

*Welcome to Worship at  
Lutheran Church of the Resurrection*

**FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT—MARCH 14, 2021**

**11:00 A.M.**

**INTRODUCTION**

The fourth of the Old Testament promises providing a baptismal lens this Lent is the promise God makes to Moses: those who look on the bronze serpent will live. In today's gospel Jesus says he will be lifted up on the cross like the serpent, so that those who look to him in faith will live. When we receive the sign of the cross in baptism, that cross becomes the sign we can look to in faith for healing, for restored relationship to God, for hope when we are dying.

**— GATHERING —**

**WELCOME & WORSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Adorn your sacred space with flowers and other beautiful signs of life.*

**SABBATH REFLECTION** "Wondrous Love"

—setting, Sondra Tucker

*Handbell Trio: Heather & Mark Boyer, Stacy Hughes*

**INVOCATION**

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

**Amen.**

## **CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS**

God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ.  
Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Fountain of living water,

**pour out your mercy over us.**

**Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free.**

**Rebuild what we have ruined and mend what we have torn.**

**Wash us in your cleansing flood.**

**Make us alive in the Spirit to follow in the way of Jesus,  
as healers and restorers of the world you so love.**

**Amen.**

Beloved, God's word never fails.

The promise rests on grace:

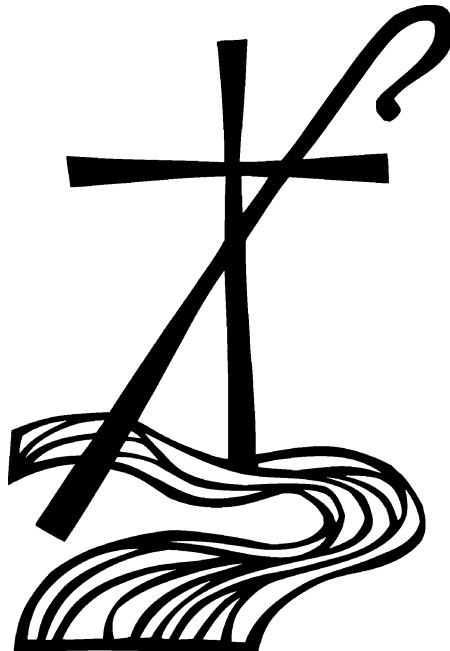
by the saving love of Jesus Christ,

the wisdom and power of God,

your sins are ✝ forgiven, and God remembers them no more.

Journey in the way of Jesus.

**Amen.**



# GATHERING SONG "Lord, I Lift Your Name on High"

-Rick Founds

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of six staves of music. The first staff is labeled 'VERSE' and contains the lyrics: 'Lord, I lift your name on high; Lord, I love to sing your'. The second staff continues the verse with: 'prais - es. I'm so glad you're in my life,'. The third staff is labeled 'CHORUS' and contains: 'I'm so glad you came to save us. You came from heav-en to earth'. The fourth staff continues the chorus: 'to show the way, from the earth to the cross, my debt to pay,'. The fifth staff continues: 'from the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky;'. The sixth staff concludes with: 'Lord, I lift your name on high.' and includes a double bar line. Above the final staff, there are instructions: '1st x back to VERSE' and '2nd x back to CHORUS'. Measure numbers 4, 7, 10, 13, and 15 are indicated at the beginning of their respective staves.

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## GREETING

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

**And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. 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. 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.**

—WORD—

**CHILDREN'S HOMILY**

**FIRST READING: Numbers 21:4-9**

*Though God provides food and water for the Israelites in the wilderness, they whine and grumble. They forget about the salvation they experienced in the exodus. God punishes them for their sin, but when they repent God also provides a means of healing: a bronze serpent lifted up on a pole.*

<sup>4</sup>From Mount Hor [the Israelites] set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. <sup>5</sup>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." <sup>6</sup>Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. <sup>7</sup>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. <sup>8</sup>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." <sup>9</sup>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.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22** *(read responsively)*

<sup>1</sup>Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good,  
for God's mercy endures forever.

<sup>2</sup>**Let the redeemed of the LORD proclaim  
that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe,**

<sup>3</sup>gathering them in from the lands;  
from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

<sup>17</sup>**Some were fools and took rebellious paths;  
through their sins they were afflicted.**

<sup>18</sup>They loathed all manner of food  
and drew near to death's door.

<sup>19</sup>**Then in their trouble they cried to the LORD  
and you delivered them from their distress.**

<sup>20</sup>You sent forth your word and healed them  
and rescued them from the grave.

<sup>21</sup>**Let them give thanks to you, LORD, for your steadfast love  
and your wonderful works for all people.**

<sup>22</sup>Let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving  
**and tell of your deeds with shouts of joy.**

## **SECOND READING: Ephesians 2:1-10**

*While we were dead in our sinfulness, God acted to make us alive as a gift of grace in Christ Jesus. We are saved not by what we do but by grace through faith. Thus our good works are really a reflection of God's grace at work in our lives.*

<sup>1</sup>You were dead through the trespasses and sins <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us <sup>5</sup>even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—<sup>6</sup>and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup>so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup>For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—<sup>9</sup>not the result of works, so that no one may boast. <sup>10</sup>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.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

On my heart im - print your im - age, Bless-ed Je - sus, king of grace,  
 That life's trou - bles nor its plea-sures Ev - er may your work e-raise;  
 Let the clear in - scrip-tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,  
 Is my life, my hope's foun - da-tion, All my glo-ry and sal-va - tion!

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## GOSPEL: John 3:14-21

*To explain the salvation of God to the religious leader, Nicodemus, Jesus refers to the scripture passage quoted in today's first reading. Just as those who looked upon the bronze serpent were healed, so people will be saved when they behold Christ lifted up on the cross.*

The holy gospel according to St. John, the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter.

### Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] <sup>14</sup>“Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“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.

<sup>17</sup>“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. <sup>18</sup>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. <sup>19</sup>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. <sup>20</sup>For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. <sup>21</sup>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.**

**HOMILY** “Still Growing?”

Pastor Dave Helfrich



# SONG OF THE DAY "Forever Reign"

-Jason Ingram, R. Morgan

**VERSE**

1. You are good, You are good, when there's noth-ing good in me. You are  
2. You are peace, You are peace, when my fear is cri-p-pl-ing. You are  
3  
love, You are love, on dis-play for all to see. You are light, You are light, when the  
6 true, You are true, e-ven in my wan-der-ing. You are joy, You are joy, You're the  
dark-ness clos-es in. You are hope, You are hope, You have cov-ered all my sin.  
rea-son that I sing. You are life, You are life, in You death has lost its sting.

9 1. Back to VERSE 2 2. to CHORUS **CHORUS**

2. You are Oh, I'm run-ning to Your  
14 arms, I'm run-ning to Your arms; the rich-es of Your love will al-ways be e-  
17 nough. Noth-ing com-pares to Your em-brace; Light of the world,  
20 for-ev-er reign. *end 2nd time* 3. You are more, You are more, than my  
24 words will ev-er say. "You are Lord, You are Lord!" all cre-a-tion will proclaim. You are  
27 here, You are here, in Your pres-ence I'm made whole. You are God, You are God, of all  
30 else I'm let-ting go. *back to CHORUS*

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## **APOSTLES' CREED**

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**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.**

## **EXCHANGE OF PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## **—THANKSGIVING—**

*Collect an **OFFERING** for God's mission. Financial gifts can be made online  
[www.lcrmarietta.org/give](http://www.lcrmarietta.org/give), Canned food can also be collected.*

*LCR Musicians also have a musical offering to glorify God*

**MUSICAL OFFERING** "The Wonderful Cross" – Watts / Tomlin / Reeves / J.D. Walt

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

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

*A brief silence.*

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 churches, especially our sister congregations in Guatemala, and Young Adults in Global Mission.

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

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.

**Your mercy is great.**

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.

**Your mercy is great.**

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.

**Your mercy is great.**

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, especially MUST Ministries. Give us patience and courage when the way seems long.

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

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.

**Your mercy is great.**

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

**Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

**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**

## **— SENDING —**

## **MISSION ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

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

**Amen.**

# SENDING SONG "All Because of Jesus"

-Steve Fee



5 Giv-er of ev - 'ry breath I breathe, Au-thor of all e-ter ni - ty

9 Giv-er of ev - 'ry per - fect thing, to You be the glo - ry.

12 Mak-er of heav - en and of earth, no one can com -

15 pre - hend Your worth. King o-ver all the u - ni-verse,

19 to You be the glo - ry. And I am a-live be-cause

23 I'm a-live in You. And it's all be-cause of Je -

27 sus I'm a-live. It's all be-cause the blood

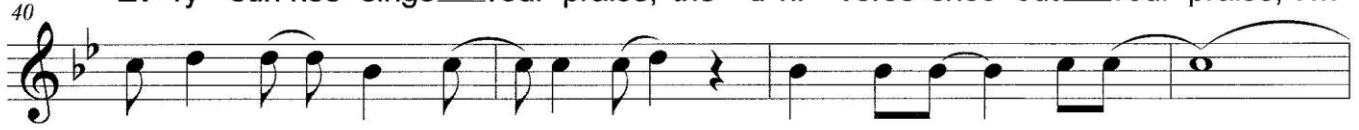
31 of Je - sus Christ. that cov-ers me and raised

this deadman's life it's all be-cause of Je - sus.


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Sixsteps BMI Designee (BMI) Livi Bear Music (ASCAP)  
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36 

Ev-'ry sun-rise sings\_\_Your praise, the u-ni - verse cries out\_\_Your praise; I'm

40 

sing-ing free-dome all\_\_my days, now that I'm\_\_ a - live.\_\_\_\_\_

44 

\_\_ And it's all\_\_ be-cause of Je - sus I'm a-live.\_\_\_\_\_ It's all

49 

\_\_ be-cause the blood\_\_ of Je - sus Christ,\_\_\_\_\_ that

53 

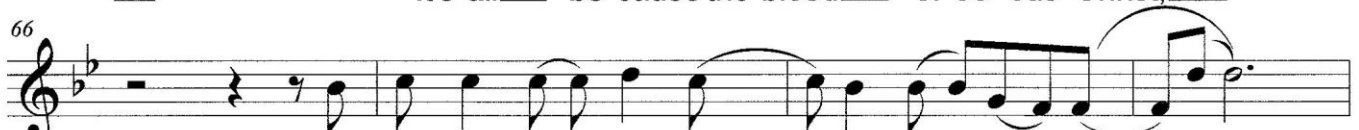
cov-ers me and riased\_\_ this dead man'slife\_\_\_\_\_ It's

57 

all be-cause of Je - sus. And it's all\_\_ be-cause of Je - sus I'm a-live.

61 

\_\_ It's all\_\_ be-cause the blood\_\_ of Je - sus Christ,\_\_\_\_\_

66 

that cov-ers me and raised\_\_ this dead man'slife.\_\_\_\_\_

70 

It's all be-cause of Je - sus I'm a - live.\_\_\_\_\_

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the Good News!

**Thanks be to God!**

**POSTLUDE** “Lord, I Lift Your Name on High” –Rick Founds / setting Tom Crawford



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