

“The Love of our Heavenly Father!”

Text: 1 John 3:1–7

Date: 04/18/21

Verse to Remember:

“See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are.” 1 John 3:1

Points to Ponder:

1. Does God love us? How do we know?
2. How does God show His love for us?
3. Do you love God? How do you show your love to God?
4. Do you love yourself more than you love God?
5. How does God want us to show our love to Him?
6. Psalm 51:10 “Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.”

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6 p.m. Sat., April 17, & 8:15 a.m. Sun., April 18, 2021
Sermon: “The Love of Our Heavenly Father!”
Text: 1 John 3:1–7



St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School

- a Family to Whom You Belong -

Our Mission is to: **Make More & Better Disciples**

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

(6 p.m. Sat. April 17, & 8:15 a.m. Sun. April 18, 2021)

Servants of God's House Today:

Pastor: Rev. Kenny Hsu **DCE Intern:** Grace Wolfgram

Organists: 6 p.m. Sat., Joyce Seymour; 8:15 a.m. Sun. Mabel Huldeen

Ushers: Doug Lehr

Missionaries: Rev. Shauen & Krista Trump, Rev. Tim & Lisa Beckendorf,
Rev. Paul Flo, Rev. Charles Cortwright

Elders: 6 p.m. Sat. Tim Draube, 8:15 a.m. Sun. Daryl Heimgartner

Readers: 6 p.m. Sat. Grace Wolfram; 8:15 a.m. Sun. Suzy Joines

WELCOME! We are glad that you are here worshipping God with us. We pray for God's blessings to you and invite you to come back again soon.

AS WE GATHER Often, a person knows he or she is loved by what is done by another. From the words said, actions shown, and even at times gifts given from parents to children, spouses to each other, friends among one another, and more, we can often sense the motivation of love behind many forms of kindness and care. How can we know God's love for us? It's in some ways similar to our earthly relationships, but is from One who always loves perfectly. "See what kind of love the Father has given to us" (1 John 3:1). The Lord speaks His Word of unchanging truth, promise, and hope. He gives the action of sending His one and only Son to this world to live, die, and be raised to life that we may have a new and forgiven life in Him. He gives the gift of His Means of Grace claiming us as His own in Baptism and providing Christ's body and blood for our forgiveness of sins and nourishment of faith. Unlike love shown in temporal earthly ways, His love is eternal and everlasting and one we are blessed to see with eyes of faith and know in our hearts as we continue in this Easter season, rejoicing in the fact that Christ is risen!

HOLY COMMUNION The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod believes the Biblical teaching that in communion we receive not the symbolic but the true body and blood of Jesus Christ with the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins. If you are a baptized Christian who has been instructed in the same Biblical teaching, and if you agree with the announcement on our communion card and the confession of our faith, please join us to receive the gifts that Jesus Christ has prepared for us in communion. If you have any questions or uncertainties, please feel free to make an appointment to talk with the pastor during the week before communing with us.

Sanctus Holy, Holy, Holy (*Sung*)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

Lord's Prayer

Words of our Lord

Pax Domini

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

Agnus Dei Lamb of God (*Sung*)

**O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.**

**O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.**

Reading of the Communion Announcement Card

(Please be seated)

The Distribution Hymns

"At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing" LSB 633 vs. 1-4

"The Lamb" LSB 547

(Stand as you are able)

The Post Communion Collect

P: We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Benedicamus & Benediction

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C: Amen.

The Closing Hymn

"Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng"

LSB 813 vs1,3,5,7

Silent Prayer

Postlude

+ + + + +

P: Lord, every moment of joy comes from You. We thank You for the blessings You have poured out upon us. We rejoice with those who celebrating their baptismal anniversaries this week that they remain faithful to your Word including: Gabrielle Wagner, Anastasia Morgan-Baker, Joyce Segebart, Alyce Strong Davis, Dianna Anderson, Patricia Murphy, Theresa Hammond, Ryan Dean, Zoey Ford, and Alex Hinrichsen. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

Offering of God's People to their Beloved Savior

We honor God with the gifts He has given to us.

St. Paul's members have pledged to support our ministry in their tithes and offerings. Please place your offerings in the box upfront.

To our guest: Thank you for joining us today and please do not feel that you are obligated to participate. We invite you to come back again.

Please put your **Welcome Card and Communion Card** in the box at the back of the church.

Luke 12:15—And He said to them, "Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions."

Offertory Hymn "Children of the Heavenly Father" LSB 725

Confirmation: Joseph Hood (Sun 8:15 a.m. Service)

Service of the Sacrament

(Stand as you are able)

Preface Page 208

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

DIVINE SERVICE FOUR

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(The congregation is invited to respond in the words written in **bold**.)

The Ringing of the Bells

The Wave of Fellowship

Hymn of Invocation "Jesus Christ is Risen Today"

LSB 457

(stand as you are able for the last verse)

(The sign of the cross + may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.)

The Invocation

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Opening Sentences *Psalm 16:11b; 30:1-3*

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P: In Your presence there is fullness of joy;

C: at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

P: I will extol You, O LORD, for You have drawn me up

C: and have not let my foes rejoice over me.

P: O LORD my God, I cried to You for help, and You have healed me.

C: O LORD, You have brought up my soul from Sheol; You restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit.

Confession and Absolution

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth.

P: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C: But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P: Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C: Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Service of the Word

The Kyrie “Lord, Have Mercy” (Sung)

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P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

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

C: Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

P: 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.

C: Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

P: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

The Gloria in Excelsis Glory to God in the Highest (Sung)

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**To God on high be glory And peace to all the earth;
Goodwill from God in heaven Proclaimed at Jesus’ birth!
We praise and bless You, Father; Your holy name we sing—
Our thanks for Your great glory, Lord God, our heav’nly King.**

**To You, O sole-begotten, The Father’s Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus; Receive our heartfelt cry,
Where You in pow’r are seated At God’s right hand on high—**

**For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever, Be worshiped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit Alone are Lord Most High,
In God the Father’s glory. “Amen!” our glad reply.**

The Salutation and Collect of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

C: O almighty and eternal God, You have assured us of the completion of our forgiveness and new life in You through the resurrection of our Lord Jesus. You call us Your children through the waters of Baptism and give us eyes to

Hymn of the Day “How deep the Father's Love for us”

1) How deep the Father's love for us, How vast beyond all measure
That He should give His only Son To make a wretch His treasure
How great the pain of searing loss, The Father turns His face away
As wounds which mar the Chosen One, Bring many sons to glory

2) Behold the Man upon a cross, My sin upon His shoulders
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice, Call out among the scoffers
It was my sin that held Him there Until it was accomplished
His dying breath has brought me life I know that it is finished

3) I will not boast in anything No gifts, no power, no wisdom
But I will boast in Jesus Christ His death and resurrection
Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer
But this I know with all my heart His wounds have paid my ransom

(Words & music by Stuart Townend, 1995 Kingsway's Thankyou Music, used by permission CCLI #11440148 and 20162974)

Sermon “The Love of Our Heavenly Father!” Text: 1 John 3:1–7

The Prayer of the Church

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

We pray for all people of the world, that the Easter joy that shines by the radiance of Your Son, our risen Savior, Jesus Christ, would arise in the hearts and minds of all people. Grant all Your people the needs of body and life by the daily bread You provide, and keep all from harm. Lord, in your mercy

C: Hear our prayer

P: Lord of all care, give comfort to those who face troubles in this life in their spiritual, emotional, and mental need. Give healing according to Your will for those who face physical trials, including Sara Sparr. Grant peace to all who mourn, that Christ's Easter victory would point beyond earthly death and the grave to the promises assured forevermore. Lord, in your mercy

C: Hear our prayer

P: Lord of all provision, look with favor upon our land and all in authority that they lead with wisdom and compassion for all. Be with those who serve and defend from harm, and those who work to keep communities safe and in order. Bless all vocations that all would see their work for others as joyful service to You and Your creation. Lord, in your mercy

C: Hear our prayer

P: Grant Your Spirit that our eyes always be open to see Your love for us in Christ through Your Word and Means of Grace, that as we live as Your children we love as You have first loved us and confidently witness and proclaim the Easter joy within us to all. Lord, in your mercy

C: Hear our prayer

⁶No one who abides in him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as he is righteous.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Stand as you are able)

The Alleluia and Verse *Romans 6:9; Luke 24:32*

C: Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him. Alleluia. Did not our hearts burn within us while He talked to us on the road, while He opened to us the Scriptures? Alleluia.

(Please remain standing for the Gospel and the Creed)

The Holy Gospel *Luke 24:36–49* (Amid disciples' doubts, the resurrected Christ affirms the fulfillment of God's Word.)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 24th chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

³⁶As they were talking about these things, Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, "Peace to you!" ³⁷But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit. ³⁸And he said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me, and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have."

⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate before them.

⁴⁴Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled."

⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

The Nicene Creed (Sat. 6:00 p.m. Service)

(Please be seated)

Children's Message

see Your love for us in Your only-begotten Son. Give us the will to show forth in our lives the faith we profess with our lips; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The First Reading Acts 3:11–21 (Peter preaches salvation through Christ.)

¹¹While he clung to Peter and John, all the people ran together to them in the portico called Solomon's, astounded. ¹²And when Peter saw it he addressed the people: "Men of Israel, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we have made him walk?"

¹³"The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified his servant Jesus, whom you delivered over and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses.

¹⁶And his name—by faith in his

name—has made this man strong whom you see and know, and the faith that is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all. ¹⁷"And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers.

¹⁸But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer, he thus fulfilled. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out, ²⁰that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, ²¹whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets long ago.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Gradual We praise God together in the words of the Gradual.

adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6

C: Christ has risen from the dead. God the Father has crowned Him with glory and honor, He has given Him dominion over the works of His hands; He has put all things under His feet.

The Epistle Lesson 1 John 3:1–7 (We are God's children now.)

¹See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him,

because we shall see him as he is. ³And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure. ⁴Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness.

⁵You know that he appeared to take away sins, and in him there is no sin.