

Sunday, March 14th

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements



Call to Worship

Leader: From water to wilderness:

People: God's covenant continues; God's kingdom comes near.

Leader: On stone and in hearts:

People: God's covenant continues; God's kingdom comes near.

Leader: From the ancestor of nations to the Son lifted up:

People: God's covenant continues; God's kingdom comes near.

Leader: We follow Jesus on the Lenten path,

People: for where he is, we would be also.

Hymn # 2 – Come, Thou Almighty King

*Come, thou almighty King, help us thy name to sing; help us to praise: Father, all glorious, o'er all victorious,
come, and reign over us, Ancient of Days.*

*Come, thou incarnate Word, merciful, mighty Lord, our prayer attend. Come, and thy people bless, and give thy
word success; Spirit of holiness, on us descend.*

*Come, holy Comforter, thy sacred witness bear in this glad hour. Thou who almighty art, now rule in every
heart, and ne'er from us depart, Spirit of power.*

*To thee, great One in Three, eternal praises be, hence evermore! Thy sovereign majesty may we in glory see,
and to eternity love and adore.*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we confess the folly of our sin and the hypocrisy of our complaints. We grumble about the evils in our world, even as we commit injustices and profit through deceit. We fret about the scarcity of resources while hoarding earth's goods and cheating the poor. We protest the problems of our world, but we do not actively work to address them. Merciful God, expose our sins before the light of your grace. Heal our sin and free us from our foolish ways that we may know the joy of eternal life in Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Passing of the Peace

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Special Music

Prayer of Illumination

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Scripture: John 3:14-21

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon: God's Love of the World

Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed

**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 Ghost, born of the Virgin
Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third
day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the
Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Hymn # 346 – For the Healing of the Nations

*For the healing of the nations, Lord, we pray with one accord; for a just and equal sharing of the things that
earth affords; to a life of love in action help us rise and pledge our word.*

*Lead us forward into freedom; from despair your world release, that, redeemed from war and hatred, all may
come and go in peace. Show us how through care and goodness fear will die and hope increase.*

*All that kills abundant living, let it from the earth be banned: pride of status, race, or schooling, dogmas that
obscure your plan. In our common quest for justice may we hallow life's brief span.*

*You, Creator God, have written your great name on humankind; for our growing in your likeness, bring the life
of Christ to mind, That by our response and service earth its destiny may find.*

Prayers of the People

The 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the
glory, forever. Amen.**

Charge and Benediction

Congregational Response: Hymn # 205 – Live in Charity (x2)

*Live in charity and steadfast love.
Live in charity; God will dwell with you.*

Postlude

THE TRIUNE GOD

2 Come, Thou Almighty King

1 Come, thou al - might - y King, help us thy
2 Come, thou in - car - nate Word, mer - ci - ful,
3 Come, ho - ly Com - fort - er, thy sa - cred
4 To thee, great One in Three, e - ter - nal

name to sing; help us to praise:
might - y Lord, our prayer at - tend.
wit - ness bear in this glad hour.
prais - es be, hence ev - er - more!

Fa - ther, all glo - ri - ous, o'er all vic - to - ri - ous,
Come, and thy peo - ple bless, and give thy word suc - cess;
Thou who al - might - y art, now rule in ev - ery heart,
Thy sov - ereign maj - es - ty may we in glo - ry see,

come, and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days.
Spir - it of ho - li - ness, on us de - scend.
and ne'er from us de - part, Spir - it of power.
and to e - ter - ni - ty love and a - dore.

The author of this Trinitarian text is unknown, but this hymn has proved popular since the middle of the 18th century, partly because of its effective use of biblical metaphors, but also because of the strength of this tune, which was composed especially for these words.

THE LIFE OF THE NATIONS

346 For the Healing of the Nations

1 For the heal - ing of the na - tions, Lord, we pray with
 2 Lead us for - ward in - to free - dom; from de - spair your
 3 All that kills a - bun - dant liv - ing, let it from the
 4 You, Cre - a - tor God, have writ - ten your great name on

one ac - cord; for a just and e - qual shar - ing
 world re - lease, that, re - deemed from war and ha - tred,
 earth be banned: pride of sta - tus, race, or school - ing,
 hu - man - kind; for our grow - ing in your like - ness,

of the things that earth af - fords; to a life of
 all may come and go in peace. Show us how through
 dog - mas that ob - scure your plan. In our com - mon
 bring the life of Christ to mind, that by our re -

love in ac - tion help us rise and pledge our word.
 care and good - ness fear will die and hope in - crease.
 quest for jus - tice may we hal - low life's brief span.
 sponse and ser - vice earth its des - ti - ny may find.

The first line of this text quotes the declared purpose of the leaves of the tree of life growing beside the river of life in the heavenly Jerusalem (Revelation 22:2). The hymn continues by identifying some of the many ways we are called to share with God in this healing work.