

Atonement Lutheran Church

Sunday, March 15th
Fourth Sunday of Lent
1144 29th Avenue North
St. Cloud, MN 56303
(320) 252-6203

Pastor John Gabrielson
Pastor Tim Lindhorst
Director of Music Ministry Marcia Handahl
Associate Director of Music Eric Vollen
Worship Leader Jason Ploof
Bell Choir Director Jordan Goodwater

GATHERING HYMN *House of the Lord*

Verse 1

We worship the God who was.
We worship the God who is.
We worship the God who evermore will
be.
He opened the prison doors.
He parted the raging sea.
My God, He holds the victory, yeah.

Chorus & Interlude

Verse 2

We sing to the God who heals.
We sing to the God who saves.
We sing to the God who always makes a way.
'Cause He hung up on that cross
then He rose up from that grave.
My God's still rolling stones away.

Chorus Only

Verse 3

We were the beggars.
Now we're royalty.
We were the prisoners.
Now we're running free.
We are forgiven, accepted,
redeemed by His grace.
Let the house of the Lord sing praise.

Chorus x2

Chorus

There's joy in the house of the Lord.
There's joy in the house of the Lord today.
And we won't be quiet.
We shout out Your praise.
There's joy in the house of the Lord.
Our God is surely in this place.
And we won't be quiet.
We shout out Your praise.

Interlude

Oh, oh, oh,
we shout out Your praise.

Jonathan Smith, Phil Wickham CCLI Song #7168995
© 2020 Be Essential Songs; Cashagamble Jet Music; Phil Wickham Music;
Simply Global Songs

WELCOME

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

TFF p. 24

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

Amen

Beloved in the Lord...

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.

I said, I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.

And you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Almighty God, merciful Father:

I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess to you all my sins and iniquities with which I have offended you and for which I justly deserve your punishment. But I am sorry for them, and repent of them, and pray for your boundless mercy.

For the sake of the suffering and death of your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being; forgive my sins, give me your Holy Spirit for the amendment of my sinful life, and bring me to life everlasting. Amen

In the mercy...

Amen

GREETING

WOV p. 28

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

WOV p. 30

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray...

Amen.

PSALM 23

The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.

**He makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.**

He revives my soul
and guides me along right pathways for his name's sake.

**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no
evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me;
you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

**Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

GOSPEL: John 9:1-41

The Holy Gospel according to John, the ninth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Voice 1: Reader 1 Narrator (Normal Script)

Voice 2: Reader 2 Jesus / The Man (Italics)

Voice 3: The Congregation

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. **His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"** *Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."*

When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, *"Go, wash in the pool of Siloam"* (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see.

The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" *He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."*

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. *He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see."* **Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened."** *He said, "He is a prophet."*

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, **"He is of age; ask him."**

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, **"Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner."** He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." **They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?"** He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" **Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from."** The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." **They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?"** And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." **Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?"** Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

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

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *Long Black Train*

Verse 1

There's a long black train, comin' down
the line.
Feeding off the souls that are lost and
cryin'.
Rails of sin, only evil remains.
Watch out, brother, for that long black
train.

Verse 2

Look to the heavens, you can look to the
skies.
You can find redemption starin' back into
your eyes.
There is protection and there's peace the
same,
Burnin' your ticket for that long black train

Chorus 1

Verse 3

There's an engineer on that long black
train;
Makin' you wonder if the ride is worth the
pain.
He's just a-waitin' on your heart to say,
"Let me ride on that long black train."

Chorus 2

Verse 4

Well, I can hear the whistle from a mile
away.
It sounds so good but I must stay away.
That train is a beauty, makin' everybody
stare.
But its only destination is the middle of
nowhere.

Chorus 3

Chorus 1

Cause there's victory in the Lord, I say.
Victory in the Lord.
Cling to the Father and His Holy name,
and don't go ridin' on that long black
train.

Chorus 2

But ya know there's victory in the Lord, I
say
Victory in the Lord.
Cling to the Father and His Holy name,
and don't go ridin' on that long black
train.

Chorus 3

But ya know there's victory in the Lord, I
say.
Victory in the Lord.
Cling to the Father and His Holy name,
and don't go ridin' on that long black
train.

But ya know there's victory in the Lord, I
say
Victory in the Lord.
Cling to the Father and His Holy name,
and don't go ridin' on that long black
train.

I said, Cling to the Father and His Holy
name,
and don't go ridin' on that long black
train.

Yeah, watch out, brother, for that long
black train
That devil's a drivin' that long black train.

CREED

WOV p. 32

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**
**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

THE PRAYERS

...Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERING SONG *Thy Word*

Chorus

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path.
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path.

Verse 1

Verse 1

When I feel afraid,
and I think I've lost my way,
still You're there right beside me.
Nothing will I fear
as long as You are near.
Please be near me to the end.

Chorus

Verse 2

I will not forget
Your love for me,
and yet my heart forever is wandering.
Jesus, be my guide
and hold me to Your side;
I will love You to the end.

Chorus

Verse 3

When I feel afraid,
and I think I've lost my way,
still You're there right beside me.
Nothing will I fear
as long as You are near.
Please be near me to the end.

Chorus (Repeat x2)

Amy Grant, Michael W. Smith
CCLI Song #14301
© 1984 Meadowgreen Music Company; Curb Word Music

OFFERTORY PRAYER

TFF p. 37

Let us pray.

Compassionate God,

we offer you these gifts as signs of our time and labor. Receive the offering of our lives, and feed us with your grace, that, in the midst of death, all creation might feast on your unending life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

WOV p. 36

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

WOV p. 39

Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

COMMUNION SONG *Hard Fought Hallelujah*

Verse 1

Yeah, I don't always feel it -
Yeah, but that's when I need it the most.
So, I'm gonna keep on singing
till my soul catches up with my song.

And there's times when my hands go up
freely;
and times that it costs.
Uh-Uh and there's days when the praise
comes out easy;
and days when it takes all the strength I got.

Chorus

Verse 2

Oh, I've wrestled with the darkness,
but I'm tryin' to reach for the light.
Yeah, the struggle keeps me honest,
and it breaks down the walls of my pride.

Cause faith isn't proven like gold till it's been
through the fire. Oh - Oh
My head, heart and hands feeling heavy;
that's when I lift them just a little higher.

Chorus

Bridge

Woah - oh
Oh - oh
Oh - oh
Woah - Oh oh oh

Woah - oh
Oh - oh
Oh - oh
Woah - Oh oh oh

Woah - oh
Oh - oh
Oh - oh
Woah - Oh oh oh

Woah - oh
Oh - oh
Oh - oh

Chorus

Chorus

I'll bring my hard fought,
heart-felt, been through hell
Hallelujah.
I'll bring my storm tossed, torn sail,
story to tell Hallelujah. Ooooh.
Cause God, You've been patient.
God, You've been gracious,
faithful whatever I'm feeling or facing.
I'll bring my hard fought,
heart-felt, it is well hallelujah.
Ooooh Hallelujah Hallelujah.

Ben Hastings, Brandon Lake, Chris Brown, Steven Furtick
CCLI Song #7245804

© Brandon Lake Music; Music by Elevation Worship Publishing; Remaining
portion is unaffiliated

COMMUNION SONG *Lord, I Lift Your Name on High*

Verse 1

Lord, I lift Your name on high;
Lord, I love to sing Your praises.
I'm so glad You're in my life;
I'm so glad You came to save us.

Chorus

Chorus

You came from heaven to earth
to show the way,
from the earth to the cross
my debt to pay;
From the cross to the grave,
from the grave to the sky;
Lord, I lift Your name on high.

Repeat after Verse 3

Verse 2

Lord, I lift Your name on high;
Lord, I love to sing Your praises.
I'm so glad You're in my life;
I'm so glad You came to save us.

Chorus

Verse 3

Lord, I lift Your name on high;
Lord, I love to sing Your praises.
I'm so glad You're in my life;
I'm so glad You came to save us.

Chorus

Rick Founds
CCLI Song #117947
© 1989 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

PRAYER LIST

The Family of LouAnn Garner	Lisa F.	Kitty R.
Tristan P.	Bob E.	Lainey M.
Cece W.	Rev. Sandra L.	Angie F.
Jerome J. & Family	Mindy	Pat & Brian R.
The Family of Jim Waggoner	Eric P.	Wanda J.
Gayle K.	Tom K.	Mark A.
Angie L.	Jane A.	Deon C.
Rita T.	Linda S.	Tony V.
Aubrey F.	Elizabeth & Family	The Family of Rev. Dr. Daniel Paavola, cousin of Suzanne Aho

SENDING HYMN *I Can Only Imagine*

Verse 1

I can only imagine
what it will be like
when I walk by Your side.
I can only imagine
what my eyes will see
when Your face is before me.
I can only imagine.

Chorus 1

Verse 2

I can only imagine.
when that day comes
and I find myself standing in the Son.
I can only imagine
when all I will do
Is forever, forever worship You.
I can only imagine,
I can only imagine.

Chorus 2

Chorus 1

Surrounded by Your glory,
what will my heart feel?
Will I dance for You, Jesus,
or in awe of You be still?
Will I stand in Your presence
or to my knees will I fall?
Will I sing hallelujah?
Will I be able to speak at all?
I can only imagine,
I can only imagine.

Chorus 2

Surrounded by Your glory,
what will my heart feel?
Will I dance for You, Jesus,
or in awe of You be still?
Will I stand in Your presence
or to my knees will I fall?
Will I sing hallelujah?
Will I be able to speak at all?
I can only imagine,
I can only imagine.
(Repeat)

I can only imagine, yeah,
I can only imagine.
I can only imagine.
I can only imagine.

I can only imagine when all I will do
Is forever, forever worship You.
I can only imagine.

Bart Millard
CCLI Song #2978857
2001, 2002 Simpleville Music

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.
Thanks be to God.

From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Easter Worship Schedule

Palm Sunday 9 a.m.
Maundy Thursday 6:30 p.m.
Good Friday 12 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.
Easter Sunday 9 a.m. & 11a.m.