



Messiah Lutheran Church

Second Sunday in Lent

March 17, 2019 8:45 am

Mission Statement

“At Messiah Lutheran Church, we seek to answer God’s call to love”

Welcome to all worshipping with us today. Please complete the **Welcome Card** and *place it in the offering plate, during the offering*. **Prayer Petitions** may be included on the back of the Welcome card. Please turn your cell phones to silent during worship. There are activity bags for children to enjoy during worship, which can be found on a rack just outside the worship space. Thank you.

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship

i Confession & Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
who gathers us in the wilderness to redeem us,
anoint us,
and make us new. **Amen.**

In these forty days, let us be honest, confess our sin,
and receive God’s promise of mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God at the margins,
**We have wandered far from your home;
again and again, we lose our way.
We turn inward, afraid of the world around us.
We forget that you have saved your people before
and promise to do so again.
Do not remember the deeds of our past,
but turn our faces toward the future,
where your forgiveness is sure,
your welcome is clear,
and your love overflows. Amen.**

Like a hen who gathers her chicks,
God embraces you in tender care.
Like manna in the desert,

God feeds you with surprising mercy.
Like a loving parent,
God runs to meet you again this day,
forgiving your sins for the sake of + Christ,
leading you from death into life. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn: **#805 "Lead On, O King Eternal!"**

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 p. 147

Prayer of the Day

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. **Amen.**

First Reading: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

After 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." But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But 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." He 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." And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Then he said to him, "I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." But he said, "O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" He 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." He 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. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

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

When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On 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."

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 27

The 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?

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

Though an army encamp against me, my heart will not fear.

Though war rise up against me, my trust will not be shaken.

One 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.

For 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.

Even 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.

Hear my voice, O Lord, when I call;

have mercy on me and answer me.

My heart speaks your message— "Seek my face."

Your face, O Lord, I will seek.

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.

**Though my father and my mother forsake me,
the Lord will take me in.**

Teach me your way, O Lord;

lead me on a level path, because of my oppressors.

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

This I believe—that I will see the goodness of the Lord
in the land of the living!

Wait for the Lord and be strong.

Take heart and wait for the Lord!

Second Reading: Philippians 3:17--4:1

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He 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. 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.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: "Return to the Lord" p. 151

Gospel: Luke 13:31-35

Glory to you, O Lord.

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus,] "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." He 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. Yet 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.' Jerusalem, 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! See, 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!

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day:

#769 "If You But Trust in God to Guide You"

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

Each petition will end with: "Lord, in your mercy,"

The assembly will respond with: "**hear our prayer.**"

Seeking the grace, mercy, and love of almighty God, we offer our prayers for the church, for people in need, and for all of creation. *A brief silence.*

Compassionate God, call your people to stand firm as citizens of heaven. Support us by your wondrous love, and nurture mercy in our hearts and ministries. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Creator God, you are faithful to creation in the changing of the seasons. Open our ears to the great song of praise that comes from rivers, birds, mountains, livestock, and wind. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful God, overrule the terror in the world with acts of lovingkindness and generosity. Redeem political leaders from pride and fear, so that they may act justly and serve all people. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Loving God, answer those who cry out to you in time of trial. Give shelter to your vulnerable children, and cover them in the comfort of your mothering wings. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Grant solace to people who long to be parents, but have faced unable to bear or adopt children. Build life-giving relationships between parents and children for the sake of all. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Today we pray for John, Bill, family and friends of Nancy Kalweit upon her passing, family and friends of Joan Jarvis on her passing, Valerie, Kendal, Sandy, Lois Mansell, Bill, Lois, Mike, Laurie Strokos, Janet Beyne Gonsalves,

Jerry Godec, Karen, Cindy LaValley, Marilyn Voce, Larry, Don Dreisbach, Gary, Sierra, Mary Leslie, Charlene Avery, Nai, Cam & his family, Liz Kro, Katelin Bingner. Build up your holy community of saints through the work of the church. Spread your word through your people for the sake of the world. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Reveal your will as you receive our prayers, and re-shape our ways to your ways; through the saving work of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace

🪄 **Senior Choir Anthem** *God So Loved the World*

Offering

🪄 **Offering Prayer**

Generous God, you feed us with the harvest of the land, and you provide for our every need. Receive our gifts of money, imagination, and labor, and transform them into a feast that welcomes all, in Jesus Christ, our host and our guest. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving and Preface p. 152

Holy, Holy, Holy p. 153

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

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.

i Invitation to Communion & Distribution

The table of life is spread before you. Feast on the goodness and mercy of God.

Communion Hymns:

Lamb of God p. 154

#735 "Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth"

#759 "My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

i Blessing

Prayer After Communion

Tender and merciful one, at your feast, you fed us who brought nothing, turning our emptiness into joy. Filled with your abundant grace, send us now to be ministers of reconciliation, mending broken hearts, working for justice, and striving for peace among all people, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Benediction

God, who fills the creation with abundance, Christ, who spreads his arms in forgiveness, Holy Spirit, who draws ever near to us, + bless you and bring you to life everlasting. **Amen.**

Choral Benediction

Sending

Go in peace. Remember the poor.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Serving Us Today:

Preacher:	Pr. Allan Johnson
Organist:	Kathy Strazzinski
Senior Choir Director:	Dave Dagenais
Acolyte:	
Ushers:	Barb Avery, Ray Jarvis
Reader:	Brenda Blett
Communion Assistants:	Judy Quirk, Peggy Sager, Cathy Seblonka, Beth Krznarich
Greeters:	Jan Vickstrom, Joan Tasson
Assisting Minister:	Kathy Maynard
Sound Technician:	Larry Pagel
Nursery Attendant:	Jaime Davis
Nursery Volunteer:	
Flower Delivery:	Pearl Larson
Coffee Hour:	

Welcome

Messiah Lutheran Church seeks to be a welcoming community for all people. This includes people of every race, ability, sexual orientation and gender identity, ethnic background, economic grouping, religious affiliation, and political persuasion. We do this simply because God created all people in God's own image and Christ Jesus came so all people might have abundant and eternal life. We may not always be as welcoming as we should be, but this is our intention—all are welcome!

The Means of Grace

As Lutherans, we believe that God comes to us in love through the means of grace: the preaching of the Word and the gift of two Sacraments--Baptism and Communion. Christ Jesus is the host at the Holy Communion table, welcoming all people to be fed. If you haven't been baptized, we also invite you to consider baptism. The pastors would be delighted to speak with you about this.

Acknowledgments:

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