



St. Luke's Lutheran Church



4801 Anderson Ave.
Manhattan, KS 66503
785-539-2604
www.stlukesmanhattan.org

Sharing Jesus Christ's love with those around us.

March 14, 2021 – 11:00 AM

*Rev. Michael J. Schmidt, Sr. Pastor
Charity Smith, Director of Christian Education
Rev. King Crawford, Campus Ministry
Gretchen Hartsook, Director of Music
Betsy Molinary, Director of Early Learning Center
Tracie Hudson, Assistant Director of Early learning Center*

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

(Series B)

WELCOME

We are glad you are here to worship our Savior with us. Please remember to turn your cell phone to silence. Restrooms are on the west side of the sanctuary. Prayer requests can be submitted to the church office through email, office@stlukesmanhattan.org, or by calling 785-539-2604. On Communion Sundays, if you need non-gluten wafers at communion, or need to have communion brought to you, please notify the elder who is serving. In accordance with city ordinance #7488, masks are to be worn whenever you are in the church building. (*Exceptions are made for individuals who have a medical condition, verified by a doctor, for which wearing a face covering is not advisable.*) We hope you will join us again so that you may experience Jesus.

AS WE GATHER

Before coming to faith, we were dead in trespasses and sins. But while we were dead and helpless, God made us alive! In the Epistle, Paul writes that God saved us “being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which He loved us.” But we have not simply been made physically well, like the Israelites in the Old Testament Reading, but we have been given eternal life. The central reason is that “by grace you have been saved through faith.” We are His workmanship and in the light of Christ, it is obvious that the credit for whatever works we do must go to our gracious God. We are together with Christ and already, as it were, “with Him in the heavenly places.” Now that’s really living!

IMAGE ON THE COVER

The LORD said to Moses, “Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live.” *Numbers 21:8*

PRELUDE

Please use this time to prayerfully prepare your hearts to enter into the presence of Jesus.

✠ A SERVICE OF WORSHIP AND PRAISE ✠

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRESERVICE - "My Savior, My God"

1 I am not skilled to understand
What God has willed, what God has planned
I only know at His right hand
Stands One who is my Savior

2 I take Him at His word and deed
Christ died to save me, this I read
And in my heart I find a need
For Him to be my Savior

3, 7 That He would leave His place on high
And come for sinful man to die
You count it strange, so once did I
Before I knew my Savior

4, 5, 8, 9 My Savior loves, my Savior lives
My Savior's always there for me
My God He was, my God He is
My God He's always gonna be

6 Yes, living, dying let me bring
My strength, my solace from this spring
That He who lives to be my King
Once died to be my Savior

(By Aaron Shust ©2006 Word Entertainment LLC, A Warner/Curb Company CCLI #288089)

Stand

The sign of the cross ✠ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

P Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone,

C he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

P But God, . . . even when we were dead in our trespasses,

C made us alive together with Christ.

P For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son,

C that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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 Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you 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.

Lord Jesus, while we were still dead in sin, You came as one of us to die for us and bring us to eternal life.

C Give us strength of faith to look up to You each day of our sojourn until we see You face-to-face in eternity;

P for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

APOSTLES' CREED

P God has made us His people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.**

Sit

OPENING SONG - "You Gave"

1, 3 Lord, I want to be pleasing to you
In everything I do
And I want to love you more
More than yesterday
More than words can say

2, 5 'Cause you gave your life
You lived and died for me, for me
You paid the price
You sacrificed for me, for me
Now the least that I can do
Is live my life for you

4 'Cause you gave your life
You lived and died for me, for me
You paid the price
You sacrificed for me, for me

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Numbers 21:4-9

(Israelites who look up to the bronze serpent live.)

⁴From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. ⁵And 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 loathe this worthless food." ⁶Then the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. ⁷And the people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and against you. Pray to the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live." ⁹So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 107: 1-9; antiphon: v. 19

L ¹⁹Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble,
C **and he delivered them from their distress.**

L ¹Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
C **for his steadfast love endures forever!**

L ²Let the redeemed of the LORD say so,
C **whom he has redeemed from trouble**

L ³and gathered in from the lands,
C **from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.**

L ⁴Some wandered in desert wastes,
C finding no way to a city to dwell in;

L ⁵hungry and thirsty,
C their soul fainted within them.

L ⁶Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,
C and he delivered them from their distress.

L ⁷He led them by a straight way
C till they reached a city to dwell in.

L ⁸Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love,
C for his wondrous works to the children of men!

L ⁹For he satisfies the longing soul,
C and the hungry soul he fills with good things.

C Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

L ¹⁹Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble,
C and he delivered them from their distress.

EPISTLE

Ephesians 2:1-10

(We are saved by grace.)

¹And you were dead in the trespasses and sins ²in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— ³among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. ⁴But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, ⁵even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— ⁶and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹not a result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

VERSE

John 3:16

P For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son,

C **that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.**

HOLY GOSPEL

John 3:14-21

(All who look up to Jesus on the cross will be saved.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the third chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord**

¹⁴[Jesus said:] “As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. ²¹But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his deeds have been carried out in God.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ**

Sit

LAMB'S MESSAGE

SERMON

OFFERING

There are several ways to give.

1. **Offering plates** are available in the narthex as you exit.
2. Please **send** your offerings to
St. Luke's Lutheran Church
4801 Anderson Avenue
Manhattan, KS 66503
3. Give through our **website**:
<https://stlukesmanhattan.org/about-us/financial-support/>
4. **Electronic Funds Transfer** - Sign up through the church office.

STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE: Mark 1:7 – “And (John) preached, saying, ‘After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie.’ ” John is right. Jesus is immensely greater than any of us yet behold how He came to serve! That is the upside down, outlandish grace of God. The innocent Jesus takes our sinner's place. This is the greatest act of giving the world has ever known or will know. The Father gives His Son to die in the place of sinners.

POST-SERMON SONG - "I Stand in Awe" Romans 11:33

1, 3 You are beautiful beyond description
Too marvelous for words
Too wonderful for comprehension
Like nothing ever seen or heard
Who can grasp Your infinite wisdom?
Who can fathom the depth of Your love?
You are beautiful beyond description
Majesty enthroned above

2, 4, 5 And I stand, I stand in awe of You
I stand, I stand in awe of You
Holy God to whom all praise is due
I stand in awe of You
I stand in awe of You

(Mark Altrogge ©1988, arr. ©1997 People of Destiny Music/Pleasant Hill Music (admin. by Word Music) CCLI #288089)

Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray for the Church here and around the world and for all people in their various circumstances.

When the Israelites became impatient, they spoke against God and against Moses. Let us pray for all who are in positions of authority in our nation and others, that God would give them wisdom to seek ways to meet the needs of their citizens, providing for equal justice and stability for everyone within their borders. And let us pray for police and armed forces, that God would protect them as they maintain security and peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Many people follow the course of this world carrying out their desires, by nature children of wrath. Let us pray for people who influence our culture and society but without faith in our Savior, that God would open their eyes to look up to Christ on the cross, working faith in their hearts, and making them alive together with Christ. And let us pray for lay and clergy leaders of the Church here and around the world, that God would give them strength and opportunity to spread the Gospel with joy. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P When the Israelites were in the wilderness without food and water, God provided manna. Let us pray for all who lack adequate food, clothing, and shelter, that He would provide opportunities for individuals and organizations to channel the resources He provides to where they are most needed. And let us pray that all who manage God's bounty, serving Him so that it moves from mine to tool, from farm to table, from warehouse to storefront, and from street to home. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P The psalmist remembered that when "they cried to the LORD in their trouble, . . . He delivered them from their distress." Let us pray for all who are troubled in body, mind, or spirit, both those near and dear to us, [*especially* . . .], and those known only to God, that He would bring about healing, relief, comfort, and peace as fits His gracious plans for them. And let us pray for ourselves and all who care for the sick and dying, that we serve our gracious God using the gifts He provides. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Into Your hands, heavenly Father, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, in whose name we pray.

C **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **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.

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor
and ✠ give you peace.

C **Amen.**

Acknowledgments

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Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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