



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS)
Central Illinois District (CID)

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(Announcements & Calendars can be found @ our Web Site:
www.trinitylutherantaylorville.org)

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Vacancy Pastor: Rev. Rodney Blomquist *Emeritus* (217) 824-4705
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Worship:

- Saturday: 6:15 p.m.
- Sunday: 9:15 a.m.
- Sunday School: 10:30 a.m. *(Located in the church basement)*
- Sunday Morning Fellowship: 10:30 a.m.
- Adult Bible Class: 10:45 a.m.

Office Hours:

- Monday: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.;
- Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.; *(12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. – Lunch)*
- Friday, 9 a.m. – Noon

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From the Pastor

Grace, mercy and peace to you all from God our Father through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

I pray that you all are well and safe. With the COVID vaccine now being administered, our attendance is increase. If you are uncomfortable about the increase in numbers attending, consider signing up for the 10:30 Sunday morning Divine Service. Saturday night and Wednesday evening silent Divine Services are available. Until you are able to gather with us, God keep you in the one true faith till life everlasting.

I am including activities and learning suggestions for you and your children of all ages. I hope this will deepen your appreciation and understand of the Divine Service.

For younger children

*Word Search: **Love***

[Underline or highlight this word or phrase throughout the Divine Service]

A Sunday School lesson can be found at our website: www.trinitylutherantaylorville.org

5th graders and older: Mark the service with directional arrows [↗] as to show what direction the interaction between God, us and with each other is taking place. Use these symbols to indicate our posture during the service [| - standing in respect; ⊔ - kneeling to receive a blessing or show respect; ⊞ - humbly sitting to receive from the Lord].

The coloring page can be saved in Paint 3D for your children and you to color on the computer screen.

Also, have those who can read, answer the questions found throughout the Divine Service. They can highlight or underline the answers usually found above the questions.

For older children especially those who are in or have in the past studied Luther's Small Catechism

Where is this found in the Luther's Small Catechism? Put *LSC* in the margin and the section [*Ten Commandments, Creed, Lord's Prayer, Baptism, Office of the Keys, or the Lord's Supper*] of the catechism where this teaching can be found. [*ex: LSC-Baptism*]

A Bible Study on one of the lessons can be found at our website:

www.trinitylutherantaylorville.org

Adults/parents

You may find this helpful to do the above also, even the drawing and coloring.

For the youngest of your children, draw a cross or a picture, if your talent so allows, anywhere in the Divine Service and let your little ones color them.

Another exercise you can do is to journal your thoughts on the Word and the following service. Each day read through a section and journal your thoughts and/or insights you may have. If you know to insert and use "Text Box" that is a good way to do it. You may also go to "References" and use "Foot Note" to record your thoughts or insight.

Registering for afterschool Catechizing Classes

With public schools going to remote learning and Vision Way still offering full day classes, the afterschool catechizing classes are going to take on a new look. Remote learning without video capabilities will be offered for those who register for remote learning. Small group sessions can be arranged pending the students' schedule. Once you know their schedules let me know.

Contact the church office to register or if you have any questions.

God bless, keep and increase your faith in Christ as you now read, mark and inwardly digest His Word.

Pass This On

From the office of the Central Illinois District LCMS

Lent 4

Does God love and provide salvation for everyone? It's common to think that there are some people who God certainly does not love. For example, someone who commits a horrific crime or is responsible for terrible atrocities – think the worst serial killer, or the most brutal genocidal ruler – is thought surely to be outside of the love and salvation of God.

This Sunday at church we'll hear from the Bible about just how wonderfully broad and deep God's love and salvation are. John's Gospel states, "For God so loved the world..." There's no getting around this crystal clear statement. If a person is in the world, then the love of God encompasses him. The good news heard here is that every person is in the world, and therefore every person is loved by God.

Because every person is loved by God, then what God does in His love is for every person, too. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son..." The death of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is a saving death for every man and woman who will ever live.

There's one more thing to consider, though. Christ's death on the cross accomplishes salvation for the world. Yet how is this gracious gift of God received, personally?

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him

should not perish but have eternal life." God loves the world and saves everyone in Jesus. This salvation is received by each man, woman, and child through faith.

In other words, it's not what you do that causes God to love and save you. Instead, you are saved by believing that the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ are accomplished for you personally. God had you in mind when He gave His Son, and has you in mind when He says that this gift is for you.

WORSHIP FOLDER
FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT
Look Out! Look Up to Jesus
March 13 & 14, 2021

As We Gather

Look out! There were snakes biting the Israelites, sent by God as punishment for complaining about the manna, that miraculous food He gave on the way to the Promised Land. But look up! See the bronze serpent Moses put on a pole. Everyone who looked up at the serpent will live. The serpent was a type of Christ, a parallel symbol in the Bible. We, too, have snakes—our discontent with God's daily blessings and lack of faith in His promises. But as we look up in faith to Jesus, the Christ on the cross, we shall be saved. That faith is a gift of God in His grace. Jesus is the center of the gracious Good News. We are God's workmanship, and now He holds the door open as we walk through, looking up to Jesus.



Order of Divine Service *LSB 151*

Opening Sentences Numbers 21:9; Ephesians 2:4–5; John 3:16

- P Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone,
C **he would look at the bronze serpent and live.**
P But God, . . . even when we were dead in our trespasses,
C **made us alive together with Christ.**
P For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son,
C **that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.**

Opening Hymn "Lift High the Cross" *LSB 837*

- ref Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore His sacred name.
- 1 Come, Christians, follow where our Captain trod,
Our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. Refrain
- 2 Led on their way by this triumphant sign,
The hosts of God in conqu'ring ranks combine. Refrain
- 3 All newborn soldiers of the Crucified

Bear on their brows the seal of Him who died. Refrain

4 O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
As Thou hast promised, draw us all to Thee. Refrain

5 Let ev'ry race and ev'ry language tell
Of Him who saves our lives from death and hell. Refrain

6 So shall our song of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified for victory! Refrain

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

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

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C **Amen.**

What led God to forgive you all your sins?

Introit

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.**
**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.**
- C **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?**

*What is it about God that helps us when we are
afraid?*

Kyrie LSB 152

- A In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- C **Lord, have mercy.**
- A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- C **Lord, have mercy.**
- A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for
the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.
- C **Lord, have mercy.**
- A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to
the Lord.
- C **Lord, have mercy.**
- A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

- P 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.
- C **Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks
for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience;**
- P through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the
Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C **Amen.**

*What can we do for God for all that He has done for
us?*

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.

P This is the Word of the Lord. C **Thanks be to God.**

What saved the people who were bitten by the fiery serpents?

Psalm Psalm 107:1–9; antiphon: v. 19

P Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,
C **and He delivered them from their distress.**
P Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good,
C **for His steadfast love endures forever!**
P Let the redeemed of the LORD say so,
C **whom He has redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands,
from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.**
P Some wandered in desert wastes,
finding no way to a city to dwell in;
hungry and thirsty,
their soul fainted within them.
C **Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,
and He delivered them from their distress.**
P He led them by a straight way
till they reached a city to dwell in.
C **Let them thank the LORD for His steadfast love,
for His wondrous works to the children of men!**
P For He satisfies the longing soul,
and the hungry soul He fills with good things.
C **Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,
and He delivered them from their distress
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.**

What did the Lord do for those who cried out to Him in their troubles?

Epistle 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 This is the Word of the Lord. C **Thanks be to God.**

Why did God save us?

Alleluia and Verse (Lent) LSB 157

C **Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and abounding in steadfast love.**

Holy Gospel John 3:14–21

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the third chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

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.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord. C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

What happen to Jesus so that He could save us?

Highlight any word or phrases that describes the love God has for us all.

Hymn of the Day “God Loved the World So That He Gave” *LSB 571*

- 1 God loved the world so that He gave
His only Son the lost to save,
That all who would in Him believe
Should everlasting life receive.

- 2 Christ Jesus is the ground of faith,
Who was made flesh and suffered death;
All then who trust in Him alone
Are built on this chief cornerstone.

- 3 God would not have the sinner die;
His Son with saving grace is nigh;
His Spirit in the Word declares
How we in Christ are heaven’s heirs.

- 4 Be of good cheer, for God’s own Son
Forgives all sins which you have done;
And, justified by Jesus’ blood,
Your Baptism grants the highest good.

- 5 If you are sick, if death is near,
This truth your troubled heart can cheer:
Christ Jesus saves your soul from death;
That is the firmest ground of faith.

- 6 Glory to God the Father, Son,
And Holy Spirit, Three in One!
To You, O blessèd Trinity,
Be praise now and eternally!

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Sermon “*Turning Toward Christ*” *John 3:14–21*

Introduction:

Why is the person who believes in Jesus Christ saved? It is because Jesus was the one lifted up for us and is our light.

I. The One Lifted Up

He is the one placed on the cross with nails. He is the one hoisted up for all to see. He is the one who would suffer the wrath of God for us all. He is the one who would die in our place and win for us the Father’s forgiveness and love.

It is hard to see in the crucifixion of Christ God's love and forgiveness for us. It is a horrible scene to lay one's eyes on. I don't know anyone who could stomach such a sight. I doubt that I could. Crucifixion was a public humiliation for anyone who suffered it. So, how could this save us?

Again, it was what Christ was doing on the cross and who is. He is the Son of God, God made flesh for us. He was almighty eternal God who bore flesh and blood for us. He humbled Himself to take on the form of a servant. He was the Son of Man and Son of God. He could and did accomplish what He promised to do for us. He came and saved us from the coming wrath of God.

Yet, it is not a pleasant picture that we look upon. Our God dies for us. So, why is it that we look upon Him for our salvation?

We do so because of the pain and deadliness of our sins. We see our sins revealed to us through the Law of God when we look upon His death. We see that we are dying. And we have no solution to our deadly situation.

But Christ calls us to look to Him. Turn to Him. Put your eyes on Him and live. In the depth of our sins we see a light. We have hope. The One lifted up for us gives us life, life eternal. His death gives us life. His resurrection secures it for us. This is why those who believe in Jesus and that He secured our salvation are saved.

II. The Light

So, why don't we flock to Him? It is because as we come close to Him we see our sins. The world doesn't want this. The wicked enjoy their sin and desire to stay in sin. So, as Christ comes close to them, they turn away from Him. They love the darkness. It is hard to imagine living in sin with all its pain, sting and death. But that is the way of the world.

You and I as Christians struggle with the light. We may hate our sin and be horrified by them. But guilt and shame urges us to turn away from the Light. We don't want Christ to see us this way. We know that we deserve condemnation from Him. We know that we should receive a good "Chewing-Out." We know that we deserve His anger and wrath.

Yet, Christ calls us to turn to Him. He declares there is no condemnation. He will not punish us or give a public tongue lashing. He has suffered that for us. He offers us forgiveness and mercy. He comes in love. It is the same love that moved the Father to send Him in the first place to be our Savior.

He calls us to come into the light. There in His grace He shows forth our deeds done in love and according to His Word. He comforts us that He will not remember our sin anymore but welcome us as His faithful servants and children of God. He will not embarrass us in the presence of others. He suffered that for us on the cross. He will not condemn us for He was

condemned for us.

Conclusion:

It is not our turning or our believing that has saved us. For these are gifts from God through Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit. It is the work of the Holy Spirit who creates faith in our hearts as we hear God's Words of promise. It is the work of the Holy Spirit who empowers us to believe and turn to Christ for the forgiveness of sin and salvation.

Yes, those in the wilderness bitten by fiery serpents did live when they looked at the bronze serpent lifted on a pole. And be assured that all who believe in Jesus Christ as their Savior will be saved.

T AMEN T

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 T everlasting. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

**P Let us pray for the Church here and around the world and for all people in their various circumstances.
When the Israelites became impatient, they spoke against God and against Moses.
Let us pray for all who are in positions of authority in our nation and others, that God would give them wisdom to seek ways to meet the needs of their citizens, providing for equal justice and stability for everyone within their borders. And let us pray for**

police and armed forces, that God would protect them as they maintain security and peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Many people follow the course of this world carrying out their desires, by nature children of wrath. Let us pray for people who influence our culture and society but without faith in our Savior, that God would open their eyes to look up to Christ on the cross, working faith in their hearts, and making them alive together with Christ. And let us pray for lay and clergy leaders of the Church here and around the world, that God would give them strength and opportunity to spread the Gospel with joy. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P When the Israelites were in the wilderness without food and water, God provided manna. Let us pray for all who lack adequate food, clothing, and shelter, that He would provide opportunities for individuals and organizations to channel the resources He provides to where they are most needed. And let us pray that all who manage God's bounty, serving Him so that it moves from mine to tool, from farm to table, from warehouse to storefront, and from street to home. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P The psalmist remembered that when "they cried to the Lord in their trouble, . . . He delivered them from their distress." Let us pray for all who are troubled in body, mind, or spirit, both those near and dear to us, [*especially . . .*], and those known only to God, that He would bring about healing, relief, comfort, and peace as fits His gracious plans for them. And let us pray for ourselves and all who care for the sick and dying, that we serve our gracious God using the gifts He provides. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Into Your 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, in whose name we pray.

C Amen.

Offertory *LSB 159*

**C What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?
I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.
I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.
I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,
in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.**

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.**

Hymns

“By Grace I’m Saved” *LSB 566*

- 1 By grace I’m saved, grace free and boundless;
 My soul, believe and doubt it not.
 Why stagger at this word of promise?
 Has Scripture ever falsehood taught?
 No! Then this word must true remain:
 By grace you too will life obtain.

- 2 By grace! None dare lay claim to merit;
 Our works and conduct have no worth.
 God in His love sent our Redeemer,
 Christ Jesus, to this sinful earth;
 His death did for our sins atone,
 And we are saved by grace alone.

- 3 By grace God’s Son, our only Savior,
 Came down to earth to bear our sin.
 Was it because of your own merit
 That Jesus died your soul to win?
 No, it was grace, and grace alone,
 That brought Him from His heav’nly throne.

- 4 By grace! This ground of faith is certain;
 As long as God is true, it stands.
 What saints have penned by inspiration,
 What in His Word our God commands,
 Our faith in what our God has done
 Depends on grace—grace through His Son.

- 5 By grace to timid hearts that tremble,
 In tribulation’s furnace tried,
 By grace, in spite of fear and trouble,

The Father's heart is open wide.
Where could I help and strength secure
If grace were not my anchor sure?

- 6 By grace! On this I'll rest when dying;
In Jesus' promise I rejoice;
For though I know my heart's condition,
I also know my Savior's voice.
My heart is glad, all grief has flown
Since I am saved by grace alone.

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Nunc Dimittis *LSB 165*

- C Lord, now You let Your servant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled.
My own eyes have seen the salvation which You have prepared in the sight of
ev'ry people:
A light to reveal You to the nations and the glory of Your people Israel.
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.**

Benediction *LSB 166*

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and T give you peace.
C Amen.

Closing Hymn "Amazing Grace" *LSB 744*

- 1 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!
- 2 The Lord has promised good to me,
His Word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.
- 3 Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come;
His grace has brought me safe thus far,
His grace will lead me home.
- 4 Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail
And mortal life shall cease,
Amazing grace shall then prevail

In heaven's joy and peace.

5 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.

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Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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Coloring Page *Moses Lifted Up the Bronze Serpent*

