809 Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!

Stand

Fifth Sunday in Lent – March 29, 2020
Our Redeemer Lutheran – Carrollton, IL

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Tune: Public domain

1. Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
   There is no shadow of turning with Thee.
   As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be.
   Morning by morning new mercies I see;
   Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

2. Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
   Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above.
   To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.
   All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;

3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endures,
   Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
   Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!
   Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Join with all nature in manifold witness
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

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

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.

Kneel/Stand

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

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Stand

Service of the Word
Introit

Out of the depths
I have called to you, O LORD.
   Lord, hear my voice.
Let your ears be attentive to the sound of my cry for mercy.
   If you, Lord, kept a record of guilt,
O Lord, who could stand?
   But with you there is pardon,
so you are feared.
   I wait for the Lord. My soul waits,
and in his word I have put my hope.
   My soul waits for the Lord
   more than watchmen wait for the morning,
more than watchmen wait for the morning.
   Israel, wait confidently for the Lord,
because with the Lord there is mercy.
   With him there is abundant redemption.
So he himself will redeem Israel from all its guilt.

Kyrie

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray. Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.
The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of the valley, and it was full of bones.  

2 He led me all around them on all sides. There were very many on the valley floor, and they were very dry. 

3 He said to me, “Son of man, can these dry bones come back to life?” 

And I answered, “Lord God, you know.” 

4 Then he said to me, “Prophesy to these bones and say to them, ‘Dry bones, hear the word of the Lord.’” 

5 This is what the Lord God says to these bones: I am about to make breath enter you so you will come back to life. 

6 I will attach tendons to you. I will put flesh on you. I will cover you with skin and put breath in you, and you will come back to life. Then you will know that I am the Lord.” 

7 So I prophesied as I had been commanded, and as I was prophesying there was a noise, in fact, a rattling, as the bones came together, as each bone connected to the right bone. 

8 As I watched, tendons appeared on them, then flesh came on them, and he covered them over with skin from above. But there was no breath in them. 

9 Then he said to me, “Prophesy to the wind. Prophesy, son of man, and say to the wind that this is what the Lord God says: From the four winds, come, O breath, and blow into these slain that they may come back to life. 

10 So I prophesied as he commanded me. Breath entered them, and they came back to life. They stood on their feet, a very, very large army. 

11 Then he said to me, “Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They are saying, ‘Our bones are dried up. Our hope is lost. We have been completely cut off.’ 

12 Therefore, prophesy and say to them that this is what the Lord God says: ‘I am going to open your graves and raise you up from your graves, O my people, and bring you into the land of Israel. 

13 Then you will know that I am the Lord when I open your graves and when I raise you up from your graves, O my people. 

14 I will put my Spirit in you, and you will come back to life. I will settle you on your own land, and you will know that I am the Lord. What I have spoken I will do, declares the Lord.”

A This is the Word of the Lord. 
C Thanks be to God.
Epistle  

So then, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For in Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death. Indeed, what the law was unable to do, because it was weakened by the flesh, God did, when he sent his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to deal with sin. God condemned sin in his flesh, so that the righteous decree of the law would be fully satisfied in us who are not walking according to the flesh, but according to the spirit.

To be sure, those who are in harmony with the sinful flesh think about things the way the sinful flesh does, and those in harmony with the spirit think about things the way the spirit does. Now, the way the sinful flesh thinks results in death, but the way the spirit thinks results in life and peace. For the mind-set of the sinful flesh is hostile to God, since it does not submit to God’s law, and in fact, it cannot. Those who are in the sinful flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the sinful flesh but in the spirit, if indeed God’s Spirit lives in you. And if someone does not have the Spirit of Christ, that person does not belong to Christ. But if Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin, but your spirit is alive because of righteousness. And if the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, the one who raised Christ from the dead will also make your mortal bodies alive through his Spirit, who is dwelling in you.

A This is the Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Holy Gospel  

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eleventh chapter.
C Glory to You, O Lord.

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days.

Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles away. Many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them concerning their brother.

When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him, while Mary was sitting in the house.
21 Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you.”

22 Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.”

23 Martha replied, “I know that he will rise in the resurrection on the Last Day.”

24 Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me will live, even if he dies. And whoever lives and believes in me will never perish. Do you believe this?”

25 “Yes, Lord,” she told him. “I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who was to come into the world.” …

38 Jesus was deeply moved again as he came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. “Take away the stone,” he said.

Martha, the dead man’s sister, told him, “Lord, by this time there will be an odor, because it has been four days.”

40 Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?” So they took away the stone.

Jesus looked up and said, “Father, I thank you that you heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.” After he said this, he shouted with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!”

44 The man who had died came out with his feet and his hands bound with strips of linen and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus told them, “Loose him and let him go.”

45 Therefore many of the Jews who came to Mary and saw what Jesus did believed in him. But some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done. So the chief priests and the Pharisees called a meeting of the Sanhedrin. They asked, “What are we going to do, because this man is doing many miraculous signs? If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him. Then the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation.”

48 But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, “You know nothing at all. You do not even consider that it is better for us that one man die for the people than that the whole nation perish.” He did not say this on his own, but, as high priest that year, he prophesied that Jesus was going to die for the nation, and not only for that nation, but also in order to gather into one the scattered children of God. So from that day on they plotted to kill him.
P  This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C  Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles’ Creed
C  I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
    maker of heaven and earth.

    And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
    From thence 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.
Prayer of the Church

P We come, O Lord, with the dry bones of our broken hopes and disappointed dreams. Bind us up in Christ, that we may learn to pray with confidence, trusting in Your mercy to supply us with all things needful to us and to our salvation.

Brief silence

Almighty God, everlasting Father, You saw Israel in their despair and raised them up to hope by placing Your Spirit upon them. Raise us up from our weariness and grant us Your Spirit, that we may be strong in faith, bold in witness, holy in life and steadfast in hope. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.
O eternal Lord, Your Son has given us the new birth of water and the Word and planted faith in us, that we might be Your own children. Bless Your Church, and supply her with able and caring pastors to nurture us in Your Word and raise up faithful church workers who will serve us in Your name. Keep Your Church in Your mercy, that she may believe without fear and love without limit. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

O God of power and might, You hold in Your hand all the might of man. Give to us good government and faithful leaders who will heed Your Word and pursue righteousness and justice. Bless and defend us against all our enemies, and teach us to be good and faithful citizens of this land, using all Your manifold resources wisely and for the good of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

O merciful Lord, Your Son shed tears for Lazarus, whom He loved. Grant Your compassion, patience and endurance to all who suffer illness, who are troubled in mind or whose time on earth is short. [Especially do we pray for ___________] Raise us by Your gracious intercession, and deliver us from the afflictions of this life to reign with You in heaven forevermore. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

O eternal God, You carry the grief of those who mourn and remember all who die in Christ. Give comfort to the grieving and peace to the dying, that they would not grieve as people without hope but trust in You to deliver us from death to life everlasting. Hear us especially on behalf of the families of ___________ and for all those we name in our hearts. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

O gracious God, You daily and richly grant us all things we need for this body and life. Bless our labors, and grant us wisdom to use the fruits of those labors wisely and well, for the care of our families, for the poor in their needs, and for the support of Your work in this congregation. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.
O blessed Lord, Your Word continues to go forth and bear good fruit. Bless the missionaries planting churches near and far, bless those churches with whom we partner in the worldwide work of the Gospel, and bless the congregations now struggling to fulfill Your bidding and do what You have called them to do in Your name. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

O loving God, You established the family and ordered our relationships by Your Word. Renew husbands and wives in their love for each other, and refresh Your families in the grace of caring, that our homes may be places of blessing and peace where we serve each other in Your name. Lord, in Your mercy,

hear our prayer.

O Lord, God Almighty, through Your Son You have kept the promise of the ages and rescued us from sin. You have raised up the dry bones of a people captive to death and made us alive in Christ forever. Sustain us in this hope, that we may endure the tests, trials and troubles of this life and be ready when our Savior comes again in His glory; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord’s Prayer

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.

Benedicamus

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Benediction

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.

Donations for church may be mailed to; Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 208 7th street, Carrollton, IL 62016  
-or contact Pastor for information on how to make direct deposit donations.

Service plans for coming weeks;  
April 1, 7 PM online Wed. Lent Service on YouTube/ Google Meet  
April 4, 9 AM online Palm Sun. Service on YouTube/ Google Meet  

For services after April 7, we will continue online formats for any who need them, but will await the Governor’s instructions on what comes next.

April 8, 7 PM Maundy Thursday Service  
April 9, 7 PM Good Friday Service  
April 11, 9 AM Easter Service

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book  
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