

## **LENT 4**

**Prince of Peace Ev. Lutheran Church  
Howell, MI 48843  
(517) 546-5265**

**MARCH 14, 2021**

**2515 W. Grand River Ave  
Pastor Mark Franck  
[www.howellprinceofpeace.org](http://www.howellprinceofpeace.org)**

### **WELCOME!**

**If you are a friend who's been here before, welcome back. If you are a first-time visitor, welcome! We'd appreciate it if you would leave your name and address in one of our guest books located in either entry way. Children's bulletins and crayons are available on the counter beneath the mailboxes in the fellowship hall. If we can serve you in any way, please let us know God bless your worship!**

### **OUR MISSION STATEMENT**

**AS MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN OF PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH, OUR MISSION IS TO PROCLAIM GOD'S GOSPEL OF SALVATION THROUGH JESUS CHRIST TO WIN SOULS FOR CHRIST, NURTURE BELIEVERS, AND EQUIP THEM FOR LIVES OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE, ALL TO THE GLORY OF GOD.**

**The time before worship begins is a sacred time for meditation, prayer, and worship preparation. As we gather in the sanctuary, let's quietly reflect on God's blessings and direction in the Scripture readings included in the worship folder.**

**ORDER OF WORSHIP: Service of the Word – page 38 in the front of the hymnal**

**HYMNS: 580, 391, 460, 330**

**ORGANIST: Sandi Lietzau**

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

**HYMN 580: Every Morning Mercies New**

**1 Ev'ry morning mercies new fall as fresh as morning dew;  
Ev'ry morning let us pay tribute with the early day.  
For your mercies, Lord, are sure; your compassion will endure.**

**2 Still your kindness and your love ev'ry day our sins remove;**

**Daily, far as east from west, lift the burden from the breast;  
Give unbought to those who pray strength to live for you each day.**

**3 Let our prayers each morn prevail that these gifts may never fail.  
And as we confess our sin and the tempter's pow'r within,  
Feed us with the bread of life; Fit us for our daily strife.**

**4 As the morning light returns, as the sun with splendor burns,  
Teach us still to turn to you; With your light our souls renew.  
Then shall we our voices raise in unfailing prayer and praise.**

**Pastor:** The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**Congregation:** And also with you.

### **CONFESSION**

**Pastor:** We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

**Congregation:** Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

**Pastor:** God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

**Congregation:** Amen

**Pastor:** In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

**Congregation:** Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.  
Blessed are they who take refuge in him.  
Your Word, O Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens.  
Your faithfulness continues forever.  
Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.

**Blessed are they who take refuge in him.**

**PRAYER**

**Pastor:** Almighty God, we confess that we deserve to be punished for our evil deeds. But we ask you graciously to cleanse us from all sin and to comfort us with your salvation; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Congregation:** Amen

**THE FIRST LESSON: Numbers 21:4-9**

4 They traveled from Mount Hor along the route to the Red Sea, to go around Edom. But the people grew impatient on the way; 5 they spoke against God and against Moses, and said, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the desert? There is no bread! There is no water! And we detest this miserable food!” 6 Then the LORD sent venomous snakes among them; they bit the people and many Israelites died. 7 The people came to Moses and said, “We sinned when we spoke against the LORD and against you. Pray that the LORD will take the snakes away from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. 8 The LORD said to Moses, “Make a snake and put it up on a pole; anyone who is bitten can look at it and live.” 9 So Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, he lived.

**THE PSALM: Psalm 38**

**Pastor:** O Lord, do not discipline me in your anger or discipline me in your wrath.

**Congregation:** For your arrows have pierced me, and your hand has come down upon me.

**Pastor:** My guilt has overwhelmed me like a burden too heavy to bear.

**Congregation:** All my longings lie open before you, O Lord; my sighing is not hidden from you.

**Pastor:** I wait for you, O Lord; you will answer, O Lord my God.

**Congregation:** Come quickly to help me, O Lord my Savior.

**THE SECOND LESSON: Ephesians 2:4-10**

4 But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, 5 made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions — it is by grace you have been saved. 6 And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, 7 in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. 8 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith — and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God — 9 not by works, so that no one can boast. 10 For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

### **THE VERSE**

**Pastor:** For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. Alleluia!

**Congregation:** Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**These words are written that we may believe  
that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

### **THE THIRD LESSON: John 3:14-21**

14 Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, 15 that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life. 16 “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. 18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son. 19 This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. 20 Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed. 21 But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what he has done has been done through God.”

**Congregation:** Praise be to you, O Christ!

### **HYMN 391: God Loved the World So that He Gave**

**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 is the solid rock of faith, who was made flesh and suffered death.  
All who confide 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 does teach how we the blessed goal may reach.**

**4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son forgives the sins that you have done.  
You're justified by Jesus'. Blood; baptized, you are a child of God.**

**5 When you are sick, when death draw's near,  
this truth your troubled heart can cheer:  
Christ Jesus saves my soul from death—this is the anchor of my faith!**

**6 Glory to God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Three in One!  
To you, O blessed Trinity, be praise now and eternally!**

**THE SERMON TEXT: John 3:14-21**

14 Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, 15 that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life. 16 “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. 18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son. 19 This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. 20 Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed. 21 But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what he has done has been done through God.”

**God So Loved The World**

**1 How does God want us to define his love for us?**

**Verses 16-17**

**Verses 14-15**

**2 What kind of world does God love?**

Verses 17-18

Verses 19-20

### 3. What is the impact of God's love in this world?

Verse 21

**CONFESSION OF FAITH:** The Apostles Creed, page 41 in the front of the hymnal

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there 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.**

#### **OFFERING**

**The offering will be received as you are ushered out after the service in the fellowship hall so that offering plates are not passed.**

#### **PRAYER**

##### **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.**

## **HYMN 460: How Can I Thank You, Lord**

**1 How can I thank you, Lord, for all your loving kindness,  
That you have patiently borne with me in my blindness!  
When dead in many sins and trespasses I lay,  
I kindled, holy God, your anger ev'ry day.**

**2 It is your work along that I am now converted;  
O'er Satan's work in me you have your pow'r asserted.  
Your mercy and your grace that rise afresh each morn  
Have turned my stony heart into a heart newborn.**

**3 Lord, you have raised me up to joy and exultation  
And clearly shown the way that leads me to salvation.  
My sins are washed away; For this I thank you, Lord.  
Now with my heart and soul all evil I abhor.**

**4 Grant that your Spirit's help to me be always given  
Lest I should fall again and lose the way to heaven.  
Grant that he give me strength in my infirmity;  
May he renew my heart to serve you willingly.**

**5 O Father, God of love, now hear my supplication;  
O Savior, Son of God, accept my adoration;  
O Holy Spirit, be my ever faithful guide  
That I may serve you here and there with you abide.**

### **PRAYER**

### **BLESSING**

**Pastor:** Brothers and sisters, go in peace.  
Live in harmony with one another.  
Serve the Lord with gladness.  
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 give you peace.

**Congregation: Amen. Amen. Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN 330: Now, the Hour of Worship O'er**

**1 Now, the hour of worship o'er, teaching, hearing, praying, singing,  
Let us gladly God adore, for his Word our praises bringing;  
For the rich repast he gave us praise the Lord, who deigned to save us.**

**2 Now the blessing cheers our heart, By his grace to us extended.  
Let us joyfully depart; Be our souls to God commended,  
May the Spirit ever guide us and with all good gifts provide us.**

**3 Bless our going out, we pray; Bless our entrance in like measure.  
Bless our bread, O Lord, each day; Bless our toil, our rest, our pleasure.  
Bless us when we reach death's portal; Bless us then with life immortal.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. Bible Hour follows our worship this morning.  
In adult Bible hour we continue our study of Proverbs. Join us!
2. Confirmation meets on Monday, March 15th, 3:30-5:00 pm.
3. Council meets this Tuesday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 pm.
4. Midweek Lent services continue on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm.
5. Online Bible Class Continues.

The Format:

I send out weekly study guides in a congregational email on Mondays. You have an opportunity to work through the study guides at home.

I post an online video in which I work through the weekly study guide on Wednesdays. This video is sent out as a congregational email, just like our weekly worship services.

This week, we continue our study of 2 Peter.

6. Thursday morning Bible class meets at 10:00 am. We are continuing our study of Deuteronomy. Join us!