

First Reading: Ephesians 4:1-10

¹As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. ²Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. ³Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. ⁴There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; ⁵one Lord, one faith, one baptism; ⁶one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. ⁷But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. ⁸This is why it says: “When he ascended on high, he took many captives and gave gifts to his people.” ⁹(What does “he ascended” mean except that he also descended to the lower, earthly regions? ¹⁰He who descended is the very one who ascended higher than all the heavens, in order to fill the whole universe.)

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:13-20, 4:1-6

¹³Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? ¹⁴But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. “Do not fear their threats; do not be frightened.” ¹⁵But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, ¹⁶keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander. ¹⁷For it is better, if it is God’s will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil. ¹⁸For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit. ¹⁹After being made alive, he went and made proclamation to the imprisoned spirits— ²⁰to those who were disobedient long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water.

¹Therefore, since Christ suffered in his body, arm yourselves also with the same attitude, because whoever suffers in the body is done with sin. ²As a result, they do not live the rest of their earthly lives for evil human desires, but rather for the will of God. ³For you have spent enough time in the past doing what pagans choose to do—living in debauchery, lust, drunkenness, orgies, carousing and detestable idolatry. ⁴They are surprised that you do not join them in their reckless, wild living, and they heap abuse on you. ⁵But they will have to give account to him who is ready to judge the living and the dead. ⁶For this is the reason the gospel was preached even to those who are now dead, so that they might be judged according to human standards in regard to the body, but live according to God in regard to the spirit.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Children’s Message: Pastor Eric Hanson**Sermon: Pastor Eric Hanson****Hymn of the Day & Offering:** *(you may be seated)* **“Amazing Grace” #779**

Offerings will be collected during the hymn of the day. Thank you also to those who give online. If you’d like to sign up for online giving please visit <http://www.stlukegoodhue.org/online-giving.html>. Children’s coin offering will go toward ELCA Good Gifts serving communities in need around the world.

**Vs 1: Amazing grace! How sweet the sound That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found; Was blind, but now I see.**

**Vs 2: ’Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear The hour I first believed!**

**Vs 3: Through many dangers, toils and snares, I have already come;
’Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, And grace will lead me home.**

**Vs 4: The Lord has promised good to me, His Word my hope secures;
He will my Shield and Portion be, As long as life endures.**

**Vs 5: When we’ve been there ten thousand years, Bright shining as the sun,
We’ve no less days to sing God’s praise Than when we’d first begun.**

Offertory Response: “Give Thanks”

**Give thanks with a grateful heart. Give thanks to the Holy One.
Give thanks because He’s given Jesus Christ, His Son.**

**And now let the weak say, “I am strong”.
Let the poor say, “I am rich Because of what the Lord has done for us”. Give thanks.**

Offertory Prayer:

P: Let us pray.

C: Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Apostles’ Creed: *(please stand as you are able)*

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, & 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, & he will come to judge the living & 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, & the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers: *(call and response)*

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need. *A brief silence.*

Make your church one in purpose, proclaiming the message of the cross. Help us to work together across differences. Energize ecumenical partnerships, including the World Council of Churches and Lutheran World Federation. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We rejoice at the bounty of your creation. Fill the land and sea with your abundance. Bless harvests in the southern hemisphere and fallow fields in the northern hemisphere. Equip farmers to till and keep the earth sustainably. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

In Christ your reign comes near and calls all to repentance. Break the rod of the oppressor in every nation. Dispel the shadow of death in places of war and persecution. Grant us leaders who lift the yokes that burden those in need. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Be a stronghold for those in trouble and a rock for all who are afraid. Rouse communities to care for neighbors who need shelter, are facing maltreatment, or are isolated and lonely. Especially we pray especially for Keith Brown, Dolly Mensink, Sara Nolte, Judy Carpenter, Nancy Nord, Larry Reese, Jan Benidt, Dave (Pud) Gnotke, Jen Berg, Marilyn O’Brien, Kellie Peterson, Rich Majerus, Naomi Berland, Kay Kurtti, and the family of Eric and Christie Hanson. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Sustain the ministries of this congregation and all churches in this community. Nurture each congregation’s unique witness to your presence; foster mutual respect; inspire our cooperation in loving our neighbors. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We praise you for the faithful who have gone ahead of us, both famous and unknown. Help us to leave our nets and follow, and bring us with them to the fullness of your promise of eternal life. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified. **Amen.**

Sharing the Peace:

P: The peace of Christ be with you always,

C: And also with you.

The Great Thanksgiving:

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 & praise.**

The Words of Institution**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.

Meal and Hymns:

All are welcome at this meal. We believe in the saving power of Jesus Christ through the gift of his life, death, and resurrection experienced in bread and wine.

Please move forward via the center aisle. Bread is received in the hands. Wine is received by dipping the bread into the wine chalice and consuming both together. All ages are welcome to commune. Those not communing may receive a blessing by simply keeping your hands folded or extending your arms over your chest in the sign of a cross inviting blessing. For those unable to consume either wine or bread, communion is received fully in either element alone, for Christ is fully present in the meal. You may return to your seats via the side aisles after communing. Gluten-free is available, simply make the server aware of your need. Also, if you cannot come forward, but wish for communion or blessing, let the usher know it will come to you at the end.

"Just As I Am, without One Plea" #592

Verse 1: Just as I am, without one plea, but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou bidd'st me come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Verse 2: Just as I am, though tossed about with many a conflict, many a doubt,
fightings and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Verse 3: Just as I am, thou wilt receive, wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
because thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come,

Verse 4: Just as I am; thy love unknown has broken ev'ry barrier down;
now to be thine, yea, thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

"Saved By Grace"

Vs 1: Someday the silver cord will break, and I no more as now shall sing;
But oh, the joy when I shall wake Within the palace of the King!

Chorus: And I shall see Him face to face, And tell the story Saved by grace;
And I shall see Him face to face, And tell the story Saved by grace.

Vs 2: Someday my earthly house will fall, I cannot tell how soon twill be;
But this I know my All in All Has now a place in heav'n for me. [Chorus]

Vs 3: Some day, when fades the golden sun Beneath the rosy tinted west,
My blessed Lord will say, "Well done!" And I shall enter into rest. [Chorus]

Vs 4: Someday: till then I'll watch and wait, My lamp all trimmed and burning bright,
That when my Savior opes the gate, My soul to Him may take its flight. [Chorus]

Communion Prayer: *(please stand as you are able)*

P: Let us pray together.

C: Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace.
May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The Blessing:

P: May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. May the
Lord look upon you with favor + and give you peace. Amen.

Sending: *"God Of Grace And God Of Glory"*

Vs 1: God of grace and God of glory, on your people pour your pow'r;
crown your ancient church's story; bring its bud to glorious flow'r.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.

Vs 2: Lo! the hosts of evil round us scorn the Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the living of these days, for the living of these days,

Vs 3: Cure your children's warring madness; bend our pride to your control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, lest we miss your kingdom's goal, lest we miss your kingdom's goal.

Vs 4: Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore; let the gift of your salvation be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving you whom we adore, serving you whom we adore.

Dismissal: P: Go in peace to love the Lord and serve your neighbor. C: Thanks be to God!

Third Sunday after Epiphany Apostles' Creed

St. Luke Lutheran Church • Pastor Eric Hanson
9:30AM • January 22, 2023

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Greeting: *(please stand as you are able)*

P: The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

C: Come Holy Spirit, Come!

Confession and Forgiveness:

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who is eager to forgive and who loves us beyond our days.

C: Amen.

P: Dear friends, together let us acknowledge our failure to love this world as Jesus does.
(Silence is kept for reflection.) God of mercy and forgiveness,

C: we confess that sin still has a hold on us. We have harmed your good creation. We have failed to do
justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you. Turn us in a new direction. Show us the path that
leads to life. Be our refuge & strength on the journey, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer & friend. Amen.

P: Beloved of God: your sins are forgiven + and you are made whole. God points the way to new life in Christ,
who meets us on the road. Journey now in God's abiding love through the power of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn: *"Grace, Greater Than Our Sin"*

Vs 1: Marvelous grace of our loving Lord, Grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt,
Yonder on Calvary's mount outpoured, There where the blood of the Lamb was spilt.

Chorus: Marvelous grace, infinite grace, Grace that will pardon and cleanse within;
Marvelous grace, infinite grace, Grace that is greater than all our sin.

Vs 2: Dark is the stain that we cannot hide, What can avail to wash it away? Look!
There is flowing a crimson tide; Whiter than snow you may be today.

Vs. 3: Marvelous infinite, matchless grace, Freely bestowed on all who believe;
All who are longing to see His face; Will you this moment His grace receive?

Prayer of the Day:

P: Let us pray together

C: O God our Father, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with
the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your daughters and
sons, & empower us all with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.