



Faith Lutheran Church

***Faithfully Growing, Welcoming,
and Caring through Christ***

**The First Sunday of Lent
Sunday, February 18, 2018**

PRELUDE

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: During the season of Lent we are called to return to the Lord with all our heart. Let us confess our sin and seek reconciliation with God and neighbor.

C: Amen.

P: *(A brief silence.)* Merciful God,

C: **you sent Jesus Christ to save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We fail in love, neglect justice, and ignore your truth. Have mercy on us and wash away our sin. Create in us clean hearts for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

P: Behold now is the acceptable time;
now is the day of salvation. Almighty
God have mercy on us, forgive us all
our sins, and bring us to everlasting
life.

C: Amen.

OPENING HYMN

“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”

**Beneath the cross of Jesus
I long to take my stand;
the shadow of a mighty rock
within a weary land,
a home within a wilderness,
a rest upon the way,
from the burning of the noontide heat
and burdens of the day.**

**Upon the cross of Jesus,
my eye at times can see
the very dying form of one
who suffered there for me.
And from my contrite heart, with tears,
two wonders I confess:
the wonder of his glorious love
and my unworthiness.**

**I take, O cross, your shadow
for my abiding place;
I ask no other sunshine than
the sunshine of his face;
content to let the world go by,
to know no gain nor loss,
my sinful self my only shame,
my glory all, the cross.**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God, and the communion
of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

P: On Ash Wednesday the church began its journey toward baptismal immersion in the death and resurrection of Christ. This year, the Sundays in Lent lead us to focus on five covenants God makes in the Hebrew Scriptures and to use them as lenses through which to view baptism.

First Peter connects the way God saved Noah's family in the flood with the way God saves us through the water of baptism.

The baptismal covenant is made with us individually, but the new life we are given in baptism is for the sake of the whole world.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. *(A brief silence.)*

C: Holy God, heavenly Father, in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin. Renew us in the gift of baptism.

May your holy angels be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Children's Church

FIRST READING: Genesis 9:8-17

A reading from Genesis, the 9th chapter.

God said to Noah and to his sons with him,
“As for me, I am establishing my covenant
with you and your descendants after you,
and with every living creature that is with you,
the birds, the domestic animals, and every
animal of the earth with you, as many as came
out of the ark.

I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth.

When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.”

God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

R: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

A Responsive Reading from Psalm 25

R: To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

**C: My God, I put my trust in you;
let me not be put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

R: Let none who look to you be put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame who are
treacherous.

**C: Show me your ways, O LORD, and teach
me your paths.**

R: Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long.

**C: Remember, O LORD, your compassion
and love, for they are from everlasting.**

R: Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

C: You are gracious and upright, O LORD; therefore you teach sinners in your way.

R: All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.

C: Amen.

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 3:18-22

A reading from 1st Peter, 3rd chapter.

Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah,

during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you - not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

R: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA

***Alleluia! Lord and Savior
open now your saving word!
Let it burn like fire within us;
Speak until our hearts are stirred.
Alleluia! Lord we sing
for the good news that you bring.***

GOSPEL: Mark 1:9-15

P: The holy gospel according to Mark,
the 1st chapter.

C: *Glory to you, O Lord.*

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him.

And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.” And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

“A Covenant Journey”

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HYMN OF THE DAY

“The Glory of These Forty Days”

**The glory of these forty days
we celebrate with songs of praise;
for Christ, through whom all things were made,
himself has fasted and has prayed.**

**Alone and fasting Moses saw
the loving God who gave the law;
and to Elijah, fasting, came
the steeds and chariots of flame.**

**So Daniel trained his mystic sight,
delivered from the lions' might;
and John, the Bridegroom's friend, became
the herald of Messiah's name.**

**Then grant, O God, that we may, too,
return in fast and prayer to you.
Our spirits strengthen with your grace,
and give us joy to see your face.**

INSTALLATION ~ 2018 Church Council Members

Craig Miller, President/Property

**Todd Strasser, Vice President/Head of Property/
Christian Education**

George Brunson, Property

Doug Congdon, Treasurer/Stewardship/Finance

Kelly Miller, Secretary

Cathy Murphy, Memorial

Dennis Kelce, Parish Life/Hospitality/Evangelism

Sue Brunson, Parish Life/Hospitality/Evangelism

Karen Murr, Social Ministry

Patti Dunaway, Social Ministry

Taylor Gruenberg, Youth Liaison

Pastor Rick Meier, Pastor/Worship & Music

THE APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ,
God's 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 to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge
the living and the dead.**

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

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Renewed in the promises of baptism, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need. *(A brief silence.)* We pray for the church. For all who preach, teach, and inspire your people to lives of service.

Renew your church in ministry, mission, and compassion. Unite us in faith, and uphold us in the promises of baptism.

Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We pray for the world. For the well-being of both our own surroundings and of distant places. For favorable weather and sustaining rains. For creatures awakening from hibernation or beginning seasonal migrations. Provide safe habitats and abundant food for all. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We pray for the nations. For all who govern or hold positions of authority. For those who work to make their communities safe from violence. Protect all who place themselves in danger to save others from harm.

Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We pray for those in need. For those moving to new communities. For individuals who are incarcerated or recently released from prison. For those who are abused or neglected, for the lonely, and for those who are ill (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We pray for this assembly. For musicians, artists, and poets who help us envision your love through word, image, and song. For those who have faced exclusion or felt forgotten. For all who reach out in love and welcome.

Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: With thanksgiving, we remember those who have died, especially Martin Luther. As they receive the fulfillment of your promises made to them in baptism, sustain us in the hope of resurrection life with you. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Trusting in your covenant of mercy,
O God, we lift our prayers to you,
through your Son, Jesus Christ,
our Savior.

C: Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE

P: The Peace of Christ be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

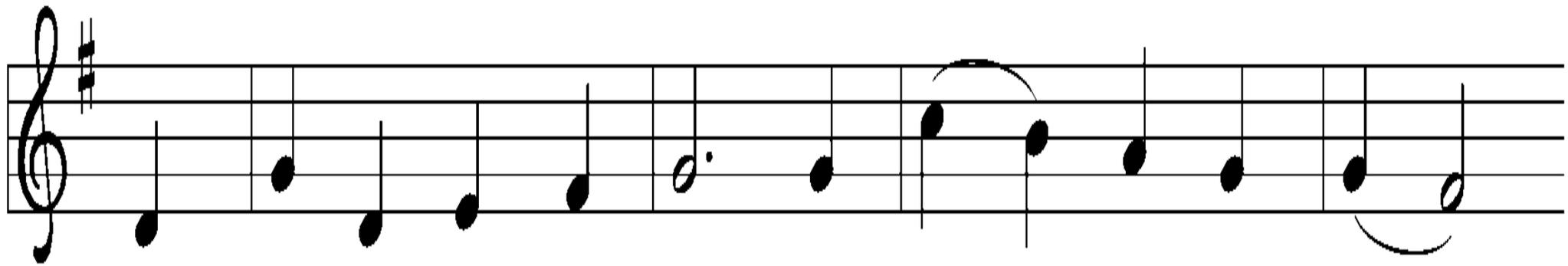
OFFERING

~VIDEO DURING OFFERING ~

“Lord, I Need You”

by Matt Maher

Offertory Response



1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;
2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive.



all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.
and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Merciful God, receive the gifts we bring - ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Through this meal, unite us as your body, shining with the light of your justice and mercy; for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

DIALOGUE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks and praise to the
Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give God thanks and
praise.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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 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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice, our alms, a making of peace, and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts; through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace
and mercy. The Lord look upon you with
favor and ✠ give you peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN *“Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer”*

**Guide me ever, great Redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land.**

**I am weak, but you are mighty;
hold me with your pow'rful hand.**

**Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore,
feed me now and evermore.**

**Open now the crystal fountain
where the healing waters flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer,
shield me with your mighty arm,
shield me with your mighty arm.**

**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 and praises, songs and praises,
I will raise forevermore,
I will raise forevermore.**

DISMISSAL

P: Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

C: Thanks be to God.

































