

March 9, 2022

Christ Lutheran Church

Experiencing Christ's Love

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Pastor: Pastor Mark Zier Administrative Assistant: Mrs. Cherry Kunert

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Welcome

Pastor: We gather in the name of the father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen!

P: During this season of Lent, we are hitting the pause button on our ordinary activities with a clear purpose. We have heard Jesus' call to believe and responded by the work of the Holy Spirit, but as we reflect on His command to come follow Him, we realize that too often we have gone our own way. The time is now for our repentance. Thankfully because of Christ's death and resurrection, we can be reconciled to God, our Father. By His Word applied by the Holy Spirit, we are renewed to follow Jesus; equipped and empowered to join Him in His mission to the people of our world. So, we begin our time of worship today by confessing our sins and being reminded of God's great love for us in Christ.

Let us pray:

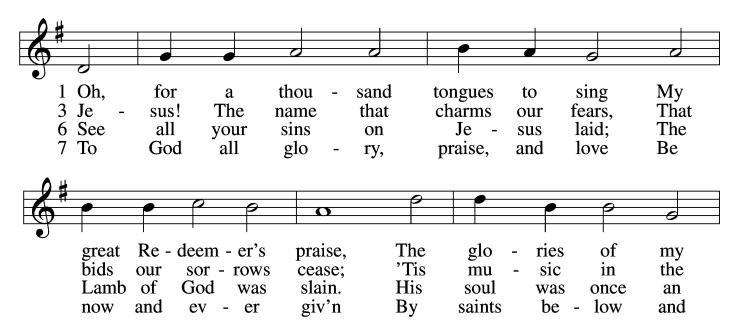
C: Father in heaven, you have promised that if we confess our sins, you are faithful and just to forgive us and to cleanse us from all our unrighteousness. We are guilty of more than we even realize and confess that we have sinned against you, and against one another. We have walked in darkness far too long. We have gone our own way rather than following Jesus. We need the light of your Spirit to lead us. Father, thank you for hearing our prayer and answering with mercy and forgiveness. For the sake of Christ, we pray. Amen.

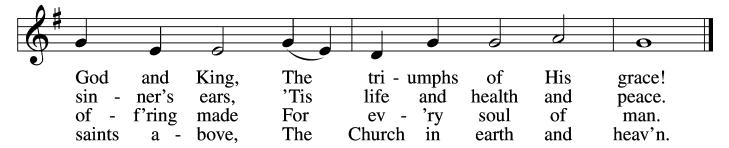
P: Brothers and sisters, God's mercy is from everlasting to everlasting. Believe the good news we have in Jesus Christ: our sins are forgiven, and by Him we are made into new people. Thanks be to God!

C: Amen.

528 Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

sts. 1, 3, 6–7





Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, alt. Tune: Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829 Text and tune: Public domain

Scripture Readings: Colossians 1:15-20

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

HOMILY: "WHAT IS THE MISSION OF GOD?"

Prayer

P: Let us pray,

C: God of Eternal Love, we have made our commitment to you, and have started a new journey into purposeful growth. But, we know that if we are to remain faithful we need your help and your strength each day.

So, we ask that you would...

Teach us to pray with faith and read your word with understanding.

Teach us to worship with passion and gather together with love.

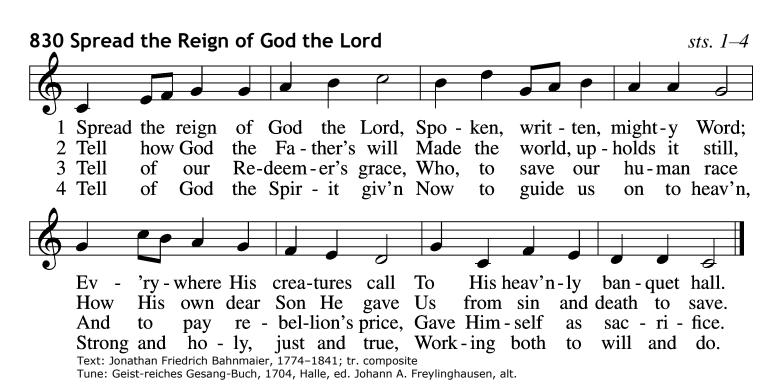
And Lord, we ask that you would also...

Teach us to know that we have our being in you, to forgive just as we have been forgiven, to serve humbly and compassionately, to give generously with our resources

and use our time mindfully, and may we go in your name joyfully, reflecting your goodness so that others will discover your grace through our lives and example. In Jesus' name and for his sake we pray. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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



Blessing

P: May you seek the Kingdom of God with all your heart, hear Jesus' call to follow and serve, share His message of hope in conversation with people you know, do good for those in need as God's workmanship created in Christ, and minister to others in prayer as you follow Jesus each day. To God be all glory, honor and praise, now and forever. Amen.

C: Thanks be to God!