



Faith Lutheran Church

Faithfully Growing, Welcoming, and Caring through Christ

**2nd Sunday of Lent
Sunday, March 8, 2020**



PRELUDE and WELCOME

“The Time Change Song”

**(to the tune of “God of Grace and God of Glory”)
*God of sleep and God of slumber, help us not be late, we ask. Changing clocks one forward number, may we not forget the task. Choir directors, preachers, teachers, all will bless your holy name, if to Sunday church on time we came.***

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
who is present, who gives life, who
calls into existence the things that do
not exist.

C: **Amen.**

P: If you were to keep watch over sins, O Lord, who could stand? Yet with you is forgiveness, and so we confess. *(A brief silence.)*

Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned away from you, knowingly and unknowingly. We have wandered from your resurrection life.

**We have strayed from your love for all people.
Turn us back to you, O God. Give us new hearts
and right spirits, that we may find what is pleasing
to you and dwell in your house forever. Amen.**

P: Like a hen who gathers her chicks, God embraces you in tender care. Like manna in the desert, God feeds you with surprising mercy. Like a loving parent, God runs to meet you again this day, forgiving your sins for the sake of ✝ Christ, leading you from death into life.

C: Amen.

OPENING HYMN *“God of Grace & God of Glory”*

**God of grace and God of glory,
on your people pour your pow'r;
crown your ancient church's story;
bring its bud to glorious flow'r.**

**Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.**

**Lo! the hosts of evil round us
scorn the Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us
free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
for the living of these days,
for the living of these days,**

**Cure your children's warring madness;
bend our pride to your control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss your kingdom's goal,
let we miss your kingdom's goal.**

**Save us from weak resignation
to the evils we deplore;
let the gift of your salvation
be our glory evermore.**

**Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving you whom we adore,
serving you whom we adore.**

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

P: During Lent we journey with all those around the world who will celebrate Easter. In today's gospel Jesus tells Nicodemus that he must be born of water and Spirit. At the font we are given a new birth as children of God. As God made a covenant with Abraham, in baptism God promises to raise us up with Christ to new life. From worship we are sent forth to proclaim God's love for all the world.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

O God, our leader and guide,

C: **in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world through your Son, 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 12:1-4a

A reading from Genesis, the 12th chapter.

The LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.

R: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

A Responsive Reading From Psalm 121

R: I lift up my eyes to the hills;
from where is my help to come?

C: **My help comes from the LORD,
the maker of heaven and earth.**

R: The LORD will not let your foot be moved nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

C: Behold, the keeper of Israel will neither slumber nor sleep;

R: the LORD watches over you; the LORD is your shade at your right hand;

**C: the sun will not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.**

R: The LORD will preserve you from all evil and will keep your life.

C: The LORD will watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth forevermore.

SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

A reading from Romans, the 4th chapter.

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due.

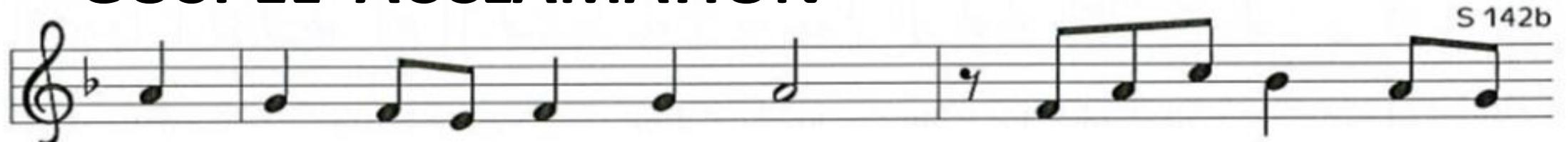
But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

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, 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.

R: Word of God, word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



S 142b

Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and

The first line of musical notation is on a single staff in G major (one flat). It consists of two measures. The first measure contains six notes: G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, and F4. The second measure contains six notes: G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, and F4, with a fermata over the final F4. A rehearsal mark 'S 142b' is placed above the second measure.



mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in

The second line of musical notation is on a single staff in G major. It consists of two measures. The first measure contains six notes: G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, and F4. The second measure contains six notes: G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, and F4, with a fermata over the final F4.



stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

The third line of musical notation is on a single staff in G major. It consists of two measures. The first measure contains six notes: G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, and F4. The second measure contains six notes: G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, and F4, with a fermata over the final F4.

GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

P: The holy gospel according to John, the 3rd chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above."

Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes.

So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? “Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things?”

No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

“Born Again”

HYMN OF THE DAY *“God Loved The World”*

Verses 1, 2 and 5

**God loved the world so that he gave
his only Son the lost to save,
that all who would in him believe
should everlasting life receive.**

**Christ Jesus is the ground of faith,
who was made flesh and suffered death;
all who confide in Christ alone
are built on this chief cornerstone.**

**All glory to the Father, Son,
and Holy Spirit, Three in One!
To you, O blessed Trinity,
be praise now and eternally!**

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: Turning our hearts to God who is gracious and merciful, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need. *(A brief silence.)* God of rebirth, empower your church throughout the world to be a voice of hope for those who fear judgment or condemnation. Assure us of your faithfulness and give us confidence to proclaim your salvation for all. Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

P: God of rebirth, your Spirit hovered over the waters and you called creation into being. Nurture and bless all signs of rebirth around us: budding trees and new shoots, thawing lakes and warm breezes, and animals awaking from hibernation. Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

P: God of rebirth, lead the nations in your way of righteousness. Protect those who advocate for the needs of children, migrants, and victims of violence. Give courage to lawmakers, lawyers, judges, and law enforcement officers, guiding them to do justice and to love mercy.

Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: God of rebirth, give us a new vision of your healing power among us. Restore hope to those who remain in the depths of depression or despair. Bring mercy and relief to those who are injured, sick, or suffering (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

P: God of rebirth, we thank you for the children of this community and for the people and ministries that care for them . Bless new and expectant parents. Console those who have lost children and those whose desire for children remains unfulfilled. Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

P: God of rebirth, by wind and spirit you call us into life renewed. We give you thanks for all your saints who have inherited your promises (*especially*). Bring us, with them, into your everlasting kingdom. Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

P: According to your steadfast love, O God,
hear these and all our prayers as we commend
them to you; through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE

P: The Peace of Christ be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

OFFERING

~VIDEO DURING OFFERING ~
***“The Father’s House”* by Cory Asbury**

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

**We give thee but thine own,
whatever the gift may be,
All that we have is thine alone,
a trust, O Lord, from thee.**

**May we though bounties thus,
as stewards true receive,
And gladly as though blessed us,
to thee our first fruits give.**

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Holy & generous host, you set a table where we feast as friends. Prepare us to witness to your goodness with every gift you have given us to share, that all people may know your peace through Jesus Christ, now and forever.

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: We thank you, living God, for the body and blood of your Son, which sustains us in the wilderness and the garden alike. As Christ has loved us in this feast, so send us to love Christ in our neighbors. In Jesus' name we pray.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: Now is the acceptable time. Now is the day of salvation. Holy God, speaking, spoken, and inspiring, + bless you, unbind you, and send you in love and in peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN “*Choral Benediction*”

May the light of God shine on us today.

May the light of God shine on us today.

**May it show us where to travel,
lead us back if we should stray.**

May the light of God shine on us today.

May the love of God live in us today.

May the love of God live in us today.

**May the warmth we feel within us,
show in all we do and say.**

May the love of God live in us today.

**May the peace of God be with us today.
May the peace of God be with us today.
May it guide us and protect us,
as we go our separate ways.
May the peace of God be with us today.**

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Remember the poor.

C: Thanks be to God.

Simple Supper



You Are
Invited!

Wednesday Lenten Service, March 11

- Simple Supper
at 5:30pm
- Service at 6:30pm

*Free Will Door Offering:
Family Promise*

*Faith Story to
be shared by:
Curtis & Nicole
Blakeman*







































OPENING HYMN “*Lead Me To Calvary*”

**King of my life, I crown Thee now,
Thine shall the glory be;
Lest I forget Thy thorn crowned brow,
lead me to Calvary.**

Chorus:

***Lest I forget Gethsemane,
Lest I forget Thine agony;
Lest I forget Thy love for me,
Lead me to Calvary.***

**Show me the tomb where Thou wast laid,
tenderly mourned and wept;
Angels in robes of light arrayed
Guarded Thee whilst Thou slept.**

Chorus:

***Lest I forget Gethsemane,
Lest I forget Thine agony;
Lest I forget Thy love for me,
Lead me to Calvary.***

**Let me like Mary, through the gloom,
Come with a gift to Thee;
Show to me now the empty tomb,
lead me to Calvary.**

Chorus:

***Lest I forget Gethsemane,
Lest I forget Thine agony;
Lest I forget Thy love for me,
Lead me to Calvary.***

**May I be willing, Lord, to bear
daily my cross for Thee;
Even Thy cup of grief to share,
Thou hast borne all for me.**

Chorus:

***Lest I forget Gethsemane,
Lest I forget Thine agony;
Lest I forget Thy love for me,
Lead me to Calvary.***

CLOSING HYMN

“The Church's One Foundation”

**The church's one foundation
is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
she is his new creation
by water and the word.**

**From heav'n he came and sought her
to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her,
and for her life he died.**

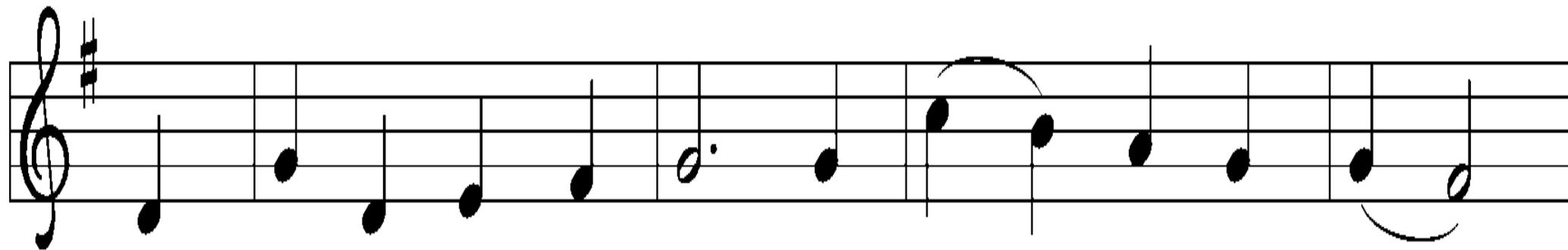
**Elect from ev'ry nation,
yet one o'er all the earth,
her charter of salvation
one Lord, one faith, one birth:
one holy name she blesses,
partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses,
with ev'ry grace endued.**

**Though with a scornful wonder
this world sees her oppressed,
by schisms rent asunder,
by heresies distressed,
yet saints their watch are keeping;
their cry goes up: "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping
shall be the morn of song.**

**Through toil and tribulation
and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation
of peace forevermore;
till with the vision glorious
her longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious
shall be the church at rest.**

**Yet she on earth has union
with God, the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion
with those whose rest is won.
Oh, blessed heav'nly chorus!
Lord, save us by your grace,
that we, like saints before us,
may see you face to face.**

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.

**To God all glory, praise, and love
be now and ever giv'n
by saints below and saints above,
the church in earth and heav'n.**

**Look unto him, your Savior own,
O fallen human race!
Look and be saved through faith alone,
be justified by grace!**