

First Sunday of Lent
March 9, 2025

PRELUDE

Give Me Jesus (arr. Hart Morris)
Spirit Ringers

WELCOME

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

INVOCATION

The minister leads the congregation in the invocation. The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.

P In the name of the Father, † Son and Holy Spirit, one God, who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

C Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In honesty before God and one another, we acknowledge our sin and recall the cleansing and renewing power of God's promises in baptism.

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

Kneel or sit as you are comfortable. Silence is kept for reflection.

P St. John writes, "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sin, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:8-9). And so we gather to confess our sin, not because we fear God thinks us unworthy, but because we trust God's promise to receive us always in mercy and grace. Let us therefore pray together with confidence...

P Most merciful God,

C we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Please stand and turn to face the processional cross.

GATHERING HYMN

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say (ELW 611)

1 I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"Come unto me and rest;
lay down, O weary one, lay down
your head upon my breast."
I came to Jesus as I was,
so weary, worn, and sad;
I found in him a resting-place,
and he has made me glad.

2 I heard the voice of Jesus say,

"Behold, I freely give
the living water, thirsty one;
stoop down and drink and live."
I came to Jesus, and I drank
of that life-giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
and now I live in him.

3 I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"I am this dark world's light;
look unto me, your morn shall rise,
and all your day be bright."
I looked to Jesus, and I found
in him my star, my sun;
and in that light of life I'll walk
till trav'ling days are done.

GREETING

With Saint Paul and generations of Christians, we greet one another in the name of God (2 Corinthians 13:14)

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.**

KYRIE

Cantor: In peace, in peace let us pray to the Lord.

Refrain All

Ky-ri - e e - lei - - - son,
Chris - te e - lei - - - son,
Lord, have mer - cy up-on us.
Christ have mer - cy up-on us.

Cantor: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **R**

Cantor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **R**

Cantor: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray
to the Lord. **R**

Cantor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

All



A - men, A - - - - men.

The image shows a musical staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of a series of eighth and sixteenth notes, with a long horizontal line above the staff indicating a sustained or breath-held note for the final 'men'.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

C O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Sit

WORD

God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

¹When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, ²you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. ³You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us." ⁴When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, ⁵you shall make this response before the Lord your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation,

mighty and populous. ⁶When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, ⁷we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. ⁸The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; ⁹and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. ¹⁰So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me.” You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. ¹¹Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

R Word of God, Word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 91

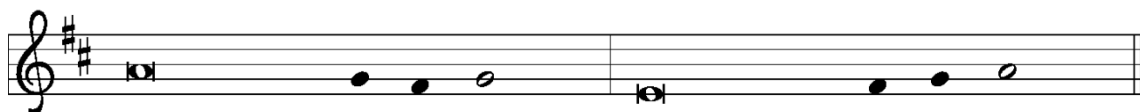
Sing Refrain after cantor's introduction. Chant responsively and go back to refrain (R)

Refrain



God will give the an - gels
charge o - ver you, to guard you in all your ways.

Verses



¹ You who dwell in the shelter of | the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of | the Almighty—

² **you will say to the LORD, “My refuge | and my stronghold,
my God in whom I | put my trust.” R**

⁹ Because you have made the ^l LORD your refuge,
and the Most High your ^l habitation,

¹⁰ **no evil ^l will befall you,
nor shall affliction come ^l near your dwelling.**

¹¹ For God will give the angels charge ^l over you,
to guard you in ^l all your ways.

¹² **Upon their hands they will ^l bear you up,
lest you strike your foot a-^l gainst a stone. R**

¹³ You will tread upon the lion ^l cub and viper;
you will trample down the lion ^l and the serpent.

¹⁴ **I will deliver those who ^l cling to me;
I will uphold them, because they ^l know my name.**

¹⁵ They will call me, and I will ^l answer them;
I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and ^l honor them.

¹⁶ **With long life will I ^l satisfy them,
and show them ^l my salvation. R**

SECOND READING

Romans 10:8b-13

^{8b}“The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. ¹¹The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

R Word of God, Word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

KIDS' MESSAGE

Stand (In preparation for the Gospel reading, we stand to honor and receive the story and the words of Jesus Christ.)

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.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 4th chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL

Luke 4:1-13

¹Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, ²where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. ³The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." ⁴Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'" ⁵Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. ⁷If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." ⁸Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" ⁹Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,' ¹¹and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" ¹²Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" ¹³When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sit

SERMON

Pastor Andrew Kitzing

Stand

The Word of God and the theme of the day are repeated in song.

HYMN OF THE DAY

When We are Tested (ACS 922)

- 1 When we are tested and wrestle alone,
famished for bread when the world offers stone,
nourish us, God, by your word and your way,
food that sustains us by night and by day.

- 2 When in the desert we cry for relief,
pleading for paths marked by certain belief,
lift us to love you beyond sign and test,
trusting your presence, our only true rest.

- 3 When we are tempted to barter our souls,
trading the truth for the pow'r to control,
teach us to worship and praise only you,
seeking your will in the work that we do.

- 4 When we have struggled and searched through the night,
sorting and sifting the wrong from the right,
Savior, surround us with circles of care,
angels of healing, of hope, and of prayer.

APOSTLES' CREED

- P God has made us God's people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.
- C 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

P Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

(After each petition, respond with, “receive our prayer.”)

In our prayers with recent concerns: Doris Bushard, Fred Ohles, Michael Dalton and Julius Swen. *Those with ongoing concerns:* Elaine Kruse, Pastor Bill Peterson, Mary Brass, Vern Westberg, Richard Bouma, Gloria Van Ackeren, and Tracy Troutman. *Those who are part of our homebound community:* Sylvia Kempf, M. Joyce Hansen, Donna Nelson, Cindy Schuster, Betty Miller, Jeanette Metteer, Dennis Schuster, Ralph Hayden, Rod Price and Margrett Wehland.

P Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

C Amen.

THE PEACE OF CHRIST IS SHARED

In an act of unity; blessing, and reconciliation, we greet one another with the Peace of Christ (Matthew 5:23-24)

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

Sit

MUSICAL OFFERING

*In the Shadow of Your Wings (John Leavitt)
Adult Choir*

Stand

OFFERTORY HYMN

Cre - ate in me a clean heart. O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from your pres - ence and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of your sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P Let us pray.

C Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

In our table prayer we offer thanks and praise for God's act of salvation and for the meal we are about to share.

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 to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P It is indeed... *(here the minister continues with the proper preface, concluding:)* we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord. God of pow'r and might, —
 ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord. God of pow'r and might. —
 heav-en and earth are full, — full — of your glo - ry. Ho-
 san - na in the high - est, ho-san - na in the high - est.
 Bless-ed is he who comes — in the name of the Lord. — Ho-
 san - na in the high - est, ho-san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**C Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name
 your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Adapted from Dietrich Bonhoeffer in Life Together.

P As the grains of wheat have been gathered together in this bread, so the members of the community of faith are united in body and blood at the table of the Lord, so we will be

together in eternity. Here joy in Christ and Christ's community is complete. Taste and see that the Lord is good.

C Thanks be to God.

Sit

LAMB OF GOD

1. Lamb of God you take a - way the sin of the world. —

2. Lamb of God you take a - way the sin of the world. —

Have mer - cy on us. —

3. Lamb of God you take a - way the sin of the world. —

Grant us peace.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Turn Thee to Me (Antonín Dvorak)
David Pitts, vocal

COMMUNION HYMNS

Refrain

I Received the Living God (ELW 477)

I received the living God,
and my heart is full of joy.
I received the living God,
and my heart is full of joy.

- 1 Jesus said: I am the bread,
kneaded long to give you life;
you who will partake of me
need not ever fear to die. *Refrain*

- 2 Jesus said: I am the way,
and my Father longs for you;
so I come to bring you home
to be one with us anew. *Refrain*

- 3 Jesus said: I am the truth;
come and follow close to me.
You will know me in your heart,
and my word shall make you free. *Refrain*

- 4 Jesus said: I am the life,
far from whom no thing can grow,
but receive this living bread,
and my Spirit you shall know. *Refrain*

Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Way (ELW 772)

- 1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways
to keep his statutes still!
Oh, that my God would grant me grace
to know and do his will!

- 2 Order my footsteps by your word
and make my heart sincere;
let sin have no dominion, Lord,
but keep my conscience clear.

- 3 Assist my soul, too apt to stray,

a stricter watch to keep;
and should I e'er forget your way,
restore your wand'ring sheep.

- 4 Make me to walk in your commands,
'tis a delightful road;
nor let my head or heart or hands
offend against my God.

Stand

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his
grace.

C **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Let us pray.

C **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 Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

SENDING

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

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.**

SENDING HYMN

Bless Now, O God, the Journey (ELW 326)

DISMISSAL

P Marked with the cross of Christ, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

I Call You Lord, Jesus Christ (Johann Pachelbel)

Lead Pastor: Erin Heidelberger
Associate Pastor: Andrew Kitzing
Cantor: David Pitts

*Permissions for use of worship liturgy and music were granted by: Liturgy Sundays and Seasons v.202008051416 © 2020 Augsburg Fortress. **Gospel Acclamation** from Holy Communion Setting III © 2006 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Published by Augsburg Fortress. **Holy, Holy, Holy** Music: Franz Schubert, adapt. ©1985, 1989 GIA Publications, Inc. **Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley** Arr: Sandra Eithun ©2019 Agape, a division of Hope Publications, Inc. **Psalm 91** Setting: Carl Schalk Refrain- Psalter for Worship Year C©2008 Augsburg Fortress. **In the Shadow of Your Wings** Text & Music: John Leavitt ©1996 GIA Publications, Inc. **Bless Now, O God, the Journey** Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan ©1991 GIA Publications. OneLicense.net #A-705206. **Holy, Holy** Music: Hans Peterson ©2008 Dakota Road Music. CCLI License # 20761849. **Kyrie & Lamb of God** from Behold, I Make All Things New Music: Benjamin Splichal Larson ©2015 Renee Splichal Larson. Piano Arr. Elizabeth Carson ©2011. Other music – Public domain.*