

**Trinity  
Lutheran  
Church**

**February 25,  
2024**

**Second Sunday  
of Lent**

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Southwest  
Sleepy Eye, MN

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WHAT GOOD IS IT  
FOR SOMEONE TO  
GAIN THE WHOLE WORLD,  
YET FORFEIT THEIR SOUL?

MARK 8:36

# SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT SERVICE OF THE WORD

Sunday, February 25, 2024 9:00 A.M.



**THE LORD JESUS CHRIST WELCOMES ALL** who enter this house of worship! May God bless you as we offer to God our service of worship today. If you are visiting, we pray God's blessing upon you today as your presence is a blessing to this assembly. Please sign the *Friendship Pad* as it is passed down your row during the time of offering.

## WORSHIP AIDS

**ACTIVITY BAGS** for young children are on a stand at the rear of church; please return after services. Thanks.

**LARGE PRINT BULLETINS ARE AVAILABLE.** Please ask the usher.

## GATHERING

**WE PREPARE:** *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.*

### PARISH NOTICES /RINGING OF THE BELL

### CALL TO WORSHIP

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS



### TRINITY CHOIR

In the name of the Father, and of the  $\text{✝}$  Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

God of heaven and earth, you come in close and make us yours. Equip us by your Spirit to confess our sin, embrace your forgiveness, and seek the way you set before us in your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

With honesty of heart, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Merciful God,

**forgive us. Our will is handcuffed to sin, and we cannot break free.**

**We have spoken when we should have kept quiet.**

**We were silent when we should have said something.**

**We acted when we knew better.**

**We were still when we know we should have moved.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**For the wrong we have done, for the good we have failed to do, have mercy on us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

People of God, look to the  $\text{✝}$  Son, given to heal you and set you free because God loved the world so much. Take hold of life—eternal life! **Amen.**

1 *Jé - sus, je vou - drais te chan - ter sur ma rou - te;*  
 1 Lord Je - sus, you shall be my song as I jour - ney;  
 2 Lord Je - sus, I'll praise you as long as I jour - ney.  
 3 As long as I live, Je - sus, make me your ser - vant,  
 4 I fear in the dark and the doubt of my jour - ney;

*Jé - sus, je vou - drais t'an - non - cer à mes voi - sins par - tout,*  
 I'll tell ev - 'ry - bod - y a - bout you wher - ev - er I go:  
 May all of my joy be a faith - ful re - flec - tion of you.  
 to car - ry your cross and to share all your bur - dens and tears.  
 but cour - age will come with the sound of your steps by my side.

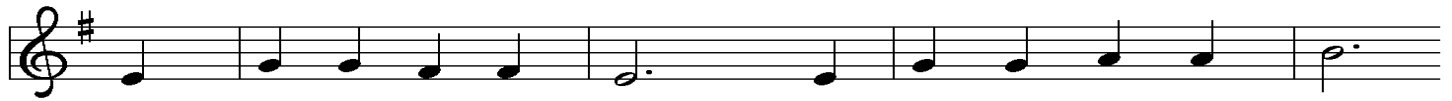
*car toi seul es la vie et la paix et l'a - mour:*  
 you a - lone are our life and our peace and our love.  
 May the earth and the sea and the sky join my song.  
 For you saved me by giv - ing your bod - y and blood.  
 And with all of the fam - 'ly you saved by your love,

*Jé - sus, je vou - drais te chan - ter sur ma rou - te.*  
 Lord Je - sus, you shall be my song as I jour - ney.  
 Lord Je - sus, I'll praise you as long as I jour - ney.  
 As long as I live, Je - sus, make me your ser - vant.  
 we'll sing to your dawn at the end of our jour - ney.

## 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

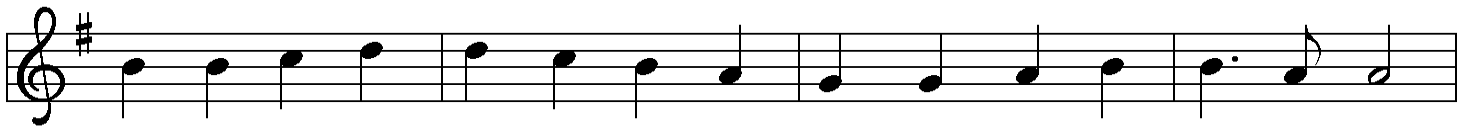


- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.  
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

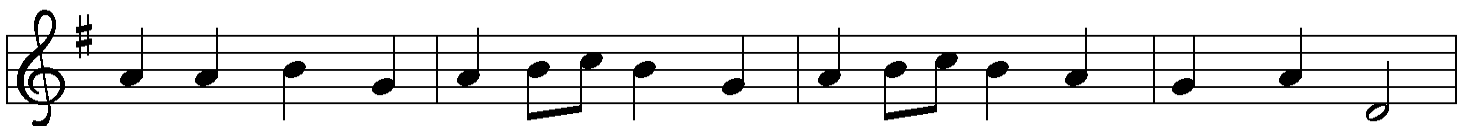
## CANTICLE OF PRAISE



- 1 Glo-ry be to God in heav - en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:  
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;  
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.  
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.  
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.  
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.  
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

## RESPONSIVE PSALM #22

*All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD.*

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

Stand in awe of the LORD, all you offspring of Israel.

**For 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.**

From you comes my praise in the great assembly;

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

**The poor shall eat and be satisfied, Let those who seek the LORD give praise!**

**May your hearts live forever!**

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;

all the families of nations shall bow before God.

**For dominion belongs to the LORD, who rules over the nations.**

Indeed, 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.

**Their descendants shall serve the LORD,**

**whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.**

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

saying to them, "The LORD has acted!"

#### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

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. **Amen.**

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## **WORD**

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#### **FIRST READING**

**Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16**

The first reading is in Genesis chapter 17, verses 1–7 and 15–16. As with Noah, God makes an everlasting covenant with Abraham and Sarah. God promises this old couple that they will be the ancestors of nations, though they have no child together. God will miraculously bring forth new life from Sarah's old womb. The name changes emphasize the firmness of God's promise.

*When 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. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I 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. God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I 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."*

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

The second reading is in Romans chapter 4, verses 13 - 25. Paul presents Abraham as the example for how a person comes into a right relationship with God not through works of the law but through faith. Though Abraham and Sarah were far too old for bearing children, Abraham trusted that God would accomplish what God had promised to accomplish.

*For the 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. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.*

*For 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, 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. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." He 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. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.*

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

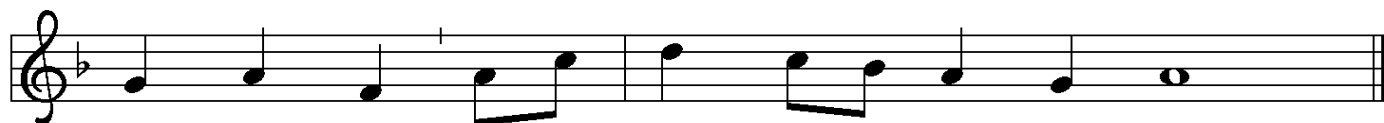
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the 8<sup>th</sup> chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Then he 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. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But 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."*

*He 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. For 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. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those 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."*

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

MESSAGE

Pastor Grant Fischer

SONG OF THE DAY

*How Firm a Foundation*

ELW #796

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,  
 2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,  
 3 "When through fi - 'ry tri - als your path - way shall lie,  
 4 "Through - out all their life - time my peo - ple shall prove

is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!  
 for I am your God and will still give you aid;  
 my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply;  
 my sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;

What more can he say than to you he has said  
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
 The flames shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign,  
 and then, when gray hairs shall their tem - ples a - dorn,

who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?  
 up - held by my right - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand?"  
 your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine."  
 like lambs they shall still in my bo - som be borne."



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# THANKSGIVING

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## 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** Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

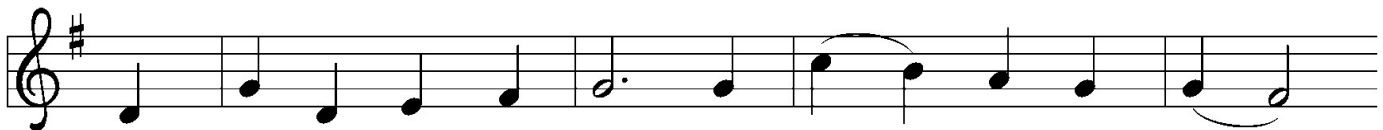
## PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

## OFFERING

*We Give Thee But Thine Own*

*ELW 686*



1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;  
2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,  
3 The cap - tive to re - lease, to God the lost to bring,  
4 And we be - lieve thy word, though dim our faith may be:



all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.  
and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.  
to teach the way of life and peace—it is a Christ - like thing.  
what - e'er we do for thine, O Lord, we do it un - to thee.

(THE USHERS BRING UP THE OFFERING)

## OFFERING PRAYER

Holy God, the earth is yours and everything in it, yet you have chosen to dwell among your creatures. Come among us now in these gifts of bread and wine, and strengthen us to be your body for the world through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Let us pray.

Merciful God, receive the sacrifice of our praise and thanksgiving and the offering of our lives, that following in the way of the cross, we may know the joy of the resurrection; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us 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.**

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## SENDING

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### BLESSING

May God who has called us forth from the dust of the earth, and claimed us as children of the light, strengthen you on your journey into life renewed. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you ☩ peace. **Amen.**

### SENDING SONG

*In the Cross of Christ I Glory*

ELW# 324



1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r - ing  
2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -  
3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and  
4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the



o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of  
ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the  
love up - on my way, from the cross the  
cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that



sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.  
cross for - sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.  
ra - diance stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.  
knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.

### DISMISSAL

Marked with the cross of Christ, go forth to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**



## OUR THANKS TO ALL WHO SERVE THE BODY OF CHRIST

SUNDAY	9:00 am Sunday Worship	6:30 pm Wednesday Worship
<b>Accompanist</b>	Mary Mulry	Mary Mulry
<b>Acolytes</b>	Jacob Fullmer	Gavin Fischer
<b>Readers</b>	Mike Petersen	Megan Sellner
<b>Sound Techs</b>	Russ Sorensen	Russ Sorensen
<b>Greeters</b>	Eric & Juliann Wahlborg	Jacob Fulmer, Carson Uecker
<b>Ushers</b>	Dennis Mangan & Mike Petersen	Jon Hansen, AuDee Darnell, Callie Evers
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Joleen Dittbenner	



The Boards of Trinity cordially invite you to join us for supper each week before the evening service and Church School at 6:30.

We are raising funds to support Summer Church Camp with the help of Thrivent Action Teams

Meals are served from 5:30 pm – 6:15 pm each Wednesday  
Cost for the meal is a Free Will Offering

**February 28<sup>th</sup>: Choice of Four Soups, Bread, Beverage and Dessert**  
Social Ministries                      Child Friendly Option

All Wednesday Lenten service offerings are designated for the **General Fund**. Quarter folders and/or film canisters are available to fill with coins. The **Lenten quarter folders** as well as the **Lenten supper donations** have been designated for Green Lake Bible Camp Scholarships. Please donate. Camp is costly.



*Thank You*



**EASTER PLANTS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR ORDER:** If you would like to share flowers in memory or in honor of a loved one(s) please sign-up in the church office. There are a variety of flowers to choose from that will brighten the sanctuary on Easter morning. You are welcome to take your potted flowers home with you after the 9:00 am Easter service. The deadline for getting your order in is **March 17<sup>th</sup>**.



February 25, 2024

# Lent is a time to follow Jesus.

## DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday.

We invite you to take time each day to read the assigned Bible passages.

Sunday	Mark 8:31-38	Jesus predicts his death
Monday	Mark 9:30-35	The Son of Man to be betrayed
Tuesday	Mark 10:32-45	Jesus again predicts his death
Wednesday	Matthew 16:21-26	Taking up the cross
Thursday	John 12:20-33	Jesus to be lifted up
Friday	Romans 6:6-14	Dying with Christ
Saturday	Psalms 68:19-20, 32-35	Praise to our God who saves
Sunday	John 2:13-22	Jesus clears the temple



## SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

**Jesus then told the crowd and the disciples to come closer, and he said: “If any of you want to be my followers, you must forget about yourself.**

**You must take up your cross and follow me.”** Mark 8:34 (CEV)

### **SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:**

A Prayer for the Week:

Great God, keep us from doubting your promises. Give us a faith that is strong and steady. Amen. (Romans 4:20)

Mealtime Prayer:

Thank you, God, for you all you give. Without your gifts we would not live. May we do more than sip and swallow. May we trust your Son and always follow. Amen.

A Blessing to Give: May you have strong faith, so that you trust in God’s promises and live to please God always. Amen.

## CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your household or small group:

- When is it easy to follow Jesus? When is it hard?
- Jesus said that if we want to be his followers, we need to forget about ourselves and put him first (Mark 8:34).  
What do you think this means?
- How do other people know that you are a follower of Jesus?

## DEVOTIONS

Jesus tells us that following him means “taking up a cross,” that is, saying no to ourselves and sometimes suffering for him. As part of your home devotional times this week, design crosses from wood, card stock, or other craft materials. Attach your crosses to a wall in your home. Print out the “Scripture Verse for the Week” and place it underneath your crosses. Throughout the week, share ways in which you have “taken up a cross” for Jesus’ sake.

## SERVICE

Making pretzels is a Lenten tradition. Pretzels are shaped like arms folded in prayer and can remind us to pray to God for our needs and the needs of others. Choose some people beyond your household to pray for by name this week. Make pretzels to give to them as a sign that you are praying for them. Use the following recipe to make pretzels (the recipe lists the amount of ingredients per person): *Have each person sprinkle ½ tsp. of yeast into 3 tbsp. of warm water. Stir to dissolve. Add ½ tsp. of sugar, ½ cup of flour and 2 tbsp. of grated cheese. Stir, then knead until smooth. Cut the dough into four pieces and roll into a snake shape. Shape the four pieces like pretzels, then brush them with a beaten egg. Sprinkle with coarse ground salt. Bake on a baking sheet at 425 degrees Fahrenheit (220 degrees Celsius) for 15 minutes.*

## RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

If you have not yet done so, set up a “crown of thorns” wreath in your home (see last week’s *Taking Faith Home* edition). This week, light two purple candles. Read Mark 8:31 as you do so. Then say this prayer together:

Lord Jesus, thank you for experiencing suffering and rejection for us. Make us ready to follow you as our Lord and our Savior.

Amen. This week, read 1 Peter 3:18 (*Scripture Verse for the Week*) as you light the first candle. Then say this prayer together:

Lord Jesus, thank you for dying to free us from sin, once and for all time. Thank you for bringing us back to God. Amen.

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In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: [www.milestonesministry.org](http://www.milestonesministry.org)

***Please take your bulletin home for weekly family devotional time***





*He asked them,*

**"But  
who  
do you  
say  
that I  
am?"**

*Mark 8:29*

