

The Second Sunday in Lent
March 5, 2023
9:30am Worship & Communion

The Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Opening Prayer

*** Confession & Forgiveness p. 94-96**

*P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.***

*P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires are 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. **C: Amen.***

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*P: Most merciful God, **C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.***

*P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.***

*** Gathering Hymn #886**

“Oh, For A Thousand Tongues To Sing”

*** Greeting p. 147** *P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: And also with you.***

*** Kyrie p. 147** *P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.***

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

*P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.***

*P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.***

*P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **C: Amen.***

*** This is the Feast p. 149**

*** The Prayer of the Day (all pray).** **Father in Heaven, You have called us to be your Church in the world. Strengthen our faith, so that our witness will be strong. Give us hearts that love and hands that serve. And in all that we do, help us to glorify our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave his life for us on the cross. In his holy name we pray. Amen**

Choir Anthem

“Total Praise”

First Lesson: Genesis 12:1-4

¹ Now 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. ² And 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. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

⁴ So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Responsive Reading: Psalm 121

L: ¹ I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come?

C: ² My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

L: ³ He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

C: ⁴ Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

L: ⁵ The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade on your right hand.

C: ⁶ The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

L: ⁷ The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

All: ⁸ The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore.

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

⁴ What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh? ² For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³ For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness." ⁴ Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. ⁵ And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness,

¹³ For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴ For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵ For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression.

¹⁶ That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring—not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, ¹⁷ 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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

* **Gospel Acclamation** p. 151

* **Gospel Announcement**

* Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 3rd chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

*** The Gospel Lesson: John 3:1-17**

3 Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. **2** This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him.” **3** Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.” **4** Nicodemus said to him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?” **5** Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. **6** That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. **7** Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ **8** The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

9 Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” **10** Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? **11** Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. **12** If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? **13** No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. **14** And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, **15** that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

16 “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. **17** For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

Children’s Sermon

Hymn #595 (vs. 1 & 2)

“Jesus, Loves Me”

The Sermon

“Three Simple Truths”
(sermon text: John 3:1-17)

Pastor William Shields

*** Apostle’s Creed p. 105**

The Hymn of the Day #592

“Just As I Am, Without One Plea”

Offering

*** Offering Response #186**

Prayers

*** Words of Institution**

*** The Lord’s Prayer p. 154 **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.****

Communion

In the Lord’s Supper, we believe that Jesus is truly present in this meal to share His forgiveness and grace. All who share our faith are welcome. Communing children should hold their hand out to receive the bread. Cross arms in front to receive a blessing. Come down the center aisle to receive the bread from Pastor, an assistant on either side will serve the wine or white grape juice. Return to your seats using the side aisles.

During Communion, please join in singing ELW hymns # 323, 335, 339, 347.

* **Blessing**

* **Benediction**

* **Sending Hymn #803**

“When I Survey The Wondrous Cross”

* **Dismissal** *P:* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **C:** Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Announcements:

<u>Weekly Events:</u>	
Tues. Mar. 7 –	1:00pm – Library Committee 2:30pm – Worship Committee 7:00pm – Committee Night
Wed. Mar. 8 -	6:30am – Men’s Bible Study 11:00am – Pastor’s Study 1:00pm – Prayer Group 5:30pm – Soup Supper 6:00pm – Confirmation 6:00pm – Choir 7:00pm – Worship
Thurs. Mar. 9 –	1:00pm – Quilters 6:00pm – Pastor’s Bible Study
Sat. Mar. 11 --	7:00am – Gideon’s Prayer meeting
Sunday, Mar. 12 – 9:30 am Worship	Altar Guild Meeting immediately following worship in front pews 10:45 am Coffee Fellowship Sunday School

Easter Sunday, April 9
If you could usher at 7:00am service, please let the office know.

Altar Guild Meeting
March 12 - immediately following worship. Meeting will be in the front of the sanctuary.

Sign-ups for the Soup Suppers on Wednesday nights are in the back. Please bring a soup on 1 night, more if you like.

Painting Party
2:00pm – Sunday, March 5
Scruggs Pond

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

March 5th, watching a video from Jim Cymbala, Pastor of The Brooklyn Tabernacle. Then on March 12th we will have some discussion time on what we’ve learned.
Please join us for this study.
Jim & Sue Scruggs