

CONCORDIA

Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod
725 Truxton Drive, Kingsport, TN.

Prayers, Readings, Sermon Notes, Hymns
To Study and Share with those You Love.

Week of March 27, 2022

concordiakingsport.org/facebook. 10:30am



*While we were still
a long way off,
He saw us and felt
compassion.*

Luke 15:20

Hymn of Invocation. *I Trust, O Christ, in You Alone* LSB #972

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

INTROIT PSALM 51

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your | steadfast love;* according to your abundant mercy blot out my trans- | gressions. **Wash me thoroughly from my in- | iquity,* and cleanse me | from my sin!** For I know my trans- | gressions,* and my sin is ever be- | fore me. **Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil | in your sight,* so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your | judgment.** Behold, I was brought forth in in- | iquity,* and in sin did my mother con- | ceive me. **Behold, you delight in truth in the inward | being,* and you teach me wisdom in the | secret heart. Glory to the Father and | to the Son* and to the Holy | Spirit; as it was in the be- | ginning,* is now, and will be forever. | Amen.** Have mercy on me, O God, according to your | steadfast love;* according to your abundant mercy blot out my trans- | gressions.

COLLECT

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

PSALM 32

Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit. For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin. Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found; surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not reach him. You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance. I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you. Be not like a horse or a mule, without understanding, which must be curbed with bit and bridle, or it will not stay near you. Many are the sorrows of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the LORD. Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart! Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning,* is now, and will be forever. Amen. Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!

SELECTED READINGS FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT.27 MARCH 2022.

Old Testament/Isaiah 12:1–6. Epistle/2 Corinthians 5:16–21. Gospel/Luke 15:1–3, 11–32

Jesus Christ Has Reconciled Us to the Father

- God the Father has opened His heart to us in love. While we were “*still a long way off,*” He saw us and “*felt compassion*” (Luke 15:20).
- Therefore, He gave His only begotten Son for us, making “*him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God*” (2 Cor. 5:21).
- By the ministry of reconciliation, He runs to us, embraces us in mercy and clothes us with His glory as beloved sons in Christ Jesus. And so we give thanks unto the Lord our God, who has taken away our sins and turned His anger from us (Is. 12:1). Because He has become our salvation, our strength and our song, we “*will trust, and will not be afraid*” (Is. 12:2).

NICENE CREED

Hymn of the Day. **God Loved the World So That He Gave** LSB #571

SERMON FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Make Merry and Be Glad! Luke 15:31-32

"But the father replied, 'My dear son, you have been with me all the time and everything I have is yours. But we had to celebrate and show our joy. For this is your brother; I thought he was dead—and he's alive. I thought he was lost—and he is found!'"

When those who have turned their backs on God -- spiritually dead and lost in a wilderness of sin -- when they are brought back to life we are invited to experience true joy with the angels of heaven who make merry and are glad over one sinner who turns to God.

1. **Turning our backs on God robs us of true joy**
 - a. He took a journey into a far country
 - b. A severe famine arose, and he began to be in need
2. **Turning back to God makes the return of true joy possible**
 - a. I will arise and go to my father
 - b. His father ran, embraced him and kissed him
3. **God wants everyone to make merry and be glad**
 - a. This Man welcomes / receives sinners and eats with them!
 - b. Son, you are always with me and all that is mine is yours

PRAAYER OF THE CHURCH. 4TH SUNDAY IN LENT. 27 MARCH 2022

Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your steadfast love. Give us a proper knowledge of the evil we have done in Your sight, move us to confess our offenses against You, and justify us by Your holy absolution. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Father in heaven, You welcome us into Your family for the sake of Your Son. Call us to repentance when we wander from Your ways or believe we have earned a place in Your household by our works, and return us to the confident joy that in Christ alone we are found and alive. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We thank You, Lord God Almighty, that You have made Your deeds known among us. Bless pastors, teachers, musicians and all church workers in their daily labors to make known Your deeds among the peoples. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, we are brought forth in iniquity and conceived in sin. Make us ever grateful that in Holy Baptism You forgive and enliven even the smallest child, and that for Jesus' sake You wash us thoroughly from our iniquity and cleanse us from our sin. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, in Christ You were reconciling the world to Yourself. Watch over our nation and all whom You have placed in authority. Give them wisdom and prudence, that Your people might live in peace and freely make known the message of reconciliation. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, hear our prayers for all who cry out to You for mercy, healing and help *[including* _____ *].* Deliver them according to Your will and, as You have made them a new creation in Christ, keep them mindful of the day when sorrow and sickness will be no more. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Great in our midst is the Holy One of Israel, who visits us this day with His body and blood! Give to all who partake of this holy communion penitent hearts that properly receive Christ Jesus as their strength and salvation. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord of glory, fill the hearts of Your people in all their various callings with the joy of Your salvation, that they may make it known in all the earth. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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