

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 27, 2022

GATHERING SONG *Amazing Grace*

UMH #378

**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.**

**Tw'as grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.**

**Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come;
'tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.**

**The Lord has promised good to me, his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be, as long as life endures.**

**Yea, when this flesh and heart shall fail, and mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess, within the veil, a life of joy and peace.**

**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.**

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Like a loving Father, God offers us freedom to choose our own path.

P: In God's freedom, we are a new creation.

L: Like a merciful Mother, God offers us compassion when we lose our way.

P: In God's mercy, we are a new creation.

L: Like a forgiving Parent, God welcomes us home with open arms.

P: In God's embrace, we are a new creation.

L: Come, let us worship the One who makes all things new.

HYMN *For the Fruits of this Creation*

UMH #97

**For the fruits of this creation, thanks be to God;
For good gifts to every nation, thanks be to God;
For the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping,
Future needs in earth's safekeeping, thanks be to God.**

**In the just reward of labor, God's will is done;
In the help we give our neighbor, God's will is done;
In our worldwide task of caring for the hungry and despairing,
In the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.**

**For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God;
For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God;
For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us,
Most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.**

OPENING PRAYER (spoken in unison)

Merciful God, You seek the lost sheep of Your pasture; You call out to all who have strayed. As the father welcomed home the prodigal son, receive us back into Your loving arms. Your steadfast love knows no bounds. Your loving embrace is always there for us. Be with us in our time of worship, that we may feel Your presence and know that You are our true home. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (spoken in unison)

Teach our shut-up hearts to embrace Your hope. Teach our shrivel souls to cry out to You. For we long to taste the glory of Your heavenly banquet, and we yearn to be held in Your arms as beloved children. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

L: Hold fast to these words of assurance: If anyone is in Christ, they are a new creation; everything old has passed away! In Christ, we are reconciled indeed, for we have found our true home.

P: Amen.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (spoken in unison)

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. Amen

OFFERING & DOXOLOGY

UMH #95

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen**

OFFERING PRAYER

HYMN *Christ for the World We Sing*

UMH #568

**Christ for the world we sing, the world to Christ we bring, with loving zeal;
the poor, and them that mourn, the faint and overborne,
sin-sick and sorrow-worn, whom Christ doth heal.**

**Christ for the world we sing, the world to Christ we bring, with fervent prayer;
the wayward and the lost, by restless passions tossed,
redeemed at countless cost, from dark despair.**

**Christ for the world we sing, the world to Christ we bring, with one accord;
with us the work to share, with us reproach to dare,
with us the cross to bear, for Christ our Lord.**

**Christ for the world we sing, the world to Christ we bring, with joyful song;
the newborn souls, whose days, reclaimed from error's ways,
inspired with hope and praise, to Christ belong.**

HEBREW BIBLE LESSON

Joshua 5: 9-12

⁹The LORD said to Joshua, “Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt.” And so that place is called Gilgal to this day. ¹⁰While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. ¹¹On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. ¹²The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

L: The Word of the Lord. P: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

“The Promise Fulfilled”

Rev. Richard Baker

HYMN *The King of Love My Shepherd Is*

UMH #138

**The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never.
I nothing lack if I am his, and he is mine forever.**

**Where streams of living water flow, my ransomed soul he leadeth;
And where the verdant pastures grow, with food celestial feedeth.**

**Perverse and foolish, oft I strayed, but yet in love he sought me;
And on his shoulder gently laid, and home, rejoicing, brought me.**

**In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear Lord, beside me;
Thy rod and staff my comfort still, thy cross before to guide me.**

**Thou spreadst a table in my sight; thy unction grace bestoweth;
And oh, what transport of delight from thy pure chalice floweth!**

**And so through all the length of days, thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house forever.**

BENEDICTION

L: May the God of hope fill you with all joy as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

P: Amen.

SENDING SONG *On Eagle's Wings*

UMH #143

**And God will raise you up on eagles' wings
Bear you on the breath of dawn
Make you to shine like the sun
And hold you in the palm of God's hand**

