

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

February 21, 2021 ♦ 9:00 am



GATHERING

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
who looks upon us in compassion, forgives our sin, and heals our lives.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Have mercy, O God,
C against you, you alone, we have sinned.
 In your compassion, cleanse us from our sin and take away our guilt.
 Create in us a new heart and give us a steadfast spirit.
 Do not cast us away, but fill us with your Holy Spirit
 and restore your joy within us. Amen.

P As tender as parent to child, so deep is God's compassion for you.
 As high as heaven is above earth, so vast is God's love for you.
 As far as east is from west, so far God removes your sin from you,
 renewing your life through Jesus Christ.
 Blessed be God who crowns us with mercy and love.

C Blessed be God forever.

HYMN "A Mighty Fortress" (ALL SING STANZA 1; Cantor sings stanzas 2 and 3; ALL SING STANZA 4)



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who



to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
 ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
 your us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
 fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
 God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
 weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,



has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
 in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
 goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



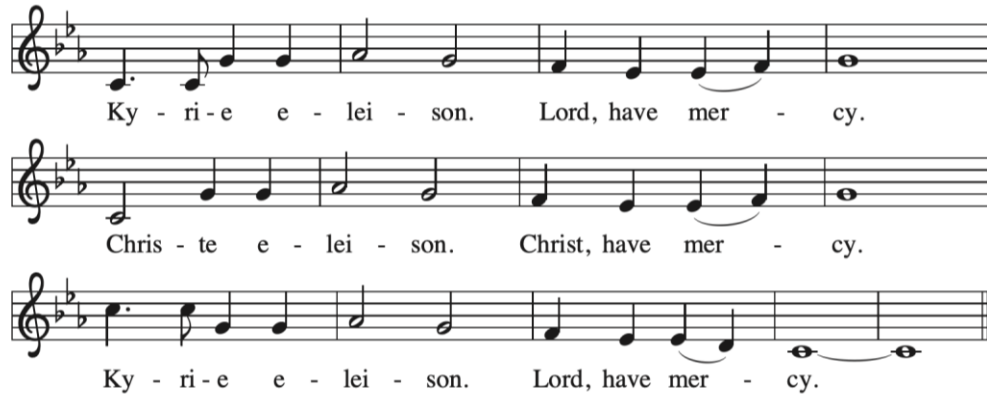
he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
 they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

GREETING

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

A And also with you.

KYRIE (sung by cantor)



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

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

SERVICE OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Genesis 9:8–17

⁸Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, ⁹"As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, ¹⁰and 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. ¹¹I 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." ¹²God 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: ¹³I have set my bow in the clouds, and it

shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵I 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. ¹⁶When 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." ¹⁷God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."

SECOND READING I Peter 3:18–22

¹⁸For 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, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who 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.²¹And 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, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

GOSPEL VERSE (Cantor sings first time; **ALL SING REPEAT**)



Noth-ing in all cre - a - tion can sep-a-rate us from the love of God.



Noth-ing in all cre - a - tion can sep-a-rate us from the love of God.

HOLY GOSPEL Mark 1:9-15

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the 1st chapter.

G Glory to you, O Lord.

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And 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. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

¹²And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the

wilderness. ¹³He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and 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.

G Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN "Into the Desert" (Cantor sings verses; **ALL SING REFRAIN**)



1. Come, be - lov - ed, and rest your mind; leave the things of this
2. Stay, be - lov - ed, and lose your fear; there is heal - ing and
3. From this des - ert your life will bloom; out of de - spair is



1. world be - hind. Here I will be your dai - ly bread,
2. mer - cy here. Here I will be a liv - ing stream,
3. hope re - newed. And from this death you shall a - rise,



1. all that you need. In - to the des - ert I will lead;
2. all that you need.
3. a - rise with me.



here in the si - lence my word will speak. And you will find



the peace you seek here in the des - ert.

APOSTLES' CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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

(Response to each petition)

P Hear us, O God

C Your mercy is great.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

P Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.

C We praise you, O God.

P We give you thanks for your dear Son:

at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

C We thank you, O God.

P 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.

Remembering his love for us, we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P We pray for the gift of your Spirit:

in our gathering; within this meal;
among your people; throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus,
by your Spirit, in your church, without end.

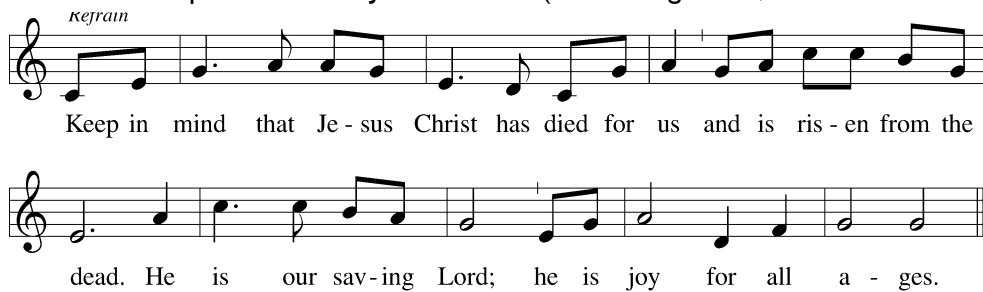
C Amen

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**

EATING AND DRINKING

SONG "Keep in Mind That Jesus Christ" (cantor sings once; **ALL SING REPEAT**)



DISMISSAL

THANKSGIVING PRAYER

- P** Let us pray:
God of steadfast love,
C you walk beside us in desert places.
**At this table you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven.
Gather your people and 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.**

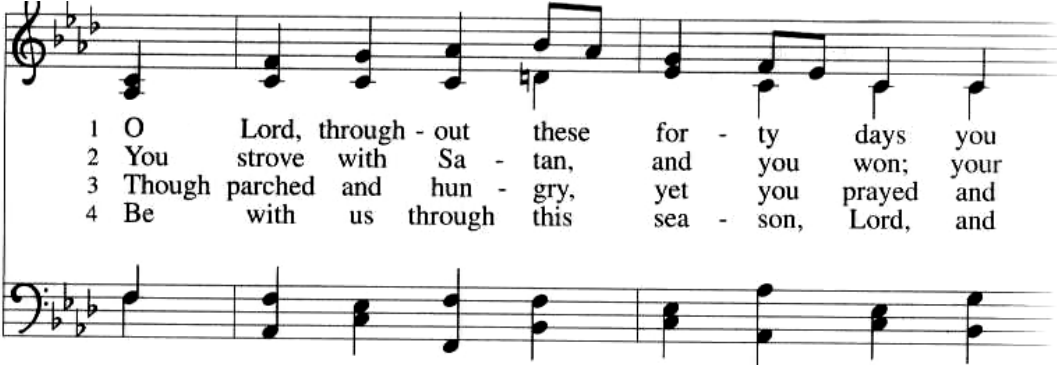
SENDING

BLESSING

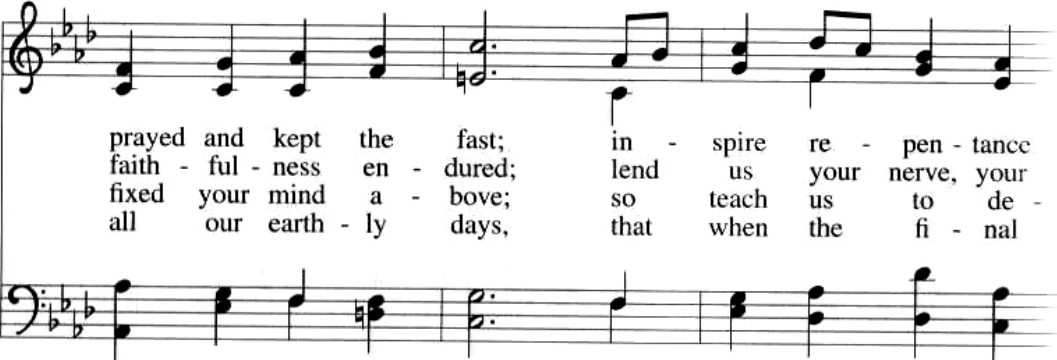
- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
C Amen
P Go in peace. Christ lives in you.
C Thanks be to God.

CLOSING HYMN "O Lord Throughout These Forty Days"


(cantor sings stanzas 1 and 2; **ALL SING STANZA 4**)



1 O Lord, through - out these for - ty days you
2 You strove with Sa - tan, and you won; your
3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet you prayed and
4 Be with us through this sea - son, Lord, and

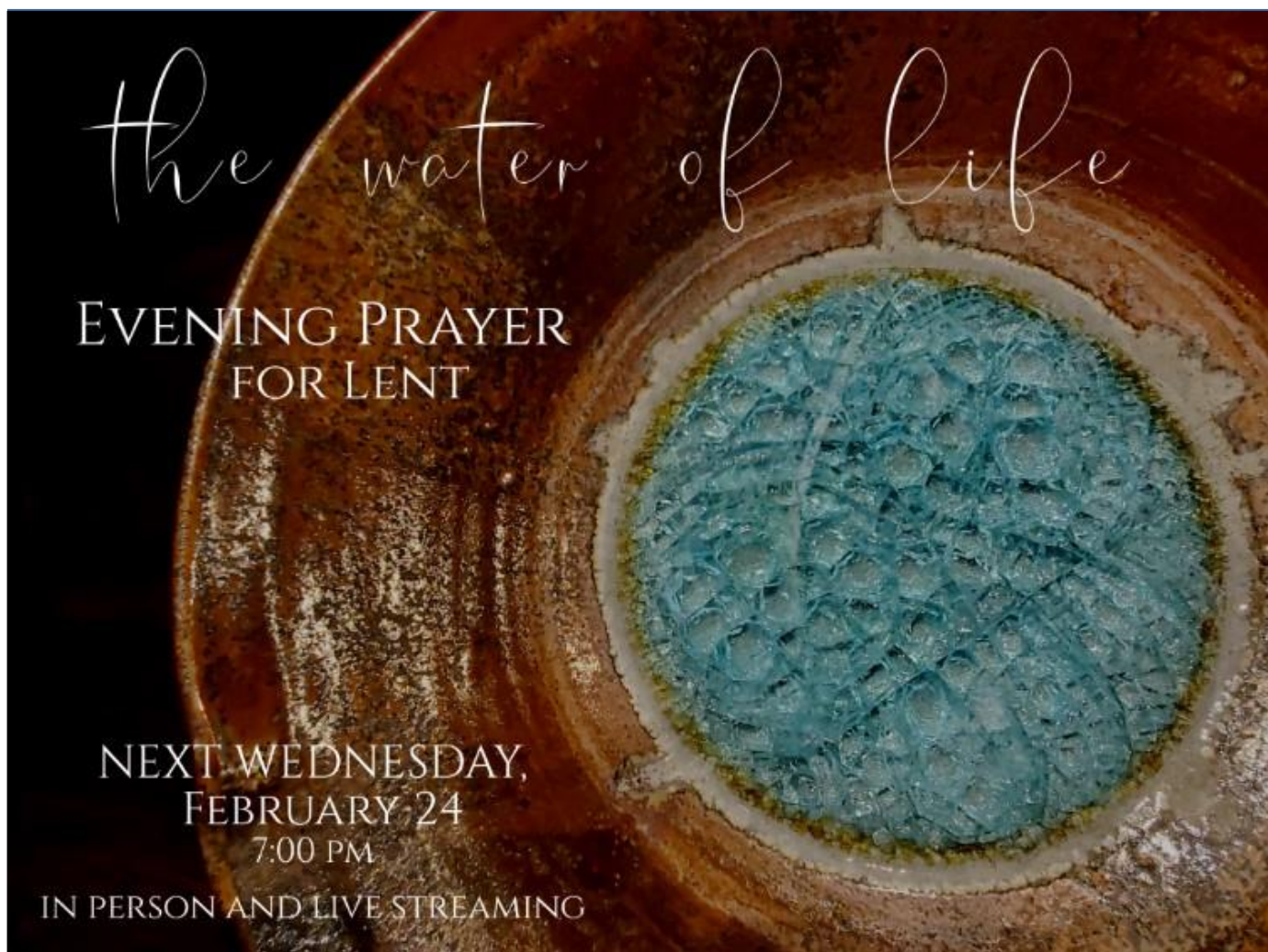


prayed and kept the fast; in - spire re - pen - tance
faith - ful - ness en - dured; lend us your nerve, your
fixed your mind a - bove; so teach us to de -
all our earth - ly days, that when the fi - nal



for our sin, and free us from our past.
skill and trust in God's e - ter - nal word.
ny our - selves that we may know God's love.
Eas - ter dawns, we join in heav - en's praise.

REMEMBER TO SUPPORT OUR CONGREGATION with your offerings.
You may place them in the plate in the entryway this morning, mail it to the
church or make your offering online.



EVENING PRAYER THIS WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

Worship at 7 pm
In person and live streaming

If you plan to worship from home, make sure you have a small bowl of water for the interactive prayer.

NEW MEMBER SUNDAY

Easter Sunday, April 4

See Pastor Jon if you are interested in participating



Order a large 8" pot traditional lily for \$27.40, a 6.5" Azalea for \$24.40 or a Calla lily for \$23.70.

Go to the church website: graceofgodlutheran.com to place your order AND also designate your plant in memory of someone, in thanksgiving for someone or something or in celebration of something.

Proceeds of the sale go to support our summer youth mission trip to Nashville.



FIRST COMMUNION

Some of our young people will be receiving First Communion instruction beginning tomorrow (Monday) afternoon at 4:30.. If you know of a child age 10 (or grade 5) or above who might be interested, please see Pastor Jon.

Hope for the Journey Home Service Week

February 21-27

Things, like the rest of the world, have been very different at Hope for the Journey Home last year going into this year. Many changes have been made at the shelter to safely accommodate 4 families, staff and volunteers at the shelter. The shelter is now open 24 hours a day seven days a week.

Grace of God is scheduled to serve at the shelter February 21-27. There are several different ways you can volunteer to serve at the shelter. As in the past, if you choose to serve at the shelter a background check (every 3 years) and safe environment training will need to be completed. Please contact me if you have questions or need help signing up to volunteer. Audrey Gilman- 651-352-2888 or aggilman@comcast.net

SIGN UP FOR DINNER OR OVERNIGHT SHIFT: ttsu.me/hjhfeb21

Dinner shift available starting between 4:30-5PM and ending between 7:00-7:30PM. Help prepare dinner and serve guests behind plexiglass. Light housekeeping tasks to complete.

Overnight shift The shelter now has a paid overnight staff person. They continue to need at least one volunteer although two may volunteer as in the past. Overnight volunteers have a private room and private bathroom. Overnight shift is from 8:00 pm to 9:00 am. Optional shift is from 9:00 pm to 7:00 am. Would essentially “get in, get out” and not have to interact with guests if concerned about face to interaction due to COVID 19.

SIGN UP FOR MEAL DONATION: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4fadac2fa0f5c34-meals7>

Meal Donations (enough to serve 8)

Meal Drop off between 4:00 pm- 5:00 pm or arrange a time. Meal must be store bought, no homemade meals. Easy to prepare such as put in oven or crockpot. Great places to purchase: Costco, Sam's Club, or local grocery store. Contactless drop off.



hats&mittens

We are collecting HATS and MITTENS through February.
Slightly used, new and homemade!



GRACE OF GOD

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Jon Marxhausen, Pastor