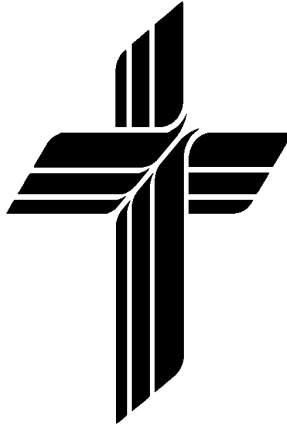


FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

La Crosse, Wisconsin
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 14th, 2021



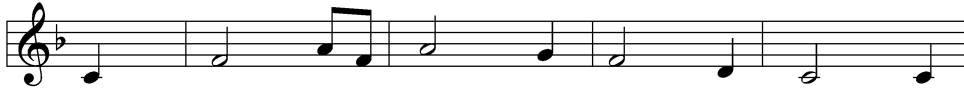
Our purpose: Faith Lutheran Church exists to share with all, God's love through Christ and His promise of salvation!

As We Gather... Ephesians 2 is a wonderful Bible passage. Paul writes that you were dead in the trespasses that you walked. He calls us the walking dead! Many consider "The Walking Dead" and think of zombies or other horrifying things. However, one need look no further than outside your window and in the news to see "the walking dead." Many people are alive physically but dead spiritually. The good news in Christ Jesus is that even while we were dead, God has called us to life in Christ, not because of anything we have done but because of Jesus our Savior who has called us from death to life through the washing of the water and through the preaching of the Word.

Pastor Jacob Eichers
608-782-3696 (Office)
414-659-8379 (Cell)
www.faithonmain.com
pastor@faithonmain.com

744 Amazing Grace

sts. 1-5



1 A - maz - ing grace— how sweet the sound— That
 2 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, His
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
 4 Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail And
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, Bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but
 Word my hope se - cures; He will my shield and
 have al - read - y come; His grace has brought me
 mor - tal life shall cease, A - maz - ing grace shall
 shin - ing as the sun, We've no less days to



now am found, Was blind but now I see!
 por - tion be As long as life en - dures.
 safe thus far, His grace will lead me home.
 then pre - vail In heav - en's joy and peace.
 sing God's praise Than when we'd first be - gun.

Tune and text: Public domain

Litany

- L** O Lord,
- C** have mercy.
- L** O Christ,
- C** have mercy.
- L** O Lord,
- C** have mercy.
- L** O Christ,
- C** hear us.
- L** God the Father in heaven,
- C** have mercy.
- L** God the Son, Redeemer of the world,
- C** have mercy.
- L** God the Holy Spirit,
- C** have mercy.
- L** Be gracious to us.
- C** Spare us, good Lord.

L Be gracious to us.

C **Help us, good Lord.**

L From all sin, from all error, from all evil;
From the crafts and assaults of the devil; from sudden and evil death;
From pestilence and famine; from war and bloodshed; from sedition and from rebellion;
From lightning and tempest; from all calamity by fire and water; and from everlasting death:

C **Good Lord, deliver us.**

L By the mystery of Your holy incarnation; by Your holy nativity;
By Your baptism, fasting, and temptation; by Your agony and bloody sweat; by Your cross and passion; by Your precious death and burial;
By Your glorious resurrection and ascension; and by the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter:

C **Help us, good Lord.**

L In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death; and in the day of judgment:

C **Help us, good Lord.**

L We poor sinners implore You

C **to hear us, O Lord.**

L To rule and govern Your holy Christian Church; to preserve all pastors and ministers of Your Church in the true knowledge and understanding of Your wholesome Word and to sustain them in holy living;
To put an end to all schisms and causes of offense; to bring into the way of truth all who have erred and are deceived;
To beat down Satan under our feet; to send faithful laborers into Your harvest; and to accompany Your Word with Your grace and Spirit:

C **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

L To raise those who fall and to strengthen those who stand; and to comfort and help the weakhearted and the distressed:

C **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

L To give to all peoples concord and peace; to preserve our land from discord and strife; to give our country Your protection in every time of need;
To direct and defend our [president/queen/king] and all in authority; to bless and protect our magistrates and all our people;
To watch over and help all who are in danger, necessity, and tribulation; to protect and guide all who travel;

To grant all women with child, and all mothers with infant children, increasing happiness in their blessings; to defend all orphans and widows and provide for them;

To strengthen and keep all sick persons and young children; to free those in bondage; and to have mercy on us all:

C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

L To forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers and to turn their hearts; to give and preserve for our use the kindly fruits of the earth; and graciously to hear our prayers:

C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

L Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,

C we implore You to hear us.

L Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C have mercy.

L Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C have mercy.

L Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

C grant us Your peace.

L O Christ,

C hear us.

L O Lord,

C have mercy.

L O Christ,

C have mercy.

L O Lord,

C have mercy. Amen.

566 By Grace I'm Saved

sts. 1-3



1 By grace I'm saved, grace free and bound-less; My soul, be-lieve and
2 By grace! None dare lay claim to mer - it; Our works and con - duct
3 By grace God's Son, our on - ly Sav - ior, Came down to earth to



doubt it not. Why stag - ger at this word of prom - ise?
have no worth. God in His love sent our Re - deem - er,
bear our sin. Was it be - cause of your own mer - it



Has Scrip - ture ev - er false - hood taught? No! Then this word must
Christ Je - sus, to this sin - ful earth; His death did for our
That Je - sus died your soul to win? No, it was grace, and



true re - main: By grace you too will life ob - tain.
sins a - tone, And we are saved by grace a - lone.
grace a - lone, That brought Him from His heav'n - ly throne.

Tune and text: Public domain

Opening Versicles

- L** Holy God, holy and most gracious Father,
- C** have mercy and hear us.

Lord's Prayer

- 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.

Apostles' Creed

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.

Introit

Psalm 27:3–5; antiphon: v. 1

P 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.

P 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.

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.

P 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?

Old Testament Reading

Numbers 21:4–9

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 O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading

Ephesians 2:1–10

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 O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

John 3:14–21

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.”

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

566 By Grace I'm Saved

sts. 4–6



4 By grace! This ground of faith is cer - tain; As long as God is
 5 By grace to tim - id hearts that trem - ble, In trib - u - la - tion's
 6 By grace! On this I'll rest when dy - ing; In Je - sus' prom - ise



true, it stands. What saints have penned by in - spi - ra - tion,
 fur - nace tried, By grace, in spite of fear and trou - ble,
 I re - joice; For though I know my heart's con - di - tion,



What in His Word our God com - mands, Our faith in what our
 The Fa - ther's heart is o - pen wide. Where could I help and
 I al - so know my Sav - ior's voice. My heart is glad, all



God has done De - pends on grace— grace through His Son.
 strength se - cure If grace were not my an - chor sure?
 grief has flown Since I am saved by grace a - lone.

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Sermon

Morning

LSB 283

L I cry to You, O Lord;

C in the morning my prayer comes before You.

L Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,

C and uphold me with a willing spirit.

L My mouth is filled with Your praise,

C and with Your glory all the day.

L Every day I will bless You

C and praise Your name forever and ever.

L By awesome deeds You answer us with righteousness,

C O God of our salvation, the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas.

L Bless the Lord, O my soul;

C and all that is within me, bless His holy name!

L He redeems your life from the pit

C and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy.

L Hear my prayer, O Lord;

C let my cry come to You.

Prayer of the Church

Collect of the Day

L Let us pray.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Prayer

Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Morning

C I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me.

Benedicamus

LSB 284

- L** Let us bless the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Blessing

- L** The Lord bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.
- C** Amen.

573 Lord, 'Tis Not That I Did Choose Thee



1 Lord, 'tis not that I did choose Thee; That, I know, could
2 It was grace in Christ that called me, Taught my dark - ened
△ 3 Praise the God of all cre - a - tion; Praise the Fa - ther's



nev - er be; For this heart would still re - fuse Thee Had Thy
heart and mind; Else the world had yet en - thrall'd me, To Thy
bound - less love. Praise the Lamb, our ex - pi - a - tion, Priest and



grace not cho - sen me. Thou hast from the sin that stained me
heav'n - ly glo - ries blind. Now I wor - ship none a - bove Thee;
King en - throned a - bove. Praise the Spir - it of sal - va - tion,



Washed and cleansed and set me free And un - to this
For Thy grace a - lone I thirst, Know - ing well that,
Him by whom our spir - its live. Un - di - vid - ed



end or - dained me, That I ev - er live to Thee.
if I love Thee, Thou, O Lord, didst love me first.
ad - o - ra - tion To the great Je - ho - vah give.

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Text: Ephesians 2:1–10
Title: From Death to Life

BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH, GOD HAS TAKEN US FROM _____ TO LIFE.

I. Apart from God, we are the walking _____ (v. 1–3).

Like _____, fallen humanity might appear to be alive, but it has no actual life.

II. By grace through faith, _____ has made us alive in Christ (v. 4–9).

In this act of the one truly _____ one dying, Jesus took on the sins of the world.

III. Alive in Christ, we now walk in _____ _____ (v. 10).

Dear Christian friend, we have been _____ by God to be a blessing to others.