

# God's Love Is Shown

## A Series of Services for Lent and Holy Week

### Week 3: Enriching Love

#### Order of Service

*I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge. [L] [SEP]1 Corinthians 1:4-5*

#### **Opening Hymn ... Today Your Mercy Calls Us (LSB #915)**

Today your mercy calls us to wash away our sin.  
However great our trespass, whatever we have been,  
However long from mercy our hearts have turned away,  
Your precious blood can wash us and make us clean today.

Today your gate is open, and all who enter in  
Shall find a Father's welcome and pardon for their sin.  
The past shall be forgotten, a present joy be giv'n,  
A future grace be promised, a glorious crown in heav'n.

Today our Father calls us; the Holy Spirit waits;  
His blessed angels gather around the heav'nly gates.  
No question will be asked us how often we have come;  
Although we oft have wandered, it is our Father's home.

O all-embracing Mercy, O ever-open Door,  
What should we do without you when heart and eye run o'er?  
When all things seem against us, to drive us to despair,  
We know one gate is open, one ear will hear our prayer.

#### **Invocation and Litany**

P In the name of the Father,

**C Who enriches us with his creation;**

P and of the Son,

**C Who enriches us with his redemption;**

P and of the Holy Spirit,

**C Who enriches us with his sanctification. Amen! Amen! Amen!**

### **Confession and Absolution**

P As we continue this Lenten journey of love, we reflect on his enriching love, that he doesn't allow us to stay where we are, but keeps us going and growing. When we fall he leads us to repentance so that we can receive the solid food of his love. Let us now turn to him in repentance and faith that he may refresh and enrich us.

*(Silence for reflection on God's Word and self-examination)*

**C Heavenly Father, I admit that I have become too comfortable with the status quo. I have not loved you with my whole heart. I have not loved my neighbor as myself. I have not grown in my love toward you or toward my fellow man. Instead I have regressed back into my sinful self. I am so sorry for rejecting your enriching love out of selfishness and sinfulness. Please forgive me.**

P Out of God's enriching love, he has brought you out of darkness and into his marvelous light. He has not given you what your sins deserve, but has forgiven you. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen! Amen! Amen!**

### **Hymn of Praise... Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (LSB#700)**

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heav'n to earth come down:  
Fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown:  
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;  
Visit us with thy salvation, enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into ev'ry troubled breast;  
Let us all in thee inherit, let us find the promised rest:  
Take away the love of sinning; alpha and Omega be;  
End of faith, as its Beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive;  
Suddenly return, and never, never more thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,  
Pray and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

Finish, then, thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be:  
Let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee;  
Changed from glory into glory, 'til in heav'n we take our place,  
'Til we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

### **Prayer of the Day**

**Old Testament Reading ... Deuteronomy 28:1-6**

**Epistle Reading ... 1 Corinthians 1:1-9**

**Gospel Reading ... Matthew 5:1-12**

**Sermon Hymn ... My Faith Looks Up To Thee (LSB #702)**

My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine:  
now hear me while I pray, Take all my guilt away,  
O let me from this day Be wholly thine.

May thy rich grace impart strength to my fainting heart, My zeal inspire;  
as thou hast died for me, O may my love to thee  
pure, warm, and changeless be, A living fire.

While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs around me spread, Be thou my guide;  
bid darkness turn to day, Wipe sorrow's tears away,  
nor let me ever stray From thee aside.

When ends life's transient dream, when death's cold, sullen stream Shall o'er me roll,  
Blest Savior, then, in love, Fear and distrust remove;  
O bear me safe above, A ransomed soul.

### **Sermon**

**Hymn of Response ... Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer (LSB #918)**

Guide me, O thou great Redeemer, pilgrim through this barren land;  
I am weak, but thou art mighty; hold me with thy powerful hand:  
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me now and evermore,  
Feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow;  
Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through:  
Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer, be thou still my strength and shield;  
Be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;  
Death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side:  
Songs of praises, songs of praises, I will ever give to thee,  
I will ever give to thee.

## **Prayers**

**P** Loving Lord, you enrich us with your love minute by minute and day by day. We are full to overflowing. Help us to acknowledge your love and to truly live in it, that we may be a blessing to a world that desperately needs to know your love too. Lord, in your mercy,

**C Enrich us with your love.**

**P** Loving Lord, as we deal with a world that seems to be crumbling, because it is not enriched by you, keep us steadfast in your Word. Fill us with your love so that we are not destroyed by the changes and chances of this world, but that we may be examples of your faithfulness. Lord, in your mercy,

**C Enrich us with your love.**

**P** Loving Lord, to show your loving power you heal people. According to your will, heal all those who are dealing with any earthly infirmity of body or mind. As they wait on your healing, give them peace, patience, and grace. Use their affliction to grow them in your love so they would know that all good things come from you. Lord, in your mercy,

**C Enrich us with your love.**

**P** Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your enriching love, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C Amen.**

## **Lord's Prayer**

### **Benediction**

## **Closing Hymn ... I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus (LSB #729)**

I am trusting thee, Lord Jesus, trusting only thee;  
Trusting thee for full salvation, great and free.

I am trusting thee for pardon; at thy feet I bow,  
For thy grace and tender mercy trusting now.

I am trusting thee for cleansing in the crimson flood;  
Trusting thee to make me holy by thy blood.

I am trusting thee to guide me; thou alone shalt lead,  
Ev'ry day and hour supplying all my need.

I am trusting thee for power; thine can never fail.  
Words which thou thyself shalt give me must prevail.

I am trusting thee, Lord Jesus; never let me fall.  
I am trusting thee forever and for all.