

CONCORDIA'S PURPOSE

“To Make the Love of Jesus R.E.A.L. in the Lives of All People”

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 14, 2010
8:15 and 10:45 a.m.



AS WE GATHER

What a wondrous God we have, and what great joy the Godly have in the forgiveness of the Lord! In Psalm 32, the wicked are compared to the mule and horse that can only be moved with a bridle in their mouths; many sorrows will come to the wicked. Not so for the Christian. We have a hiding place in God who will preserve us from trouble. His great mercy and forgiveness surround us. As Christians, we have every confidence in this mighty God who not only forgives our sins, but will take us to be with Him forever. We will not face the time of eternal trouble that will come upon the ungodly.

(Prepared by Jim Gann)

(↑ means stand, ↓ means be seated)

PRELUDE

↓ CALL TO WORSHIP

↑ RINGING OF THE BELLS

↑ INVOCATION

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

C: Amen.

L: The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

**C: Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear;
though war arise against me, yet I will be confident.**

L: One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after;
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in his temple.

**C: For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high upon a rock.**

**ALL: 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: The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

↑ OPENING HYMN

#424

“O Christ, You Walked the Road”

↓ HYMN #606 *“I Lay My Sins on Jesus”*

↑ CONFESSIOIN AND FORGIVENESS

L: Psalmist King David knew his strengths and weaknesses. More importantly, he understood the complete forgiveness our gracious God offers. Let us use Psalm 32 as we confess our sins.

Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.

**C: Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity,
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.**

L: For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away
through my groaning all day long.

**C: For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me;
my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.**

L: I acknowledged my sin to You,
and I did not cover my iniquity;

**C: I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,"
and You forgave the iniquity of my sin. *Psalm 32:1-5***

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

L: Our gracious heavenly Father,

C: we confess that we have failed to admit that we have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and deeds.

We have denied our faults to You, to our neighbors, and even to ourselves.

We have wandered away from Your will and rule; we have taken Your blessings for granted. For Jesus' sake forgive us, renew in us a desire to please You, and restore us to the path You would have us take in our life's journey.

L: Because our Savior paid for all our sins with His passion and death, and because our Father in heaven accepted His sacrifice and raised Him on the third day, all who return and call out in Jesus' name receive grace and mercy.

May he who began this good work within you bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of the Lord be with you.

C: Amen.

L: Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to You at a time when You may be found;

C: surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not reach Him.

L: You are a hiding place for me;
You preserve me from trouble;

C: You surround me with shouts of deliverance.

L: I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go;
I will counsel you with My eye upon you.

C: Be not like a horse or a mule, without understanding, which must be curbed with bit and bridle, or it will not stay near you.

L: Many are the sorrows of the wicked,

C: but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the LORD.

**All: Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O righteous,
and shout for joy, all you upright in heart! *Psalm 32:6-11***

↓ **HYMN** #739 “*Precious Lord, Take My hand*”

↓ **OLD TESTAMENT READING** Isaiah 12:1-6
(*The Lord has become my salvation.*)

R: The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah, chapter twelve.
(After the reading. . .)

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

↓ **PSALM** Psalm 32

R: You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

**C: I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go;
I will counsel you with my eye upon you.**

R: Be not like a horse or a mule, without understanding,
which must be curbed with bit and bridle, or it will not stay
near you.

**C: Many are the sorrows of the wicked,
but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the
Lord.**

R: Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, O righteous,
and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!

**All: 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.**

↓ EPISTLE READING 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

(The old has passed away; the new has come.)

R: The Epistle Reading is from 2 Corinthians, chapter five.

(After the reading. . .)

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

↑ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

(HS98, p. 8)

↑ HOLY GOSPEL Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

(The parable of the prodigal son.)

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fifteenth chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

(The Gospel is read.)

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

↑APOSTLE'S CREED

All: 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 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.

↓CHILDREN'S TALK

↓SERMON HYMN #434 *“Lamb of God, Pure and Holy”*

↓SERMON Mr. Joel Fridgen
Title: *“Lost and Found”*

↓ **TITHES, PLEDGES, AND OFFERINGS**

"Making the Love of Jesus R.E.A.L."

↑ **OFFERTORY**

(Create in me...)

PRAYER TIME

- Silence for personal prayers
- Praises and Petitions

↑ PRAYER OF THE CHURCH [1 Timothy 2:1-4]

L: Let us pray to our Father in heaven for all who call out to Him in Christ's name and for all people according to their needs.

For those who have strayed from the truth and all who are unaware of the complete forgiveness won for them by the sacrifice of Christ for the sins of the whole world, we pray to the Lord. Through Your Word and Spirit, bring them to repentance and to see You as their loving Father, ready to welcome them. Grant to the Body of Christ, the Church, faithful and bold pastors and lay leaders to be His hands and feet to proclaim that Gospel good news here and around the world. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: For those near and dear to us who call out to our heavenly Father in their various needs, [including...], let us pray to the Lord. With Your loving presence, O Holy Spirit, provide them healing and comfort, strength and patience, support and hope until Your gracious plans bring them to days of joy opening before them. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Into Your open, welcoming 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.

C: Amen.

↑THE LORD'S PRAYER

L: O Lord, hear all our prayers in the words you taught us:

All: 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

L: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless you and keep you, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

↑CLOSING HYMN #743

“Jesus, Priceless Treasure”

↓ANNOUNCEMENTS

VERSE OF THE MONTH

“Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. But now he has reconciled you by Christ’s physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation.”

(Colossians 1:21, 22)

↑MISSION HYMN

**Lift high the Cross, the Love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore His sacred name.**

POSTLUDE
