

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Northwood, Iowa

641-324-2984

www.flcnorthwood.org

THAT ALL MAY KNOW THE LOVE OF GOD IN JESUS CHRIST



4th Sunday of Lent

March 14th, 2021

9:00am

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Prelude

-Leila Gangstad

Welcome – Announcements

GATHERING

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the keeper of the covenant, the source of steadfast love, our rock and our redeemer. **Amen.**

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.**

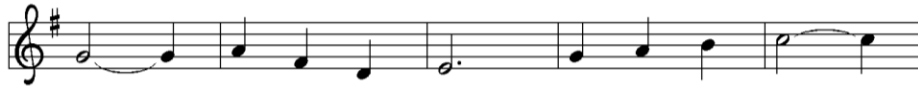
Opening Hymn

“Christ, Be Our Light”

ELW 715



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for
 2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for
 3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for
 4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for
 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
 has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
 bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
 shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
 to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

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.**

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.**

Prayer of the Day

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.

Special Music: “Come now is the Time to Worship” -Senior Choir

First Reading: Numbers 21:4-9

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. 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.” Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. 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. 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.” 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

Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good, for God’s mercy endures forever.

Let the redeemed of the LORD proclaim that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe,

gathering them in from the lands; from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

Some were fools and took rebellious paths; through their sins they were afflicted.

They loathed all manner of food and drew near to death’s door.

Then in their trouble they cried to the LORD and you delivered them from their distress.

You sent forth your word and healed them and rescued them from the grave.

Let them give thanks to you, LORD, for your steadfast love and your wonderful works for all people.

Let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving and tell of your deeds with shouts of joy.

Second Reading: Ephesians 2:1-10

You were dead through the trespasses and sins 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. 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. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—not the result of works, so that no one may boast. 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.**

Lenten Response

Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and abounding in steadfast love.

Gospel: John 3:14-21

Jesus said “Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

“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.

“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. 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. 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. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. 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 our Lord, **Praise to you O Christ.**

Children’s Sermon

Sermon

Pastor Becky Sogge

Hymn of the Day

“Amazing Grace”

ELW 779



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found; was blind, but now I see.
grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Baptism

Braxlee Georgia Iverson

Prayers of Intercession

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Sharing of Peace

Offering Prayer

Faithful God, you walk beside us in desert places, and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven. Accompany us in this meal, that we may pass over from death to life with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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, and the power, and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen.

Blessing

You are what God made you to be: created in Christ Jesus for good works, chosen as holy and beloved, freed to serve your neighbor. God bless you that you may be a blessing, in the name of the holy and life giving Trinity. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me" ELW 325



1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;
2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;
3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;



I want Je - sus to walk with me;
in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;
when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;



all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,
when my heart is al - most break - ing,
when my head is bowed in sor - row,



Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the good news.

That all may know the love of God in Jesus Christ

Postlude

-Leila Gangstad

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***Please be mindful of social/physical distancing as you leave the sanctuary this morning.**

***Please leave your offering & noisy offering in the center isle offering plate**

Announcements

Congratulations to Joshua and Alyssa Iverson on the baptism of their daughter, Braxlee Georgia Iverson. Her sponsors are Trent & Shelby Akemann, Jessica Iverson and Jessica Paulson.

The Shell Rock Cemetery Association meeting scheduled for Sunday, March 14th has been rescheduled for Sunday, September 19th at 2pm at Harlan and Barb Helgeson's home.

If you or someone in your family is hospitalized and would like to be put on our prayer list, please notify the office at flc@flcnorthwood.org or call 641-324-2984.

Easter Liliy order forms are available, the cost is \$14 and are due to the office by Friday, March 19th.

Mission Project for March
Lutheran Service of Iowa

Organist/Pianist/Vocalist: Leila Gangstad & Nikkole Koenig
Special Music: Senior Choir
Lay Reader: Sharyl Nestor
Counters: Russ & Delores Knudson, Steph Perkins
Altar Guild: LEAH Circle
Sound/Video: Mark Willand and Hayden Moore

| Weekly Sunday Attendance and Giving | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| <u>Date</u> | <u>Attendance</u> | <u>Giving</u> |
| March 7 | 129 | \$3,196 |
| February 28 | 88 | \$1,285 |

Weekly Calendar

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|---------------------|----------|-------------------------------------|
| Sunday, March 14 | 9:00 am | Worship Service |
| | 10:00 am | Church Council Mtng. |
| | 6:30 pm | J.H. Youth |
| Monday, March 15 | 11:00 am | Staff Meeting |
| Tuesday, March 16 | 7:30 pm | AA –Al-Anon |
| Wednesday, March 17 | 6:00 pm | Bell Choir |
| | 7:00 pm | Lenten Service |
| | 7:30 pm | Senior Choir |
| Thursday, March 18 | 8:30 am | Quilting |
| | 9:00 am | Prayer Group |
| | 6:30 pm | Taekwondo Practice |
| Sunday, March 21 | 9:00 am | Worship Service with Holy Communion |