

**HYMN OF THE DAY***"Beautiful Savior"***ELW #838**

Beautiful Savior, King of creation, Son of God and Son of Man!  
 Truly I'd love thee, truly I'd serve thee, light of my soul, my joy, my crown.  
 Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands, robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;  
 Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, he makes our sorrowing spirit sing.  
 Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight, bright the sparkling stars on high;  
 Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer than all the angels in the sky.  
 Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man!  
 Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be thine!

**APOSTLES' CREED****PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH** L) Lord in your Mercy C) **Hear our Prayer****SHARING THE PEACE:** L) *"The peace of Christ be with you all"* C) **And also with you.****OFFERING/OFFERTORY***"Come to the Table"***ELW #481**

Come to the table of mercy, prepared with the wine and the bread.  
 All who are hungry and thirsty, come, and your souls will be fed.  
 Come at the Lord's invitation; receive from his nail-scarred hand.  
 Eat of the bread of salvation; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

**HOLY COMMUNION (Continuous Communion down front)**

✠ Words of Institution &amp; Lord's Prayer

✠ Distribution Hymns: "Eat This Bread"(x2) **ELW #472***"I Am The Bread of Life"* **ELW #485**

✠ Blessing &amp; Benediction

**SENDING HYMN***"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"***ELW #807**

Come, thou Fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
 streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.  
 While the hope of endless glory fills my heart with joy and love,  
 teach me ever to adore thee; may I still thy goodness prove.  
 Here I raise my Ebenezer: "Hither by thy help I've come";  
 and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.  
 Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand'ring from the fold of God;  
 he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.  
 Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be;  
 let that grace now like a fetter bind my wand'ring heart to thee.  
 Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.  
 Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.

**THE DISMISSAL**L) Go in peace. Share your bread. **All) Thanks be to God.**

# Benton & Willow Creek Lutheran Churches

**Fourth Sunday in Lent – March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024***Guest Pastor: Lon Kvanli Organist: Paul Mesner & Kari Vosburg***WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS****CALL TO WORSHIP - Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22**<sup>1</sup>Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good, for God's mercy endures forever.<sup>2</sup>**Let the redeemed of the LORD proclaim that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe,**  
<sup>3</sup>gathering them in from the lands; from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.<sup>17</sup>**Some were fools and took rebellious paths; through their sins they were afflicted.**<sup>18</sup>They loathed all manner of food and drew near to death's door.<sup>19</sup>**Then in their trouble they cried to the LORD and you delivered them from their distress.**<sup>20</sup>You sent forth your word and healed them and rescued them from the grave.<sup>21</sup>**Let them give thanks to you, LORD, for your steadfast love and your wonderful works for all people.**<sup>22</sup>Let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving and tell of your deeds with shouts of joy.**GATHERING HYMN:** *"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"* **ELW #631**

Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!

Fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown.

Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;

visit us with thy salvation, enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit into ev'ry troubled breast;

let us all in thee inherit; let us find thy promised rest.

Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;

end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty, to deliver; let us all thy life receive;

suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave.

Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,

pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation, pure and spotless let us be;

let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee!

Changed from glory into glory, till in heav'n we take our place,  
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise!

## CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Holy God,

**We confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.**

Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**Kyrie Setting Ten - "Have Mercy on Us"**

**pg. 203 ELW**

**Hymn of Praise - "Glory be to God"**

**pg. 204a ELW**

## 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.**

## OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Numbers 21:4-9

<sup>4</sup>From Mount Hor [the Israelites] set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. <sup>5</sup>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." <sup>6</sup>Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. <sup>7</sup>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. <sup>8</sup>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." <sup>9</sup>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. *L) Word of God, Word of Life. All) Thanks be to God.*

## NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Ephesians 2:1-10

<sup>1</sup>You were dead through the trespasses and sins <sup>2</sup>in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among

those who are disobedient. <sup>3</sup>All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. <sup>4</sup>But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us <sup>5</sup>even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—<sup>6</sup>and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup>so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup>For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—<sup>9</sup>not the result of works, so that no one may boast. <sup>10</sup>For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

*L) Word of God, Word of Life. All) Thanks be to God.*

## CHILDREN'S INVITATION SONG: "Jesus Loves The Little Children"

Jesus loves the little children, All the children of the world.  
Red and yellow, black and white, They are precious in His sight.  
Jesus loves the little children of the world.

## CHILDREN'S WORD

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION "Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil" ELW #512

Lord, let my heart be good soil, open to the seed of your word.  
Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is understood.  
When my heart is hard, break the stone away.  
When my heart is cold, warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.  
Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

## GOSPEL John 3:14-21

[Jesus said:] <sup>14</sup>"Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. <sup>16</sup>"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. <sup>17</sup>"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. <sup>18</sup>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. <sup>19</sup>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. <sup>20</sup>For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. <sup>21</sup>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."

*L) Word of God, Word of Life All) Thanks be to God.*

**SERMON – Pastor Lon Kvanli**