

Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 10, 2024



WELCOME TO EMANUEL

If you have any questions or need any assistance, please ask an usher.

ALL ARE WELCOME AT EMANUEL

Recognizing that we live in a broken world, Christ calls us to reconciliation and wholeness. As members of Emanuel Lutheran Church and children of a loving and merciful God, we acknowledge that this reconciliation extends to people of any gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, race, culture, physical or mental ability, economic circumstances, relationship status, or any person that has ever experienced pain or oppression. Because members of different communities may have been excluded from the Church in the past, we wish to make explicit our welcome to all. It is for this purpose that we affirm that ALL people are welcome here, just as they are, contributing their individuality to the wholeness of the Body of Christ.



SERVING TODAY

Presider.....Pastor Mark Olsen
Assisting Minister.....John Foote
Lector.....Stan Maticka
Communion Preparer.....Melanie Sinche
Director of Music.....Jonathan Reuning-Scherer

EMANUEL MUSICIANS

Sarah Asmar, David Altschuler, Reham Atef, Adam Desmarais, Hillary Ekwall, Andy Foreman, Trey Hazard, Linda Helmke, Rachel Helmke, Aron Kiehne, Kathryn Lees, Maureen Leyes, Dan Luddy, Honoka Masuyama, Kari Olsen, Morgan Pope, Joel Reuning-Scherer

ALTAR FLOWERS

We refrain from having altar flowers during the season of Lent.

TEXTS FOR NEXT WEEK

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Jeremiah 31:31-24; Psalm 51:1-12; Hebrews 5:5-10; John 12:20-33

Though not expected, when it happens, applause is a spontaneous expression of our thanksgiving to God for the gifts of music and of musicians that enrich our lives and enhance our worship.

Soli deo gloria – Glory to God alone

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE O Worship the Lord in the Beauty of Holiness – G.F. Handel
Sarah Asmar, Hillary Ekwall, Morgan Pope, Hannah Hickman

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
 who writes the law on our hearts,
 who draws all people together through Jesus.

C: Amen.

P: Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy God,

**C: We confess that we are caught in snares of sin
 and cannot break free.**

**We hoard resources while our neighbors
are hungry and cold.**

We speak in ways that silence others.

We are silent when we should speak up.

We keep score in our hearts.


We let hurts grow into hatred.

**For all these things and for sins only you know,
forgive us, Lord.**

Amen.

P: Here is a flood of grace:
 Out of love for the whole world,
 God draws near to us,
 breaks every snare of sin,
 washes away our wrongs,
 forgives your sins,
 and restores to us the promise of life through † Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

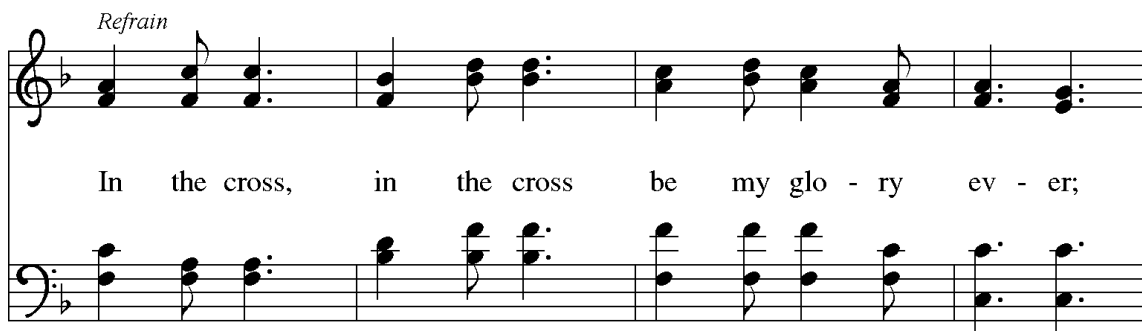


1 Je - sus, keep me near the cross, there's a pre - cious foun - tain;
2 Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, love and mer - cy found me;
3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;
4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,



free to all, a heal - ing stream flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.
there the bright and morn - ing star sheds its beams a - round me.
help me walk from day to day with its shad - ow o'er me.
till I reach the gold - en strand just be - yond the riv - er.

Refrain



In the cross, in the cross be my glo - ry ev - er;



till my ran - somed soul shall find rest be - yond the riv - er.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915
Music: NEAR THE CROSS, William H. Doane, 1832–1915

***GREETING**

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

C: **And also with you.**

***KYRIE**



Verse 1, 3 Ky - ri-e e - le-i - son. Ky - ri-e e - le-i - son.
Verse 2 Chris - te e - le-i - son. Chris - te e - le-i - son.



Ky - ri-e e - le-i -son. Ky - ri-e e - le - i-son.
Chris - te e - le-i -son. Chris - te e - le - i-son.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: O God,

C: **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.**

The children are now dismissed for Sunday School.

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.

⁴From 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. ⁵The 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." ⁶Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷The 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. ⁸And 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." ⁹So 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.

L: Word of God, word of Life. C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 107:1-3, 17-22

The Psalm will be chanted by the choir.

¹O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
for his steadfast love endures forever.
²Let the redeemed of the LORD say so,
those he redeemed from trouble
³and gathered in from the lands,
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.
¹⁷Some were sick through their sinful ways,
and because of their iniquities endured affliction;
¹⁸they loathed any kind of food,
and they drew near to the gates of death.
¹⁹Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,
and he saved them from their distress;
²⁰he sent out his word and healed them,
and delivered them from destruction.
²¹Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love,
for his wonderful works to humankind.
²²And let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices,
and tell of his deeds with songs 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.

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

L: Word of God, word of Life. C: **Thanks be to God.**

*ACCLAMATION

Re - turn to the Lord your God, re -

3 turn to the Lord your God _____ who is gra-cious and mer-ci-ful,

6 slow to an - ger and a - bound-ing in stead-fast love.

***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.

P: The holy gospel according to John. **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] ¹⁴“Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that 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. ¹⁸Those 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. ¹⁹And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. ²¹But 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.”

P: The gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Mark Olsen

1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
 2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when
 3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and

won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this
 I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when I was sink - ing down
 God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,

that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my
 be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my
 who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will
 I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing

soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?
 soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.
 sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.
 on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.
 Music: WONDROUS LOVE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. Paul J. Christiansen, 1914–1997, alt.
 Arr. © 1955 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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***APOSTLES CREED**

**C: 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

After each petition

A: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

***PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

We offer each other a sign of God's peace.

OFFERING MUSIC

*God So Loved the World – Chilcott
Emanuel Choir*

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS



*We offer our gifts – our time, our talent, and our treasure - to God,
in thanksgiving for all that God has given us.*

*To make your gift online, scan this code using your phone's camera
or QR scanner app.*

***OFFERING PRAYER**

A: Dearest Jesus,

C: You are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name. 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.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,
we may come to the fullness of your grace.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*HOLY HOLY HOLY

Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho-ly Lord, ___ God of pow'r, ___ God of
might, hea-ven and earth are full of your glay, ___ Ho - san-na
in ___ the high - est! Blest is he ___ who ___ comes ___ in the
name ___ of the Lord. ___ Ho - san - - - na! ___
___ Ho - san-na in ___ the high - - - est! ___

*EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

*LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C: **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.**

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All Are Welcome at the Table!

P: Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come!

This is the Lord's Table and all are welcome to receive the bread & wine of communion.

Gluten-free wafers and white grape juice are available as needed.

The ushers will guide you out of your pew down the center aisle to the front of the church. Once you receive communion, please return to your seat by the side aisles.

If you would like to receive communion at your seat, please let an usher know. If, for any reason, you choose not to receive the bread and wine, we invite you to come forward for a blessing.

*LAMB OF GOD

Christ, thou Lamb of God, who takes a-way the
sin of the world, have mer-cy on us. grant us your peace.

COMMUNION MUSIC *Sonata for Bassoon and Cello, Mvmt. 1 Allegro*
Morgan Pope, bassoon

How Blest Are They – Proulx
Sarah Asmar, soprano; Hannah Hickman, saxophone

*POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

C: **Amen.**

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray.

C: **Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life. Amen.**

***BLESSING**

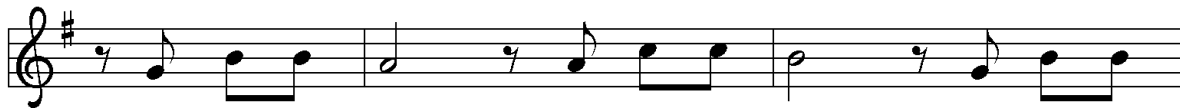
P: Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and ✠ give you peace.

C: Amen.

***SENDING HYMN**

That Priceless Grace

ELW 591



1 That price-less grace, that price-less grace, that price-less
2 That price-less blood, that price-less blood, that price-less
3 That pain-ful death, that pain-ful death, that pain-ful
4 That pre-cious word, that pre-cious word, that pre-cious



grace, which gave me life: Je - sus' life is price-less grace.
blood was shed for me: Je - sus' blood is price-less grace.
death took sins a - way: Je - sus' death is price-less grace.
word, which brought me light: Je - sus' word is price-less grace.



That price - less grace is life for me.

Text: Emmanuel F. Y. Grantson, b. 1949
Music: THAT PRICELESS GRACE, Ghanaian traditional
Text © 1999 Augsburg Fortress.

***DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace. Share your bread.

C: Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Easter Flower Dedications

Donation forms for Easter Flower Dedications are located in the back of the church. Payments of \$20 can be made by cash or check to the church office.

Food Pantry

Thank you to all who have donated to the Food Pantry. Your continued support is needed and appreciated. For March, we are asking for donations of . . . are also welcome. Monetary donations are always appreciated, as well.

Coffee Hour

If you, your ministry team, or another organization would like to sponsor our after-service coffee hour, please sign-up by scanning this QR code with the camera on your phone.



Prayer Shawls are available for anyone to take for themselves or give to a friend or family member. A basket with shawls is in the Narthex and a larger supply is in the lounge in the Parish Building. Please take a shawl and write your name on the list provided so we can keep track of the number of shawls that are given. In addition, we have Baby Blankets for any newborn that you may know. They are in the lounge in the Parish Building. If you need help, the Prayer Shawl Committee can help - Bobbee Canfield, Lynne Strecker, Abby Stadtlander and Lynn Sherman.

Be Part of Emanuel's Worship Leadership!

Have you ever thought of serving as an Assisting Minister, lector, acolyte, usher, choir member or musician, communion assistant, altar guild, or greeter? If you are interested in any of these ministries, let Maureen Leyes know (except for choir and musicians—let Jonathan know) - and she'll connect you with the people that handle the scheduling. Information on becoming a lector is shared below.

Lectors Needed

Parishioners of all ages are invited to read the weekly Bible lessons. If you are interested, please email Lynn Sherman at lynnsherman480@gmail.com or call her cell phone: (860) 550-0518.

Please remember the following individuals in your prayers.

Carol Johnson † Karin Gottier † Bert Johnson † Betsyann Carter † Anne Louise Swanson
† Lee Sherman † Jennings-Marzett Family † Mckenna Jobes † Brooklyn King † Elaine Wilson
† Vito Vitrano † Monique Jennings † Rae Ann Gremel
† Harris Kannah † Jerry Vigil † Matthew Toscano

Homebound: Ellie Olson † Elaine Wilson † Joan Johnson † Anna-Lisa Johnson
Doris Barron † Peggy Zachariasen

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