



# Advent

## Lutheran Church

Fourth Sunday in Lent  
Sunday, March 14, 2021

### GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

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#### PRELUDE

##### **Abide With Me**

*arr. Cathy Moglebust*

Resound!

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### HYMN

#### The Word of God Is Source and Seed



1 The Word of God is source and seed; it comes to  
2 The Word of God is breath and life; it comes to  
3 The Word of God is flesh and grace, who comes to



die and sprout and grow. So make your dark earth  
heal and wake and save. So let the Spir - it  
sing, to laugh and cry. So dare to be as



wel - come warm; root deep the grain God bent to sow.  
touch and mend and rouse your dry bones from their grave.  
Je - sus was, who came to live and love and die.

*Refrain*

Gau-de - a - mus Do - mi - no, gau - de - a - mus Do - mi - no,  
 In the Lord let us re - joice, in the Lord let us re - joice,

gau - de - a - mus Do in the Lord let us mi - no!  
 in the Lord let us re - joice!

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939  
 Music: GAUDEAMUS DOMINO, David Hurd, b. 1950  
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## GREETING

*The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.*

**And also with you.**

## KYRIE

*Leader*

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

*Assembly*

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have

For the reign of God, and for

mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peace through - out the world, for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the

Lord. For your

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peo - ple here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your

word, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have

Help, save, and de - fend us, O God.

mer - cy. A - men.

Text: *Lutheran Book of Worship*, adapt. Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: *Now the Feast and Celebration*, Marty Haugen

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## PRAYER OF THE DAY

*O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

**Amen.**

# WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

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## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### READING – Numbers 21:4 – 19

A reading from the Book of Numbers.

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. 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 detest this miserable food." Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

Word of God. Word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

### Return to the Lord

Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,  
slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

### HOLY GOSPEL – John 3:14 - 21

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

The gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON – Pastor Elizabeth Felt**

**HYMN Christ, Be Our Light**



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for  
 2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for  
 3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for  
 4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for  
 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,  
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone  
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,  
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,  
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.  
 has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.  
 bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.  
 shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.  
 to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.



*Refrain*  
 Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the

dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your  
church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957  
 Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell  
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**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*God in your mercy,  
 Hear our prayer*

**PASSING OF THE PEACE**

*The peace of Christ be with you always.  
 And also with you.*

**Thanksgiving**

*The Holy Spirit inspires us to give thanks for God's saving word and all the gifts of God.*

**OFFERING**

**ANTHEM**

**God So Loved You**

*by Catherine M. Wilson  
 Community Choir*

**OFFERTORY**

**Create in Me a Clean Heart**

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
 spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your

pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me.

Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me

with your free Spir - it. Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God,

and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.

Music: *Liturgy of Joy*, James M. Capers, b. 1948  
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## THANKSGIVING OF THE WORD

*Gracious God, who has named and claimed us,  
 calling us your beloved children,  
 you know the secrets of our hearts.  
 When we sin and stray from your paths,  
 you astound us with your saving grace.  
 For this Word of life,  
 we give you thanks.*

*Loving Jesus, living Word,  
 in you the kingdom of God has come near;  
 through you all that was lost has been found.  
 Help us to boldly follow wherever you may lead,  
 trusting your promise that we need not fear,  
 for you are with us.  
 For this Word of life,  
 we give you thanks.*

*Holy Spirit, the mystery in which we dwell,  
 into our scarcity, your abundance flows.  
 Enliven all communities with your good news.  
 Guide us to love and serve Jesus,  
 giving ourselves away for the sake of the world.  
 For this Word of life,  
 we give you thanks.*

All glory to you, holy God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.

## SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

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### BENEDICTION

#### HYMN

#### Son of God, Eternal Savior



- 1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,
- 2 As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, so may we for oth - ers live.
- 3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, King of love and Prince of peace;
- 4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,



Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race,  
Free - ly have your gifts been grant-ed; free - ly may your ser - vants give.  
hush the storm of strife and pas - sion, bid its cru - el dis - cords cease.  
Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race:



you our head, who, throned in glo - ry, for your own will ev - er plead:  
Yours the gold and yours the sil - ver, yours the wealth of land and sea;  
By your pa - tient years of toil - ing, by your si - lent hours of pain,  
by your pray - ing, by your will - ing that your peo - ple should be one,



fill us with your love and pit - y, heal our wrong, and help our need.  
we but stew - ards of your boun - ty held in sol - emn trust will be.  
quench our fe - vered thirst of plea - sure, stem our self - ish greed of gain.  
grant, oh, grant our hope's fru - i - tion: here on earth your will be done.

Text: Somerset C. Lowry, 1855–1932

Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710

## **DISMISSAL**

*Go in peace. Share the good news.*

**Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**

### ***Storm Chasers***

*by Kevin Olson*

Seth Anderson - Piano