

## Second Sunday in Lent

March 5, 2023

Evangelical Lutheran Worship

Setting 8



### Introduction to the Day:

*During Lent we journey with all those around the world who will be baptized at the Easter Vigil. 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.*

### Prayer Requests

*Congregation participation in **bold print**.*

*Please stand as you are able.*

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

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the ✝ holy Trinity,  
the one who fashions us,  
the one who heals us,  
the one who reforms us again and again.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Source of all life,

**we confess that we have not allowed your grace to set us free.**

**We fear that we are not good enough.**

**We hear your word of love freely given to us, yet we expect others to earn it.**

**We turn the church inward, rather than moving it outward.**

**Forgive us. Stir us.**

**Reform us to be a church powered by love, willing to speak for what is right,**

**act for what is just, and seek the healing of your whole creation.**

**Amen.**

God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us and to empower our lives in the world. Our sins are forgiven, ✝ God's love is unconditional, and we are raised up as God's people who will always be made new, in the name of Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

## 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

ELW pg. 184

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.

O God,

**our leader and guide, 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.**

*Please be seated.*

**WORD** - God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

## FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a

*God’s call of Abram and Sarai has a clear purpose—that through them all the families of the earth would gain a blessing. As they set out on their journey, they are accompanied by promises of land, nation, and a great reputation.*

<sup>1</sup>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. <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>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.”

<sup>4a</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 121

<sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes to the hills;

from where is my help to come?

<sup>2</sup>**My help comes from the LORD,  
the maker of heaven and earth.**

<sup>3</sup>The LORD will not let your foot be moved  
nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup>**Behold, the keeper of Israel  
will neither slumber nor sleep;**

<sup>5</sup>the LORD watches over you;  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand;

<sup>6</sup>**the sun will not strike you by day,  
nor the moon by night.**

<sup>7</sup>The LORD will preserve you from all evil  
and will keep your life.

<sup>8</sup>**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**

*In the person and example of Abraham we discover that a right relationship with God does not involve earning a reward from God but entails trusting God's promises. Abraham is the forebear and model for both Jews and Gentiles, because we too trust that ours is a God who gives life to the dead.*

<sup>1</sup>What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? <sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>4</sup>Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup>But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

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

<sup>16</sup>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, <sup>17</sup>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.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**LENTEN GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Please stand as you are able.*

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**GOSPEL: John 3:1-17**

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*A curious Pharisee visits Jesus by night to learn from the teacher his friends reject. Jesus speaks to him about life in the Spirit and the kingdom of God.*

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>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." <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." <sup>4</sup>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?" <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' <sup>8</sup>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." <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?"

<sup>11</sup>"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. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>"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.

<sup>17</sup>"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."

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

## **SERMON**

**Deacon Kathy Sebree**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

*"We Are Baptized in Christ Jesus"*

ELW Hymn 451

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

With the whole church, let us confess our faith using 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**

*After each petition, the Worship Assistant will say, "Merciful God", the congregation will respond, "receive our prayer."*

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

## **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*Please take a few moments to greet those around you as you feel comfortable, keeping in mind that not everyone is comfortable shaking hands or hugging.*

**MEAL** - God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

## **OFFERING**

### **OFFERING SONG**

*"Come to the Table"*

ELW Hymn 481

*Please stand as you are able.*

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together,

God of life,

**You give us these gifts of the earth, these resources of our life and our labor. Take them, offered in great thanksgiving, and use them to set a table that will heal the whole creation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Light.**

**Amen .**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

### DIALOGUE

Preface

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

ELW pg. 190

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### LORD’S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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 today 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.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

*Please be seated.*

*We believe that Christ is truly present in, with, and under the bread and wine. All those who are baptized and have received formal teaching about The Lord’s Supper are invited forward to commune. If you desire a blessing, come forward and keep hands folded together. Come forward at the direction of the usher. Pick up a clean cup from the right side of the altar. The empty cups can be placed in the tray on the left side of the altar.*

## COMMUNION SONG

“Lamb of God”

ELW pg. 191

## SONGS DURING COMMUNION

“This Is the Spirit’s Entry Now”  
“Just As I Am, without One Plea”  
“Eat This Bread”

ELW Hymn 448

ELW Hymn 592

ELW Hymn 472

*Please stand as you are able.*

## **TABLE BLESSING**

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

**Amen**

## **SONG AFTER COMMUNION**

“Lamb of God”

ELW Pg 191

## **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Let us pray.

Holy and compassionate God,

**in bread and wine you give us gifts that form us to be humble and courageous. May your words come to life in our serving and in our witness, that we might speak a living voice of healing and justice to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer.**

**Amen.**

**SENDING** - God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE COMING WEEK:**

Today: Special Congregational Meeting, 11:00  
Tuesday: Christian Outreach Meeting, noon  
Wednesday: “The Way” Mid-Week Lenten Study, 12:00,  
“What’s the Plan” Seminar, 1:00  
Family Bible Night, 5:30—7:30  
Saturday: AARP Tax Sessions 9:00-3:00  
Counters for March: Janet Frank & Lori Murphy

## **BLESSING**

God, creator of all things, speaking reformation into being;  
Jesus Christ, savior of the world, raising the dead;  
Holy Spirit, living voice, calling and enlightening the church:

Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **SENDING SONG**

“Lift High the Cross”

ELW Hymn 660

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace.  
Serve the Lord!

**Thanks be to God!**

Please keep the following people in your prayers this week: Kodi (blood infection due to burns), Don and Sandy, Jackie Larson, Linda Uecker, Rita, Laurie Wilson, Jean Koch, Beth Kuhr, Donna, Julie Ann and the twins who were born prematurely.

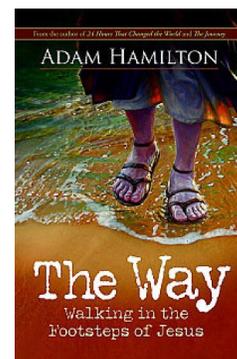
## What's the Plan?

### Making Tough Decisions (So Others Don't Have To)

Ed McClanathan of Dignity Memorial, Yakima, will lead a free seminar/Q&A session at Christ Lutheran Church in Yakima, March 8, 1 p.m. Topics will include funeral costs, information about cremation vs. burial, what families can expect at the funeral home, Medication and Veterans' reimbursements, and other legal concerns. The community is welcome. Bring your questions!

Travel to the Holy Land in this inspiring volume of Adam Hamilton's Bible study on the life of Jesus. Using historical background, archaeological findings, and stories of the faith, Hamilton retraces the footsteps of Jesus from his baptism to the temptations to the heart of his ministry, including the people he loved, the enemies he made, the parables he taught, and the roads he traveled.

Our mid-week Lenten services will be on the Wednesdays in Lent beginning at noon. We will be watching a short video that will take us on the roads of the Holy Land. We will also have books available to accompany each video. Please join us.



Our Lenten offering will be designated to Ysleta Lutheran Mission, Refugee Care Ministry. This ministry partners with other organizations such as the Rescue Mission of El Paso and the Opportunity Center of El Paso. These organizations are working side by side with other El Paso shelters, helping to relocate these refugees within 48-72 hours. Through our prayers and support, YLM can continue to be a source of encouragement and practical acts of kindness to the displaced who are seeking to find a better future in the United States

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*Called by God to Worship, Learn, and Nurture: Sent to Serve and Tell*

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[www.christlutheranyakima.org](http://www.christlutheranyakima.org) Worship at 9:30 am

Deacon Kathy's Office Hours: Tuesdays—Thursdays 11:00 - 2:00 and by appointment