

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Genuine Love
March 10, 2024



My song is love unknown, My Savior's love to me,
Love to the loveless shown. That they might lovely be.
Oh, who am I That for my sake My Lord should take
Frail flesh and die? *LSB 430:1*

Mount Hope Lutheran Church
Sunday Service - 9:30am
Sunday Bible Study – after Service
Wednesday Bible Study – 10:30am

(313) 565- 9445
5323 Southfield
Allen Park, MI 48101

Rev. Paul Pollatz

(734) 765–3468

Welcome! Members and Guests

We are blessed to have you here today. Please fill out the Guest/Member Attendance Card located in the pew rack in front of you. Guests please include your full address, zip code, and phone number. The cards will be collected by the ushers early in the service. Prayer Requests cards are available in the pew racks and should be handed to the ushers when the attendance cards are collected.

Holy Communion

The Lord's Supper is a sacrament in which Jesus' body and blood are given in and with the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins (Matthew 26:26-30). When we receive the Holy Communion at a church, we are making a public statement that we agree with the teachings of that church (1 Corinthians 10:14-18). The Bible cautions us against receiving the body and blood of Christ in a manner that is spiritually harmful (1 Corinthians 11:27-29). Therefore, we invite to the Lord's Supper those who have been instructed and confirmed in the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

Large Print Bulletins

Large print worship guides are available at the ushers' stand.

Listening Devices

Listening devices are available; our ushers will be glad to assist you in signing one out for today's service.

Pew Cushions

Pew cushions are available; our ushers will be glad to get them for you.

Wheelchair Accessible Seating

Wheelchair seating is located in the fifth row from the front of the church on the left and right side of the center aisle.

Church Nursery

Our Nursery is located in the Parlor, which is the first room next to the stained glass doors. The worship service can be heard in this room. The ushers can direct you to this room.

Our Divine Service, & Bible Studies

Our Divine Service is held on Sundays at 09:30 a.m. Bible Study is held on Sundays after Service and Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.

Our Bible studies are held Sep-May.

Our Vision Statement: Revitalize Within—Reach Out!

PRELUDE
RINGING OF THE BELLS
PREPARATION

Pastor: We hear today of eternal life that is given to us because of God's great love for us, shown to us in perhaps the most famous Bible verse, John 3:16. This verse speaks of God's genuine love for us and the world shown in Jesus' death on the cross for us. The love of God never ends. God's love is present here and now and extends into eternal life as eternal love. May we be so encouraged by God's love to share it with others. Thanks be to God for such love!

✠ PREPARATION ✠

(Please stand)

HYMN

“Christ, the Life of All the Living” *LSB* 420 vs 1 & 2

**Christ the life of all the living,
 Christ, the death of death, our foe,
 Who Thyself for me once giving
 To the darkest depths of woe:
 Through Thy suff'rings, death, and merit
 I eternal life inherit
 Thousand thousand thanks shall be
 Dearest Jesus, unto Thee**

Thou ah Thou hast taken on Thee
 Bonds and stripes a cruel rod
 Pain and scorn were heaped upon Thee
 O Thou sinless Son of God
 Thus didst Thou my soul deliver
 From the bonds of sin forever
 Thousand thousand thanks shall be
 Dearest Jesus unto Thee

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and
of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *John 3:16*

Pastor: God so loved the world,

People: that He gave His only Son,

Pastor: that whoever believes in Him should not perish

People: but have eternal life.

Pastor: Our Lenten journey leads us to the cross where
Jesus gave His life,

People: and then to the resurrection and eternal life.

(Please be seated or kneel, as you are able, for the confession and
absolution)

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Though Christ has loved us with this genuine
love that gives us eternal life, we sometimes
ignore His love and refuse to share Christ's love
with others. Still, our heavenly Father is merciful,
and He invites us to draw near to Him in hope and
confidence to ask for His grace.

Silence for reflection.

Pastor: Heavenly Father,

People: we have sinned against You and against our neighbors. We have not loved You with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not loved our enemies. Forgive us, renew our love, on account of Jesus. Amen.

Pastor: Jesus Christ was lifted up on the tree of the cross so that we might be forgiven. His genuine love is for the world and is for you. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen. We are forgiven by the genuine love of Jesus.

(Please stand)

✠ WORD ✠

INTROIT *Psalm 27:3–5; antiphon: v. 1*

Pastor: The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war arise against me, yet I will be confident. One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple. For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of

trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high upon a rock. The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

KYRIE (sing) p. 186 in hymnal

**People: Lord, have mercy upon us
Christ, have mercy upon us
Lord, have mercy upon us**

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, You have loved us with an everlasting love that grants us eternal life. Burn Your love ever stronger within our hearts, Lord, so that we may love others as You have loved us; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

(Please be seated)

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Numbers 21:4–9 ESV*

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. And 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 loathe this worthless food.” Then the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. And the people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and against you. Pray to the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. And the LORD said to Moses, “Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live.” So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC

“There Is a Fountain Filled with Blood”

Sung by the Choir

EPISTLE *Ephesians 2:1–10* ESV

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in 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 coming ages 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 a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand)

VERSE *John 3:16*

Pastor: For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son,

People: that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the third chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

HOLY GOSPEL *John 3:14–21* ESV

And 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, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might

be saved through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

PRAYER REQUESTS & ATTENDANCE CARDS

Please pass your prayer requests and yellow attendance cards to the individual sitting nearest the aisle and the usher will collect them during the singing of the hymn of the day.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“God Loved the World So That He Gave” *LSB 571 vs 1-4*

God loved the world so that He gave

His only Son the lost to save

That all who would in Him believe

Should everlasting life receive

Christ Jesus is the ground of faith

Who was made flesh and suffered death

All then who trust in Him alone

Are built on this chief cornerstone

**God would not have the sinner die
 His Son with saving grace is nigh
 His Spirit in the Word declares
 How we in Christ are heaven's heirs**

**Be of good cheer for God's own Son
 Forgives all sins which you have done
 And justified by Jesus' blood
 Your Baptism grants the highest good**

++ SERMON ++

Text: John 3:14–21 (Gospel Lesson)

Theme: Genuine Love

(Please stand)

NICENE CREED

People: I believe in one God, the Father

Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the

dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ✕ of the world to come. Amen.

(Please be seated or kneel, as you are able, for the Prayers of the Church)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, as we come before You with our prayers and petitions, we thank You for Your genuine love, and we pray, Jesus, may our hearts be burning

People: with more fervent love for You.

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, show Your love to all those who have experienced broken families, homes, and churches. Surround them with Your love and with people who will love them as You love them. Jesus, may our hearts be burning

People: with more fervent love for You.

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, extend Your love to all those who have abandoned the faith. Strengthen us to lovingly invite them toward Your genuine love for the world. Jesus, may our hearts be burning

People: with more fervent love for You.

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, in Your earthly life You experienced the death of those You loved. Bring

Your comfort to all those who are suffering in such grief, Point them to the hope of eternal life with You. Jesus, may our hearts be burning

People: with more fervent love for You.

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, be present with all those who are single. Encourage them with the love of friends and family. Provide caring people to remind them that they are not alone. Jesus, may our hearts be burning

People: with more fervent love for You.

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, You have prepared many good works for us to do in our earthly lives. Give us courage to do those good works with joy, expecting nothing in return, knowing we are saved by grace alone. Jesus, may our hearts be burning

People: with more fervent love for You.

Pastor: Lord, look with favor upon all who are sick, injured, and recovering,Have mercy upon them and restore them to health according to Your wisdom. Jesus, may our hearts be burning

People: with more fervent love for You.

Pastor: Lord Jesus, we commend all of these people and situations into Your hands, for You have promised in love to hear our prayers; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

(Please be seated)

OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN

“Almighty God your Word is Cast” *LSB 577*

**Almighty God Your Word is cast
Like seed into the ground
Now let the dew of heav'n descend
And righteous fruits abound**

**Let not the sly satanic foe
This holy seed remove
But give it root in ev'ry heart
To bring forth fruits of love**

**Let not the world's deceitful cares
The rising plant destroy
Bet let it yield a hundredfold
The fruits of peace and joy**

**So when the precious seed is sown
Life giving grace bestow
That all whose souls the truth receive
Its saving pow'r may know**

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE *2 Timothy 4:22*

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who so loved the world that He was lifted upon the tree of the cross in order to draw all people to Himself. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS *(sing) LSB 195*

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth
Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory**

Hosanna Hosanna

Hosanna in the highest

Blessed is He Blessed is He

Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord

Hosanna, Hosanna

Hosanna in the highest

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to increase our faith and love so that we might reflect the genuine love

of Jesus into the world. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

People: 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.

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI (Sung) LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God that takest away the sin of the world have mercy upon us
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

(Please be seated)

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

“Jesus Loves Me” *LSB* 588

**Jesus loves me this I know
For the Bible tells me so
Little ones to Him belong
They are weak but He is strong**

**Yes, Jesus loves me
Yes, Jesus loves me
Yes, Jesus loves me
The Bible tells me so**

**Jesus loves me He who died
Heaven's gate to open wide
He has washed away my sin
Let His little child come in**

**Yes, Jesus loves me
Yes, Jesus loves me
Yes, Jesus loves me
The Bible tells me so**

(Please stand)

THE POST-DISTRIBUTION BLESSING

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus
strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to
life everlasting.

People: (spoken) **Amen**

THE NUNC DIMITTIS (sung) TLH p. 29-30

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant
 depart in peace according to Thy word,
 for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
 which Thou hast prepared before the face
 of all people, a light to lighten the
 Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.
 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

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this Meal where we receive Your genuine love. Keep us firm in faith and increase our love of You and our neighbors; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

HYMN

“God Loves Me Dearly” *LSB 392 vs 1 & 2*

**God loves me dearly,
Grants me salvation,
God loves me dearly,
Loves even me.**

**Therefore I'll say again:
God loves me dearly,
God loves me dearly,
Loves even me.**

**I was in slav'ry,
Sin death, and darkness;
God's love was working
To make me free.**

**Therefore I'll say again:
God loves me dearly,
God loves me dearly,
Loves even me.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THOSE SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE

Rev. Paul Pollatz, Pastor

Marie Brown, Organist

Frank Pignanelli, Elder

Laurie Pignanelli, Reader

Bill Switter, Dave Brown & Kathy King, Ushers

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Easter Egg Hunt Donations

Due by March 17th

Looking for Eggs, Candy or Small items

Please give donations to Frances

VBS is Coming....

Monday May 20- Thursday May 23

from 3:30pm to 4:30pm

BINGO!

March 13th & 27th

Quilting

Every Thursday from 10am to 2pm

Attendance

Sunday March 3rd 9:30 am 42

Prayer List

If sudden illness or the need for immediate prayers occurs, please feel free to contact Nancy Dajos at 313-254-2437. Prayer requests will remain on the list for two weeks.

Anniversary

Birthdays

Marie Brown – March 10th

For the Shut-Ins

Joan Hafkesbrink, at a facility

Judy Ohannasian, at home

Dorothy MacTavish, at home

Camell Faulk, at home

Phyllis Witte, at rehab

Melvin Kimbrough, at home

Lynn Mayfield, at home

For Those Who Are Sick or Healing

Dave Hamilton, COVID

Sis Hamilton, Hospitalized

Birth of Jalen Tamas, great- nephew of Pignanelli

Shelly Haise, friend of Paul Utcai, Cancer

Art Superko, Friend of Hamilton's, Illness

Beverly Pinke, Friend of Hamilton's, Illness

Theresa Greenaway, Friend of Pignanelli, Illness

Bently Martin, Cancer

Dorothy Plunkett, Karen Bumgarner's sister, comfort and
Healing

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES AT MOUNT HOPE

Sunday March 10	9:30am – Worship w/HC Bible Study after Service
Tuesday March 12	6:30pm Elder's Mtg 7:00pm Council Mtg
Wednesday March 13	10:30 am Bible Study
Thursday March 14	10am Quilting
Friday March 15	Office Closed
Saturday March 16	5pm Service
Sunday March 17	9:30am – Worship w/HC Bible Study after Service



Hunt begins at 12pm sharp.
Light Refreshments to follow the hunt.