

Salem Sunday, February 28, 2021

Second Sunday in Lent

ELW Holy Communion Setting Two

WELCOME

Good Morning. Welcome to Salem Lutheran Church. We welcome all of you to worship today, especially those of you who are worshipping with us on Big Dog radio 98.9, KHUB 1340, or viewing on Spectrum cable or Facebook Live. If you are joining us on Facebook, please take a moment now to share a greeting in the comments so that we know you are worshipping with us today.

This morning we welcome Greg Johnson at the organ and thank him for sharing his musical talents with us today.

During this season of Lent, we pause to reflect, knowing that our sin led Jesus to the cross. We treasure the gift of our Savior, and we love so great that would suffer such pain for us, but during this season, we pause, to remember, that he did that for us and that we needed that because we are broken people, dependent on an amazing, gracious God.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

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

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG *In the Cross of Christ I* *Glory* (ELW 324)



1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r - ing
2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -
3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and
4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the



o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of
ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the
love up - on my way, from the cross the
cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that



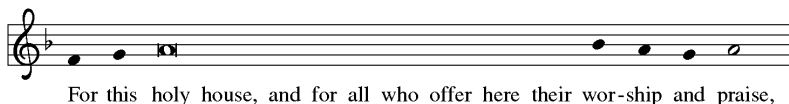
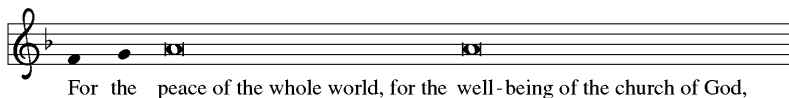
sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
cross for - sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.
ra - diance stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.
knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.

GREETING

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

And also with you.

KYRIE



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

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.

FIRST READING: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

As with Noah, God makes an everlasting covenant with Abraham and Sarah. God promises this old couple that they will be the ancestors of nations, though they have no child together. God will miraculously bring forth new life from Sarah's womb. The name changes emphasize the firmness of God's promise.

¹When 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. ²And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." ³Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, ⁴"As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁵No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁶I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. ⁷I 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."

¹⁵God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶I 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."

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

²³You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's line, give glory.

²⁴For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the LORD's face hid- | den from them;

²⁵From you comes my praise in the | great assembly;
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who | fear
the LORD.

**26 The poor shall eat | and be satisfied,
Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May
our hearts | live forever!**

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to
the LORD;
all the families of nations shall bow | before God.

**28 For dominion belongs | to the LORD,
who rules o- | ver the nations.**

²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow | down in worship;

all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel be- | fore the LORD.

³⁰ **Their descendants shall | serve the LORD,
whom they shall proclaim to genera- | tions to
come.**

³¹They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people | yet
unborn,
saying to them, "The | LORD has acted!"

Paul presents Abraham as the example for how a person comes into a right relationship with God not through works of the law but through faith. Though Abraham and Sarah were far too old for bearing children, Abraham trusted that

God would accomplish what God had promised to accomplish.

¹³The 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. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

¹⁶For 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, ¹⁷as 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. ¹⁸Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." ¹⁹He 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. ²⁰No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised.

²²Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." ²³Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

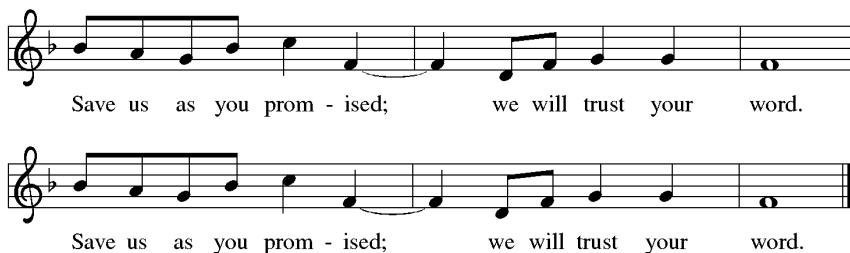
Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Let your stead - fast love come to us, O Lord.



GOSPEL: Mark 8:31-38

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

After Peter confesses his belief that Jesus is the Messiah, Jesus tells his disciples for the first time what is to come. Peter's response indicates that he does not yet understand the way of the cross that Jesus will travel.

³¹[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.³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But 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."

³⁴He 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. ³⁵For 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. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life?

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus (ELW 802)



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.
 3 Let us glad - ly die with Je - sus. Since by death he con - quered death,
 4 Let us al - so live with Je - sus. He has ris - en from the dead



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.
 he will free us from de - struc - tion, give to us im - mor - tal breath.
 that to life we may a - wak - en. Je - sus, you are now our head,



On - ward in his foot - steps tread - ing, trav - 'lers here, our home a - bove,
 Though to - day we sow no laugh - ter, we shall reap ce - les - tial joy;
 Let us mor - ti - fy all pas - sion that would lead us in - to sin;
 we are your own liv - ing mem - bers; where you live, there we shall be



full of faith and hope and love, let us do our Sav - ior's bid - ding.
 all dis - com - forts that an - noy shall give way to mirth here - af - ter.
 and the grave that shuts us in shall but prove the gate of heav - en.
 in your pres - ence con - stant - ly, liv - ing there with you for - ev - er.



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.
 Je - sus, here with you I die, there to live with you on high.
 Je - sus, let me faith - ful be; life e - ter - nal grant to me.

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626–1681; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, alt.

Music: LASSET UNS MIT JESU ZIEHEN, Georg G. Boltze, 18th cent.

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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

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

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 well-being. 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. (*Here specific places of need may be named.*) 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*). 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 services to families. (*The congregation's ministries and community services may be named.*) Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

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.

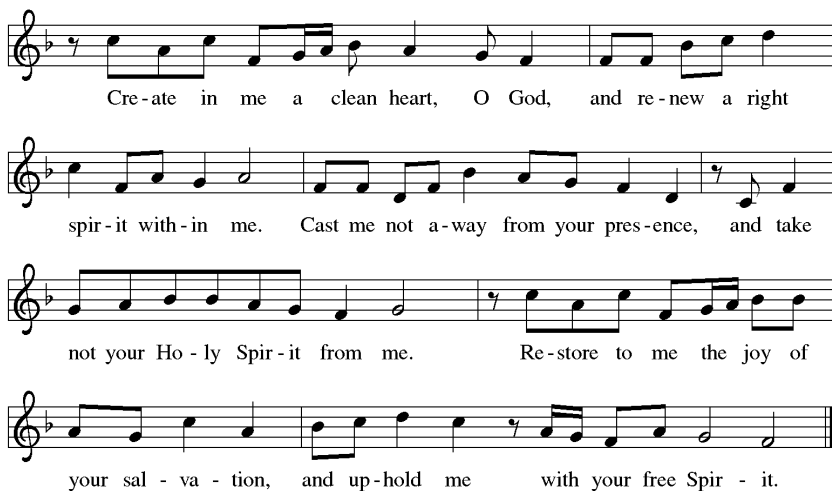
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING



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 to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

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OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being.

For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you.

For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love.

For your Word of life, O God, **we give you thanks and praise.**

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

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

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.

Amen.

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The God of all grace ✝ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG *Take My Life, That I May Be (PATMOS) (ELW 685)*



- 1 Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
- 2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;
- 3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;
- 4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with - hold;



- take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise.
take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sag - es from thee.
take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

- 5 Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne.
- 6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, alt.

Music: PATMOS, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

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Serving Christ This Sunday, February 28th 8:30 a.m.

Assisting Minister: Ray Snodgrass

Lay Reader: Ray Snodgrass

Tech Team: Gene Schultz, Mark Remington, Don Durand

Choral Director: Rosie Parde

Music: Greg Johnson

Lead Pastor: Rev. Shari Schwedhelm

Radio Broadcast is given by Ramona Hasek to the Glory of God.

Altar Flowers are given by Salem Lutheran Church to the Glory of God.

Prayer Requests:

The family and friends of Kathy Bartels (Kathy passed away on Tuesday, February 23rd, funeral was on Friday, February 26th at 10:30)

Roy Kusaba (Pastor Shari's father)

Kay Schwedhelm (Alan Schwedhelm's father)

Malee Zardo (Marilyn Ackerman's daughter)

Kendra Remington

Randy Bartunek (Nancy Bartunek's husband)

Michael Phelps

DeAun Lucas

Paul Harms

Todd Niemeier (Rosie Parde's nieces husband)

Jo Sanders (sister to Bob Flittie)

Debbie Saunders (sister to Nancy Bartunek)

Scott Anderson (Lori Dunn's cousin's husband)

Heather Dooley (niece to Verna Kimball)

Shut-Ins: Jean Kinport, Millie Koopman, Bruce Krueger, Diane Miller, Deb Minter

Military Personnel: Frank Hewett (Ann Carlson's grandson), Christopher Tank, Seth Osterloh, Ronald Schultz, Jodie Morgan, Patrick Cone, Austin Cone, Adam Morehouse, Patrick Godfrey, Dale Stahlecker Jr., Tony Andersen, Taylor Knipp (Wanda Kruger's granddaughter)

Ongoing Prayers: Salem's Intergenerational Education, Stephen Ministers, Living Grace Church (mission in west Omaha), St. Timothy Lutheran Church, those persecuted for their faith. All the people who have been affected by Covid-19.

Announcements:

Lenten Devotionals - This year we will again have devotional booklets available for the season of Lent. Paper copies in regular or large print can be picked up in the narthex. You can also sign up to receive them via email each day. If you would like the email version, please call or email Pastor Shari and she will sign you up.

Support Our Camp

The women of St. Timothy are preparing and selling soup and bars to support Camp Carol Joy Holling. The weekend of March 6-7 ham and bean and vegetable beef soups will be sold. Bars will also be available. We ask for free will donations when you pick up your order. Checks should be written to St. Timothy WELCA.

Salem Lutheran Church will be offering "to-go" meals on two Wednesdays during Lent. They will be available on March 3rd and 17th with a free will donation to Carol Joy Holling Camp. Please complete the blue order form and return it to the church office by the deadline indicated for each week.

Your participation and donation is greatly appreciated!