

AS WE GATHER

The First Sunday in Lent begins with the temptation of Jesus. Alone in the wilderness, Jesus faces the temptations of the devil, who tries to use God's own Word to entrap Jesus. We are also walking through the wilderness of this world, taunted and tempted by the devil, who still uses God's Word to entrap us. Jesus does not simply show us how to resist but reveals that our strength lies in the same Word of God. In Christ, we stand strong against the wiles of the devil and, when and if we fall, we find refuge in Christ to be forgiven and restored.

Gathering Song Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)

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

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

Tw'as grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed **(Chorus)**

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

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Welcome & Invocation

Pastor Aaron Boerst

Opening Song Who You Say I Am

Who am I that the highest King
Would welcome me
I was lost but He brought me in
Oh His love for me
Oh His love for me
Who the Son sets free
Oh is free indeed
I'm a child of God yes I am

Free at last He has ransomed me
His grace runs deep
While I was a slave to sin
Jesus died for me

Yes He died for me

Chorus: Who the Son sets free
Oh is free indeed
I'm a child of God yes I am
In my Father's house
there's a place for me
I'm a child of God yes I am

I am chosen not forsaken
I am who You say I am
You are for me not against me
I am who You say I am
I am who You say I am **Chorus x2**

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Confession and Forgiveness *Based on Psalm 51*

Pastor: We join in King David's prayer of confession in Psalm 51:
Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your unwavering love;

People: according to Your abundant mercy blot out my offenses.

Pastor: Wash me thoroughly from my immoral behavior,

People: and cleanse me from my sin!

Pastor: For I know the evil within me,

People: and my sin is ever before me.

Pastor: Against You have I sinned and done what is evil in Your sight,

People: may You be justified in Your words and blameless in Your judgment.

Pastor: Purge me, and I shall be clean;

People: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Pastor: Let me hear joy and gladness;

People: let the bones that You have broken rejoice.

Pastor: Create in me a clean heart, O God,

People: and renew a right spirit within me.

Pastor: Cast me not away from Your presence,

People: and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.

Pastor: Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,

People: and uphold me with a willing spirit.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Pastor: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

People: I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my friends and family, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; and I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. 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.

People: Amen.

Prayer of the Day

Pastor: Almighty God, give us Your grace and Spirit that we may be faithful before temptation, that we

may be able to stand strong in the face of evil, and against the schemes of the devil. Deliver us from our slavery to sin through the forgiveness You offer, so that we can serve You faithfully all our life, this we pray through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Reader

Eden Genzmer

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 3:1-9

(The fall into sin)

¹Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made.

He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?'" ²And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.'" ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. ⁵For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

⁸And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?"

Reader: This is the Word of our Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading

Ephesians 6:10-18

(The Whole Armor of God)

¹⁰Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. ¹²For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. ¹⁴Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, ¹⁵and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. ¹⁶In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; ¹⁷and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, ¹⁸praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints.

Reader: This is the Word of our Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Luke 4:1-13

(Our Lord is tempted in the wilderness by Satan.)

¹Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness ²for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing during those days. And when they were ended, he was hungry. ³The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread." ⁴And Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone.'" ⁵And the devil took him up and showed

him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, ⁶and said to him, "To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. ⁷If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." ⁸And Jesus answered him, "It is written,

"You shall worship the Lord your God,
and him only shall you serve."

⁹And he took him to Jerusalem and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰for it is written,

"He will command his angels concerning you,
to guard you,'

¹¹and

"On their hands they will bear you up,
lest you strike your foot against a stone."

¹²And Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'" ¹³And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

Children's Message / Kid's Church

Song of the Day Build My Life

Worthy of ev'ry song we could ever sing
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring
Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever breathe
We live for You

Jesus the name above ev'ry other name
Jesus the only one who could ever save
Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever breathe
We live for You
We live for You

Holy there is no one like You
There is none beside You
Open up my eyes in wonder and show me who You are
And fill me with Your heart
And lead me in Your love to those around me *(Instrumental)*

I will build my life upon Your love
It is a firm foundation
I will put my trust in You alone
And I will not be shaken **(Repeat)**

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An Excerpt from C.S. Lewis' *The Screwtape Letters*

Sermon

Silencing Screwtape: *Isolation*

Pastor Aaron Boerst

Creed **APOSTLE'S CREED**

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.

Prayers of the Church *Litany of Repentance*

Pastor: O Lord, You call sinners to repentance,

People: call us still that we may yet answer.

Pastor: Lord, so many of us have hardened our hearts,

People: soften the hearts of all who are not sorry for their sin.

Pastor: You who met our doubts with mercy,

People: deal gently with those who can scarcely believe.

Pastor: You who have been tempted by Satan himself,

People: give us courage in the face of temptation, strength in time of rest, and hope in despair.

Pastor: You who called out many demons,

People: set free today all who are victims of their lies and distractions.

Pastor: You who healed the sick,

People: grant us healing according to Your will, and patience to endure our afflictions.

Pastor: You who made the deaf to hear and the mute to speak,

People: open deaf ears to the voice of Your Word and loosen our tongues to confess.

Pastor: You who prayed for those who crucified You,

People: look in compassion upon those who persecute Your Church.

Pastor: You who came to save Your people from their sins,

People: save us, O Lord, who put our trust in You.

Pastor: You who raised the dead to life,

People: enliven our souls by Your Holy Spirit to lives of faith.

Pastor: Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Save us, O Lord, for the sake of Your name.

Pastor: O Lord, Hear us now on behalf of those in our congregation and all who stand in need:

Local concerns are added by congregational elder here.

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

Sharing God's Peace

Offering **Because He Lives (Amen)**

I believe in the Son

I believe in the Risen One

I believe I overcome

By the power of His blood *(Instrumental)*

I was dead in the grave

I was covered in sin and shame

I heard mercy call my name
He rolled the stone away *(Instrumental)*

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Presentation of Gifts

Pastor: Heavenly Father, You are the giver of all good things, and Your Word makes clear that every good and perfect gift comes from You. We ask that You accept these gifts back unto Yourself and use them to Your glory. [*Psalm 145:15, James 1:17*]

People: **Amen.**

+ Holy Communion +

Preface

Pastor: The Lord be with you. [*2 Timothy 4:22*]

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts. [*Colossians 3:1*]

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. [*Psalm 136*]

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

The Words of Our Lord [*Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*]

Proclamation of Christ

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. [*1 Cor. 11:26*]

People: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.** [*Revelation 22:20*]

Lord's Prayer [*Matthew 6:9–13*]

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

People: **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.**

Distribution

In the Bleak Midwinter

In the bleak midwinter,
Frosty wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron,
Water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow,
Snow on snow,
In the bleak midwinter, long ago.

Heaven cannot hold him,
Nor earth sustain;
Heaven and earth shall flee away
When he comes to reign;

In the bleak midwinter
A stable place sufficed
The Lord God incarnate, Jesus Christ.

Angels and archangels
May have gathered there,
Cherubim and seraphim
Thronged the air;
But his mother only,
In her maiden bliss,
Worshipped the Beloved with a kiss.

What can I give him,
Poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd
I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man
I would do my part;
Yet what can I give him – Give my heart.

We Fall Down

We fall down, We lay our crowns At the feet of Jesus
The greatness of His mercy and love At the feet of Jesus
We cry holy, holy, holy We cry holy, holy, holy We cry holy, holy, holy
Is the Lamb

We fall down, We lay our crowns At the feet of Jesus
The greatness of His mercy and love At the feet of Jesus
We cry holy, holy, holy We cry holy, holy, holy We cry holy, holy, holy
Is the Lamb

(Instrumental break)

We cry holy, holy, holy We cry holy, holy, holy We cry holy, holy, holy
Is the Lamb

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The Stand

You stood before creation
Eternity in Your hand
You spoke the earth into motion
My soul now to stand

You stood before my failure
And carried the cross for my shame
My sin weighed upon Your shoulders
My soul now to stand

So what can I say
And what can I do
But offer this heart O God
Completely to You

I'll stand with arms high and heart abandoned
In awe of the one who gave it all
I'll stand my soul Lord to you surrender
All I am is yours

I'll stand with arms high and heart abandoned
In awe of the one who gave it all
I'll stand my soul Lord to you surrender
All I am is yours

So I'll walk upon salvation
Your Spirit alive in me
My life to declare Your promise
My soul now to stand

I'll stand with arms high and heart abandoned
In awe of the one who gave it all
I'll stand my soul Lord to you surrender
All I am is yours

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Announcements

Benediction [*Numbers 6:24-26*]

Pastor: 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.

People: **Amen.**

Sending Song **Your Grace is Enough**

Great is Your faithfulness oh God
You wrestle with the sinner's restless heart
You lead us by still waters in to mercy
And nothing can keep us apart

So remember Your people
Remember Your children
Remember Your promise
Oh God

Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough for me

Great is Your love and justice God of Jacob
You use the weak to lead the strong
You lead us in the song of Your salvation
And all Your people sing along

So remember Your people
Remember Your children
Remember Your promise
Oh God

Your grace is enough
Heaven reaching down to us
Your grace is enough for me
God I see your grace is enough
I'm covered in your love
Your grace is enough for me

Your grace is enough
Heaven reaches out to us
Your grace is enough for me
God I see your grace is enough
I'm covered in your love
Your grace is enough for me
For me

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