

**Fifth Sunday in Lent  
March 26, 2023**

Welcome to our Amazing Grace series for Lent. In this service, we marvel at the story of amazing grace in the life of Paul, who turned from persecutor of Christ to proclaimer of our Lord through the mighty power of the Holy Spirit. In the same way, the cross of Christ changes us all from enemy to friend.

*The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost.  
1 Timothy 1:15*

**Prelude** – Jill Rimington

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Prayer Concerns**

**Sharing of the Peace**

**Call to Worship** – from Psalm 103:8-14

A: The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

**C: He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever.**

A: He does not deal with us according to our sins.

**C: Nor repay us according to our iniquities.**

A: For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him.

**C: As far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.**

A: As a father shows compassion to his children, so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him.

**C: Amen.**

## **Baptism of Benett Charles Baal**

**Baptismal Hymn** – “Baptized in Water” ELW #456

<https://youtu.be/XiqHpvZYYo8>

By Chris Brunelle

### **Invocation**

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

**C: Amen.**

P: In baptism our gracious heavenly Father frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church, the body of Christ. Living with Christ and in the communion of saints, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

### **Presentation of Bennett for Holy Baptism**

#### **Affirmation by Parents, Sponsors, and Congregation**

##### **Profession of Faith**

P: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church

##### **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.

### **Thanksgiving at the Font**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise**

### **Pastoral Prayer**

#### **Pouring of the Baptismal Water**

*He made water a sign of the kingdom and of cleansing and rebirth. In obedience to his command, we make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.*

#### **Baptism of Bennett Charles Baal**

#### **Prayer and Blessing with hands**

#### **Sealed by the Holy Spirit with Oil**

#### **Baptismal Candle**

A: Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

## Welcome

A: Let us welcome the newly baptized.

**C: We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

**Amen.**

Hymn – “Restore in Us, O God”

ELW #328

<https://youtu.be/xXT-yVRNcJ8>

By Resurrection Evangelical Lutheran

## 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 Response – “Change My Heart, O God”

ELW #801

<https://youtu.be/CEtsHWFE6-w>

By Eddie Espinosa

## Prayer of the Day

A: Almighty God, even though Paul persecuted your church, arrested the faithful and approved of their deaths, you called him to be an ambassador for your kingdom, sending him into the world to spread the good news of salvation in Jesus.

**C: You have looked on us in grace and you have forgiven our sins. Help us to live in repentant humility and ever seek your mercy. By the power of your Spirit, lead us to row in faith and in the knowledge of your Word so that we too can serve as faithful witnesses to our Savior's love. Hear our prayer in Jesus name. Amen.**

## The Word

### Old Testament reading – Isaiah 53:1-6

*To whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?*

Who has believed what he has heard from us? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

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

## **Epistle reading – 1 Timothy 1:12-17**

<https://youtu.be/eRINzftQpo0>

*Because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service.*

I thank him who has given me strength, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service, though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

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

## **Holy Gospel – Mark 2:13-17**

*Those who are well have no need of a physician – I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.*

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

He went out again beside the sea, and all the crowd was coming to him, and he was teaching them. And as he passed by, he saw Levi the son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, "Follow me." And he rose and followed him. And as he reclined at table in his house, many tax collectors and sinners were reclining with Jesus and his disciples, for there were many who followed him. And the scribes of the Pharisees, when they saw that he was eating with sinners and tax collectors, said to his disciples, "Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?" And when Jesus heard it, he said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners."

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

### **Children of God time**

<https://youtu.be/mjKBoaKWov0>

**Homily** – “I Heard the Voice of Jesus say...”

<https://youtu.be/GW5vHID1clY>

**Hymn of the Day** – “Chief of Sinners Though I Be” ELW #609

<https://youtu.be/b-8xPtbZrsY>

By Fountainview Academy

### **Prayers of Intercession**

P: Almighty God, you showed grace to Paul, who called himself the foremost of sinners. You have shown grace to us, even though we are sinners undeserving of your love and forgiveness.

During this Lenten season and always, lead us by your Spirit to true repentance. Gracious Lord,

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

A: Almighty God, you sent your Son to be our Savior. He carried our sins in his own body to the cross and by his wounds we are healed. Lead us to forgive others as we have been forgiven, so that by the witness of our words and our lives, they too will come to believe in Jesus and receive your healing forgiveness. Gracious Lord,

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

A: Almighty God, we pray for your servants who are in need of physical healing. Hold them in your loving care and shield them from doubt and fear. Comfort them through the promises of your holy Word and lead us to find ways to serve them in their time of need. Gracious Lord,

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

A: Almighty God, you called Paul, who once persecuted your church, to be an ambassador for Christ the King. You have called us to reflect the light of our Lord in this dark world and to defend the hope that we have in him. By the power of your Spirit make us bold witnesses for Jesus so that others will believe in him as their Savior. Gracious Lord,

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

P: Almighty God, in the life of your servant Paul and in our own lives, you have displayed your mercy and perfect patience. We rejoice in your love and grace as we seek to witness to our Lord with our words and actions until we live forever in your presence. Gracious Lord,

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

Amen.

**Offertory Music** – “We Are an Offering” ELW #692

**(Receiving offering plates)**

We lift our voic-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an  
of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voic-es, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our  
lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are,  
all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.  
We lift our voic-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:  
we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

### Offertory Prayer

A: You are the giver of life, O God.

**C: And you are the giver of NEW life – resurrected life.**

A: Accept these gifts –

**C: for they are evidence of the new life you have given us.**

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: 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: This is a meal we need, O Christ...

**C: ...the gift of GRACE for us sinners.**

A: This is a meal we require...

**C: ...a meal that looks ahead in hope.**

A: Assure us of the forgiveness you offer in this meal.

**C: And give us eyes to see that this meal is a foretaste of the great feast to come.**

A: We bless you now and evermore.

**C: Amen.**

## Benediction

P: He was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.

**C: May peace of God rest in our hearts.**

### **Numbers 6**

**Sending Hymn** – “Amazing Grace”      ELW #779 ALL

<https://youtu.be/Obp-9BEZe1c?list=RDKKo3T0j9qgo>

By Pentatonix

### **Dismissal**

A: Go in peace to serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God who calls us!**

**Postlude** – Jill Rimmington