

OH, TASTE AND SEE

♪ Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.

Blessed are they who take refuge in him. Your Word,
O Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens. Your
faithfulness continues forever. Oh, taste and see that the
Lord is good. Blessed are they who take refuge in him.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, according to your pleasure and will, in Christ you chose us by grace to be holy and blameless in your sight. We thank you for your amazing grace, your undeserved love for sinners. May we always treasure your grace as our dearest possession, and proclaim it to the ends of the earth.

C: ♪Amen

THE WORD OF GOD

FIRST LESSON

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Through the prophet Jeremiah the Lord speaks of the gospel, the new covenant, the only covenant that saves: grace, which proclaims the forgiveness of sins.

“The days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah. It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them,” declares the LORD. “This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time,” declares the LORD. “I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. No longer will they teach their neighbor, or say to one another, ‘Know the LORD,’ because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest,” declares the LORD. “For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.”

PSALM 24 IN THURSDAY AND 7:45 SERVICES

page 73 in the front of the hymnal

INSPIRATION IN 10:30 SERVICE

“Step By Step/ Lead Me, Lord”

*words and music by David Strasser
arranged by Ruth Elaine Schram*

O God, You are my God, and I will ever praise You.

O God, You are my God, and I will ever praise You.

I will seek you in the morning, and I will learn to walk in Your ways,

And step by step You'll lead me,

And I will follow You all of my days.

Lead me, Lord, lead me in Your righteousness;

Make Your way plain before my face.

Lead me, Lord, lead me in Your righteousness;

Make Your way plain and step by step You'll lead me,

And I will follow you all of my days.

I will seek you in the morning, and I will learn to walk in Your ways,

And step by step You'll lead me,

And I will follow You all of my days.

Lead, me, Lord, and step by step You'll lead me

And I will follow You all of my days.

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SECOND LESSON

Ephesians 2:1-9

Saint Paul says that by nature all of us were dead in sin and objects of God's anger. But by grace God made us alive in Christ Jesus. Grace is God's gift to us.

As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath. But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.

VERSE OF THE DAY

♪ Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! These words are written
that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

GOSPEL

John 3:14-16

In the Old Testament book of Numbers the Lord sent poisonous snakes among the people of Israel because they were complaining and speaking against him as they were traveling to the Promised Land. When the people repented of their sin, the Lord told Moses to make a bronze snake and put it on a pole. Anyone with a snakebite who looked at the bronze snake lived. In the same way, all who look to Jesus for salvation receive it by God's grace, and they live forever.

“Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.” For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: ♪Praise be to you, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“God Loved the World So that He Gave”
Hymn 391

SERMON TEXT

John 1:1-3, 14, 16, 17

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. Out of his fullness we have all received grace in place of grace already given. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

Sola Gratia: What Does This Mean?

Pastor Zuberbier

1. Marvel at who Jesus is.
2. Marvel at what Jesus did.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there 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.

GATHERING OF OUR OFFERING

We gather an offering to support the Lord's work that we do here and around the world.

WHITE BELLS IN 10:30 SERVICE

“Celebration No. 1 in G”
by Michael Keller

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Let us pray to the Lord for the Christian church on earth and for all people everywhere.

M: For all who gather here today and for our entire congregation, that through the gospel the Lord would give us growth in faith and increase our love:

C: **We ask you to bless us, O Lord.**

M: For the spreading of the gospel throughout the world; for all pastors, missionaries, and their families, that they may boldly proclaim Christ to the nations:

C: **We ask you to hear us, O Lord.**

M: For those for whom this time of year brings depression, sadness, and grief, that in the middle of their deep darkness the ever-shining light of Christ's grace and truth may renew their joy and gladness:

C: We intercede for your name, O Lord.

M: For the people of our country; for the Lord's blessings on our work; for those seeking employment; for good health; and for good weather:

C: We beg for your mercy, O Lord.

M: For all who are sick in body or mind; for the hungry and the homeless; for those who are in prison; for those who are dying and those who are mourning:

C: We ask you to help them according to your will, O Lord.

M: All this we ask, O Father, through your Son, Jesus Christ, who has taught us to pray:

**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.**

SERMON HYMN

“By Grace I’m Saved”
Hymn 384

M: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: ♪Amen.

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C: ♪Amen. Amen. Amen

CLOSING HYMN

“Grace Has a Thrilling Sound”
Hymn 381



ORGANIST
Pam Zuberbier

GREETERS

7:45 ~ Warren & Mary Demmon
10:30 ~ DuWayne & Marilyn Zamzow