



Encouraging and strengthening faith in Jesus, and sharing the joy of God's love.

February 28, 2021

Second Sunday in Lent

10:15am

Holy Communion

INTRODUCTION to the Second Sunday in Lent

The second covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the one made with Abraham and Sarah: God's promise to make them the ancestors of many, with whom God will remain in everlasting covenant. Paul says this promise comes to all who share Abraham's faith in the God who brings life into being where there was no life. We receive this baptismal promise of resurrection life in faith. Sarah and Abraham receive new names as a sign of the covenant, and we too get new identities in baptism, as we put on Christ.



Gathering The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Prelude

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The assembly stands and turns to the font. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

In the name of the Father, and of the 🕂 Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The presiding minister leads the following prayer of preparation:

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

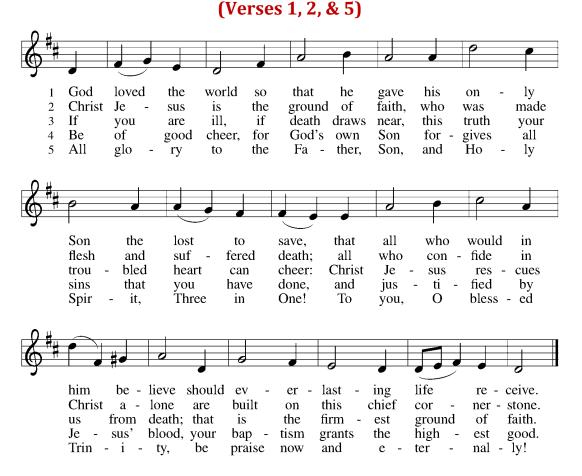
Brothers and sisters, during these great forty days of Lent, let us prepare ourselves to receive Christ in word and sacrament by confessing our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Silence is kept for reflection. I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven, and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.

The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, **H** forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. **Amen.**

During this time the CDC and the Bishop's Office recommend against congregational singing in the building, the ensemble will sing. The words and music are here for your meditation, please do not sing out loud.

The assembly turns to the altar as the cross passes by.GATHERING SONG:God Loved the World

ELW# 323

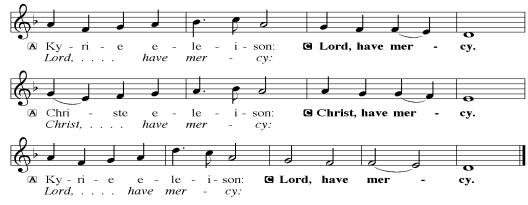


Text: *Gesangbuch*, Bollhagen, 1791; tr. August Crull, 1846–1923, alt. Music: ROCKINGHAM OLD, Edward Miller, 1731–1807, adapt.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

P: Grace, mercy, and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

KYRIE



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept, then the presiding minister leads the prayer.

P: 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. C: **Amen.**

The assembly sits.



Word God speaks to us in scripture reading and song.

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

A reading from Genesis.

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."

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

Psalm 22:23-31

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

Stand in awe of the LORD, all you off- spring of Israel.

²⁴For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the LORD's face hidden from them; but when they cry out, the LORD hears them.

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

²⁶The poor shall eat and be satisfied,

Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your 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.

²⁸For dominion belongs to the LORD, who rules over 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 before the LORD.

³⁰Their descendants shall serve the LORD,

whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.

³¹They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn,

saying to them, "The LORD has acted!"

SECOND READING: Romans 4:13-25

A reading from Romans.

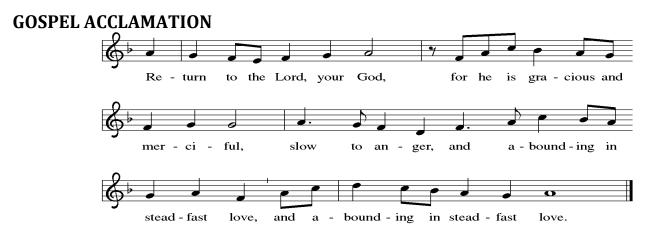
¹³The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, 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.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

After a brief silence, the assembly stands to welcome the gospel. The Gospel Acclamation is sung by a leader



GOSPEL: Mark 8:31-38

P: + The Holy Gospel, according Mark.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

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? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

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

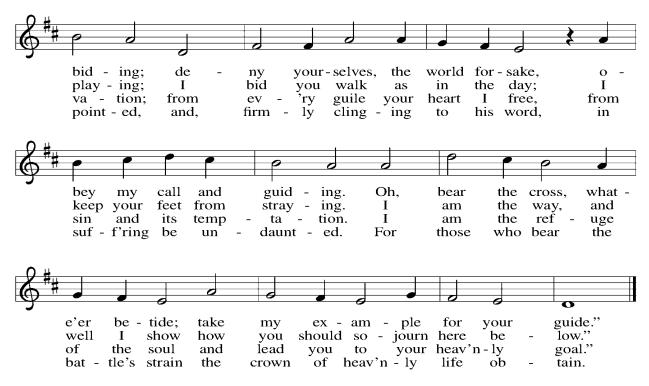
The assembly is seated. **SERMON**

The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song. **The ensemble sings the following hymn, verses 1, & 4 on behalf of the assembly.**

HYMN OF THE DAY







Text: Johann Scheffler, 1624–1677; tr. Charles W. Shaeffer, 1813–1896, alt.

Music: MACHS MIT MIR, GOTT, Bartholomäus Gesius, 1555–1613; adapt. Johann Herman Schein, 1586–1630

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

A brief silence. After each petition: Let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy.

P: God our Father, in your love and goodness you have taught us to come close to you in penitence with prayer, fasting and generosity; accept our Lenten discipline, and when we fall by our weakness, raise us up by your unfailing mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. C: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always. C: And also with you.

The assembly is seated.



MEAL God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Invitation to Offering

SETTING THE TABLE

The Offering Song is sung by a leader on behalf of the assembly.



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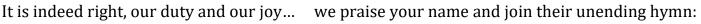
OFFERING PRAYER

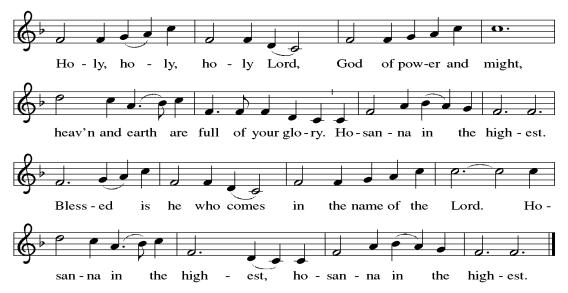
A: Let us pray.

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.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks. 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.





The presiding minister continues to give thanks:

Blessed are you, O God of the universe....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...Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.... Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

... we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. Amen

P: 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 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.

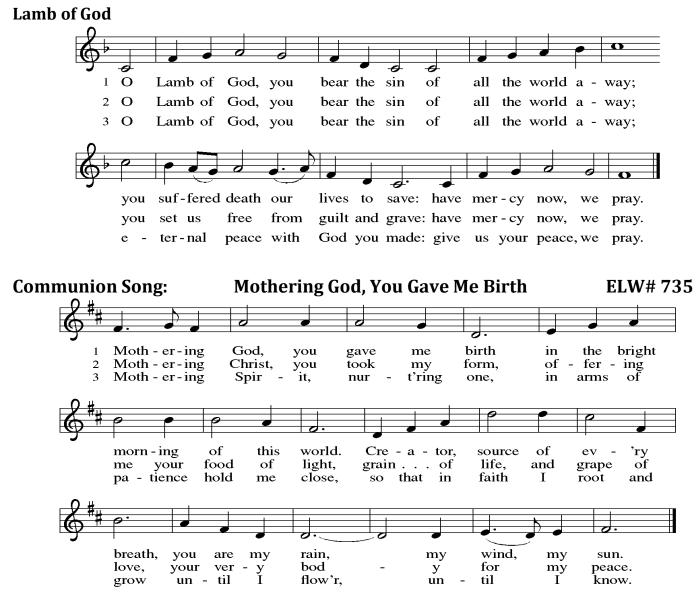
Communion

The bread is broken for the communion

P: Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Jesus draws the whole world to himself. Come to this meal and be fed.

The assembly is seated.

Lamb of God and the communion song are sung by a leader on behalf of the assembly.



Text: Jean Janzen, b. 1933; based on Julian of Norwich, c. 1342–c. 1413 Music: NORWICH, Carolyn Jennings, b. 1936 Text © 1991 Jean Janzen, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Music © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray. We thank you, living God, for the body and blood of your Son, which sustains us in the wilderness and the garden alike. As Christ has loved us in this feast, so send us to love Christ in our neighbors. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Lord. **Amen.**



Sending God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Announcements

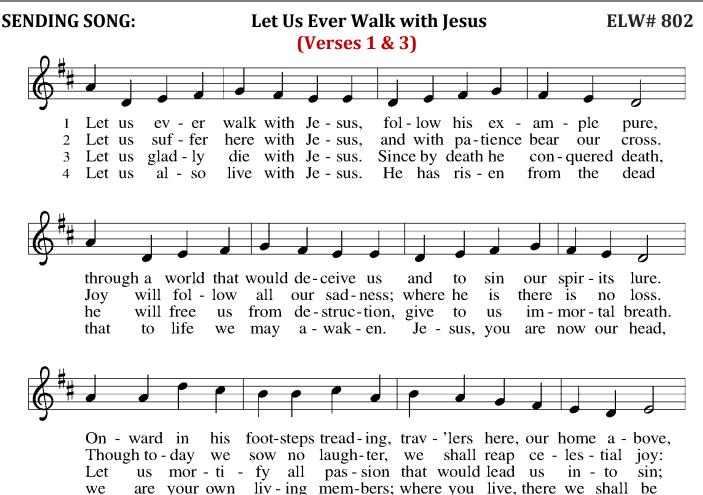
SOLEMN PRAYER OVER THE PEOPLE AND BLESSING

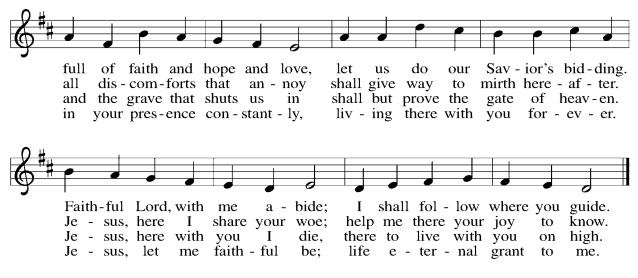
The assembly stands as the presiding minister proclaims God's blessing.

Grant, Almighty God, that your people may recognize their weakness and put their whole trust in your strength, so that they may rejoice forever in the protection of your loving providence; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Almighty God, Father, 🕂 Son, and Holy Spirit bless you, now and forever. **Amen.**

Verses 1 and 3 of the Sending Song is sung by the ensemble on behalf of the assembly. The assembly turns to face the cross as it passes by.





Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626–1681; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, alt. Music: LASSET UNS MIT JESU ZIEHEN, Georg G. Boltze, 18th cent. Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Share the good news. **C: Thanks be to God.**



In response to the amazing love, mercy and grace of God, St. Stephen Lutheran Church is a community that openly welcomes all who are seeking God's divine love and grace. All are welcome in this place regardless of race or culture, sexual orientation or gender

identity, economic situation or life situation, marital or relationship status, or your doubts about faith and church. Our unity is in Christ. Your family, children, friends, spouses and partners are welcome. Your diversity and uniqueness enriches and expands our community. We are a Reconciling in Christ congregation.

IN OUR PRAYERS...

In our prayers today are these members of our homebound and others of our parish family in need of healing: Brook Tierney, Roger Hinkley, Kathy Paff, Constance Brown, Natalie Prego, Carol Chmelynski, Marti Stroberg, Dolores Lauterberg, Laurel Blake, Dorothy Johnson, Don Schutt, Normagene Richardson, Mildred Grady, Jimmy Fennelli.

PRAYERS FOR FRIENDS OF THE PARISH

✤ Valerie, Annie, Greg, Wanda, Jason, Melissa, Jon, Carolyne, James, Camille, Carol, Errol, Gene, Amanda, Annette, Madison, Mason, Betty, Joanna, Susan, Betty, Chuck, Donna, Ford family, Pat, Bruce, Denny, Bill.

IN A FACILITY OR HOMEBOUND:

Evelyn Braun – 6152 Verde Trail Room 106 Boca Raton, Fl. 33433 Jim Loggins - John Knox Village – Woodlands 700 SW 4th St, Pompano Beach, FL 33060 Bud Danker - 3020 N. Ridge Road Apartment W-316 Ellicott City, MD 21043.

Welcome to in person worship!!! Please respect our guidelines:

We expect <u>everyone</u> to use face masks when in the building. If you forget your face covering, we have extras for you, but <u>no one</u> can enter the building without a face covering and they must be worn at <u>all times</u> except at the moment of communion. At the time of holy communion, exit the pew via the <u>side isles</u>, and go to the rear of the church, sanitizing your hands as you approach the center aisle.

Live Lent Evening Prayer on Wednesdays

Join us live online every Wednesday in Lent at 5:00pm for Evening Prayer. Go to https://www.facebook.com/SSLCPompano/ or https://www.ststephenlutheran.net to participate live in this week's prayer service. The theme of our mid-week Vespers is Perfect Love Casts Out Fear. The scripture readings each week will explore dimensions of God's love for us and the love of Christ we share. The service is live on Facebook and then is uploaded to the website before 6pm.

Zoom into a Bible Study on the Gospel of John

We continue our online live Zoom Bible Study of the Gospel of John this Thursday, at 7:00pm. All you need is the Zoom link (it's in the E-Update) and your own (preferably) New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) of the bible. If you don't have a bible at home, be in touch with me and I will get you one. We will gather for about an hour each week for this 12-week bible study on the fourth gospel. John is the last gospel to be written and is different in character from the other three synoptic gospels. Join us and why John is so different and what we learn from this theologically developed gospel.

40 Days of Giving—Change for Change during Lent

We journey alongside our partners and companions in the United States and 60 other countries with our donations. As the world has reeled from the effects of a deadly pandemic, we have seen the number of hungry people around the world rise, watched as food pantries and soup kitchens expanded to serve an ever-growing number of guests. You may use the Change for Change Tower in person or donate on line!

Help for victims of Texas storms

Harsh conditions recently severely impacted Southern states, such as Texas, which lack the infrastructure to handle the freezing temperatures and record-setting snow and ice. This has led to power, food and water shortages throughout the region. At the peak of power shortages, 4.5 million homes and businesses in Texas were without electricity and heat.

Lutheran Disaster Response is communicating with and standing ready to support the Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod, the Southwestern Texas Synod, the Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana Synod, and Lutheran Social Services Disaster Response.

Your gifts will support storm survivors. Gifts to "U.S. Severe Storms" will be used in full (100%) to assist those affected by severe storms. The link to give is found in the weekly E-Update.

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