

FORGIVING CHALLENGE

JANUARY 28, 2024 • 8:30 AM
FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Welcome! We're excited you're here. In our service, we gather before Almighty God to offer Him our worship and praise. We come together to be strengthened by His Word to be His witnesses.

Families, if you brought your children with you today, we want you to know that the spiritual well-being of your child is very important to us. Many families wish to teach and encourage their younger child(ren) to be in church and get what they can out of it. If you feel that you need to take your child out for whatever reason; there is a cry room near the back of the sanctuary and a restroom with a baby changing station is located by the elevator (to the left as you exit the sanctuary).

Guests, we welcome you. If you will, please help us to get to know you by filling out the Guest side of the Welcome Card found in the pews/ chair backs and place it in the offering plates.

As We Gather Every sin has a cost to it. The first aspect of being forgiven is understanding and receiving that through the death and resurrection of Jesus, the debt of all sin, of all-time, of all humankind has been paid for and canceled. In this message, we will see Jesus beautifully recreate Peter's worst moment in order to show Peter that He is unafraid to enter into His worst moments with him, and that His grace is big enough to cover even the worst parts of our stories.

WELCOME

Please Stand

CALL TO WORSHIP

P In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

OPENING HYMN

849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness



(vv. 2-3 on next page)

Taking the cross of grace and peace to form a community of uncommon servants.

849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness (cont.)

- 2 Praise the One who blessed the children, With a strong, yet gentle, word;
Praise the One who drove out demons, With the piercing, two-edged sword.
Praise the One who brings cool water, To the desert's burning sand;
From this Well comes living water, Quenching thirst in ev'ry land.
- 3 Let us praise the Word Incarnate, Christ, who suffered in our place.
Jesus died and rose victorious, That we may know God by grace.
Let us sing for joy and gladness, Seeing what our God has done;
Let us praise the true Redeemer, Praise the One who makes us one.

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OPENING SENTENCES

- P As you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, walk in Him.
C We have been buried with Christ in Baptism and raised with Him through Christ.
P As you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, walk in Him.
C We were once dead in our trespasses. God made us alive together with Christ.
P As you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, walk in Him.
C The debt of our sins has been paid by the sacrifice of Christ.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

[A time of silence is observed.]

- P We have failed in our following, O LORD, and have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed.
C Forgive us and renew us, O Lord.
P We have not loved You with our whole heart.
C Forgive us and renew us, O Lord.
P We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
C Forgive us and renew us, O Lord.
P We owe You a debt of sin that none can pay.
C Forgive us and renew us, O Lord.
P When we were dead in our trespasses, God blotted out our debt of sin, nailing it to the cross. Having forgiven all of our trespasses, God has made us alive together with Christ. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. As you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, walk in Him.
C Thanks be to God. Amen.

GREETING

HYMN OF PRAISE

358 From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

The musical notation is written on three staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are: "I 'From heav'n a - bove to earth I come To bear good". The second staff continues the melody with the lyrics: "news to ev - 'ry home; Glad tid - ings of great". The third staff concludes the phrase with the lyrics: "joy I bring, Where - of I now will say and sing:". The notation ends with a double bar line.

(Verses 7, 8 and 14 on the next page.)

358 From Heaven Above to Earth I Come (cont.)

- 7 Come here, my friends, lift up your eyes, And see what in the manger lies.
Who is this child, so young and fair? It is the Christ Child lying there.
- 8 Welcome to earth, O noble Guest, Through whom the sinful world is blest!
You came to share my misery, That You might share Your joy with me.
- 14 My heart for very joy must leap; My lips no more can silence keep.
I, too, must sing with joyful tongue; That sweetest ancient cradlesong.

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SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. Heavenly Father, we rejoice that You have sent to us Your Son to be our Brother and to take our place in suffering that we might be saved. Deliver us from our captivity to sin, the tyranny of self, and the temptation of the world that our hearts may be focused upon Christ and delivered from every evil; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Be Seated

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

+ WORD +

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 1:10-18

(Sins like scarlet made white as wool.)

¹⁰ Hear the word of the LORD, you rulers of Sodom! Give ear to the teaching of our God, you people of Gomorrah!
¹¹ "What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices? says the LORD; I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams and the fat of well-fed beasts; I do not delight in the blood of bulls, or of lambs, or of goats. ¹² "When you come to appear before me, who has required of you this trampling of my courts? ¹³ Bring no more vain offerings; incense is an abomination to me. New moon and Sabbath and the calling of convocations—I cannot endure iniquity and solemn assembly. ¹⁴ Your new moons and your appointed feasts my soul hates; they have become a burden to me; I am weary of bearing them. ¹⁵ When you spread out your hands, I will hide my eyes from you; even though you make many prayers, I will not listen; your hands are full of blood. ¹⁶ Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your deeds from before my eyes; cease to do evil, ¹⁷ learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause. ¹⁸ "Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HYMN

908 Lord, Open Now My Heart to Hear



(vv. 2-3 on next page.)

908 Lord, Open Now My Heart to Hear (cont.)

- 2 Your Word inspires my heart within; Your Word grants healing from my sin;
Your Word has pow'r to guide and bless; Your Word brings peace and happiness.
- 3 To God the Father, God the Son, And God the Spirit, Three in One,
Shall glory, praise, and honor be, Now and throughout eternity.

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EPISTLE

Colossians 2:6-15

(Once we were dead in trespasses and sins, but God made us alive in Christ.)

⁶ Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, ⁷ rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

⁸ See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ. ⁹ For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, ¹⁰ and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority. ¹¹ In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, ¹² having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead. ¹³ And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, ¹⁴ by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵ He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please Stand

VERSE

Ephesians 1:3, 7

P Alleluia. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places,

**C In him we have redemption through his blood,
the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace. Alleluia.**

HOLY GOSPEL

John 21:1-19

(Jesus appears to the disciples.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twenty-first chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

21 After this Jesus revealed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he revealed himself in this way. ² Simon Peter, Thomas (called the Twin), Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples were together. ³ Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

⁴ Just as day was breaking, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was. ⁵ Jesus said to them, "Children, do you have any fish?" They answered him, "No." ⁶ He said to them, "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in, because of the quantity of fish. ⁷ That disciple whom Jesus loved therefore said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he was stripped for work, and threw himself into the sea. ⁸ The other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, but about a hundred yards off.

HOLY GOSPEL *(cont.)*

⁹When they got out on land, they saw a charcoal fire in place, with fish laid out on it, and bread. ¹⁰Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." ¹¹So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, 153 of them. And although there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹²Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. ¹³Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and so with the fish. ¹⁴This was now the third time that Jesus was revealed to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

¹⁵When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Feed my lambs." ¹⁶He said to him a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Tend my sheep." ¹⁷He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" and he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. ¹⁸Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you used to dress yourself and walk wherever you wanted, but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry you where you do not want to go." ¹⁹(This he said to show by what kind of death he was to glorify God.) And after saying this he said to him, "Follow me."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Be Seated – Children are dismissed for Children's Church (CC).

MESSAGE HYMN

345 Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

- 1 Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding! "Christ is near," we hear it say.
"Cast away the works of darkness, All you children of the day!"
- 3 See, the Lamb, so long expected, Comes with pardon down from heav'n.
Let us haste, with tears of sorrow, One and all, to be forgiv'n;
- 4 So, when next He comes in glory And the world is wrapped in fear,
He will shield us with His mercy And with words of love draw near.

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MESSAGE

Please Stand

CREED

Second Article of the Apostles' Creed and Meaning

C 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

P What does this mean?

C I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from all eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

OFFERING *(Thanks for your ongoing stewardship and support of God's mission here! Children return from CC.)*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

(Prayer response after each petition...)

P Lord, in Your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9–13

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.

Be Seated

NEW MEMBER RECEPTION

Kaytlen, Alexzandre, and Maddox Sherman

Please Stand

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24–26

P The Lord, who calls Your name, bless you and keep you.

The Lord, who has bought you at a price, make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The Lord, who has called You to follow Him, look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

729 I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus



1 I am trust-ing Thee, Lord Je - sus, Trust - ing on - ly Thee;
2 I am trust-ing Thee for par - don; At Thy feet I bow,
4 I am trust-ing Thee to guide me; Thou a - lone shalt lead,
6 I am trust-ing Thee, Lord Je - sus; Nev - er let me fall.



Trust - ing Thee for full sal - va - tion, Great and free.
For Thy grace and ten - der mer - cy Trust - ing now.
Ev - 'ry day and hour sup - ply - ing All my need.
I am trust - ing Thee for - ev - er And for all.



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DISMISSAL

Into the world knowing that Jesus sinners does receive...

A HUGE "Thank you" to those that served to make worship happen (virtual and in-person) today...

Pastor Rev. Jason Hoerth

Reader Steve Trumbo

Children's Message Chris Graves, DCE

Organist Carol Trumbo

Elder John Berndt

Acolyte Isaiah Schwartz

Acknowledgments

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