelation 7:9-17

He will guide them to springs of living water

After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?" I said to him, "Sir, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. "Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

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

Holy Gospel – John 4:7-26
<https://youtu.be/lhzK2gu1AsY>

If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink.' You would have asked him, and he would have given you living water

The Holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you O Lord.**

A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?" (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock." Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water." Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true." The woman said to him, "Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, he will tell us all things." Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am he."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O Christ.**

Children of God time

<https://youtu.be/onXHqpuF47g>

Homily – “Give Me This Water...”

<https://youtu.be/deZy381LfOw>

Hymn of the Day – “I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say”

ELW #332

<https://youtu.be/74kyfROS4q8>

by Celtic Source 2

Luther on Holy Baptism

A: What is Baptism?

C: Baptism is not water only, but water used together with God’s Word and by his command.

A: What benefits does God give in Baptism?

C: In Baptism God forgives sin, delivers from death and the devil, and gives everlasting salvation to all who believe what he has promised.

A: How can water do such great things?

C: It is not water that does these things, but God’s Word with the water and our trust in this Word.

Water by itself is only water, but with the Word of God it is life-giving water which by GRACE gives the new birth through the Holy Spirit.

Prayers of Intercession

P: Sustained by God’s abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

A: Eternal God, you seal us by the Holy Spirit and mark us with the cross of Christ forever in baptism. Inspire us by your love as together we strive for justice and peace in all the earth. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Creating God, by your word you have made all things, and you hate nothing you have made. Teach us to perceive the beauty of the breadth of your creation, from the grandest mountain range to the smallest springtime bud. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Powerful God, you anoint kings and establish rulers. Guide the work of heads of state and elected officials (*specific leaders may be named*). Encourage them to lead with justice and to remove barriers that impede the well-being of all. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Shepherding God, you lead us beside still waters and restore our souls. Keep watch over those who weep; tend all who are sick and comfort those who grieve (*especially*). Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: God our host, you fill us at your table with more than we could ever ask. Feed us with hunger for justice. Equip the feeding ministries of this congregation and community (*especially*). Nourish us so we can nourish our neighbors. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: God of history, with thanksgiving we remember our ancestors in faith who cared for your people (*especially Joseph, Guardian of Jesus*). We praise you for the ways they formed the faith of others and continue to inspire us. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

Offering/Offertory Music – “You Are the Way” ELW #758

(as offering plates are brought forward)

Offertory Prayer

A: You have given us all things, creating God...

C: ...food and family, laughter and love.

A: You have given us more than all things, saving God...

C: ...your Son, salvation, the promise of heaven’s open door.

A: And still you give us more and more...

C: ...your protecting presence – your comforting counsel.

A: Accept these gifts, for we learned to give from you! We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light.

Bring the gift of peace on earth.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

Consecration

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Communion Music

Post Communion Blessing – Pastor

Post Communion Prayer

A: Here we experience the richness of your giving, O Christ.

C: For at this table you give yourself to us.

A: Having nourished us with this heavenly food, guide us to a true appreciation of your gifts –

C: appreciation that makes itself known in everything we do.

A: You are the Lord forevermore.

C: Amen.

Benediction – from Numbers 6

Sending Hymn – “Come to Calvary’s Holy Mountain”

<https://youtu.be/IR0wfSFVifc>
by Koine

Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain



1 Come to Cal-v'ry's ho - ly moun-tain, sin - ners, ru - ined by the fall;
2 Come in sor - row and con - tri - tion, wound-ed, im - po - tent, and blind;
3 Those who drink shall live for - ev - er; 'tis a soul re - new-ing flood.



here a pure and heal-ing foun-tain flows to you, to me, to all,
here the guilt - y, free re - mis - sion, here the trou-bled peace may find.
God is faith - ful; God will nev - er break his cov - e - nant of blood,



in a full per - pet - ual tide, o - pened when our Sav - ior died.
Health this foun-tain will re-store; those who drink shall thirst no more.
signed when our re - deem-er died, sealed when he was glo - ri - fied.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854

Music: NAAR MIT ÖIE, Ludwig M. Lindeman, 1812–1887

Dismissal

A: We have the living water in Christ to share with others. So we go to serve!

Thanks be to God.

Postlude – Lillian Pinkston