

GUIDED
to the
CROSS

Week 2
GUIDED TO LOVE

Guided to Love

Midweek Lent 2
February 28, 2024

I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. 1

Timothy 1:13-14

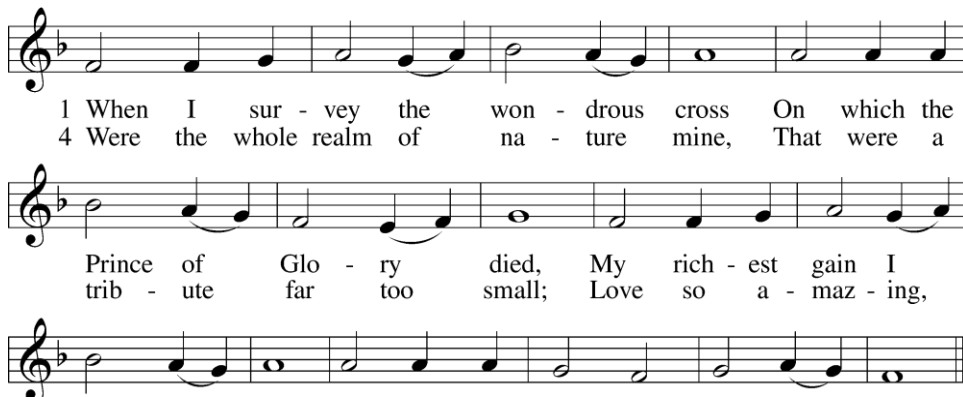
AS WE GATHER

In this service for Week 2 of Lent, we are drawn to Calvary to receive love. In word and song, we contemplate how to live lives of love in response to the love Christ showed us on the cross.

Opening Hymn

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

LSB 425 Vs 1,4



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross On which the
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, That were a
Prince of Glo - ry died, My rich - est gain I
trib - ute far too small; Love so a - maz - ing,
count but loss And pour con - tempt on all my pride.
so di - vine, De - mands my soul, my life, my all!

Invocation and Call to Worship

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P As the hour of his death drew near, Jesus said, “Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? But for this purpose I have come to this hour.” (John 12:27) Throughout his earthly ministry, the cross stood before Jesus. It was his purpose in coming to the earth. Guided by love and in obedience to his Father’s will, Jesus came to lay down his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the world.

C **The cross of Jesus guides us in the way of obedience as we seek to do God’s will.**

P God tells us in his Word, "Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God." (Ephesians 5:2)

C The cross of Jesus guides us in the way of sacrifice.

P On the night before he died, Jesus told his disciples, "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another." (John 13:34)

C The cross of Jesus guides us in the way of love.

P Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

P Let us confess our sins to God and ask his forgiveness.

C Almighty God, you have called us to walk in love as Jesus did, yet we often turn away from showing love to others and choose to walk in our own selfish ways. We listen to the temptations of the world around us instead of following your Word. We fail to share with others the blessings that you have given to us. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Lead us to share your love with others.

P God has had mercy on us. This is how he loved the world—he sent his Son to be the Savior. Jesus, the Lamb of God, suffered and died on the cross to take away the sins of the world. He suffered and died to take away your sins. I announce to you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

C Lead us, Lord Jesus, to walk in love as you did, and to reflect your love in the world.

Prayer of the Day

P Almighty God, in your love for the world you sent your Son to be our Savior. The Lord Jesus came to give his life for us, to suffer and die on the cross for us. By your grace, through faith in Jesus, we have forgiveness for our sins and the gift of eternal life. As we follow our Lord through this season of Lent, help us to walk in love as he did and to forgive others as we have been forgiven. Let the cross of our Lord always go before us to guide us in the way of love. Hear our prayer and accept our praise in Jesus' name. Amen.

Hymn "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

LSB 700 vss 1,4



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of
4 Fin - ish then Thy new cre - a - tion, Pure and



heav'n, to earth come down! Fix in us Thy
spot - less let us be; Let us see Thy



hum - ble dwell - ing, All Thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.
great sal - va - tion Per - fect - ly re - stored in Thee,



Je - sus, Thou art all com - pas - sion, Pure, un -
Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, Till in



bound - ed love Thou art; Vis - it us with
heav'n we take our place, Till we cast our



Thy sal - va - tion, En - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
crowns be - fore Thee, Lost in won - der, love, and praise!

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 63:7-8

I will recount the steadfast love of the Lord, the praises of the Lord, according to all that the Lord has granted us, and the great goodness to the house of Israel that he has granted them according to his compassion, according to the abundance of his steadfast love. For he said, "Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely." And he became their Savior.

Epistle Reading

1 Timothy 1:12-14

I thank him who has given me strength, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service, though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Reading

John 19:25-27

Standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.



Sermon Hymn

At The Cross (Love Ran Red) Vs 1, chorus, Vs 2, Chorus



1. There's a place where mer - cy reigns and nev - er dies,
2. There's a place where sin and shame are pow - er - less,



there's a place where streams of grace flow deep and wide;
where my heart has peace with God and for - give - ness;



Where all the love I've ev - er found comes like a flood, comes flow - ing down.
Where all the love I've ev - er found comes like a flood, comes flow - ing down.



At the cross, at the cross, I sur - ren - der my life. I'm in awe of You, I'm in



awe of You. Where Your love ran red, and my sin washed white. I owe all to You, I owe



all to You, Je - sus.

Sermon

“Guided to Love”

Pastor Scott Henze

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 T Amen.

Offering

Prayers

P Heavenly Father, you loved the world in this way—you sent your Son as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the world. Throughout his earthly ministry, Jesus was guided by the cross that was set before him. During this season of Lent, lead us in true repentance. Father of our Lord,

C Set Jesus' cross before us to guide us in the way of love.

P Heavenly Father, in obedience to your will and out of love for us, Jesus laid down his life for us. He bore our sins in his body on the tree of the cross, suffering the penalty of death that we deserve for our sins. Help us by your Spirit to look to Jesus alone for salvation. Father of our Lord,

C Set Jesus' cross before us to guide us in the way of love.

P Heavenly Father, there are people among us who must bear the heavy cross of suffering, grief or pain. We pray that, according to your will, you would bring them help and healing. Lead us to serve them in love and bring to them the comfort and hope found in the promises of your Word. Father of our Lord,

C Set Jesus' cross before us to guide us in the way of love.

P Heavenly Father, send your Spirit to guide us and lead us to walk in love as Jesus walked. Help us to put the needs of others ahead of our own interests. Guide us in the study of your holy Word so that we are prepared to defend the hope that we have in Jesus. Lead us to serve as his witnesses in the world so that, through the power of the Holy Spirit, others will come to know and worship Jesus as Lord. Father of our Lord,

C Set Jesus' cross before us to guide us in the way of love.

P Heavenly Father, your unfailing steadfast love, your covenant love, never fails. It is the love that sent Jesus to be our Savior, to suffer, die and rise for us. It is the love that guides us now through this earthly life until we live forever in your presence. Lead us to reflect your love in the world so that others will see our good works and glorify you. Father of our Lord,

C Set Jesus' cross before us to guide us in the way of love.

P Amen.

Lord's Prayer

P Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

C 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.

The Blessing (1 John 4:9, 19; 2 Corinthians 13:14)

P In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him.

C **We love because he first loved us.**

P The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **Amen.**

Closing Hymn "God Loved the World So That He Gave" LSB 571 vss 1,2,4



1 God loved the world so that He gave His on - ly
2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, Who was made
4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son For - gives all



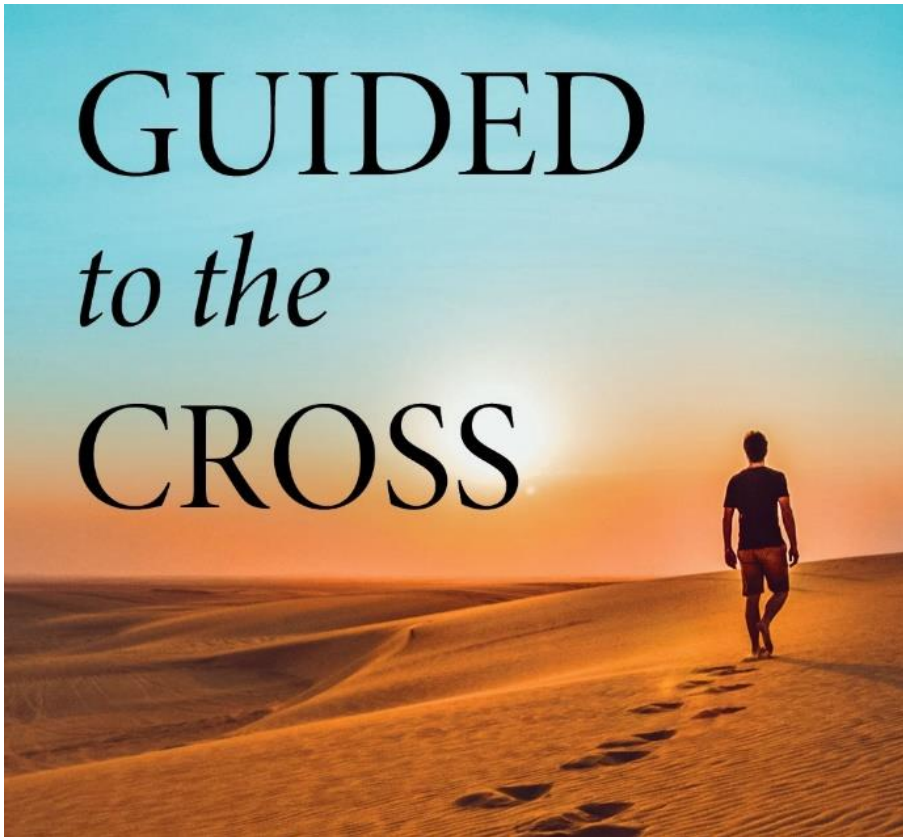
Son the lost to save, That all who would in
flesh and suf - fered death; All then who trust in
sins which you have done; And, jus - ti - fied by



Him be - lieve Should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
Him a - lone Are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.
Je - sus' blood, Your Bap - tism grants the high - est good.



Midweek Lenten Worship



Wednesday Evenings at 7:30 PM

Midweek Lent 3

March 6

Guided to Peace

Midweek Lent 4

March 13

Guided to Trust

Midweek Lent 5

March 20

Guided to Perseverance

CHILDREN'S EASTER CELEBRATION AND EGG HUNT!



Our annual EGG HUNT is one of our best community outreach events of the year. Please help this effort by donating pre-stuffed eggs. No chocolate please. Bring to the church office by Sunday, March 17.

Thank you!



STEPHEN MINISTRY

Stephen Ministers provide high-quality, one-to-one, Christ-centered care to people in the congregation and the community experiencing life difficulties. Call the church office at 954-384-9096 if you or someone you know would like to speak with a Stephen Minister.

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

Rev. Scott Henze, Pastor

Mr. Jeremy Becker, DCE, Director of Youth and Family Ministry

Mrs. Kathy Henze, Preschool Director

580 Indian Trace, Weston, Florida 33326

Church Office (954) 384-9096 † office@stpaulweston.org

www.stpaulweston.org

Sunday Worship Services: 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

Sunday School for children and youth: 9:45 AM

Adult Bible Study: 10:00 AM



Website and online giving

 **St. Paul**
LUTHERAN CHURCH
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