



## **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent**

March 15, 2020



## GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Gathering around Grace – Growing in Grace – Going with Grace  
in Yorba Linda, the land of gracious living*

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Accompanist –Margie Erickson / David Stansfield / Grace Choir

### *Welcome*

- † All worshipers are asked to help us be a friendly church by signing our *Friendship Register*. Look for the small blue binder located near on the inside of each aisle.
- † **Restrooms** are located across the breezeway just inside the doors to our Grace Hall.
- † **A cry room/nursery room** for parents needing to quiet small children is located at the back of the chapel. The room is equipped with chairs and toys and offers audio of our services.
- † There is **coffee** located across the breezeway in the Grace Hall.
- † If you would like to know more about Grace - Yorba Linda, visit our **website** at [gracelutheran.church](http://gracelutheran.church). A **membership** class, a class that covers the basic teachings of the Bible and what it means to be a Christian is beginning soon. Speak to Pastor Sievert for more information. We would also love to share information with you about our Sunday worship services, our weekly Bible Classes, and our youth programs. We look forward to visiting with you.



*Grace Lutheran Church  
is a member of the  
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod  
and California Lutheran High School*

# Lent

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The word **Lent** comes from an Old English word for Spring (“*lengten*,”). As the days **lengthen** and become brighter during this time of year, our focus on Jesus’ journey to the cross and empty tomb brighten our days and allow us to see God’s love more clearly and empower us to love more dearly. May God’s Word lead you cherish the One who came to...

## To do battle for us:

Lent 1:	In the wilderness...	the Devil is defeated
Lent 2:	At the well...	Thirst is quenched
<b>Today:</b>	<b>In the light...</b>	<b>Blindness is banished</b>
Mar.22:	From the throne...	Selfless serving springs
Mar.29:	At the grave...	Death is destroyed
Apr.5:	Approaching Jerusalem...	is our humble King

*(past sermons are archived on our website: [gracelutheran.church](http://gracelutheran.church))*

**PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP** *See page 10 in the hymnal for prayers*  
*See page 156 for Communion preparation*

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*Create*  
in me a clean heart, O GOD;  
and **renew** a right  
**spirit** within me.  
Psalm 51:10

**TURN MY HEART O GOD** *God’s call for us during Lent is to turn from our evil ways and live!*

*The name of the  
triune God and the  
sign of the cross  
remind us of our  
baptisms.*

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

**C: Amen.**

**L. During these days of Lent, we are called to struggle against all that leads us away from love of God and neighbor. Let us pray for God to set us free, forgive our sins, and renew our hearts by His Spirit.**

The choir sings the refrain first and the people repeat:

Refrain

Turn my heart, O God. Turn my heart, O  
 God. Take my pain and bro - ken - ness; shape my life for  
 you. Come and turn my heart, O God.

*To verses* *To repeat refrain and last time*

after each phrase the congregation sings the **verse response:**

This morning the verses of our Gathering Rite come from Psalm 51, a fitting Psalm of repentance for Lent.

Have mercy, gracious God, forgive my selfish ways: **“Come, and turn my heart, O God”**  
 O wash away my guilt and cleanse me from my sin:  
 I know my failings well, they prey upon my mind:

**All: Refrain**

I turned my face from you to seek out evil paths: **“Come, and turn my heart, O God”**  
 Your punishment is just, your sentence fair and right:  
 You see me as I am, a sinner from my birth:

**All: Refrain**

Great Lover of all truth, teach wisdom to my heart:  
 O purge me, make me clean, and wash me new once more:  
 Let songs of joy ring out from crushed and silent bones:

**All: Refrain**

Create in me, O God, a clean and righteous heart:  
 Do not abaind me, but keep me close to you:  
 Give back to me the joy of walking in your way:

**All: Refrain**

L: God our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will. Amen.

**All: Refrain.**

# GOD'S WORD

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray.

Almighty God, look with favor on your humble servants and stretch out the right hand of your power to defend us against all our enemies; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

## FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 42:14-21

*In poetical language, Isaiah describes our sinful nature in terms of blindness, and the Gospel in terms of light and seeing.*

- <sup>14</sup> "For a long time  
I have kept silent,  
I have been quiet and held myself back.  
But now, like a woman in childbirth, I cry out, I gasp and pant.
- <sup>15</sup> I will lay waste the mountains and hills  
and dry up all their vegetation;  
I will turn rivers into islands and dry up the pools.
- <sup>16</sup> I will lead the blind by ways they have not known,  
along unfamiliar paths I will guide them;  
I will turn the darkness into light before them  
and make the rough places smooth.  
These are the things I will do; I will not forsake them.
- <sup>17</sup> But those who trust in idols,  
who say to images, 'You are our gods,'  
will be turned back in utter shame.
- <sup>18</sup> "Hear, you deaf;  
look, you blind, and see!
- <sup>19</sup> Who is blind but my servant,  
and deaf like the messenger I send?  
Who is blind like the one committed to me,  
blind like the servant of the LORD ?
- <sup>20</sup> You have seen many things, but have paid no attention;  
your ears are open, but you hear nothing."
- <sup>21</sup> It pleased the LORD for the sake of his righteousness to make his law  
great and glorious.

## SECOND LESSON

## Ephesians 5:8-14

*Amazing Grace... "I  
once was blind but  
now I see."*

For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light<sup>9</sup>(for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth)<sup>10</sup>and find out what pleases the Lord.<sup>11</sup>Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them.<sup>12</sup>For it is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret.<sup>13</sup>But everything exposed by the light becomes visible,<sup>14</sup>for it is light that makes everything visible. This is why it is said:

"Wake up, O sleeper,  
rise from the dead,  
and Christ will shine on you."



## VERSE OF THE DAY

Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life. (John 3:14,15)

## HYMN OF THE DAY

[Just As I Am, Without Once Plea \(#397\)](#)

**In the light...  
Blindness is  
banished**

**On your  
suffering  
and  
On your Savior**

<sup>1</sup>As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup>His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

<sup>3</sup>"Neither this man nor his parents sinned," said Jesus, "but this happened so that the work of God might be displayed in his life. <sup>4</sup>As long as it is day, we must do the work of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. <sup>5</sup>While I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

<sup>6</sup>Having said this, he spit on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man's eyes. <sup>7</sup>"Go," he told him, "wash in the Pool of Siloam" (this word means Sent). So the man went and washed, and came home seeing.

<sup>13</sup>They brought to the Pharisees the man who had been blind. <sup>14</sup>Now the day on which Jesus had made the mud and opened the man's eyes was a Sabbath.

<sup>15</sup>Therefore the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. "He put mud on my eyes," the man replied, "and I washed, and now I see."

<sup>16</sup>Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath."

But others asked, "How can a sinner do such miraculous signs?" So they were divided.

<sup>17</sup>Finally they turned again to the blind man, "What have you to say about him? It was your eyes he opened."

The man replied, "He is a prophet."

<sup>34</sup>To this they replied, "You were steeped in sin at birth; how dare you lecture us!" And they threw him out.

<sup>35</sup>Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?"

<sup>36</sup>"Who is he, sir?" the man asked. "Tell me so that I may believe in him."

<sup>37</sup>Jesus said, "You have now seen him; in fact, he is the one speaking with you."

<sup>38</sup>Then the man said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him.

<sup>39</sup>Jesus said, "For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind."

*L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.*

**C: Praise be to you, O Christ!**



## 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 fully 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 in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian 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.**

*Please help us get to know one another better by signing the Friendship Register (the blue folder in each row)*

## OFFERING

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*We pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs, saying:*

*Open our eyes, **to see O Lord.***

**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.**

## THE SACRAMENT

**M:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** **And also with you.**

**M:** Lift up your hearts.

**C:** **We lift them up to the Lord.**

**M:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C:** **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

**M:** Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He made his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours, but also for the sins of the whole world.

Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.  
The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.  
You are my God and I will ex - alt you.  
I will give you thanks for you have be - come my sal -  
va - tion. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.  
The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Holy, Holy, Holy'. It consists of six staves of music in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff starts with 'C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.' The second staff continues with 'The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.' The third staff has 'You are my God and I will ex - alt you.' The fourth staff says 'I will give you thanks for you have be - come my sal -'. The fifth staff concludes with 'va - tion. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.' The sixth staff repeats 'The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.' The music is written in a simple, accessible style with clear note heads and stems.

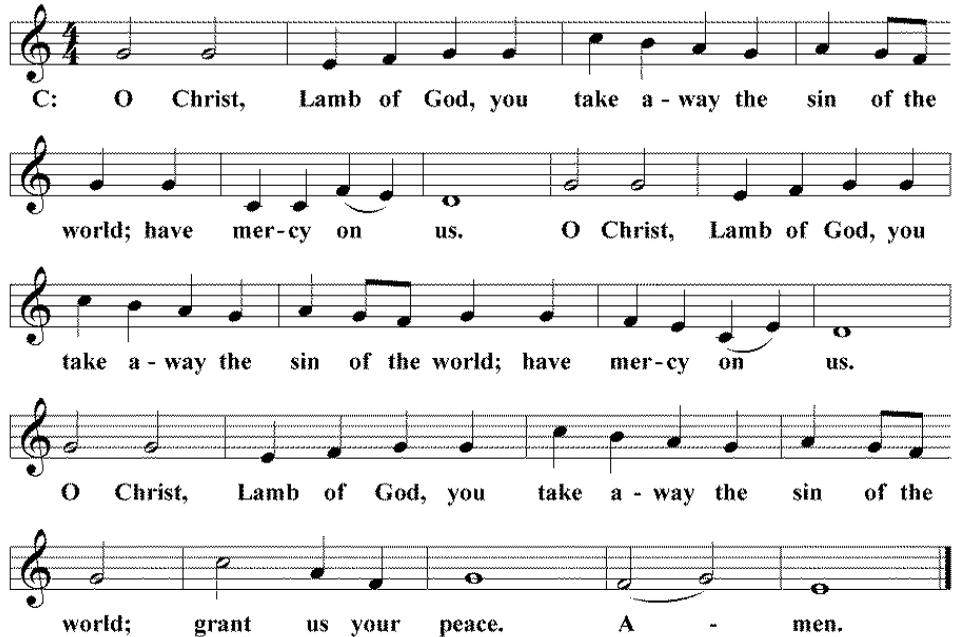
## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Matthew 26:26-28; 1 Corinthians 11:24,25

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

C: Amen .

## LAMB OF GOD



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us your peace. A - men.



The Scriptures teach that the celebration of the Lord's Supper connects us intimately with Christ and with one another as Christians who are united around a common confession of faith. Guests, would you speak with our pastor before communing.

## DISTRIBUTION

### HYMN

[Draw Near \(#309\)](#)

*This paraphrase of an ancient 7<sup>th</sup> Century Communion hymn echoes last week's Gospel lesson where we were invited to come thirsty to the water of life.*

## CLOSING PRAYER

### THE LORD'S BLESSING

- M** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.
- C** **Amen.**

*Stanza 2 of this hymn covered last week's worship theme where Jesus gives the woman at the well the water of life. Stanza 3 echoes today's thought, "light vs. darkness."*

### CLOSING HYMN

[I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say \(#338\)](#)

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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.

2 Just as I am and waiting not To rid my soul of one dark blot,  
To thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I  
come.

3 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.

4 Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind; Sight, riches, healing of the  
mind,  
Yea, all I need, in thee to find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

5 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.

6 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.

## Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord – [Back](#)

1 Draw near and take the body of the Lord,  
And drink the holy blood for you outpoured.  
Offered was he for greatest and for least,  
Himself the victim and himself the priest.

2 He that his saints in this world rules and shields  
To all believers life eternal yields,  
With heav'nly bread makes them that hunger whole,  
Gives living waters to the thirsty soul.

3 Come forward, then, with faithful hearts sincere,  
And take the pledges of salvation here.  
Before your altar, Lord, your servants bow;  
In this your feast of love be with us now.

## I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say – [Back](#)

1 I heard the voice of Jesus say, “Come unto me and rest;  
Lay down, O weary one, lay down Your head upon my breast.”  
I came to Jesus as I was, Weary and worn and sad;  
I found in him a resting place, And he has made me glad.

2 I heard the voice of Jesus say, “Behold, I freely give  
The living water, thirsty one; Stoop down and drink and live.”  
I came to Jesus, and I drank Of that life-giving stream;  
My thirst was quenched, my soul revived, And now I live in him.

3 I heard the voice of Jesus say, “I am this dark world’s light.  
Look unto me; your morn shall rise And all your day be bright.”  
I looked to Jesus, and I found In him my star, my sun;  
And in that light of life I’ll walk Till trav’ling days are done.