***Mid-week Lenten Service***

**4th Wednesday in Lent *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound…* March 17, 2021**

**Greeting**

*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.*

*The Lord has promised good to me, his word my hope secures;*

*He will my shield and portion be, as long as life endures.*

**Hymn** *“Standing on the Promises”*

Standing on the promises of Christ my King, through eternal ages let his praises ring;

Glory in the highest, I will shout and sing, standing on the promises of God.

*Refrain:* Standing, standing, standing on the promises of God my Savior;

 standing, standing, I’m standing on the promises of God.

Standing on the promises that cannot fail, when the howling storms of doubt and fear assail,

by the living Word of God I shall prevail, standing on the promises of God. *[Refrain]*

Standing on the promises of Christ the Lord, bound to him eternally by love’s strong cord,

overcoming daily with the Spirit’s sword, standing on the promises of God. *[Refrain]*

Standing on the promises I cannot fall, listening every moment to the Spirit’s call,

resting in my Savior as my all in all, standing on the promises of God. *[Refrain]*

**Prayer of Confession**

 **Most merciful God, we confess that 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. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of Your**

 **Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight**

 **in Your will, and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your name. Amen.**

**Silent Meditation Words of Forgiveness**

**Chorus of Thanks** *“Grace Greater than Our Sin”*

*Grace, grace, God’s grace, grace that will pardon and cleanse within;*

*grace, grace, God’s grace, grace that is greater than all our sin!*

**Psalter** *Psalm 32*

 The one whose wrongdoing is forgiven, whose sin is covered over, is truly happy!
 **2**The one the Lord doesn’t consider guilty—in whose spirit there is no dishonesty—
    that one is truly happy! **3**When I kept quiet, my bones wore out; I was groaning all day long—
    every day, every night!—**4**because your hand was heavy upon me. My energy was sapped

 as if in a summer drought. **5**So I admitted my sin to you; I didn’t conceal my guilt.
    “I’ll confess my sins to the Lord,” is what I said. Then you removed the guilt of my sin.

 **6**That’s why all the faithful should pray to you during troubled times, so that a great flood of water

 won’t reach them. **7**You are my secret hideout! You protect me from trouble. You surround me

 with songs of rescue! **8**I will instruct you and teach you about the direction you should go.

 I’ll advise you and keep my eye on you. **9**Don’t be like some senseless horse or mule,

 whose movement must be controlled with a bit and a bridle. Don’t be anything like that!
**10**The pain of the wicked is severe, but faithful love surrounds the one who trusts the Lord.
**11**You who are righteous, rejoice in the Lord and be glad! All you whose hearts are right, sing out in joy!

**Scripture Lesson** *Ephesians 6:14-17*

 **14**So stand with the belt of truth around your waist, justice as your breastplate,

 **15**and put shoes on your feet so that you are ready to spread the good news of peace.

 **16**Above all, carry the shield of faith so that you can extinguish the flaming arrows of the evil one.

 **17**Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is God’s word.

**Reflections of Grace *Witness of Grace***

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**Merciful God, we your children humbly thank you for all of your goodness. We thank you for blessing us in all the ways that you do. Above all, we thank you for saving and redeeming us through your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, and for the grace and hope that is ours through Him. We ask that you would heighten our awareness of your grace that we would be ever more thankful, leading us to praise you with our whole being, and serve you all our days. We pray this through our Savior, Jesus Christ, even as we pray as He taught us, *Our Father…***

**Hymn** *“My Hope Is Built”*

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus’ blood and righteousness.

I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus’ name.

*Refrain: On Christ the solid rock I stand,*

 *all other ground is sinking sand; all other ground is sinking sand.*

When darkness seems to hide his face, I rest on his unchanging grace.

In every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil. *[Refrain]*

His oath, his covenant, his blood support me in the whelming flood.

When all around my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay. *[Refrain]*

When he shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in him be found!

Dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne! *[Refrain]*

**Benediction**

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*We are glad that you are with us tonight.*

*Please be reminded that each Wednesday during this season of Lent*

*we will gather, via Zoom, at 7 PM.*

*Our theme for Lent is “Amazing Grace.”*