

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT
March 14, 2021
GOD'S PEOPLE GATHERING

PRELUDE/WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN No. 715 "Christ, Be Our Light"

CONFESSION OF SIN

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

C: 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.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

First Lesson: 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.

Here ends the first lesson. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 107:1-3, 17-22

Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good, for God's mercy endures forever.

C: 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.

C: 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.

C: 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.

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C: 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.

C: 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.

The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Second Lesson: 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.

Here ends the second lesson. **C: Thanks be to God.**

P: Please stand in honor of the reading of the gospel.

The Holy Gospel is taken from **John 3:14-21**

C: Glory to you O Lord.

[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 the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY No. 803 "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" vs. 1,3,4

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 THE CHURCH

P: Lord in your mercy, **C: Hear our prayer.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray.

C: O God, receive these gifts as you receive us: like a mother receives a child, with arms open wide. Nourish us anew in your tender care, and empower us in faithful service to tend to

P: Let us pray.

C: O God, receive these gifts as you receive us: like a mother receives a child, with arms open wide. Nourish us anew in your tender care, and empower us in faithful service to tend to others with this same love, through Jesus Christ, our saving grace. Amen.

LORD’S PRAYER

GOD’S PEOPLE SENT FORTH

BENEDICTION

P: God the creator strengthen you; Jesus the beloved fill you; and the Holy Spirit the comforter ☩ keep you in peace. In the name of the Father + and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

SENDING HYMN No. 666 “What Wondrous Love Is This”

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Be the Light of Christ. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Welcome! Great to have you here! Thank you for choosing to worship with us here today. .

THE WORSHIP BROADCAST today is sponsored in honor of Max Taubert’s 14th birthday by his family.

☩ Continuing Prayer Concerns: Dennis Hazelton, Val Carmondy, Janice Harkema, John Dubbelde, Darrell & Carol Foss, and Helen Miller as they deal with health issues; Mike & Cristy Appel on the deaths in their family and Ray & Mavis Pierson as Ray enters Hospice.

This Week’s Schedule – March 14, 2021 Daylight Savings Time Begins

Today 9:30am Worship at Church and live streamed

Wednesday 5:30pm Lent service; 6:30pm First Communion class

Sunday 9:30am Worship/Holy Communion at Church and live streamed

Ministers Members of First Lutheran Church

<i>Pastor</i>	Rev. Joyce Tollefson Capp	<i>Organist</i>	Paul Henriksen
<i>Sound</i>	Jason Weber	<i>Reader</i>	Paul Johnson

March 2021 Offering

Monthly Income Needed to Operate	\$	17,800.00
Lent - Mar 3	\$	180.00
Weekly Offering – Mar 7	\$	4,368.87

Our Theme for Lenten Worship Services will be: “THE BODY OF CHRIST.”

Our worship service will help us to consider our Lord’s humanity, the human body in which He lived, suffered and died. The question of us for this Lent is, “How are we to live as the body of Christ today?” Another question we will seek to answer is, “How do we use our body to serve Christ?” Join us for this time of worship and meditation.

The weekly topics during Lent will be:

- March 17th: Ears of Christ
- March 24th: Heart of Christ
- April 1st (Maundy Thursday) Blood of Christ
- April 2nd: (Good Friday) Body of Christ
- April 4th (Easter) The Risen Body of Christ

“The Good Life”

You are invited to journey with others as we read “The Good Life”, by Dr. Derwin Gray. The book helps us to learn to live the good news of Jesus and there is where we find joy and happiness. We will meet following Worship on March 21. Please contact Pastor Joyce if you are interested in joining us.

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2021 Pipestone Area Kindergarten Roundup will be held on Friday, March 26th at the Brown Elementary School. If you've not been contacted & your child will be 5 yrs. old on or before Sept. 1st, 2021, please contact Lori at Brown school as soon as possible. Lori can be reached between 8:30am-3pm, Mon- Fri. @ 825- 6756 ext. 4202. Please leave a message if no one answers.

FLCW Group Circle Potluck

_Tuesday, March, 23rd @ Noon in the Church Fireside room

Please bring anything that will go with an Italian meal.

FLCW will be collecting jeans for rugs until Monday, March 22, 2021.

Question of the Month for February 2021

_____ * What does Lent mean to you? Please email your response to henriksen7@mchsi.com

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