

**Our Savior Lutheran Church
Sunday, March 14, 2021
Fourth Sunday in Lent**

Thought: As we walk through the season of Lent, as we try to be honest about ourselves and all the ways we betray your love by the thoughts we have and the ways we lead our lives, enable us to keep ever before us that you tell the truth to us in love that you speak honestly, lovingly to us.

Prelude – Lillian Pinkston



I Love to Tell the Story

https://youtu.be/GHNomEE1m_Y

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer Concerns

Call to Worship – “Healing”

A: On the way to the cross, our Lord lived a healing life. We celebrate the character of Christ’s healing ways this Lent, seeking to make his ways our own as we follow him.

A brief silence.

A: Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom

C: and healing every disease and sickness.

A: When Jesus saw an invalid lying there, he asked him, "Do you want to get well?" Then Jesus said to him, "Get up! Pick up your mat and walk."

C: At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked.

A: Ten lepers called out in a loud voice, "Jesus, Master, have pity on us!" They were cleansed. One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God.

C: Jesus said to him, "Rise and go; your faith has made you well."

A: In the way that we comfort others with the message of Christ's power over illness,

C: let us live out the character of Christ in our healing ways.

A: In the way that those who are sick know that we are praying that they be well again,

C: let us live out the character of Christ in our healing ways.

A: In the way that we put our faith and trust in Christ to heal and rejoice when he does,

C: let us live out the character of Christ in our healing ways.

Gathering Music – Love Divine

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jPsxqQsnzJA>

Invocation

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Prayer of Confession

P: Patient and loving God, you have promised to never leave us or forsake us.

A time of silence and reflection

P: You have given us the gift of your presence in this time and beyond time.

C: Forgive us for the ways and times in which we sacrifice our trust in you for easy answers or quick fixes, that ultimately neither fix nor answer anything. Gracious God, help us see beyond the things that are transient and focus on things that are grounded in you.

P: Give us confident trust that our salvation is a gift from you, a result of your grace and love given to us through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Kyrie

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

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.

Music – I Want Jesus to Walk with Me (Eric Bibb)

https://youtu.be/WvCCRr_Kyx0

Prayer of the Day

A: 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.

C: 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.

The Word

Old Testament reading – Numbers 21:4-9

The lifting up of the serpent

⁴ From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. ⁵ The 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.” ⁶ Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷ The 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. ⁸ And 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.” ⁹ So 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 107:1-3, 17-22

You deliver your people from their distress.

- ¹ O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
for his steadfast love endures forever.
- ² **Let the redeemed of the Lord say so,
those he redeemed from trouble**
- ³ **and gathered in from the lands,
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.**
- ¹⁷ Some were sick through their sinful ways,
and because of their iniquities endured affliction;
- ¹⁸ **they loathed any kind of food,
and they drew near to the gates of death.**
- ¹⁹ Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble,
and he saved them from their distress;

**²⁰ he sent out his word and healed them,
and delivered them from destruction.**

²¹ Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love,
for his wonderful works to humankind.

**²² And let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices,
and tell of his deeds with songs of joy.**

Epistle reading – Ephesians 2:1-10

Saved by grace through faith for good works

² You were dead through the trespasses and sins ² in 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. ³ All 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. ⁴ But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us ⁵ even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— ⁶ and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷ so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— ⁹ not the result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰ For 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.**

Holy Gospel – John 3:14-21

For God so loved...

<https://youtu.be/b6luwC4405Q>

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

¹⁴ And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that 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. ¹⁸ Those 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. ¹⁹ And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰ For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. ²¹ But 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 the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Children’s Time

<https://youtu.be/jO1sVIXQ3hU>

Homily – “Love – Is That What It’s All About?”

<https://youtu.be/BHv4Zlzeb-k>

Music – When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Fountainview Academy

<https://youtu.be/GuSTG-Jtkvo>

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: Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

A: You sent your Son that the world might be saved through him. Inspire the witness of the church throughout the world. Empower missionaries, Bible translators, and ministries of service in your name. Bless our partners in ministry, our ELCA global partner church, and Young Adults in Global Mission. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: From east to west your steadfast love is shown. Nourish seas and deserts, wilderness areas and cities. Give water to thirsty lands; nurture spring growth that feeds hungry creatures; bless farmers as they prepare for the growing season. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: You sustained your people in the wilderness. Give courage to all who lead in times of crisis and scarce resources. Prosper the work of those who aid victims of famine and drought. Bring peace in places where scarce resources cause violence. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Your mercy endures forever. Deliver all who cry to you, especially those who are hungry or without homes. Give life in places where death seems triumphant; give healing to those who are sick and comfort to those who mourn. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: By grace we have been saved. Fill this congregation to overflowing with that grace; that we show mercy to others. Nourish any in our midst who are hungry, especially children, and bless our ministries of feeding and shelter. Give us patience and courage when the way seems long. Hear us, O God.
C: Your mercy is great.

A: Your Son was lifted up that whoever believes might have eternal life. We praise you for all who have died in Christ. Bring us with all the saints into the fullness of your promises. Hear us, O God.
C: Your mercy is great.

P: We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
C: Amen.

Offering/Offertory Prayer

A: How much do you love your world, O God?
C: “For God so loved the world that he gave...”
A: How much did you give, O God?
C: “...that he gave his only Son.”
A: May our giving
C: be a reflection of your own.
A: Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
C: Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.
P: Lift up your hearts.
C: We lift them to the Lord.
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

P: Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Lamb of God - Catholic Mass Song

<https://youtu.be/LcgpnvQPoaQ>

Words of Institution

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,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

P: Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up
as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us.
Send us forth, burning with justice, peace and love.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

Distribution

Communion Music – Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts

First-Plymouth Church, Lincoln Nebraska

https://youtu.be/X_U-R7aNG0Y?list=RDX_U-R7aNG0Y

Communion Music – One Bread, One Body

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ScuDoD7ELV8>

Post Communion Prayer

A: You are heaven sent, O Christ –

C: Heaven sent to save the world.

A: Strengthen us, through this meal, to continue your work –

C: to lighten this dark world.

A: You are the Lord forevermore

C: Amen.

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord upon you with favor and give you His peace. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Sending Music – Beloved, God’s Chosen

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pCdGJNk7CO4>

Dismissal

A: Help us find ways to love the world as you have loved.

C: Faithfully, we go to serve.

Postlude – Lillian Pinkston



For **God** did not

send his **Son** into the

world to condemn

the world, but to **save**

the world through **him**.

JOHN 3:17, NIV