# Fourth Sunday in Lent
# Sunday, March 14, 2021

## Prelude

**ELW 334 "*Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery*"**

1 Tree of Life and awesome myst'ry,
in your death we are reborn;
though you die in all of hist'ry,
still you rise with ev'ry morn,
still you rise with ev'ry morn.

2 We remember truth once spoken,
love passed on through act and word;
ev'ry person lost and broken
wears the body of our Lord,
wears the body of our Lord.

3 Christ, you lead and we shall follow,
stumbling though our steps may be;
one with you in joy and sorrow,
we the river, you the sea,
we the river, you the sea.

4 Give us eyes to see you clearly;
make us children of your light.
Give us hearts to live more nearly
as your gospel shining bright.

## Confession & Forgiveness Rite

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

## Kyrie – Setting 5

## Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.
**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray.
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.**

## First Reading: Numbers 21:4-9

4 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. 5 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." 6 Then
the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that
many Israelites died. 7 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. 8 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." 9 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.
L: Word of God. Word of Life.
**C: Thanks be to God.**

## Taize: "*In God Alone*"

## Second Reading: Ephesians 2:1-10

[1]You were dead through the trespasses and sins [2]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. [3]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. [4]But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us [5]even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—[6]and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, [7]so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. [8]For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—[9]not the result of works, so that no one may boast. [10]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.
L: Word of God. Word of Life.
**C: Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation (Setting 5)

P: The Gospel according to St. John.
**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

## Gospel: John 3:14-21

[Jesus said:] [14]"Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, [15]that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.
[16]"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.
[17]"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. [18]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. [19]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. [20]For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. [21]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."
P: The Gospel of the Lord.
**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Gospel Acclamation (Setting 5)

## Sermon

## Hymn of the Day
**ELW 322 "*O Love How Deep*"**

1 Oh, love, how deep, how broad, how high,
beyond all thought and fantasy,
that God, the Son of God, should take
our mortal form for mortals' sake!

2 God sent no angel to our race,
of higher or of lower place,
but wore the robe of human frame,
in Christ our Lord to this world came.

3 For us baptized, for us he bore
his holy fast and hungered sore;
for us temptation sharp he knew;
for us the tempter overthrew.

4 For us he prayed; for us he taught;
for us his daily works he wrought,
by words and signs and actions thus
still seeking not himself, but us.

## Apostle's Creed

A: Let us confess our faith:

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**
**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit**
**and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate,**
**was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell.**
**On the third day he rose again.**
**He ascended into heaven,**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**
**He will come again 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 Intercession

A: Called to the renewal of our faith in Lent, let us offer our prayers to God.

A: In the waters of baptism, you join us to the life and resurrection of Jesus Christ. For the gift of forgiveness, we praise you.
**C: Hear us, O God.**

A: You send us your Holy Spirit to guide us and teach us. For all the gifts of the Spirit, we thank you.
**C: Hear us, O God.**

A: You nourish us with your word and welcome us to your table. For all the ways you care for us, we praise you.
**C: Hear us, O God.**

A: You call us to tell others about Jesus. For willingness to show Jesus by what we say and do, we pray to you.
**C: Hear us, O God.**

A: You send us to help other people and to work for what is right. For courage to be the body of Christ, we pray to you.
**C: Hear us, O God.**

A: You send your spirit of healing and strength to all who call upon you. We ask your healing for those who seek your healing presence, especially Dennis, Carol, Nancy, Pastor Steve Swanson, Renee, Vicki, Rhea, Lupe, Betty, Calina, Bob, Bill, Michael, all those diagnosed with COVID-19, and all others we hold in our thoughts, we pray to you.
**C: Hear us, O God.**

P: All these things, and whatever else you see that we need, grant us, O Lord our God, through Jesus Christ, for your mercy is everlasting, and your faithfulness endures from age to age.
**C: Amen.**

## Anthem

"*Romanze*" by Franz Schubert

## Eucharist Liturgy

P: The Lord be with you
**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.
**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
**C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

P: Blessed are you, O God of the universe.
Your mercy is everlasting
and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup
we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**C: Christ has died.**
**Christ is risen.**
**Christ will come again.**

P: O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us
and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast.

Grace our table with your presence.
**C: Come, Holy Spirit.**

P: Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us.
Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.
**C: Come, Holy Spirit.**

P: With the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars,
we praise you, O God,
blessed and holy Trinity,
now and forever.

**C: Amen.**
A: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

## The Lord's Prayer **(sung by musicians)**

## Communion Distribution

*You are invited to come to the altar for Holy Communion. Places are marked where you may stand. Communion will be by the distribution of bread alone. After you have communed, please return to your place in the pews. We ask that everyone observe the protocols of social distancing and wear your mask when approaching and leaving the altar.*

## Lamb of God

**ELW 357 "*Lamb of God, Pure and Sinless*"**

1 Lamb of God, pure and sinless,
once on the cross an off'ring,
patient, lowly, guiltless,
forsaken in your suff'ring:
from sin's grasp you have torn us,
from gloom to hope have borne us.
Grant us your mercy, O Jesus.

2 Lamb of God, pure and sinless,
once on the cross an off'ring,
patient, lowly, guiltless,
forsaken in your suff'ring:
from sin's grasp you have torn us,
from gloom to hope have borne us.
Grant us your mercy, O Jesus.

3 Lamb of God, pure and sinless,
once on the cross an off'ring,
patient, lowly, guiltless,
forsaken in your suff'ring:
from sin's grasp you have torn us,
from gloom to hope have borne us.
Your peace be with us, O Jesus. Amen.

## Post Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **C: Amen.**

## Post-Communion Prayer

A: Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
**C: Amen.**

## Closing Hymn

**ELW 333 "*Jesus is a Rock in a Weary Land*"**

*Refrain*

Jesus is a rock in a weary land,
a weary land, a weary land;
my Jesus is a rock in a weary land,
a shelter in a time of storm.

1 No one can do like Jesus,
not a mumbling word he said;
he went walking down to Lazarus' grave,
and he raised him from the dead. *Refrain*

2 When Jesus was on earth,
the flesh was very weak;
he took a towel and girded himself
and he washed his disciples' feet. *Refrain*

3 Yonder comes my Savior,
him whom I love so well;
he has the palm of victory
and the keys of death and hell. *Refrain*

## Benediction and Dismissal

P: Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.
**C: Thanks be to God.**

A: Go in peace. Remember your baptism.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude

"*Litany*" by Franz Schubert

## Announcements

- We invite you to join us for worship each week, either in-person or virtually. Please note that registration is required for in-person attendance. Read our safety protocols for worship and reserve your spot at www.concordiafaith.org/worship . All services will still be available virtually either by livestream via YouTube or recordings will be available later on our YouTube channel: Concordia Church Chicago.

- Do you have pictures of past Concordia Church events? We would love for you to share them with us for use in our service slideshows. If you have any photos of Concordia Church, members engaged in church activities, or other memories from past years, please send them to Desirae in the church office at ddiehl@concordiafaith.org .

- The musicians of Concordia Church, along with some special guests, are releasing a new musical offering each Wednesday at 7pm during this season of Lent. You can find these programs - both previous and upcoming - on our YouTube Channel or on our Lenten webpage, www.concordiafaith.org/Lent

- We appreciate your continued gifts to Concordia Church! Remember, you may give in three ways:
    1. Text-to-give: Text“Concordia”to73256 and follow the link you receive
    2. Give online at onrealm.org/concordiafaith/give
    3. Send a check via mail to the church