

Second Sunday in Lent

March 13, 2022

8:30 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary

10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary



We give thanks for improving local conditions regarding Covid-19:

fewer folks in our area are testing positive, being hospitalized, or dying from the virus. In light of these changes, and out of consideration for our members who remain medically vulnerable or care for those who are, we are inviting members at the 10:30 a.m. Sunday and Lenten Wednesday services to choose whether or not to wear a mask, except while singing when we ask everyone to mask. We ask that members continue to wear a mask throughout the whole 8:30 a.m. Sunday service, and we recommend the 8:30 a.m. service for those who want to attend in person but who are at higher risk. Please continue to test if you have symptoms or have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive, and please participate in worship from home by livestream if you feel ill, are awaiting test results, or have recently tested positive. Thank you for your continued efforts to protect and care for one another.

Everyone Is Invited to Sing All the Hymns While Remaining Masked

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P In the name of God, who makes a way in the wilderness, walks with us, and guides us in our pilgrimage. C **Amen.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Holy one,

C **we confess that we have wandered far from you: we have not trusted your promises, we have ignored your prophets in our own day, we have squandered our inheritance of grace, we have failed to recognize you in our midst. Have mercy on us! Forgive us and turn us again to you. Teach us to follow in your ways, assure us again of your love, and help us to love our neighbor. Amen.**

P Beloved in Christ, the Word draws near to you, and all who call out to God shall be saved. In Jesus, God comes to you again and again and gathers you under wings of love. In † Jesus' name, your sins are forgiven. God journeys with you and teaches you how to live in love. C **Amen.**

Pastor



1 O God, Father in heav - en, have mer - cy up - on us.
 2 O Son of God, redeemer of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.
 3 O God, Holy Spir - it, have mer - cy up - on us.

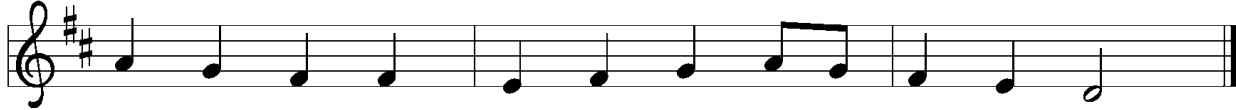
All



Your heart, O God, is grieved, we know, by ev - 'ry
 Your arms ex - tend, O Christ, to save from sting of
 O lav - ish Giv - er, come to aid the chil - dren



e - vil, ev - 'ry woe; up - on your cross - for -
 death and grasp of grave; your scars be - fore the
 that your word has made. Now make us grow and



sak - en Son our death is laid, and peace is won.
 Fa - ther move his heart to mer - cy at such love.
 help us pray; bring joy and com - fort, come to stay.

Text: Jiří Tranovský, 1591–1637; tr. Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919
 Music: ZŇAME TO, PANE BOŹE NÁŠ, *Transcius*, 1636
 Tr. © 1970 Concordia Publishing House

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P *Let us pray ...* God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C Amen**

FIRST READING: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

¹After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, “Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” ²But Abram said, “O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” ³And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.” ⁴But the word of the LORD came to him, “This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.” ⁵He brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your descendants be.” ⁶And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

⁷Then he said to him, “I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess.” ⁸But he said, “O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?” ⁹He said to him, “Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.” ¹⁰He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. ¹¹And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

¹²As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

¹⁷When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. ¹⁸On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.”

L The word of the Lord. **C Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 27 (To be read responsively.)

¹The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

²When evildoers close in against me to devour my flesh, they, my foes and my enemies, will stumble and fall.

³Though an army encamp against me, my heart will not fear. Though war rise up against me, my trust will not be shaken.

⁴One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life; to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God in the temple.

⁵For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter, hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high upon a rock.

⁶Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me. Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make music to the LORD.

⁷**Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call; have mercy on me and answer me.**

⁸My heart speaks your message—“Seek my face.” Your face, O LORD, I will seek.

⁹**Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger. Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of my salvation.**

¹⁰Though my father and my mother forsake me, the LORD will take me in.

¹¹**Teach me your way, O LORD; lead me on a level path, because of my oppressors.**

¹²Subject me not to the will of my foes, for they rise up against me, false witnesses breathing violence.

¹³**This I believe—that I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living!**

¹⁴Wait for the LORD and be strong. Take heart and wait for the LORD!

SECOND READING: Philippians 3:17—4:1

¹⁷Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. ¹⁹Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. ²⁰But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. ^{4:1}Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

L The word of the Lord. **C Thanks be to God.**

***LENTEN VERSE**

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.

***Gospel: Luke 13:31-35**

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus,] “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” ³²He said to them, “Go and tell that fox for me, ‘Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. ³³Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.’ ³⁴Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’ ”

P The Gospel of the Lord. C Praise to you, O Christ.

HOMILY

Pastor Traci

***HYMN OF THE DAY**

Thy Holy Wings

ELW # 613

1 Thy ho - ly wings, O Sav - ior, spread gent - ly o - ver me,
2 Oh, let me nes - tle near thee, with - in thy down - y breast
3 Oh, wash me in the wa - ters of No - ah's cleans - ing flood.

and let me rest se - cure - ly through good and ill in thee.
where I will find sweet com - fort and peace with - in thy nest.
Give me a will - ing spir - it, a heart both clean and good.

Oh, be my strength and por - tion, my rock and hid - ing place,
Oh, close thy wings a - round me and keep me safe - ly there,
Oh, take in - to thy keep - ing thy chil - dren great and small,

and let my ev - 'ry mo - ment be lived with - in thy grace.
for I am but a new - born and need thy ten - der care.
and while we sweet - ly slum - ber, en - fold us one and all.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903, sts. 1, 3; Gracia Grindal, b. 1943, st. 2; tr. composite
Music: BRED DINA VIDA VINGAR, Swedish folk tune
Text © 1983 Gracia Grindal, admin. Selah Publishing Co., Inc., agent.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator

***CREED**

P Let us confess our faith through the words of the Apostles' Creed.

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 OF THE CHURCH**

P Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

P You gather the church into a community of mercy and grace. Unify Christians around the globe in efforts to proclaim good news even in the face of opposition and to protect those whose lives are imperiled by the gospel. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

P You create the entire universe and call it good. Hinder those who would cause further destruction to our planet's fragile ecosystems, and augment the calls of those who advocate for thoughtful stewardship of the earth's resources. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

P You raise up leaders committed to love and justice. Nurture in those who govern patience to receive criticism, openness to new ideas, and courage to change course when needed for the sake of the common good. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

P You hear us when we cry to you. Attend to those expecting a child, and console those who have experienced miscarriage. Comfort veterans enduring post-traumatic stress. Shield those endangered by domestic violence. Uphold those who are ill or grieving. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

P You kindle faith that moves us into action. Guide children and adults preparing for baptism or confirmation. Empower Sunday school teachers, confirmation leaders, and parents who share their faith with younger generations. Give us all a renewed sense of vocation. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

P You welcome us into your heavenly realm. We give thanks for those whose labors on earth are ended and who now rest with you. On the final day, gather all of us, with them, in your loving arms. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

P Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ. **C Amen.**

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

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 right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace.

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, 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.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life 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.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever. **C Amen.**

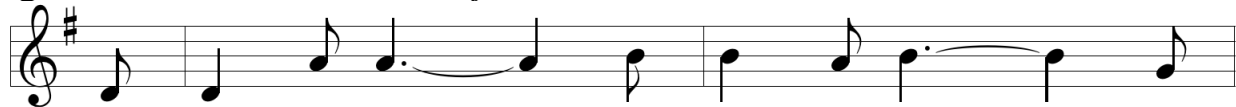
***LORD'S PRAYER**

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

C 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

The Agnus Dei *O Lamb of God, to Earth You Come* OLS # 7



1 O Lamb of God, to earth you came to
2 O Lamb of God, the on - ly Son, to



save us all from grief and shame. Shorn of your life, up -
us show mer - cy, Ho - ly One. You save the world from



on the tree you hung in deep hu - mil - i - ty.
all its sin. Lord, give to us your peace. A - men.

Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer, based on the Agnus Dei

Music: THE SUFFOLK MIRACLE, Appalachian traditional

Text © 1990, 2013 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Duplication in any form prohibited without securing permission in advance or reporting usage under a valid copyright license.

P Here is food and drink for the journey. Take and be filled.

P May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **C Amen**

Post Communion Prayer

P Blessed Jesus, in this rich meal of grace, you have fed us with your body, the bread of life. Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope to a world in need. **C Amen.**

Blessing

P You are children of God, anointed with the oil of gladness and strengthened for the journey. Almighty God, motherly, majestic, and mighty, ✠ bless you this day and always. **C Amen.**

*SENDING SONG

Jerusalem, My Happy Home

ELW # 628



- 1 Je - ru - sa - lem, my hap - py home, when shall I come to thee?
- 2 O hap - py har - bor of the saints, O sweet and pleas - ant soil!
- 3 Thy gar - dens and thy gal - lant walks con - tin - ual - ly are green;
- 4 There trees for - ev - er - more bear fruit and ev - er - more do spring;
- 5 Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - ru - sa - lem, God grant that I may see



When shall my sor - rows have an end? Thy joys when shall I see?
In thee no sor - row may be found, no grief, no care, no toil.
there grow such sweet and pleas - ant flow'rs as no - where else are seen.
there ev - er - more the an - gels sit and ev - er - more do sing.
thine end - less joy, and of the same par - tak - er ev - er be!

Text: F. B. P., 16th cent.

Music: LAND OF REST, North American traditional

Dismissal

P Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way. **C Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Reprinted from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* copyright © 2006

Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress license #SB105031

**Please be advised that worship services are recorded and/or
live-streamed on social media.**

Winter Weather

If we experience severe winter weather on a Sunday morning or Wednesday evening, please check Facebook and your email to see if in-person worship and Sunday school are canceled. Please always use caution when driving and remember that services are available by livestream and video. If in-person worship is canceled, a brief Service of the Word will be livestreamed on Facebook.

Please notify the office if you need a telephone call when worship is canceled.

Church Messenger

The March 2022 *Messenger* is now available at the St. Matthew **Website** (stmatthewlc.com), and on your recent **Email** message from St. Matthew by using the link listed in the body of the message. A paper copy of the *Messenger* is available in the news rack in the church Narthex. By calling the church office at (814-793-2413), you can request a paper copy to be sent by mail to your home. Do not hesitate to call the church office if you need help in securing a copy of the *Messenger*. Your readership, and articles are always appreciated.

Martinsburg Food Pantry

Volunteers from Martinsburg Grace Brethren Church will be helping at the Food Pantry on the third Thursday, March 17. The Food Pantry will be open to distribute food items from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. on this day and other times by appointment.

The March items most needed are: Sunny D Juice, Cereal, Ravioli, Jello, and Dish Detergent. These or any items can be placed in the basket at church. Thank You!

Linda Smith

Office Hours This Week:

Pastor Traci – Tues. 2:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

Office Hours – Mon. - Fri. 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Lori Tremmel

This Week Events

Today – Worship in Sanctuary 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Worship in Sanctuary 10:30 a.m.

Monday – Boy Scouts 6:30 p.m. FH

Wednesday Yoga, Nursery 4:45 p.m.

Fellowship Meal, Fellowship Hall 6:00 p.m.

Lenten Service, Sanctuary 7:00 p.m.

Sunday – Worship in Sanctuary 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Worship in Sanctuary 10:30 a.m.

Prayer Vigil

Scheduled at St. Matthew Lutheran Church on Friday, April 15th, from 6:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Members are asked to commit one half hour to pray for any concerns of a personal, church, or worldwide nature. We hope to have enough participation to fill a twelve-hour time period with continuous prayer. The sign-up sheet is located on the **bulletin board in the Narthex**. This is an excellent way for you to enrich your spiritual and prayer life. If you would like to participate and can't come to the church to sign up please call the church office at 793-2413.

Serving God and Us

Our Ministers - the People of St. Matthew

Our Pastor – Rev. Traci Marriott

Our Pianist – Dr. Adam Smith

Our Organist – Mary Nelson

Our Missionary Family – On Eagle's Wings, Elizabeth Hendrickson

Our Administrative Assistant – Lori Tremmel

Our Assistant Administrative Assistant – Laura Orczeck

Our Sexton – Phil Claar

Our Acolyte – Calleigh Wright

Our Lector – Jane Fagans

Our Altar Guild – Cindy Snyder, Jeannie Smith, Elaine Buchar

Our Audio/Video Tech – Camden Kuster

Our Offering Counters – Jim Barley, Beth Garner

First Quarter Ventures in Faith to “Local Needs”



Memorial/Honorarium Easter Flowers will be available for sale this year. There will be an order form inserted in next week's bulletin to purchase flowers.

Prayers are needed for our homebound: Carl & Dawn Alexy, John Aljets, Vivian Beach, Verna Blough, Fred Brandenburg, Clyde Claycomb, Mary Creps, Betty Helsel, Jere Hess, Audrey Hite, Ruth Johnson, Audrey & Dan Kensinger, Janet Kreider, Ginny Sell, Dan Sinal, Don Smith, Bill Stahl, Norm Tremmel, Joy Williams.

Prayer Concerns: Amy & Family, Pastor Denise Arpino, Randy Barrett, Diane Cappel, Greg Comer, Brian Fleck, Jim Fritz, Dan Hershberger, Marilyn Horton, Darren Kreutzer, Carrie Lively, Mike Lovell, Kristen Malloy, Karrie McCall & Family, Betty McDowell, Rick McIntyre, Nathan, Aunt Mica, Elaine Ormsby, Pastor Drahus Oslikova, Deb Peters, Linda Piper, Jensine Reese, Paul Ruth, Barbara Smith, Don Smith, Luther Steele, Cindy Thomas, Jean White, Pete Williams, Jim & Ginny Zeek, Jody Zelanko, and for our **Missionaries: Rev. Lesley Hand, On Eagle's Wings, Elizabeth Hendrickson.**

Our college students: Christopher Bush, Olivia Day, Jacob Orczeck.

Those Serving in the Army Overseas: Nathan Smith (Germany)



Photos for Directory

Anyone who didn't have a picture taken for the New Directory may submit a photo to the church office by email (stmatthewluth@aol.com). If you are unable to come to the church or submit the photo, you can call Pastor Traci at 814-935-9267 and she will come to you and take a photo. Deadline is March 15, 2022.

Volunteers Needed

Worship and Music Committee is looking for a volunteer to serve as Head Usher. Responsibilities include scheduling Ushers for worship services; maintain a current list of volunteers for Ushers; and Mentoring Ushers on new procedures, etc. Please contact Jane Fagans at 793-4401 or text at 327-0786 if you would like to fill this vacancy.