



RIVERS IN THE DESERT

LENT 2022

I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth,
do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the
wilderness and rivers in the desert.

— Isaiah 43:19

27 March 2022

Fourth Sunday in Lent

GATHERING

CALL TO WORSHIP*

Come, let us celebrate the forgiving, reconciling love and grace of God!
for once we were lost and felt so far away;
now we have been found and welcomed home.

Know that God's grace is lavished upon you forever.

Let us rejoice at the news of forgiveness and hope!

Come, let us celebrate and praise the God of love and grace!

SONG* – *God Welcomes All*

God welcomes all,
strangers and friends,
God's love is strong
and it never ends.

SONG* – *Your Grace Is Enough*

Great is your faithfulness, O God.
You wrestle with the sinner's heart.
You lead us by still waters into mercy,
and nothing can keep us apart.

Great is your love and justice, God.
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, O God.

Your grace is enough,
your grace is enough,
your grace is enough for me.

CONFESSION – *Kyrie*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel:
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

PASSING OF THE PEACE*

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

SONG* – *When We Have Wandered*

1. When we have wandered
far from our homeland,
sowing rebellion,
reaping despair,
Christ waits to claim us—
save us, not shame us—
ever revealing
God's tender care.

2. And while returning,
still at a distance,
Christ runs to meet us,
waiting no more.
Not to disgrace us,
but to embrace us,
Christ comes to pardon
heal and restore.

3. While we still wander,
lost and defeated,
yet Christ comes searching
where we now roam—
seeks till he finds us,
and in love binds us
to God's great mercy,
leading us home.

WORD

EPISTLE LESSON

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

GOSPEL LESSON*

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

SERMON

It's a River, Not a Pie

Pastor Dave

RESPONSE

SONG* – *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

There's a wideness in God's mercy
like the wideness of the sea.
There's a kindness in God's justice
which is more than liberty.
There's a welcome for the sinner
and more graces for the good.
There is mercy with the Savior,
there is healing in his blood.

There's no place where earthen sorrow
is felt more than in heav'n.
There's no place where earthly failings
have forgiveness freely giv'n.
But we make God's love too narrow
by false limits of our own,
and we magnify its strictness
with a zeal God will not own.

For the love of God is broader
than the measure of our mind,
and the heart of the eternal
is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more simple
we should take Christ at his word,
and our lives would be thanksgiving
in the goodness of the Lord.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*debts, debtors*)

OFFERING

Many in our community give their tithes and offerings online (rescov.org/give) and yet we believe it is still good and right to give God thanks as part of our worship. If you have offering this morning you are welcome to place it in the basket in the center aisle as we give God thanks.

DOXOLOGY

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

HOLY COMMUNION

As we continue to navigate the implications of Covid we invite you to come down the center aisle, receive the bread and then proceed to the front side aisles to partake of the cup which is in individual portions. Place your empty cups in one of the baskets that can be found on the end-seats in the front rows of the side aisles.

SENDING

SENDING SONG* – *Amazing Grace* (#341 in the blue hymnal)

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

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come.

'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

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 first begun.

CHARGE & BENEDICTION*

*Stand, as you are able

 **RESURRECTION
COVENANT CHURCH**
For God's Glory and Neighbor's Good

Our staff: Aaron Johnson, Dave Bjorlin, Kyle
Mecher, Caroline Ost, and Emily Hunt.

