



ST. ANDREW'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

6118 CRAWFORDSVILLE RD
SPEEDWAY, INDIANA
(317) 243-6684

Guided by the Spirit, we share the love of Jesus
and walk with our community.

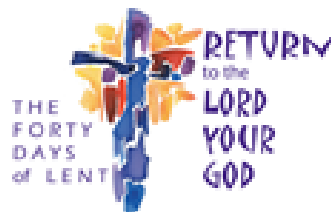
Sunday, March 14, 2021 4th Sunday in Lent

Today is the Fourth Sunday of Lent, the days are going by rather quickly it seems. Palm Sunday is in two weeks, the 28th, leading then into Holy Week. Easter is April 4th, but let us come back to Lent today.

Recall Lent is the season of being sorry for our sin, repentance, and seeking forgiveness. Lent is a word that in the Latin means "the lengthening of the days" noting the season of Spring. Remember the call at the beginning of Lent to either give up something or take on something. If you have not followed thru, there is still time!! Listen to what God is telling you and follow your heart.

Together as a family of faith, we serve the Lord. That is all we are here for, to serve the Lord. We serve so many ways at both churches I am proud to say! Today our Gospel lesson from the devotional is Mark 9: 33-35 where Jesus reminds the disciples "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all, and servant of all."

Jesus reminds them, and all of us, that we are not to try and put ourselves first, but Jesus. These two disciples had been arguing about who was the greatest. Jesus knew that, and reminded them we are here to serve. Amen.



INTRODUCTION

The fourth of the Old Testament promises providing a baptismal lens this Lent is the promise God makes to Moses: those who look on the bronze serpent will live. In today's gospel Jesus says he will be lifted up on the cross like the serpent, so that those who look to him in faith will live. When we receive the sign of the cross in baptism, that cross becomes the sign we can look to in faith for healing, for restored relationship to God, for hope when we are dying.

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found; was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5
 Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, the keeper of the covenant, the source of steadfast Love, our rock and our redeemer.

Amen.

God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Fountain of living water, pour out your mercy over us. Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free. Rebuild what we have ruined and mend what we have torn. Wash us in your cleansing flood. Make us alive in the Spirit to follow in the way of Jesus, as healers and restorers of the world you so love.

Amen.

Beloved, God's word never fails. The promise rests on grace: by the saving love of Jesus Christ, the wisdom and power of God, your sins are ✚ forgiven, and God remembers them no more. Journey in the way of Jesus.

Amen.

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.

WORD

First Reading: Numbers 21:4-9

Though God provides food and water for the Israelites in the wilderness, they whine and grumble. They forget about the salvation they experienced in the exodus. God punishes them for their sin, but when they repent God also provides a means of healing: a bronze serpent lifted up on a pole.

4 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. 5 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." 6 Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. 7 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. 8 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." 9 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.

The word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

You deliver your people from their distress. (Ps. 107:19)

- 1 Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good,
for God's mercy endures forever.
- 2 Let the redeemed of the Lord proclaim
that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe,
- 3 gathering them in from the lands;
from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.
- 17 Some were fools and took rebellious paths;
through their sins they were afflicted.
- 18 They loathed all manner of food
and drew near to death's door.
- 19 Then in their trouble they cried to the Lord
and you delivered them from their distress.
- 20 You sent forth your word and healed them
and rescued them from the grave.
- 21 Let them give thanks to you, Lord, for your steadfast love
and your wonderful works for all people.
- 22 Let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving
and tell of your deeds with shouts of joy.

Second Reading: Ephesians 2:1-10

While we were dead in our sinfulness, God acted to make us alive as a gift of grace in Christ Jesus. We are saved not by what we do but by grace through faith. Thus our good works are really a reflection of God's grace at work in our lives.

1 You were dead through the trespasses and sins 2 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. 3 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. 4 But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us 5 even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—6 and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, 7 so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—9 not the result of works, so that no one may boast. 10 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.

The word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

Gospel: Mark 9:33-35

33 Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" 34 But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. 35 He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all."

The Gospel of our Lord, **praise to you, O Christ.**

IF ANYONE WANTS
TO BE FIRST
THEY MUST BE
THE VERY LAST
AND SHALL CALL HIMSELF
THE SERVANT
OF ALL

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

I have many sayings I like in my life. For my children, friends, family and church family I like "Be Yourself, everyone else is taken!" For my schedule, and to do list I love the WIN formula: What's Important Now!

I have introduced a new one to both congregations that I really like as we operate and run these churches: KISS! You have no doubt heard it's original definition but I have changed it to fit our churches: Keep It Simple Saints!! Yes! Let's keep it simple!

This is how I have always operated going back to while I was at Seminary. These professors have Biblical doctorates and are very intelligent. And there have been and are today many of my colleagues who are deeply intelligent and understand theology and eschatology and all of those big words. I like my faith, and my theology more simplistic.

And I would be willing to bet that's the case for most of you. I don't believe you have called me to this task as your Pastor for what we might call "high church!" Now, don't misunderstand, as I can do high church if needed. But I look at what it would mean to you and how you would be able to take these words and apply them to daily living.

Our Lenten story continues to unfold today on this 4th Sunday in Lent. Today from our devotional book we are reading the story of Jesus as told to us in the Gospel of Mark. Our verse today from chapter 9, has Jesus and his disciples traveling around and Jesus hears them arguing among themselves. They each want to be able to sit at the right hand of Jesus when He comes to set up His kingdom. They are arguing about who is the greatest.

I am sure somewhere in all of our lives we have all “argued” about this in our sinful, judgmental ways. We might feel we are better than someone else, we might judge someone as we see them across the street, or across the living room. We do this all the time and it’s our sin nature we cannot help. We thank God for the grace and ability to have a “do over” (simply put) and try again.

So Jesus pulls them aside and teaches again the basic, SIMPLE truth of the life of a Christian: “Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all!” We are to be last.....think about that a minute. How would that apply to daily living??

I have told you before of the “Fishy Order” story of my childhood. In our family home growing up my mom had three fish on the wall in the bathroom. Three different sizes large, medium and a small size. I had two younger brothers and I initiated “Fishy Order” when I wanted to be first!!! It didn’t take my younger brother, Steve, too long to figure out “reverse fishy order!”

The call of Christ on us is to be “servants of all” and this is simply putting others’ needs ahead of ourselves. To serve is an amazingly simple word that really doesn’t take much effort, time or even energy on our parts. Look up the word “serve” and you will find: “To act as a servant” from Dictionary.com. Tennis?? Waiter or waitress?? Armed Forces?? Or how about the more simplistic definition: “ to give assistance” or “be useful!”

I have a memory of visiting a restaurant (back in the day) and seeing a pad of applications by the register. At the top, written in red ink, were the words “Servers wanted!” For us, it’s the same thing. Servers are wanted in the Lord’s Kingdom, today, now, and that’s you and that’s me.

When I served as a waiter in high school I remember my manager complimenting me on how I handled my section. He said I served with a “great sense of urgency!” Important work in a restaurant but even more so in the church and in the world today. Let us serve with urgency, people need what we have to give now, not yesterday. It’s so simple, so let’s KISS friends, and Keep It Simply Saints!! We are here to serve, Amen.

Pastor Doug

The word "Servant" is written in a large, black, hand-drawn font. The letters are thick and slightly irregular, with a rough, sketchy appearance. The 'S' is particularly large and prominent. The word is centered on the page.

What Wondrous Love Is This



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
 2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when
 3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this
 I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when I was sink - ing down
 God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,



that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my
 be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my
 who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will
 I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?
 soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.
 sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.
 on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.

Music: WONDROUS LOVE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

APOSTLES' CREED

**We believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**We 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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

You sent your Son that the world might be saved through him. Inspire the witness of the church throughout the world. Empower missionaries, Bible translators, and ministries of service in your name. Bless our partners in ministry (*specific mission partners may be named*), our ELCA global partner churches, and Young Adults in Global Mission. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

From east to west your steadfast love is shown. Nourish seas and deserts, wilderness areas and cities. Give water to thirsty lands; nurture spring growth that feeds hungry creatures; bless farmers as they prepare for the growing season. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You sustained your people in the wilderness. Give courage to all who lead in times of crisis and scarce resources. Prosper the work of those who aid victims of famine and drought (*especially*). Bring peace in places where scarce resources cause violence. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Your mercy endures forever. Deliver all who cry to you, especially those who are hungry or without homes. Give life in places where death seems triumphant; give healing to those who are sick and comfort to those who mourn. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

By grace we have been saved. Fill this congregation to overflowing with that grace, that we show mercy to others. Nourish any in our midst who are hungry, especially children, and bless our ministries of feeding and shelter (*especially*). Give us patience and courage when the way seems long. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Your Son was lifted up that whoever believes might have eternal life. We praise you for all who have died in Christ. Bring us with all the saints into the fullness of your promises. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

Faithful members and friends of St. Andrews, we thank you for your continued financial support during our time of physical separation.

Please click [HERE](#) to be taken to Tithe.ly to give online.

Mail offering to:
St. Andrew's Lutheran Church
PO Box 24106
Speedway, IN 46224-0106

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Faithful God, you walk beside us in desert places, and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven. Accompany us in this meal, that we may pass over from death to life with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name.

Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your people. Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams. Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal.

May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus draws the whole world to himself.
Come to this meal and be fed.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of steadfast love, at this table you gather your people into one body for the sake of the world. Send us in the power of your Spirit, that our lives bear witness to the love that has made us new in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Announcements

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

You are what God made you to be: created in Christ Jesus for good works, chosen as holy and beloved, freed to serve your neighbor.

God bless you ☩ that you may be a blessing, in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity.

Amen.

SENDING

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

In the Cross of Christ I Glory



1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r - ing
 2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -
 3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and
 4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the



o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of
 ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the
 love up - on my way, from the cross the
 cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that



sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
 cross for - sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.
 ra - diancance stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.
 knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.

Text: John Bowring, 1792–1872

Music: RATHBUN, Ithamar Conkey, 1815–1867

St. Andrew's Prayer Lists

Families on the Prayer List

Mrs. Martha Larson

Mr. & Mrs. Brad Long (Mary Lee)

Ms. MJ Lynch

Mr. & Mrs. Justin Martin (Kelsey) and Madalyn

Additional Prayers for Recent, Current, or Upcoming Medical Care:

Bonnie Beebe, friend of Pat Tumey,
Ann Hartley sister-in-law of Jeannie Hermerding,
Mark, friend of Mary Lee Long,
Christine Robertson, great niece of MJ Lynch

Those with Ongoing Special Need of Prayer:

Jerid Edwards, great nephew of MJ Lynch Ruth Tingle David Tryon, son of Mary

Remember to Pray for Nursing Home Residents and Shut-Ins:

Lynn Bigelow Thelma Jones Penny Kalk Martha Larson
Norma Petraits David Royer David Schmalz The Harrison

Remember to Pray for those Serving in our Armed Forces:

Michael Joseph Jerry Shake

St. Andrew's Calendar

- **Sunday, March 14** 4th Sunday in Lent Worship 11am
Zoom Holy Communion and Adult Faith Formation 7pm
- **Monday, March 15** Newsletter Articles Due to Kelli
Zoom Stewardship 6pm
- **Tuesday, March 16** Zoom Staff Meeting 1pm
Zoom FBS 7-8:30pm
- **Wednesday, March 17** Laundry & Friends 4:30-6:30pm
Zoom Fellowship 6pm
Wednesday Lenten Virtual Worship 7pm
- **Thursday, March 18** Zoom Council Meeting 6pm
- **Sunday, March 21** 5th Sunday in Lent Worship 11am
Zoom Holy Communion and Adult Faith Formation 7pm
- **Tuesday, March 23** Zoom Staff Meeting 1pm
Zoom FBS 7-8:30pm
- **Wednesday, March 24** Zoom Fellowship 6pm
Wednesday Lenten Virtual Worship 7pm

St. Andrew's Announcements

New Mailing Address

Effective immediately, please use the new address for all correspondence.

St. Andrew's Lutheran Church

PO Box 24106

Speedway IN 46224-0106

FBS Easter Drive Through Event

On Tuesday, March 30, from 7-7:30pm we will have an Easter theme drive through, for our FBS friends. We'll pass out filled Easter baskets and you're welcome to attend and greet our friends. You are welcome to contribute items for the baskets and participate, please let Paula Cardoza-Jones know. All of the same Covid-19 precautions will be in place.

Additionally, if you would like to send Easter cards to our friends, they will love it! Let us know if you need addresses. Thanks in advance! Enjoy this beautiful weather!

God's Work, Our Hands *(Please note change)*

Originally it was stated that we would be providing food for families at Wheeler Elementary the week of April 12. The school has requested that we actually move this date back to May 13. Contributions can still be made, and volunteers are still requested. Please reach out to Karen Hill if you would like to help with this project. In the meantime, please stay tuned!

Wednesday Lenten Fellowship

We cannot be together for our traditional soup suppers, so we will gather virtually for supper and fellowship before the virtual worship service at 7pm. Watch email for details.

In Person vs Virtual Worship

Starting the week of February 15th, the decision to hold worship in-person will be determined by **Marion County's color-coded level** which is updated every **Wednesday at noon**, assigning each county in the state a status of yellow, orange, or red.

- When Marion County achieves a designation of "**yellow**" in-person worship will resume the Sunday immediately following.
- The church will continue holding in-person worship, unless Marion County is listed as "**red**" at which time worship will return to virtual-only starting with the Sunday immediately following.
- Anytime the **status of worship changes, you will receive an email** from Kelli. Those who do not receive email communications will be **contacted via phone**.
- When we are able to return to in-person worship, it will be important to continue under the same guidelines that we have followed during Covid.

The color code map is located on the [Indiana State Department of Health's COVID-19 dashboard](https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/2393.htm) (<https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/2393.htm>) about mid-way down the page.

Constitution Updates

As was presented at our recent annual meeting, below are the two proposed amendments to our Constitution, as required. We will officially vote on these at a meeting in the future. No action is required now, however, if you have any questions, please contact Suzy Henschen. The proposed changes are in bold and underlined:

C12.01 The voting membership of the Congregation Council shall consist of the pastor and **at least 7** members of the congregation.

C12.2 The members of the Congregation Council except for the pastor(s) shall be elected by written ballot to serve for **2** years or until their successors are elected. Such members shall be eligible to serve no more than **three** full terms consecutively.

Remember:

- Recorded worship will be available on website, Facebook, & email Sunday afternoons.
- Office Hours 10-4, T-W-TH.
- Midweek Moment Wednesdays 12pm.
- Wednesday Lenten fellowship at 6pm on Zoom. Virtual Worship at 7pm.
- Communion Kits can be picked up at the church office.

Read and study God's Word for the coming Sunday!

For next week March 21`:

5th Sunday in Lent

1st Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

Psalm: Psalm 51:1-12

2nd Reading: Hebrews 5:5-10

Gospel: John 12:20-33

