

# Immanuel Lutheran Church

## Sunday Worship – Lent 4B

Sunday, March 14, 2021

### WELCOME

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

(ELW p 94)

In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

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

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

### GATHERING HYMN

ELW 779 Amazing Grace  
(Page 11 of this bulletin)

## **GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## **KYRIE**

(ELW p 98; Page 12 of this bulletin)

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

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** (NRSV)

<sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>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.” <sup>6</sup>Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. <sup>7</sup>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. <sup>8</sup>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.” <sup>9</sup>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 (ELW)

<sup>107.1</sup>Give thanks to the Lord, for the | Lord is good,  
for God's mercy en- | dures forever.

<sup>2</sup>**Let the redeemed of the | Lord proclaim  
that God redeemed them from the hand | of the foe,**

<sup>3</sup>gathering them in | from the lands;  
from the east and from the west, from the north and | from the south.

<sup>17</sup>**Some were fools and took re- | bellious paths;  
through their sins they | were afflicted.**

<sup>18</sup>They loathed all man- | ner of food  
and drew near | to death's door.

<sup>19</sup>**Then in their trouble they cried | to the Lord  
and you delivered them from | their distress. R**

<sup>20</sup>You sent forth your | word and healed them  
and rescued them | from the grave.

<sup>21</sup>**Let them give thanks to you, Lord, for your | steadfast love  
and your wonderful works | for all people.**

<sup>22</sup>Let them offer sacrifices | of thanksgiving  
and tell of your deeds with | shouts of joy. R

## HOLY GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel, according to St John, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Chapter  
**Glory to You, O Lord**

### John 3:14-21 (NRSV)

[Jesus said:] <sup>14</sup>“Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. <sup>18</sup>Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. <sup>19</sup>And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. <sup>20</sup>For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. <sup>21</sup>But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

ELW 323 God So Loved the World  
(Page 13 of this bulletin)

## **NICENE CREED**

(ELW p 105)

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,\*  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **Lament for One Year of Living with COVID-19**

(last page of this bulletin, after hymns)

### **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, 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. 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. Especially today we ask for your mercy upon

Bertie Black; Residents of the Bradley Home; Renee Bruenn; Jeanette Burgess; Nancy Colton; Jack Gade; Doreen Jenkins; Carol Kania; David Levitt; Cindy McCarthy; David, Claudette, & Hakeem McCleod; Sherri Phillips; Ann Phipps; Bill Preuss; David Ray; Katie Reeves; Doug Schultz; those who are suffering during the pandemic; and those we name aloud or in our hearts.

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. Give us patience and courage when the way seems long. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

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.**

## **OFFERING and OFFERING PRAYER**

ELW 611 I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say  
(Page 14 of this bulletin)

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**

### **SURSUM CORDA**

(ELW p 107)

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.**

## **PREFACE (Lent)**

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 call your people to cleanse their hearts  
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,  
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,  
we may come to the fullness of your grace.  
And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## **SANCTUS**

(Music on ELW p 108 or Page 15 of this bulletin)

**Holy, holy, 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.**

## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER D: Lent (WOV) and LORD'S PRAYER**

**P** Holy God,  
our living Water and our merciful Guide,  
together with rivers and seas, wells and springs  
we bless and magnify you.

You led your people Israel through the desert,  
and provided them water from the rock.

We praise you for Christ, our Rock and our Water,  
who joined us in our desert,  
pouring out his life for the world.

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.

Remembering, therefore,  
his life, death, and resurrection,  
we await your salvation for all this thirsty world.

Pour out your Spirit on this holy food  
and on all the baptized gathered for this feast:  
wash away our sin,  
that we may be revived for our journey by the love of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,  
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,  
in your holy Church,  
both now and forever.

**C     Amen**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray together as Jesus taught us.

**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.

## **AGNUS DEI**

(Music on ELW p 112 or Page 15 of this bulletin)

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
grant us peace, grant us peace.**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

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 might bear witness to the love that has made us new in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Tuesday Night at Immanuel – “Pilgrims of the Cross” – Tue 3/9/21/ at 7:00
- Communion Packets Still Available

## **BENEDICTION**

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.**

## **Dismissal**

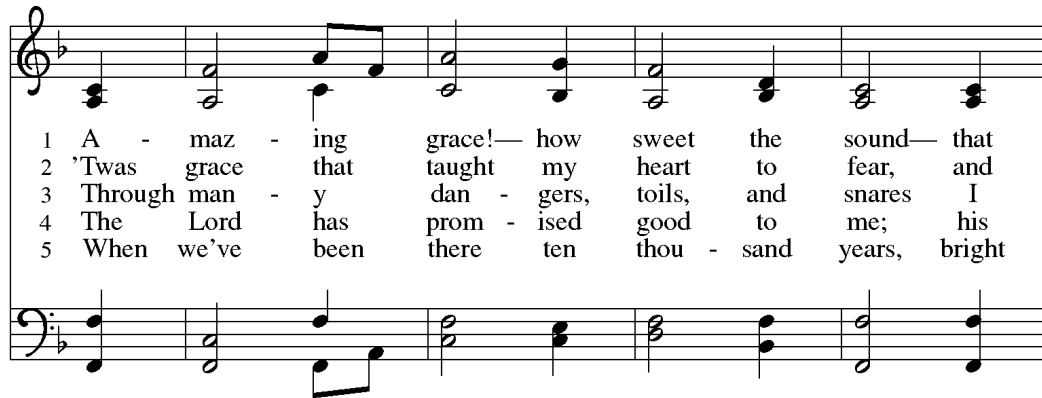
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **SENDING HYMN**

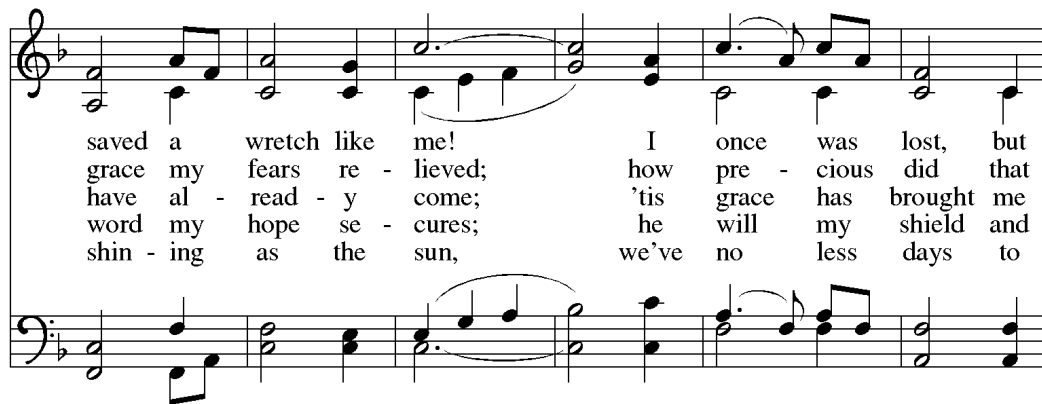
ELW 339 Christ the Life of All the Living.  
(Page 16 of this bulletin)

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## 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; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1851–1921, alt.

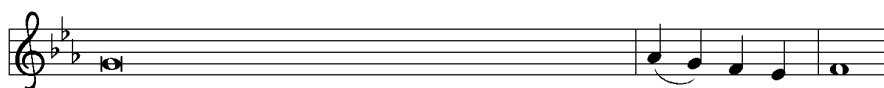
## Kyrie / Lord Have Mercy



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



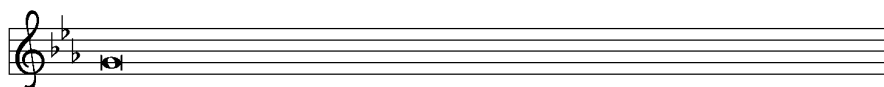
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



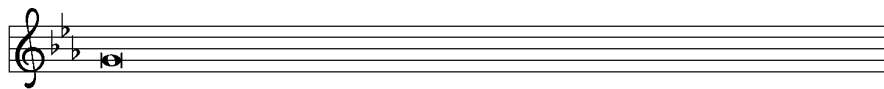
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

## God Loved the World

1 God loved the world so that he gave his on - ly  
 2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, who was made  
 3 If you are ill, if death draws near, this truth your  
 4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son for - gives all  
 5 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly

Son the lost to save, that all who would in  
 flesh and suf - fered death; all who con - fide in  
 trou - bled heart can cheer: Christ Je - sus res - cues  
 sins that you have done, and jus - ti - fied by  
 Spir - it, Three in One! To you, O bless - ed

him be - lieve should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.  
 Christ a - lone are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.  
 us from death; that is the firm - est ground of faith.  
 Je - sus' blood, your bap - tism grants the high - est good.  
 Trin - i - ty, be praise now and e - ter - nal - ly!

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Bollhagen, 1791; tr. August Crull, 1846–1923, alt.  
 Music: ROCKINGHAM OLD, Edward Miller, 1731–1807, adapt.

# I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say



1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest;  
2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give  
3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light;



lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on my breast."  
the liv - ing wa - ter, thirst - y one; stoop down and drink and live."  
look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."



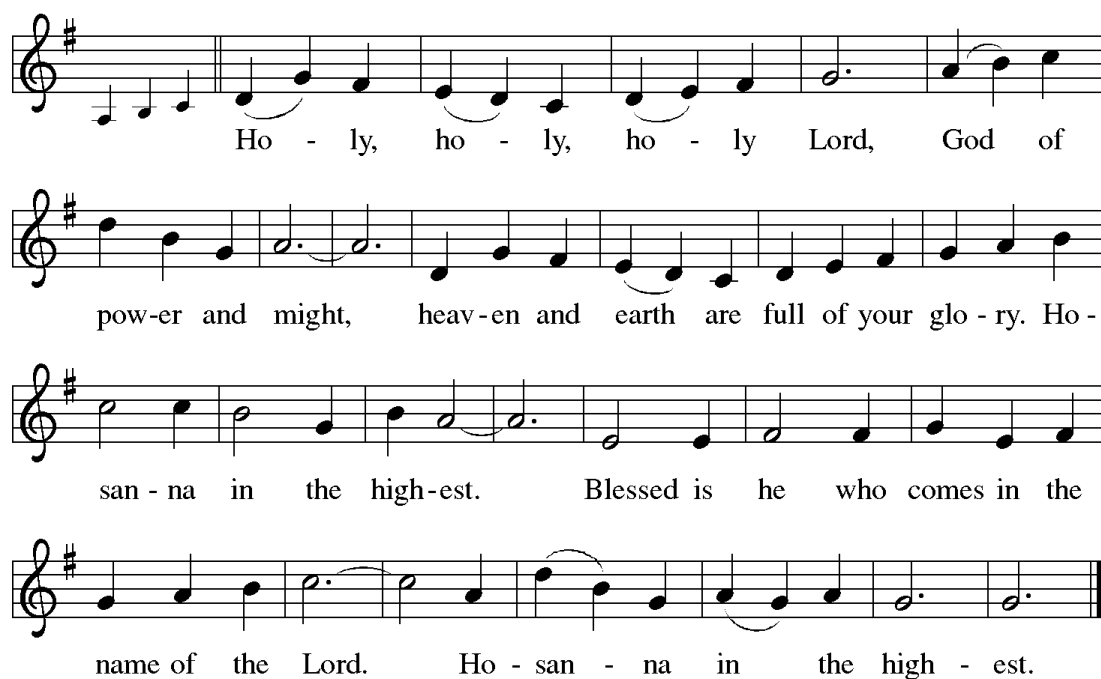
I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea - ry, worn, and sad;  
I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream;  
I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my star, my sun;



I found in him a rest-ing-place, and he has made me glad.  
my thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.  
and in that light of life I'll walk till trav-'ling days are done.

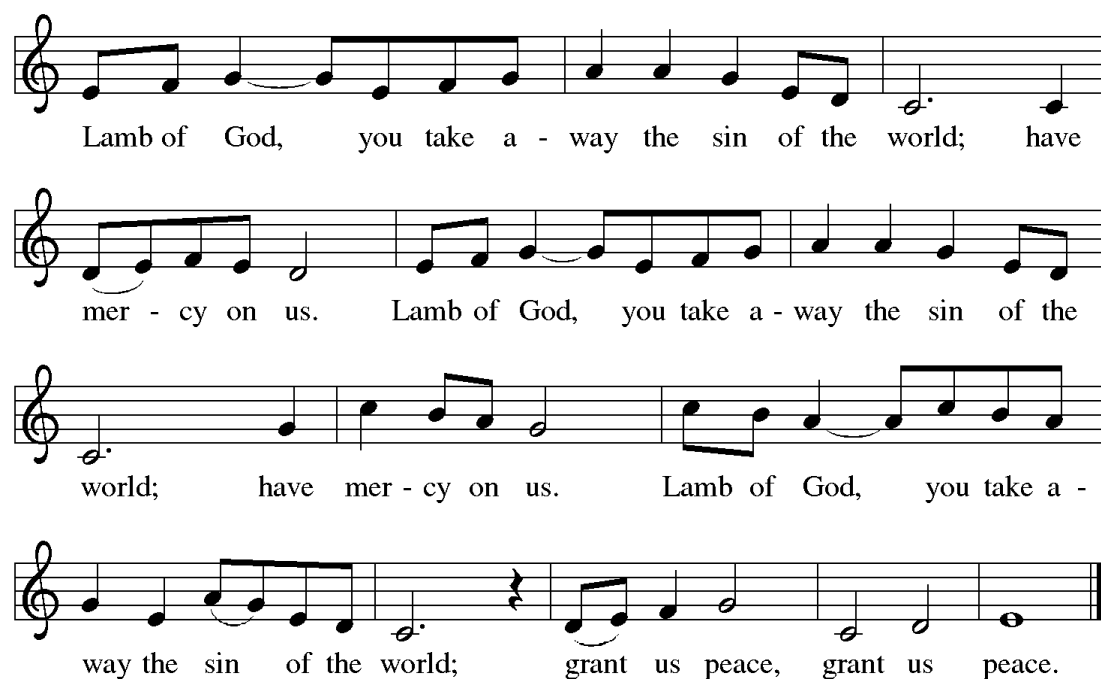
Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–1889  
Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune

## Sanctus / Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of  
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## Agnus Dei / Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -  
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

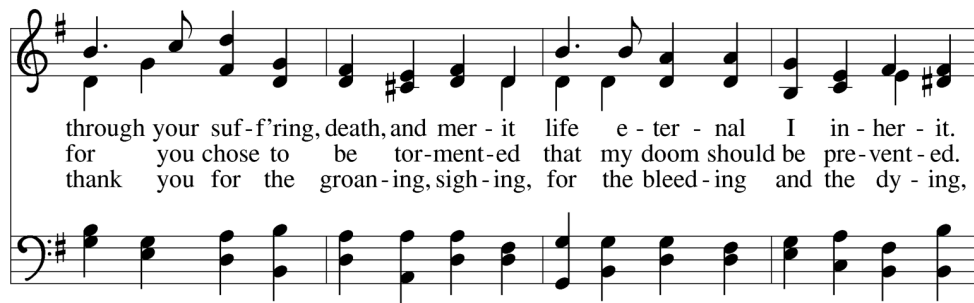
## Christ, the Life of All the Living



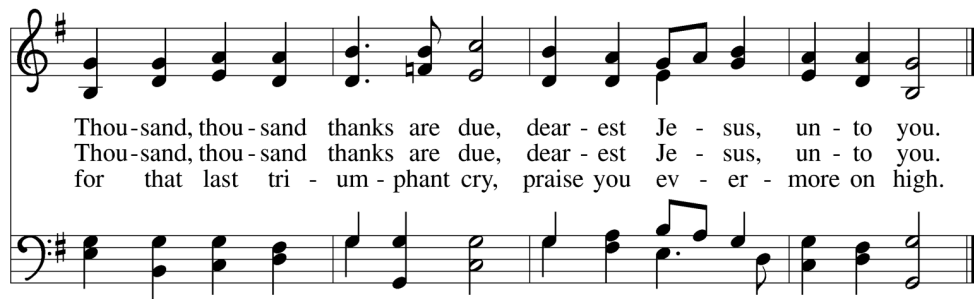
1 Christ, the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the death of death, our foe,  
2 You have suf-fered great af - flic - tion and have borne it pa - tient - ly,  
3 Then, for all that bought my par-don, for the sor - rows deep and sore,



Christ, your-self for me once giv - ing to the dark - est depths of woe:  
e - ven death by cru - ci - fix - ion, ful - ly to a - tone for me;  
for the an - guish in the gar - den, I will thank you ev - er - more;



through your suf-f'ring, death, and mer - it life e - ter - nal I in - her - it.  
for you chose to be tor-ment-ed that my doom should be pre-vent - ed.  
thank you for the groan-ing, sigh-ing, for the bleed - ing and the dy - ing,



Thou-sand, thou - sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you.  
Thou-sand, thou - sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you.  
for that last tri - um - phant cry, praise you ev - er - more on high.

Text: Ernst Christoph Homburg, 1605–1681; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.  
Music: JESU, MEINES LEBENS LEBEN, *Das grosse Cantional*, Darmstadt, 1687

## **Lament for One Year of Living with COVID-19**

Gracious God, by day and night we pour out our prayer to you.

We are crying out for justice, yearning for what is right, longing for your peace.

Come quickly to help us, O God; save those who call upon your name.

We miss being able to see parents, children, grandchildren, grandparents, sisters & brothers, friends. And your people cry, **How Long, O Lord?**

We have not been able to have or attend graduations, weddings, funerals, reunions, sporting events, concerts, movies.

And your people cry, **How Long, O Lord?**

We grieve the loss of loved ones. We are angry we couldn't be there to comfort them, to say good bye. We feel cheated, that we have not been able to mourn with proper funerals.

And your people cry, **How Long, O Lord?**

Too many of us have suffered the loss of jobs, unwanted furloughs, the inability to find new jobs, the loss of income.

And your people cry, **How Long, O Lord?**

We question is the vaccine safe? Will the vaccine work? When will we, our family, our friends, our neighbors be able to get the vaccine? Will we really get herd immunity? When?

And your people cry, **How Long, O Lord?**

We are tired, of wearing masks; of zoom, face time, google meets, online meetings and events. We are tired of uncertainty.

And your people cry, **How Long, O Lord?**

We long for the day we can hug each other again, take our masks off, go on vacation, eat at restaurants, gather with our friends, travel without restrictions, have school again in our classrooms, worship together in our church building.

And your people cry, **How Long, O Lord?**

We feel so many things: Sad, angry, anxious, frustrated, hopeless, lost, in pain, despair, disoriented, disconnected, afraid, numb, tired, hurt, confused, sorrowful, relieved, exhausted, hopeful.

And your people cry, **How Long, O Lord?**

We hope, to be together again, to be safe, to once again have a future.

And your people cry, **How Long, O Lord?**

How long, O Lord, when will it end?

And your people cry, **How Long, O Lord?**

Gracious God, remain with us as we await that day when we can gather together again without fear. Replenish our strength and stir up our hope as we look for signs of your coming reign. And fill us with the peace that passes understanding—the deep peace of Jesus Christ our Savior, in whose holy name we pray.

**Amen.**

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