



**St. John's**  
**LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL**  
**MARCH 14<sup>TH</sup>, 2010**  
**THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT**

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## Prelude

“God So Loved the World”

Sir John Stainer

Hymn “God So Loved the World So That He Gave” *LSB 571 v. 1-3, 6*  
*Please Stand for Last Verse*

## Invocation

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** *Amen.*

## Confession and Absolution

**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** *who made heaven and earth.*

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**C** *and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.*

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

**P** Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**C** **O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

**P** Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

**C** *Amen.*

## Service of the Word

**Introit**

*Ps. 51:2-6; antiphon: Ps. 51:1*

**P** Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

**C** **Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,  
and cleanse me from my sin!**

**P** For I know my transgressions,  
and my sin is ever before me.

**C** **Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in  
your sight,  
so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your  
judgment.**

**P** Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,  
and in sin did my mother conceive me.

**C** **Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being,  
and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart.**

**P** Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;  
according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

**C** *Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world  
without end. Amen.*

- C** *Lord, have mercy upon us.*  
*Christ, have mercy upon us.*  
*Lord, have mercy upon us.*

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** *And with thy spirit.*

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** *Amen.*

*Sit*

*In today's Old Testament Reading Isaiah offers us some fitting songs of praise to sing thankfully to the Lord when we have, as he puts it, "drawn water from the wells of salvation."*

## Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 12:1-6*

<sup>1</sup>You will say in that day:

“I will give thanks to you, O LORD,  
 for though you were angry with me,  
 your anger turned away,  
 that you might comfort me.

<sup>2</sup>“Behold, God is my salvation;

I will trust, and will not be afraid;  
 for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song,

and he has become my salvation.”

<sup>3</sup>With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. <sup>4</sup>And you will say in that day:

“Give thanks to the LORD,  
call upon his name,  
make known his deeds among the peoples,  
proclaim that his name is exalted.

<sup>5</sup>“Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously;  
let this be made known in all the earth.

<sup>6</sup>Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion,  
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.”

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Gradual

*Hebrews 12:2*

**P** [O come, let us fix our eyes on] Jesus,

**C** **the founder and perfecter of our faith,**

**P** who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross,  
despising the shame

**C** **and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.**

*Today's Epistle speaks to us about our being a new creation in Christ Jesus our Savior. Through him God reconciled us to himself, so we might become his ambassadors to our world – urging in word and deed, "Be reconciled to God!"*

## Epistle

*2 Corinthians 5:16-21*

<sup>16</sup>From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. <sup>17</sup>Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. <sup>18</sup>All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup>that is, in Christ God was reconciling

the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. <sup>20</sup>Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup>For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**St. John's Lutheran All-School Choir**

**10:30 am only**

*"Until the Whole World Hears"*

Directed by Rachel Warfel

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The students of St. John's Lutheran School sing today in thanksgiving to the Lord and in celebration of National Lutheran Schools Week. Our theme this week was, "Securing Each Child's Future for a Life of Service." This song is the culmination of a week's worth of special activities, and the students are happy to share it with you! Praise to be our Heavenly King as we work together in His mission field.

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*Today's Holy Gospel is the familiar Parable of the Lost (or Prodigal) Son. One of three parables in the Bible's Lost and Found Chapter, it pictures a loving heavenly Father who, when we come to him in our sin and need, is always ready to welcome us with open arms.*

*Stand*

**Holy Gospel**

*Luke 15:1-3a, 11-32*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fifteenth chapter.

**C** *Glory be to Thee, O Lord.*

<sup>1</sup>Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear [Jesus].

<sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."

<sup>3</sup>So he told them this parable:

<sup>11</sup>And he said, “There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup>And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’ And he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup>Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. <sup>14</sup>And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in 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 into his fields to feed pigs. <sup>16</sup>And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

<sup>17</sup>“But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! <sup>18</sup>I will arise 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 as one of your hired servants.’”

<sup>20</sup>And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup>And 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 servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet.

<sup>23</sup>And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate.

<sup>24</sup>For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.

<sup>25</sup>“Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup>And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. <sup>27</sup>And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.’ <sup>28</sup>But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, <sup>29</sup>but he answered his father, ‘Look, these many years I have served you, and I

never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup>But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!’ <sup>31</sup>And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup>It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.’”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** *Praise be to Thee, O Christ.*

## **Apostles' Creed**

**C** **I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.**

**Hymn**

“Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

*LSB 686*

**Sermon**

*Stand*

**Offertory**

*LSB 192*

**☐** *Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.*

*Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.*

*Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.*

*Sit*

**Announcements & Record of Fellowship Is Shared**

**Offering**

**Organ Offertory**

“The Love of God”

*Stand*

**Response** “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” *LSB 805*

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;*

*Praise Him, all creatures here below;*

*Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:*

*Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

*Amen.*

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## Prayer of the Church

**P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**C** Lord, have mercy.

## Lord's Prayer

*LSB Back Cover or LSB 241*

**P** Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

**C** Our Father who art in heaven...

## Salutation and Benedicamus

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** *And with thy spirit.*

**P** Bless we the Lord.

**C** *Thanks be to God.*

## Benediction

*LSB 202*

**P** 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.

**C** *Amen. Amen. Amen.*

## Hymn

“Lord Dismiss Us With Your Blessing”

*LSB 924*

## Postlude

### Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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**Assisting in Worship Today:**

**Preacher:** Seminarian Jon Walla  
**Liturgist:** Rev. Troy Countryman  
**Organist:** Dr. Herman D. Taylor  
**Elder:** Dave Quick  
**Assisting:** Joe Dosien  
**Ushers:** 8:00 am Paul Welton, Jack Pierce, Randy Rappe  
9:15 am Scott & Janet Uphoff, Kris Maleske, Lynn Farmer  
10:30 am Laverne Schaal, Tom Jones, Greg Mauck  
**Acolytes:** 8:00 am Holly Wohltman & Wyatt Schaljo  
9:15 am Allie Diltz & Emma Diltz  
10:30 am Claire Kidwell & Jonathon Atwell  
**Altar Guild:** Jane Kendall, Cindy Phipps, Sarah Doehring  
**Interpreting:** Kim Janssen  
**Driver:** Roger Kearney (234-9810)

**Assisting in Worship Next Week - 3/21/10:**

**Preacher:** Rev. Troy Countryman  
**Organist:** Dr. Herman D. Taylor  
**Elder:** Dave Quick  
**Assisting:** Joe Dosien  
**Ushers:** 8:00 am Paul Welton, Jack Pierce, Randy Rappe  
9:15 am Scott & Janet Uphoff, Kris Maleske, Lynn Farmer  
10:30 am Laverne Schaal, Tom Jones, Greg Mauck  
**Acolytes:** 8:00 am Luke Miller & Gabriel Stoll  
9:15 am Paige Harlin & Dillon Reel  
10:30 am Caroline ZuHone & Jenny Reid  
**Altar Guild:** Jane Kendall, Cindy Phipps, Sarah Doehring  
**Interpreting:** Kim Janssen  
**Driver:** Corinne Thomley (234-8748)