

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**  
**March 30, 2014**

...Love the Lord your God  
with all your heart  
and with all your soul,  
and with all your strength,  
and with all your mind;  
and your neighbor as yourself.



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***“Chosen by God, Led by the Spirit in Worship,  
Prayer, and Praise, in Hope for Today and  
Tomorrow for all People.”***

**Jon Bielfeldt, Pastor**

Ellen Hodon, Organist

Youth, Readers

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, the communion of the Holy Spirit and peace be with you all. ***And also with you.***

### SHARING OF THE PEACE

#### GATHERING SONG

*We Have Come To Join In Worship*

***We have come to join in worship and adore the Lord our God.  
Let us come in prayer, expecting God to speak His mighty Word.  
All is vain unless the Spirit of the Holy One comes down.  
Christians, pray and holy manna will be showered all around.***

***See them gather all around you, those He bought at such a cost;  
See the weary, see the hurting, see the lonely, see the lost.  
Be His hand, and touch the needy; be His gospel, let it sound!  
Be His body, and sweet manna will be showered all around.***

***Let us love our God supremely; Let us love each other, too.  
Let us care for all His people till our God makes all things new.  
Christ will call us home to heaven; at His banquet we'll sit down;  
Christ Himself will rise and serve us living manna all around.***

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed by the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.  
**Amen.**

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. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God, **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

O blessed Christ, ***my teacher, my savior, my God: You have commanded me to love others as myself. Yet it is so often easy to see the faults in others, for I see their outside and compare it***

***against what is inside me. I have inflated my goodness and importance in my own mind, but have judged others for the smallest shortcoming, and I am filled by foolish pride. I vow by this prayer that I will strive to follow your Word, to forgive all who have injured me, to turn loose the petty resentments and grudges that poison the world with hatred, and to overlook the faults of others; and I ask to be pardoned wherever I have done injury to my brothers and sisters, who are your beloved children even though they, like me, are sinners. And I vow, when I fall short of your commandment, to seek out and confess my wrongdoing. Forgive me, Holy Christ, and help me to ever amend my life; this I pray, Amen.***

**FIRST READING**

**1 PETER 4:1**

If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

***Thanks be to God.***

**SECOND READING:**

**Acts 20:35**

In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'

The word of the Lord.

***Thanks be to God.***

**THIRD READING**

**Joshua 22:5**

But be very careful to keep the commandment and the law that Moses the servant of the LORD gave you: to love the LORD your God, to walk in obedience to him, to keep his commands, to hold fast to him and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul."

The word of the Lord.

***Thanks be to God.***

**GOSPEL**

**James 2: 1-8 and 12-13**

My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show favoritism. Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in filthy old clothes also comes in. If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, "Here's a good seat for you," but say to the poor man, "You stand there" or "Sit on the floor by my feet," have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court? Are they not the ones who are blaspheming the noble name of him to whom you belong? Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

The gospel of the Lord.

***Praise to you, O Christ.***

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

**MESSAGE**

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*Lord I Need You*

*Lord I come, I confess; bowing here I find my rest  
Without you I fall apart; You're the one that guides my heart*

*Lord, I need You, oh I need You; every hour I need You  
My one defense, my righteousness; Oh God, how I need You*

*Where sin runs deep, Your grace is more; where grace is found is where You are  
And where You are Lord I am free; Holiness is Christ in me  
Yes, where You are Lord I am free; Holiness is Christ in me*

*Lord, I need You, oh I need You; every hour I need You  
My one defense, my righteousness; Oh God, how I need You*

*So teach my song to rise to You; when temptation comes my way  
And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You; Jesus You're my hope and stay  
and when I cannot stand I'll fall on You; Jesus You're my hope and stay*

*Lord, I need You, oh I need You; every hour I need You  
My one defense, my righteousness; Oh God, how I need You  
Lord, I need You, oh I need You; every hour I need You  
My one defense, my righteousness; Oh God, how I need You  
My one defense, my righteousness; Oh God, how I need You*

## NICENE CREED

*We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and unseen.*

*We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.*

*We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. AMEN.*

## OFFERING

### OFFERING PRAYER

Let us give thanks:

***Father, we thank you for this opportunity to give. We thank you for those who have an offering to give today as well as those who have a desire to give, but are unable to. We pray a blessing over each giver. Oh God we thank you for the offering that was received. Bless it, that it may be used to benefit your kingdom. We pray for your direction and guidance for it's use. We acknowledge that you are the owner and we are the managers of what you entrust to us. Help us to live for you each day and to generously share the time, talents, treasures, and things you have given us. In your name we pray, AMEN***

#### **PRAISE OF THANKSGIVING (SPOKEN)**

***Salvation belongs to our God and to Christ the Lamb forever and ever.***

Great and wonderful are your deeds, O God of the universe; just and true are your ways, O Ruler of all the nations. Who can fail to honor you, Lord, and sing the glory of your name?

***Salvation belongs to our God and to Christ the Lamb forever and ever.***

For you alone are the Holy One, and blessed is the one whose name is the Word of God. All praise and thanks to you, holy God!

***Salvation belongs to our God and to Christ the Lamb forever and ever.***

#### **PRAYER**

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the strength to forgive and pray for all those who bring false words against us. We also ask that you forgive us when we are the ones who speak negatively toward others. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. Lord, we ask that you guide us to be better disciples, more generous, more courageous, more self-sacrificing and more cheerful? Please help us to remember those less fortunate than us. Please be with all those who are hungry or ill, especially those we name in the silence of our hearts. Lord we need your guidance to be faithful followers and stewards of your world, give us the wisdom to oversee and protect all that you have entrusted to us here on earth. **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**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace. **Amen.**

#### **SENDING SONG**                      *Forever*

***Give thanks to the Lord Our God and King; His love endures forever  
For He is good, He is above all things; His love endures forever***

***Sing praise, sing praise***

***With a mighty hand and outstretched arm; His love endures forever  
For the life that's been reborn; His love endures forever  
Sing praise, sing praise, sing praise, sing praise***

***Forever God is faithful; Forever God is strong  
Forever God is with us; Forever***

***From the rising to the setting sun; His love endures forever  
By the grace of God we will carry on; His love endures forever  
Sing praise, sing praise, sing praise, sing praise***

***Forever God is faithful; Forever God is strong  
Forever God is with us; Forever, forever***

***Forever God is faithful; Forever God is strong  
Forever God is with us; Forever {musical interlude}***

***Sing praise, sing praise, sing praise, sing praise  
Sing praise, sing praise, sing praise, sing praise***

***Forever God is faithful; Forever God is strong  
Forever God is with us; Forever***

***Forever You are faithful; Forever You are strong  
Forever You are with us; Forever, forever***

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the good news. ***Thanks be to God.***

**DOXOLOGY**

***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.***