



St. Mary's Lutheran Church
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
www.stmaryslutheran.org

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT
Saturday, March 4 & Sunday, March 5, 2023

All are welcome at St. Mary's!

- Please respect the beauty of reverence and quiet reflection as we prepare for worship. Turn off phones or silence them.
- Please know that St. Mary's Lutheran Church celebrates Holy Communion for ALL! This is Christ's table and His invitation. You do not need to be a Lutheran, or a member of our church to participate. Also, if you wish to come up for only a blessing, please tell us when you approach, and we will bless you! If you are unable to come up for communion, tell the usher that you would like to receive communion at your seat, and someone will bring it to you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TEMPLE TALK: Mission Exploration Team Report
PRELUDE Jubilate! Handbell Choir
"When We Are Living: Pues Si Vivimos"
ARR. CATHY MOKELBUST

STAND

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who journeys with us these forty days,
and sustains us with the gift of grace.

Amen.

Let us acknowledge before God and one another
our need for repentance and God's mercy.

Holy God,
we confess to you our faults and failings.
Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word;
we take for ourselves instead of giving to others;
we spoil rather than steward your creation;
we cause hurt though you call us to heal;
we choose fear over compassion.
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
as we seek to follow in your way of life.
Amen.

Hear the good news:

God so loved the world that God gave the only Son,
so that all may receive life.

This promise is for you!

God embraces you with divine mercy,
☩ forgives you in Christ's name,
and revives you in the Spirit's power.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG Hymn #660 "Lift High the Cross"

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 p. 138)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

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.

SIT

MUSICAL OFFERING

Jubilate! Handbell Choir
"Simple Gifts" BY SANDRA EITHUM

WORD

Pew Bible Page

First Reading: Genesis 12:1-4a

(pg. 8)

*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.*

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

(pg.916)

*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.*

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

STAND

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

(ELW p. 142 "Return to the Lord")

GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

(pg. 863-864)

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.*

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SIT

KIDS CONNECTION (SUN)

SERMON

STAND

HYMN OF THE DAY Hymn #335 "Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross"

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

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

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.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

SIT

ADULT CHOIR

"God So Loved the World"

- JOHN STAINER

*God so loved the world, the He gave His only
begotten Son, that whoso believeth, believeth
in Him should not perish, but have everlasting
life. For God sent not His Son into the world
to condemn the world, but that the world
through Him might be saved.
God so loved the world.*

STAND

OFFERING Hymn #658 "O, Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts" vs. 1

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of good gifts,
receive these and all our offerings
as we present them in faithful service
for the sake of your gospel.
Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal
as you pour out your very presence
through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life.
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING
DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

ACCLAMATION AND AMEN

“Holy, Holy, Holy” (ELW p. 144)

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, O God of the universe.

Your mercy is everlasting

and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night in which he was betrayed...as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life:

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us

and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Bless this feast.

Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.

Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.

Breathe new life into us.

Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places,

with the earth and all its creatures,

with sun and moon and stars,

we praise you, O God,

blessed and holy Trinity,

now and forever.

Amen.

LORD’S PRAYER

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

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

SIT

COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONG

“Lamb of God” (ELW p. 146

DISTRIBUTION HYMN Hymn #759 “My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

STAND

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Embodied God,

at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus.

With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise,

empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors

and touch the world with your love.

Amen.

SENDING OF COMMUNION

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother’s tender care:

As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist

those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with

those who are sick, homebound, and imprisoned. In your love

and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this

sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence

through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING

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.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

Hymn #324 “In the Cross of Christ I Glory”

DISMISSAL

We are God’s People.

Followers of Jesus Christ.

Gifted by the Spirit.

Go Pray. Go Love. Go Serve.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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THIS WEEKEND’S WORSHIP LEADERS

INTERIM PASTOR: Pastor Kathy Brown

SOUND/VIDEO: Kristofer Twadell

ASSISTING MINISTER: Di Michalski

TEMPLE TALK: Pat Gallo, Jim DeFranco

SATURDAY

PIANO: Laurel Borter

READER: Pat Gallo

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Edie Iverson, Pat Gallo

USHERS: Bob VanBendegom, Dale Brandes, Sandy Benson

SUNDAY

READER: Rod Pfeiffer

KIDS CONNECTION: Lara Rader

ADULT CHOIR: Dr. Richard Sjoerdsma, Director; Deb Black, Accompanist

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Sandy Bear, Cari Richter, Christy Burmeister

GREETER: Hayley & Kris Jensen

USHERS: Gary Rice, Ralph Tollas, Carole Scotese, Dave Raszkiewicz, Dan Neururer and/or Doug Derginer

HOSPITALITY: Keith Corso, Charlotta Jonsson, Ann Johnson, Tabitha DeFranco

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*This weekend’s altar flowers are given  
to the Glory of God and  
The single rose is in honor of our granddaughter, Celine’s  
baptism by Steve & Debbie Hartfield;  
The Centerpiece arrangement is in memory of Martin &  
Millie Jensen by their daughter, Lorraine Harris.*  
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Please plan to join us here each Wednesday night at 6:30pm for the Midweek Lenten services “Making Change”. On Wednesday, March 8, Pastor Cindy Aasen will preach on “Change of Heart” here at St. Mary’s at 6:30pm. A rotation of our ELCA cluster church pastors will provide a new message each week. AND Don’t Forget....we are offering soup suppers preceding our Lenten Services each week. We will start serving at 5:30pm and end at 6:20.Come and enjoy!

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*The funeral for St. Mary’s dear Jane Sandberg is  
this Sunday, March 5th at 1:00pm here in the  
sanctuary. We hope that the promise of the  
resurrection brings comfort to all who mourn.*