

March 5, 2023
Second Sunday in Lent

Amazing Grace – Welcome to our Amazing Grace series for Lent. In this service, we hear Jesus tell of the great love of a father who lavished amazing grace upon the Prodigal Son, a picture of our Heavenly Father’s lavish compassion toward us through his Son Jesus. We were lost but now are found.

It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found. Luke 15:32

Prelude – Lillian Pinkston

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer Concerns

Call to Worship

A: Abraham was called by God to make a move to a new place.

C: And we are called by God to make a move as well.

A: God has called us to spread the Good News of God’s salvation.

C: Move us, O Lord, to share the Gospel with those around us.

A: God has called us to live a life filled with blessing.

C: Move us, O Lord, to bless others with the blessings you have given us.

A: God has called us to become a great nation of believers.

C: Move us, O Lord, to praise and worship you as the greatest King of all.

Gathering Hymn – “Bless Now, O God, the Journey”

ELW #326

<https://youtu.be/qzbOmGFjTxU>

by St. Andrews Evangelical Church

Invocation

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

C: Amen.

Confession and Absolution

P: A son received a generous inheritance, but wasted it all in sinful living. He acknowledged his sin and returned in repentance, seeking his father's mercy. Our gracious heavenly Father has given us so much, but we too have misused his gifts and wasted what we have received.

Silence for reflection

Humbly repenting our sins, we ask his forgiveness.

C: Heavenly Father, we confess that we are not always thankful for the gifts we have received. These gifts are of family, home, work and friends. Daily we choose to follow paths that may lead us away from you, the pathways of our own desires. We turn away from your will and your Word. Have mercy on us and forgive us for the sake of Jesus, who took up the path of the cross for us.

P: The Father welcomed his wayward son and celebrated his return, saying, "My son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found." God our heavenly Father has had mercy on us, showering us with his grace through Jesus. I announce to you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

"Amazing Grace" ELW #779 vss. 1&3

<https://youtu.be/X6Mtpk4jeVA>

By BYU Noteworthy

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 – “God Loved the World”

ELW #323

vss. 1&2

<https://youtu.be/E7i6c54KEfc>

by Hillsong

Prayer of the Day

A: Heavenly Father, in Jesus' parable, the father showed grace to his lost son, welcoming his son home even though he did not deserve such a welcome.

C: You showed your grace to us when we were lost and dead in sin. You sent your only Son to seek and to save the lost. You are our Father and, in Christ, you welcome us back to yourself. So many people are still lost in the darkness of sin. Empower us to share with them the good news as you are eagerly waiting to welcome them home. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

The Word

Old Testament reading – Joel 2:12-13

Return to the Lord your God...

“Yet even now,” declares the Lord, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments.” Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster.

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

Psalm 121

I lift up my eyes to the hills; my help comes from the Lord

¹I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?

²**My help comes from the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth.**

³The LORD will not let your foot be moved nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

⁴**Behold, the keeper of Israel will neither slumber nor sleep;**

⁵the LORD watches over you; the LORD is your shade at your right hand;

⁶**the sun will not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.**

⁷The LORD will preserve you from all evil and will keep your life.

⁸**The LORD will watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth forevermore.**

Epistle reading – Ephesians 2:1-10

For by grace you have been saved through faith

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

good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

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

Holy Gospel – Luke 15:11-32
<https://youtu.be/gVLSQjmdz3c>

It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found

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

And he said, “There was a man who had two sons. And 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. Not 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. And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

“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! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and

before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.” And 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. And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ 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. And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.

“Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. 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.’ But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, 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. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!’ And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to celebrate

and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.”

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

Children of God time

https://youtu.be/eOR9O98_OL4

Homily – “Neither One Knows the Father!”

<https://youtu.be/HJ1eVdHo9VQ>

Hymn of the Day – “My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”

ELW #597

<https://youtu.be/rkMapZB8qMk>

by Katie Katiekatew

Apostles’ Creed

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

P: Almighty God, we give you thanks and praise for your amazing grace in our lives. We were lost in sin and now have been found. We were dead in sin and now we are alive in Christ! Heavenly Father, through Christ you have welcomed us home and will one day welcome us into your eternal presence.
Gracious Lord,

C: Have mercy on us and hear our prayer.

A: Almighty God, you have redeemed us in Christ. We pray that you would lead us by your Spirit to be faithful in the study of your holy Word. Keep us on the path of righteousness so that we carry out the good works that you have prepared for us.
Gracious Lord,

C: Have mercy on us and hear our prayer.

A: Almighty God, we pray for those who are suffering with illness and loss and for those who are struggling in matters of faith because they feel lost and alone. Help us to serve them in love and bring them the comfort of the promises of your Word.
Gracious Lord,

C: Have mercy on us and hear our prayer.

A: Almighty God, so many people are lost and suffering in poverty, hunger and need. Lead us to opportunities to help them with their earthly needs and bring to them the eternal hope that is found only in Jesus. Gracious Lord,

C: Have mercy on us and hear our prayer.

A: Almighty God, empower us with your Spirit to be bold witnesses to those who are still lost in the darkness of sin. Help us to share with them the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection. Gracious Lord,

C: Have mercy on us and hear us our prayer.

P: We pray, too, that our words of witness will be supported with our acts of love and service. We want others to know that you are the heavenly Father who waits to welcome them home.

Amen.

Offertory Music – “Just As I Am, without One Plea”
ELW #592
(offering plates are brought forward)

Offertory Prayer

A: Almighty God, you have called us into your kingdom.

C: You have made us citizens in your holy nation.

A: And even more...

C: - you have adopted us as your children.

A: Receive our offerings –

C: signs and symbols of our love for our Father.

A: 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: Even as Abram was called to faith, O Christ,

C: so, in this meal, our faith is nourished and strengthened.

A: Now, as Abram put faith into action, following the Father's bidding,

C: teach us to follow where you lead.

A: You are the Lord forevermore.

C: Amen.

Benediction – from Numbers 6

Sending Hymn – “Our Father, We Have Wandered”

ELW #606

<https://youtu.be/m9xkZFwvyEM>

by Salem Lutheran Church

Dismissal

A: Through many dangers, toils, and snares I have already come;

C: 'tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

A: Go in peace to serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude – Lillian Pinkston