**4th Sunday**

**in Lent**

“My song is love unknown, my Savior’s love to me, love to the loveless shown that they might lovely be. Oh, who am I that for my sake my Lord should take frail flesh and die?” *LSB* 430:1

**AS WE GATHER**

We hear today of eternal life that is given to us because of God’s great love for us, shown to us in perhaps the most famous Bible verse, John 3:16. This verse speaks of God’s genuine love for us and the world shown in Jesus’ death on the cross for us. The love of God never ends. God’s love is present here and now and extends into eternal life as eternal love. May we be so encouraged by God’s love to share it with others. Thanks be to God for such love!

**+ CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION +**

(*LSB*, Divine Service, Setting Four, pg. 203)

**+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +**

**HYMN** *“My Song Is Love Unknown”* (*LSB* 430, vs. 1-4)

**SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY** (*LSB*, pg. 205)

**OLD TESTAMENT** Numbers 21:4-9 *(bulletin insert)*

**INTROIT** *(bulletin insert)*

**EPISTLE** Ephesians 2:1-10 *(bulletin insert)*

**HOLY GOSPEL** John 3:14-21 *(bulletin insert)*

**NICENE CREED** (*LSB*, pg. 206)

**HYMN** *“God Loved the Word So That He Gave”* (*LSB* 571)

**SERMON *“By Sweet Grace”***

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**RETURNING OF OUR FIRST FRUITS**

**+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +**

**Divine Service and the Close Fellowship of Holy Communion**

*Our Lord speaks and we listen. His Word bestows what it says. Faith that is born from what is heard acknowledges the gifts received with eager thankfulness and praise. The gifts include the Holy Supper in which we receive His true body and blood to eat and drink. Those welcome to the table acknowledge the real presence of the body and blood of Christ, confess their own sinfulness, and in true faith wish to receive the forgiveness and strength promised through this Holy Sacrament, as* ***instructed*** *… and* ***in unity of faith*** *… with God’s people here in this congregation. It is our sincerest desire that you join in the intimacy of this fellowship. However, if you are not, yet, an instructed and confirmed member-in-good-standing of a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, please visit with the pastor about such a fellowship before communing. If you wish to come forward for a blessing, you are welcome to join us at the rail to receive such. Please cross your arms in front of you to indicate that desire.*

**COMMUNION LITURGY** (*LSB*, pg. 208-210)

**DISTRIBUTION**

*“Jesus Loves Me”* (*LSB* 588)

*“What Wondrous Love Is This”* (*LSB* 543)

**NUNC DIMITTIS** *“Song of Simeon”*(*LSB*, pg. 211)

**POST-COMMUNION COLLECT** (*LSB*, pg. 212)

### BENEDICAMUS and BENEDICTION (LSB, pg. 212)

**HYMN** *“My Song Is Love Unknown”* (*LSB* 430, vs. 5-7)

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 **All are welcome …**

 **… Christ is honored.**