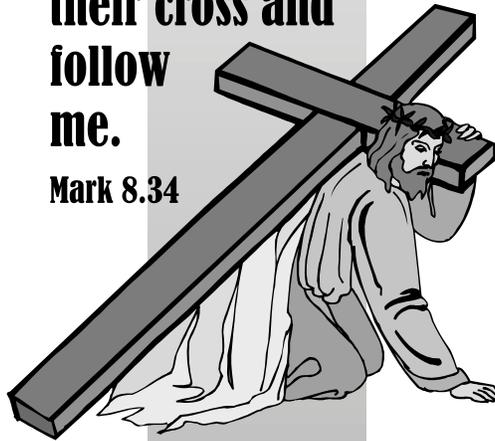


# + The Holy Communion +

Second Sunday in Lent

**If any want to become  
my followers,  
let them  
deny themselves  
and take up  
their cross and  
follow  
me.**

Mark 8.34



***February 28, 2021  
10:00 a.m.***

**CROSS OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH – ELCA**

99 South County Line Road, Crown Point, IN 46307

219-988-3650

[office@crossofchristlofs.com](mailto:office@crossofchristlofs.com)

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“Like” us on Facebook

***Rev. Dr. Mandy Brobst-Renaud – Guest Pastor  
Mallorie McCarty – Pianist***

## **Mission Statement**

Deepen relationships with our neighbors  
so we can grow in Christ together

# + The Holy Communion +

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*The second covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the one made with Abraham and Sarah: God's promise to make them the ancestors of many, with whom God will remain in everlasting covenant. Paul says this promise comes to all who share Abraham's faith in the God who brings life into being where there was no life. We receive this baptismal promise of resurrection life in faith. Sarah and Abraham receive new names as a sign of the covenant, and we too get new identities in baptism, as we put on Christ.*

The color for the Sundays in Lent is Purple, representing royalty or penitence.

*The Holy Spirit gathers us in unity on the first day of the week, the day of Christ's resurrection.*

**PRELUDE** "Grace Greater than Our Sin" by Larry Shackley

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Assembly stands.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the keeper of the covenant, the source of steadfast love, our rock and our redeemer. **Amen.**

God hears us when we cry and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**Most Holy and merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven. Have mercy on us, Lord.**

**We have been deaf to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit. Have mercy on us, Lord.**

**We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness. The pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives, we confess to you, Lord.**

**Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work, we confess to you, Lord.**

**Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us, we confess to you, Lord.**

Accept our repentance, Lord, for the wrongs we have done. For our blindness to human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty, accept our repentance, Lord.

For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, accept our repentance, Lord.

For our waste and pollution of your creation, our lack of concern for those who come after us, accept our repentance, Lord.

Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us. Hear us, Lord, for your mercy is great. Amen.

GATHERING HYMN "How Firm a Foundation" ELW #796 vs. 1 & 2



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,  
2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,



is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!  
for I am your God and will still give you aid;



What more can he say than to you he has said  
I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,



who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?  
up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand."

Text: J. Rippon, *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt.  
Music: Early American

FOUNDATION  
11 11 11 11

## GREETING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Assembly sits.

## DUET

**Mallorie McCarty and Brenda Metros**

**“Amazing Grace, My Chains Are Gone”**

by John Newton, Chris Tomlin & Louie Giglio

## Word

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### First Reading

A reading from **Genesis**, the seventeenth chapter.

*(Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16)*

17When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, “I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. <sup>2</sup>And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.” <sup>3</sup>Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, <sup>4</sup>“As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. <sup>5</sup>No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. <sup>6</sup>I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. <sup>7</sup>I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. <sup>15</sup>God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. <sup>16</sup>I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm

A reading from **Psalm 22**, read responsively

*(Psalm 22:23-31)*

You who fear the Lord, praise him!

**All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him;  
stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!**

For he did not despise or abhor

**the affliction of the afflicted; he did not hide his face from me,  
but heard when I cried to him.**

From you comes my praise in the great congregation;

**my vows I will pay before those who fear him.**

The poor shall eat and be satisfied;

**those who seek him shall praise the Lord.**

**May your hearts live for ever!**

All the ends of the earth shall remember

**and turn to the Lord;**

and all the families of the nations

**shall worship before him.**

For dominion belongs to the Lord,

**and he rules over the nations.**

To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;

**before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,  
and I shall live for him.**

Posterity will serve him;

**future generations will be told about the Lord,**

and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,

**saying that he has done it.**

## Second Reading

A reading from **Romans**, the fourth chapter *(Romans 4:13-25)*

<sup>13</sup>The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. <sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”) —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

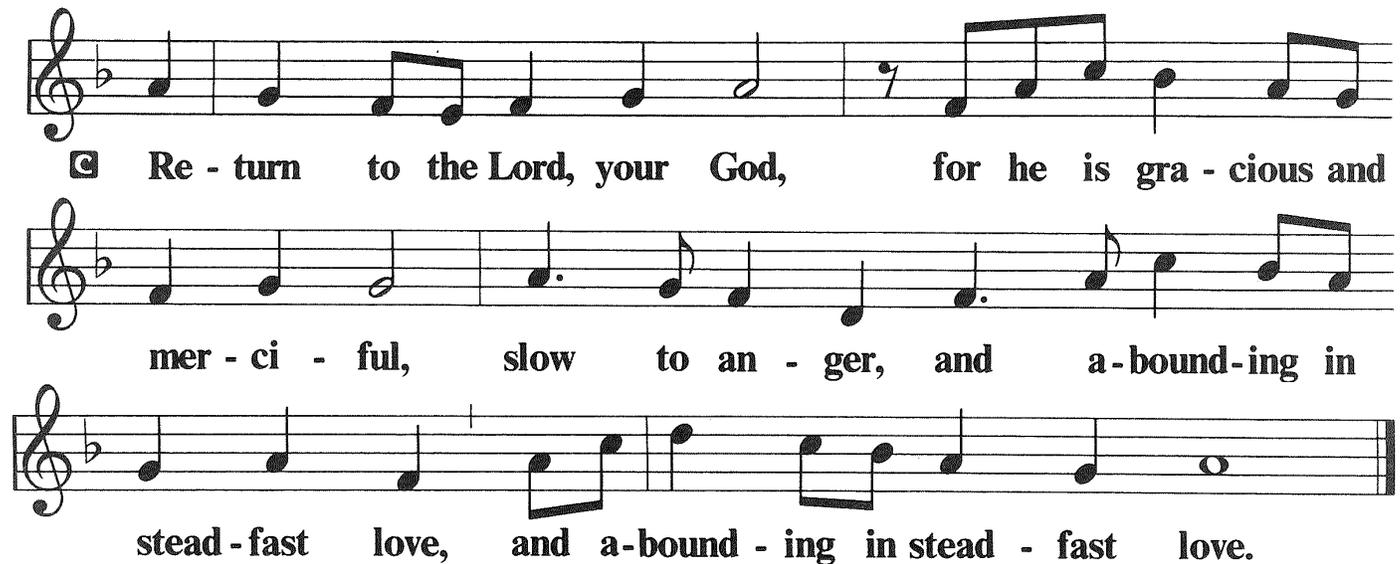
<sup>18</sup>Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become “the father of many nations,” according to what was said, “So numerous shall your descendants be.” <sup>19</sup>He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. <sup>20</sup>No distrust made

him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, <sup>21</sup>being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. <sup>22</sup>Therefore his faith “was reckoned to him as righteousness.” <sup>23</sup>Now the words, “it was reckoned to him,” were written not for his sake alone, <sup>24</sup>but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, <sup>25</sup>who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Assembly stands.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in  
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

### HOLY GOSPEL (*Mark 8:31-38*)

The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 8<sup>th</sup> Chapter.  
**Glory to you, O Lord!**

<sup>31</sup>Jesus began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup>He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup>But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.” <sup>34</sup>He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. <sup>36</sup>For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? <sup>37</sup>Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? <sup>38</sup>Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful

generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ!**

Assembly sits.

**SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY** “*Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus*” LBW#487 vs. 1 & 2

1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, Fol - low his ex - am - ple pure,  
2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus And with pa - tience bear our cross.

Through a world that would de - ceive us And to sin our spir - its lure.  
Joy will fol - low all our sad - ness; Where he is there is no loss.

On - ward in his foot - steps tread - ing, Pil - grims here, our home a - bove,  
Though to - day we sow no laugh - ter, We shall reap ce - les - tial joy:

Full of faith and hope and love, Let us do our Fa - ther's bid - ding.  
All dis - com - forts that an - noy Shall give way to mirth here - af - ter.

Faith - ful Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where you guide.  
Je - sus, here I share your woe; Help me there your joy to know.

© Text: Sigmund von Birken, 1626-1681; tr. hymnal version, 1978  
Tune: Georg G. Boltze, 18th cent.

LASSET UNS MIT JESU ZIEHEN  
P M

Assembly stands.

**NICENE CREED**

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven;  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was  
made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSIONS

*Prayers reflect the wideness of God's mercy for the whole world.*

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence*

Your gift of grace is for all people. Give confident faith to all the baptized, that they may follow you wholeheartedly. Give new believers joy in your promises; give hope and courage to those who suffer for their faith. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

All the ends of the earth worship you. From galaxies to microorganisms, preserve your creation. Teach humanity to wonder at your works and to join you in tending to creation's wellbeing. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You rule over the nations. Raise up advocates for peace and justice within and between nations. Give life where hope seems dead; call into existence new realities we cannot even imagine. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

In Jesus you joined humanity in suffering and death. Reveal to all the depth of your love shown on the cross. Accompany all who suffer in body, mind, and spirit. Restore all who are sick or grieving. Bring vindication for victims of injustice, exploitation, and oppression; especially those we name before you, either silently or aloud. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You made Abraham and Sarah the ancestors of a multitude of nations. Bless grandparents, parents, and foster parents, and the children who look to them for care and guidance. Console those who deal with infertility, parents who have entrusted their children to adoption, and children longing to be adopted. Equip ministries and service to families. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

*Other intercessions may be offered here.*

We await the day of Christ's coming in glory. Lead us by the example of all the saints whom you have called to take up their cross and follow you, that together we may find our lives in you. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## PEACE

Come to me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

# MEAL

## GATHERING OF GIFTS

Gifts are gathered for those in need and for the mission and purpose of our congregation. You may place your offering in the offering plate, mail it in, or you can donate on-line at [Givelify.com](http://Givelify.com).

There is a wheelbarrow for the collection of food in the narthex.

**Visitors** – your presence with us is gift enough. We expect members to support the mission and ministry of this congregation. Visitors are invited to just enjoy worship and fellowship.

If anyone is in need of offering envelopes, they are available in the church office.

## OFFERTORY “Jesus Paid it All” vs. 1

**VERSE**

D G/D D A Bm A D



1. I hear the Sav - ior say: “Thy strength in - deed is small. Child of

**CHORUS**

5 G/D D D/F# G<sup>6</sup> D/A A<sup>7sus</sup> D/A A<sup>7</sup> D D G/D D



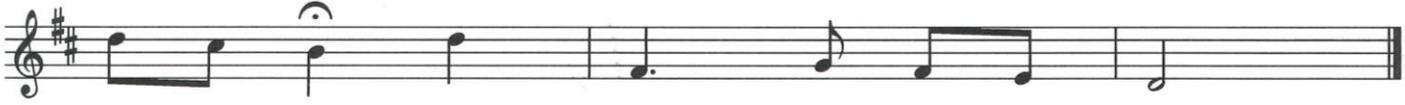
weak - ness, watch and pray; Find in Me thine all in all.” Je - sus paid it

10 G/D D D/F# A D G/D D



all; All to Him I owe. Sin had left a

14 Dmaj<sup>7</sup>/F# G G#<sup>o7</sup> D/A A<sup>7sus</sup> D/A A<sup>7</sup> D



crim - son stain; He washed it white as snow.

Words by  
Elvina Mabel Hall

Music by  
John Thomas Grape

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Faithful God, you walk beside us in desert places, and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven. Accompany us in this meal, that we may pass over death to life with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Blessed are you, God of everlasting covenant, for your promises are steadfast and your provision is sure. Through the forty years of your people's desert wanderings you were constant in fire and cloud; with manna and mercy you sustained every step. You made Jesus' temptation of forty days a theater of truth where your Word stood strong. In every age you have shaped your people through times of wilderness and wandering, of temptation and trial, and brought them into the land of promise and the life of the covenant. And so with all who have walked the wilderness way in every time and all who walk it this day, with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, we join the unending hymn.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might:**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Enduring God, as you sustained Jesus in hunger and thirst, through this meal strengthen us to keep our Lenten fast. Send your Holy Spirit upon us as we remember Jesus' saving passion; transform our insatiable desires into hunger for the feast of this table. Send your Holy Spirit upon this bread and wine that they may be for us the body and blood of Christ.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith

**Christ has died; Christ has risen; Christ will come again.**

Forgiving God, in this season of repentance, make your mercy sufficient for every need. Come to your children who are in their own wilderness and make their wanderings holy paths of learning your truth. Strengthen all who face the threshold of temptation or the tumult of trial. Seek those whose hearts are contrite and meet them with grace. Come alongside your children

who suffer under the sin of another and give them the power to live as your beloved sons and daughters. Renew your church from the depths of your heart, where justice and mercy meet. Bring us with all your saints to the day when all who watch and pray for your kingdom behold your salvation and meet you in your resurrection, God most glorious, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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**

#### COMMUNION

*Our Lord's body and blood are truly present in the bread and wine to forgive and strengthen us. In preparation for receiving the Sacrament, a simple prayer such as this or another appropriate prayer may be said "May the Blood of Christ bring me everlasting life."*

#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus draws the whole world to himself.  
**Come to this meal and be fed.**

Assembly sits.

**COMMUNION HYMN** *"Sweet Hour of Prayer/ Just As I Am Without One Plea"* by Janet Vogt

(For those at home:

The Body of Christ, given for you. Amen.  
The Blood of Christ, shed for you. Amen.)

Assembly stands.

## Lamb of God “Jesus, Lamb of God” LBW #199



Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us.



Je - sus, bear - er of our sins, have mer - cy on us.



Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world,



grant us peace, grant us peace.

Music: *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Schubert, 1797–1828; adapt. Richard Proulx, b. 1937  
Adapt. © 1985, 1989 GIA Publications, Inc.

### POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
**Amen.**

### Prayer

Let us pray.

God of steadfast love, at this table you gather your people into one body for the sake of the world. Send us in the power of your Spirit, that our lives bear witness to the love that has made us new in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## Sending

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world*

### BLESSING

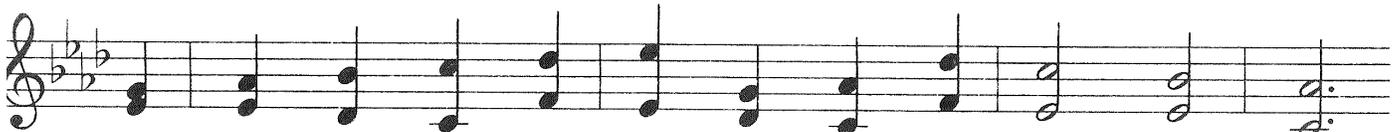
You are what God made you to be: created in Christ Jesus for good works, chosen as holy and beloved, freed to serve your neighbor.

God bless you ☩ that you may be a blessing, in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity.  
**Amen.**

Sending Hymn “*The God Abraham Praise*” LBW #544 vs. 1 & 3



1 The God of A - br'ham praise, Who reigns en - throned a - bove;  
3 The God of A - br'ham praise, Whose all - suf - fi - cient grace



An - cient of ev - er - last - ing days, And God of love.  
Shall guide me all my pil - grim days In all my ways.



Je - ho - vah, great I Am! By earth and heav'n con - fessed;  
He deigns to call me friend; He calls him - self my God!



I bow and bless the sa - cred name For - ev - er blest.  
And he shall save me to the end Through Je - sus' blood.

*Text: Thomas Olivers, 1725-1799, alt.  
Tune: Hebrew, arr. Meyer Lyon, 1751-1797*

YIGDAL  
66 84 D

### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.

**Thanks be to God**



Return

the LORD your God,  
for he is gracious and  
compassionate,  
slow to anger and  
abounding in love.

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