



*Encouraging faith and proclaiming God's love by Gathering, Growing and Giving*

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent**

*Service of the World*

**March 27, 2022**

***This worship is being livestreamed. Your presence in the sanctuary signifies your agreeing to be on our live broadcast.***

*There is great joy in gathering with one another to lift up praise and thanksgiving to God. We are so glad you have joined in this time of worship, whether online or in-person.*

*NOTE: **Bold text indicates worshippers' response**, and \*' means please stand as able*

PRELUDE

Michelle Young

WELCOME & MINISTRY MESSAGES

*GATHERING*

Green #499 GATHERING HYMN "*Come Thou Font of Every Blessing*" pg. 5

\* P: The grace of the 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 God of the covenant, **in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*GROWING*

PSALM 32 *(Please respond with text in **bold print**)*

<sup>1</sup> Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

<sup>2</sup> **Blessed is the one whose sin the LORD does not count against them and in whose spirit is no deceit.**

<sup>3</sup> When I kept silent, bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.

<sup>4</sup> **For day and night your hand was heavy on me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer.**

<sup>5</sup> Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." And you forgave the guilt of my sin.

<sup>6</sup> **Therefore let all the faithful pray to you while you may be found; surely the rising of the mighty waters will not reach them.**

<sup>7</sup> You are my hiding place; you will protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance.

<sup>8</sup> **I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.**

<sup>9</sup> Do not be like the horse or the mule, which have no understanding but must be controlled by bit and bridle or they will not come to you.

<sup>10</sup> **Many are the woes of the wicked, but the LORD's unfailing love surrounds the one who trusts in him.**

<sup>11</sup> Rejoice in the LORD and be glad, you righteous; sing, all you who are upright in heart!

*Jesus tells a parable about a son who ponders his father's love only after he has spurned it. The grace he receives is beyond his hopes, and he never expected a homecoming party would be held for him. That same grace is a crisis for an older brother who believes it is his obedience that has earned his place in the father's home. Somehow his focus on obedience being a prerequisite for receiving his father's grace and love, he has missed the reality that he it was already available to him.*

The Gospel according to Luke, the 15<sup>th</sup> chapter. All: **Glory to you O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] <sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

<sup>3</sup>So he told them this parable: <sup>11b</sup>"There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup>The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So (the father) divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup>A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. <sup>14</sup>When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup>So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. <sup>16</sup>He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. <sup>17</sup>But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! <sup>18</sup>I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "**Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; <sup>19</sup>I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.**"' <sup>20</sup>So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup>Then the son said to him, '**Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.**' <sup>22</sup>But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. <sup>23</sup>And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; <sup>24</sup>for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

<sup>25</sup>"Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup>He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. <sup>27</sup>He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' <sup>28</sup>Then (the son) became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. <sup>29</sup>But he answered his father, '**Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup>But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!**' <sup>31</sup>Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup>But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'" The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O Christ.**

MESSAGE

Pastor Mary Eide

HYMN OF THE DAY "Build a Longer Table" p. 6 (sung to the tune of "Now the Green Blade Rises")

#### QUESTIONS TO PONDER

1. What do you think is 'required of you' to have access to God's unending love, mercy, & forgiveness?
2. How does it feel to know God has already made this available for you? How can you celebrate this reality? Even it share it with others?

GIVING

\*THE APOSTLES' CREED (*professed together*)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell.\* On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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

\*Or, He descended to the dead.

\* OFFERING PRAYER God, **there's nowhere we can go where you aren't already waiting: in the farmyards, schoolyards, health facilities, in the places where we live and work, where your Son has promised to meet us; where he is both Host and Meal. Reveal yourself to us now. Amen.**

"You Are Here' Offering Prayer for Sundays in Lent" © 2021 by Barn Geese Worship. Used by permission of Barn Geese Worship.

Adapted by Pastor Mary Eide

\* PRAYERS AND PETITIONS (L: Merciful God **All: Hear our prayer.**)

\* LORD'S PRAYERS **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**

\*ANNOUNCEMENTS/BLESSING Go with the blessing of God. Remember that this blessing is with you, no matter the places to which you are called. Be blessed by the name of God ✝, who inspires, inhabits, and ignites us, today and every day. Amen. "You Are Here' Sending Prayer for Sundays in Lent" © 2021 by Barn Geese Worship. Used by permission of Barn Geese Worship. Adapted by Pastor Mary Eide

\*Green #290 SENDING HYMN "*There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*" p. 7

\* DISMISSAL Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way. **Thanks be to God.**

\* POSTLUDE

Michelle Young

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SCHEDULE

TODAY	8:45am	- Sunday School Classes
	10:00am	- Worship
	11:00am	- Fellowship-hosted by Bob & Linda Dempski
MONDAY	6pm	- AA Pizza Party & Meeting
	6:30pm	- Church Council Meeting
TUESDAY	4-6pm	- Food Pantry
	7pm	- 6 <sup>th</sup> GriefShare online session
WEDNESDAY	6pm	- Soup Supper
	7pm	- Holden Evening Prayer Service

FRIDAY: 10am-Noon - Food Pantry  
 SUNDAY: 8:45am - Sunday School Classes  
 10:00am - Communion Worship  
 1-5pm - Community Table Outreach Event

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Only 2 more WEDNESDAY 6pm SOUP SUPPER and 7pm HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER SERVICES  
 Homemade delicious soups and much more to fill our stomachs, and then worship to fill our hearts!

WE NEED YOU! INDIVIDUALS...YOUTH/ADULTS/WHOLE FAMILY can sign up together for WORSHIP  
 ROLES: Usher, reader, communion assistant (Confirmed teen/adult), acolyte, run video camera

*HOST FELLOWSHIP* after worship on 2<sup>nd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday.

HELP NEEDED FOR THE FOLLOWING HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SERVICES:

<u>DAY</u>	<u>DATE/TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>READER</u>	<u>ACOLYTE</u>	<u>COMMUNION</u>
Sun.	4/10/22 (10am)	Palm Sunday	3	1	N/A
Wed.	4/13/22 (1pm)	Senior Holy Week Worship	1	N/A	1
Thu.	4/14/22 (7pm)	Maundy Thursday Worship	1	1	1
Fri.	4/15/22 (7pm)	Good Friday Worship		N/A	N/A

The Elk Mound Community Food Pantry is looking for some donations: Canned Carrots, Stewed Tomatoes, Soups (NOT tomato or cream of mushroom), Fruit cocktail, Chicken and Beef Broth, Ramen, Stuffing, Suddenly Salad, Juices, Meat, Toothpaste, Deodorant, Soap.  
 These Items can be dropped off during Food Pantry Hours (Tues, 4-6p, Fri 10a-12P), on Sunday Mornings, or by calling at 715-879-5115

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 Office Phone: 715-879-5115 Email: [sothlc@sothem.org](mailto:sothlc@sothem.org) Website [www.sothem.org](http://www.sothem.org)  
 Find us on Facebook, too!  
 Pastor Mary Eide (H) 715-309-4065 [meide@luthersem.edu](mailto:meide@luthersem.edu) Custodian, Terry Stamm 715-379-3728  
 Sunday School Coordinators: Jaime Folczyk [mjfolczyk@yahoo.com](mailto:mjfolczyk@yahoo.com) and Holly Sweeney  
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# Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

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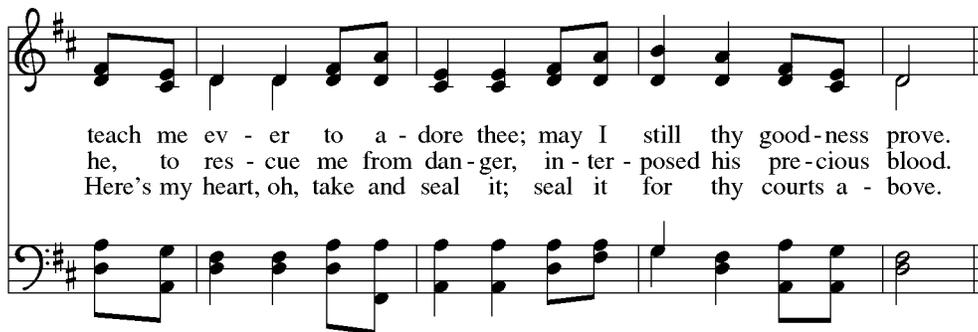
1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";  
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas-ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.  
and I hope, by thy good plea-sure, safe-ly to ar - rive at home.  
let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end-less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,  
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan-d'ring from the fold of God;  
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove.  
he, to res - cue me from dan-ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.  
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735-1790, alt.  
Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

## Build a Longer Table



1 Build a long - er ta - ble, not a high - er wall,  
 2 Build a saf - er ref - uge, not a larg - er jail;  
 3 Build a broad - er door - way, not a long - er fence.  
 4 When we lived as ex - iles, ref - u - gees a - broad,



feed - ing those who hun - ger, mak - ing room for all.  
 where the weak find shel - ter, mer - cy will not fail.  
 Love pro - tects all peo - ple, spar - ing no ex - pense.  
 Christ be - came our door - way to the reign of God.



Feast - ing to - geth - er, strang - er turns to friend,  
 For an - y place where jus - tice is de - nied,  
 When we em - brace com - pas - sion more than fear,  
 So must our ta - bles wel - come those who roam.



Christ breaks walls to piec - es; false di - vi - sions end.  
 Christ will breach the jail wall, free - ing all in - side.  
 Christ tears down our fenc - es; all are wel - come here.  
 None can be ex - clud - ed; all must find a home.

Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984

Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol

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## There's a Wideness in God's Mercy



1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide - ness of the sea;  
2 There is wel - come for the sin - ner, and a prom - ised grace made good;  
3 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sures of our mind;  
4 'Tis not all we owe to Je - sus; it is some - thing more than all:



there's a kind - ness in his jus - tice which is more than lib - er - ty.  
there is mer - cy with the Sav - ior; there is heal - ing in his blood.  
and the heart of the e - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.  
great - er good be - cause of e - vil, larg - er mer - cy through the fall.



There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in heav'n.  
There is grace e - nough for thou - sands of new worlds as great as this;  
There is plen - ti - ful re - demp - tion in the blood that has been shed;  
If our love were but more sim - ple, we should take him at his word;



There is no place where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment giv'n.  
there is room for fresh cre - a - tions in that up - per home of bliss.  
there is joy for all the mem - bers in the sor - rows of the head.  
and our lives would be all sun - shine in the sweet - ness of our Lord.

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Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814–1863  
Music: LORD, REVIVE US, North American, 19th cent.