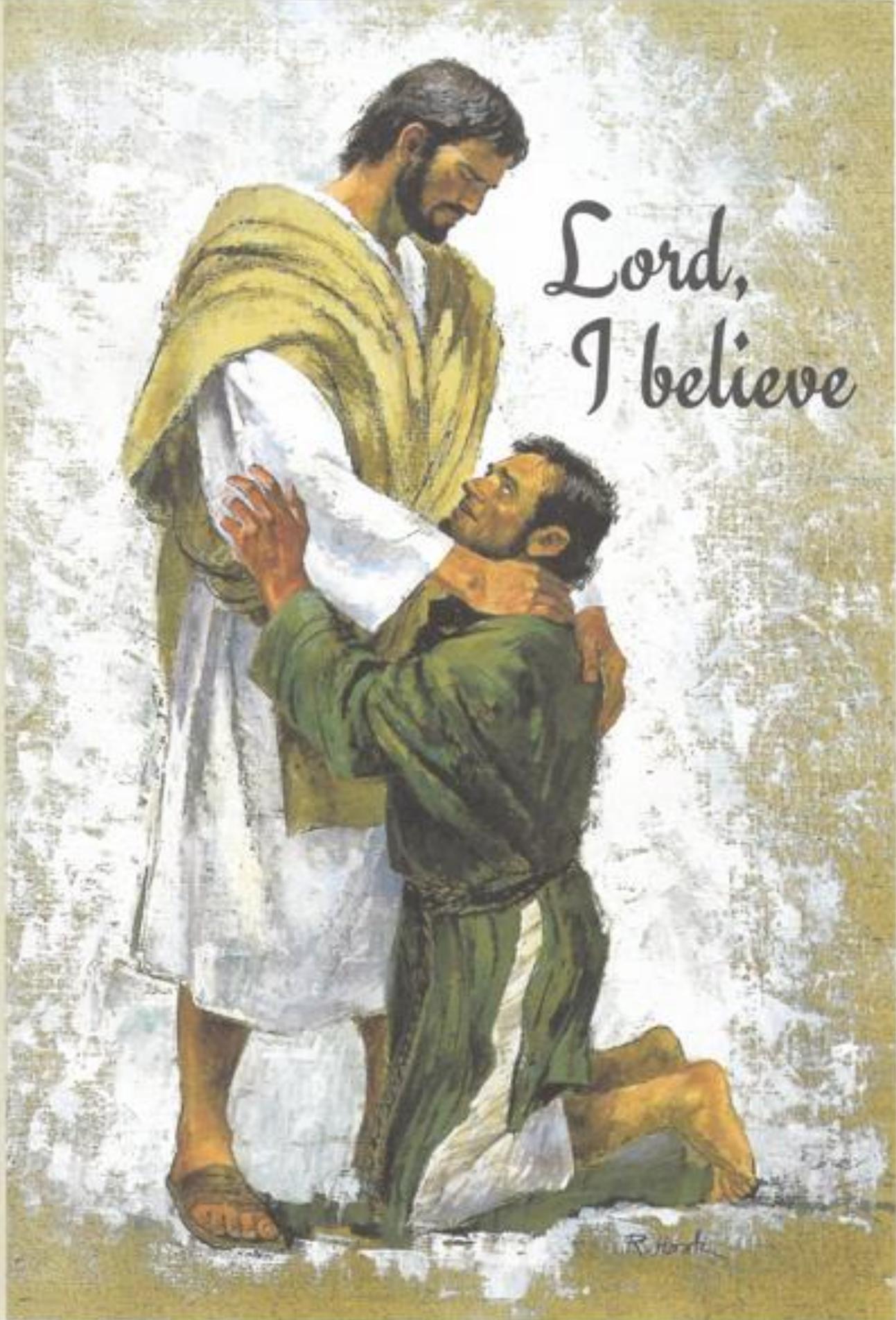


Lord,  
I believe



ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
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*Our mission is to glorify God, grow in Christ, and share God's love and forgiveness.*

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT  
MARCH 22, 2020

## Welcome and Announcements

### Invocation

*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 Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** *Amen.*

### Confession

**P** Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love You and worthily magnify Your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**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** Most merciful God,

**C** *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. 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.*

### Absolution

### Greeting

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

**C** *And also with you.*

### Song of Praise

#### *Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)*

*Words and music by John Newton*

*Arrangement and additional chorus by Chris Tomlin and Louie Giglio*

Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me,  
I once was lost, but now I'm found,  
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas Grace that taught my heart to fear,  
And Grace my fears relieved.  
How precious did that Grace appear,

The hour I first believed.

## CHORUS

My chains are gone, I've been set free,  
My God, my Savior has ransomed me.  
And like a flood, His mercy reigns,  
Unending love, Amazing Grace.

The Lord has promised good to me,  
His word my hope secures.  
He will my shield and portion be,  
As long as life endures.

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow,  
The sun forbear to shine.  
But God who called me here below,  
Will be forever mine,  
Will be forever mine,  
You are forever mine.

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## Prayer of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**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. 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.

*Please be seated.*

## First Reading

*Isaiah 42:14-21*

<sup>14</sup>For a long time I have held my peace; I have kept still and restrained myself; now I will cry out like a woman in labor; I will gasp and pant. <sup>15</sup>I will lay waste mountains and hills, and dry up all their vegetation; I will turn the rivers into islands, and dry up the pools. <sup>16</sup>And I will lead the blind in a way that they do not know, in paths that they have not known I will guide them. I will turn the darkness before them into light, the rough places into level ground. These are the things I do, and I do not forsake them. <sup>17</sup>They are turned back and utterly put to shame, who trust in carved idols, who say to metal images, "You are our gods." <sup>18</sup>Hear, you deaf, and look, you blind, that you may see! <sup>19</sup>Who is blind but my servant, or deaf as my messenger whom I send? Who is blind as my dedicated one, or blind as the servant of the LORD? <sup>20</sup>He sees many things, but does not observe them; his ears are open, but he does not hear. <sup>21</sup>The LORD was pleased, for his righteousness' sake, to magnify his law and make it glorious.

## Second Reading

*Ephesians 5:8-14*

<sup>8</sup>For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light <sup>9</sup>(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), <sup>10</sup>and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. <sup>11</sup>Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. <sup>12</sup>For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. <sup>13</sup>But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, <sup>14</sup>for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead and Christ will shine on you."

Please stand.

## Lenten Sentence:

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

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 9<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

*John 9:1-7, 13-17, 34-39*

<sup>1</sup>As [Jesus] passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup>And his disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered, “It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. <sup>4</sup>We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. <sup>5</sup>As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” <sup>6</sup>Having said these things, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man’s eyes with the mud <sup>7</sup>and said to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing.

<sup>13</sup>They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. <sup>14</sup>Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. <sup>15</sup>So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, “He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see.” <sup>16</sup>Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?” And there was a division among them. <sup>17</sup>So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?” He said, “He is a prophet.”

<sup>34</sup>They answered him, “You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?” And they cast him out. <sup>35</sup>Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” <sup>36</sup>He answered, “And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?” <sup>37</sup>Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.” <sup>38</sup>He said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him. <sup>39</sup>Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated.

## Hymn of the Day

### How Deep the Father’s Love For Us

*Words and music by Stuart Townend*

How deep the Father's love for us  
How vast beyond all measure  
That He should give His only Son  
To make a wretch His treasure  
How great the pain of searing loss  
The Father turns His face away  
As wounds which mar the Chosen One  
Bring many sons to glory

Behold the Man upon a cross  
My sin upon His shoulders  
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice  
Call out among the scoffers  
It was my sin that held Him there  
Until it was accomplished  
His dying breath has brought me life  
I know that it is finished

I will not boast in anything  
No gifts no pow’r no wisdom

But I will boast in Jesus Christ  
His death and resurrection  
Why should I gain from His reward  
I cannot give an answer  
But this I know with all my heart  
His wounds have paid my ransom

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**Sermon:** “From Darkness to Light”

*Pastor Dapelo*

### PROFESSION OF FAITH

**P** Let us join in confessing our faith using the words of the  
Apostles’ Creed.

ALL *I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic\* Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen*

\*(Christian Church Universal)

### Prayer of the Church

*After each request:*

**P** Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** *Hear our Prayer*

**P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray,  
trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C** *Amen.*

### 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.**

### **Benediction**

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**

#### **How Great Thou Art**

*Stuart K. Hine*

O Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made,  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,  
Thy power through-out the universe displayed

#### **CHORUS**

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee  
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee  
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!

And when I think that God, His Son not sparing,  
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in  
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing  
He bled and died to take away my sin

#### **CHORUS**

When Christ shall come with shouts of acclamation  
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration  
And there proclaim, "My God, how great Thou art!"

#### **CHORUS 2x**