

Fourth Sunday in Lent  
March 10, 2024

744 Amazing Grace

sts. 1–5

- 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.**

Text (sts. 1–4): John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.; (st. 5): A Collection of Sacred Ballads, 1790, Richmond  
Text: Public domain

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ 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.**

Introit

*Psalm 27:3–5; antiphon: v. 1*

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?**  
Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear;  
**though war arise against me, yet I will be confident.**  
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.**  
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.**  
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?**

Kyrie

- 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.**

## Salutation and Collect 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.**

## Old Testament Reading

*Numbers 21:4–9*

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Gradual

*Hebrews 12:2*

[O come, let us fix our eyes on] Jesus,

**the founder and perfecter of our faith,**

who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame,

**and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.**

## Epistle Reading

*Ephesians 2:1–10*

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Verse (Lent)

**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 Reading

*John 3:14–21*

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

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

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

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

## 571 God Loved the World So That He Gave

*sts. 1–4, 6*

**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.**

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

Text: Heiliges Lippen- und Hertzens-Opffer, c. 1778, Stettin; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.Text: Public domain

## Sermon “The Gift of Grace” Eph. 2:1-10

## 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.

### Offering

### Offertory

- 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.

### Prayer of the Church

- P** ...Lord, in your mercy:  
**C** Hear our prayer.  
**P** ...through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**C** Amen.

### Lord's Prayer

- P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:  
**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 † give you peace.  
**C** Amen.

### 566 By Grace I'm Saved

sts. 1, 3–6

- 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.
- 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.

Text: Christian Ludwig Scheidt, 1709–61; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.  
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