

Concordia Lutheran Church & St. Mary's Episcopal Church
Morning Worship for The Sundays in Lent
February 21, 2021

Topic: The First Sunday in Lent

Time: Sunday, February 21, 2021 10:00 AM Eastern Time

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82324470555?pwd=Z3dCRVpwSlpjaTRZWlQvRHpmaUhxXGZ09>

Meeting ID: 823 2447 0555

Password: 0000

Use your telephone to call this number and enter the ID and Password.

You will be able to speak and to hear the service.

+16468769923,,82324470555#,,0000# US (New York)

Introduction to the Day: On Ash Wednesday the church began its journey toward baptismal immersion in the death and resurrection of Christ. This year, the Sundays in Lent lead us to focus on five covenants God makes in the Hebrew Scriptures and to use them as lenses through which to view baptism. First Peter connects the way God saved Noah's family in the flood with the way God saves us through the water of baptism. The baptismal covenant is made with us individually, but the new life we are given in baptism is for the sake of the whole world.

PRELUDE: "Hallowed be thy name..." (from Salem Sonata)

Dan Locklair, *John Anderson*

THE SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP – THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

THE GREAT LITANY

Reverend Johnson

O God the Father, Creator of heaven and earth, ***have mercy upon us.***

O God the Son, Redeemer of the world, ***have mercy upon us.***

O God the Holy Spirit, Sanctifier of the faithful, ***have mercy upon us.***

O holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, one God, ***have mercy upon us.***

Remember not, Lord Christ, our offenses, nor the offenses of our forefathers; neither reward us according to our sins. Spare us, good Lord, spare thy people, whom thou hast redeemed with thy most precious blood, and by thy mercy preserve us, forever.

Spare us, good Lord.

From all evil and wickedness; from sin; from the crafts and assaults of the devil;
and from everlasting damnation,

Good Lord, deliver us.

From all blindness of heart; from pride, vainglory, and hypocrisy;
from envy, hatred, and malice; and from all want of charity,

Good Lord, deliver us.

From all inordinate and sinful affections;

and from all the deceits of the world, the flesh, and the devil,

Good Lord, deliver us.

From all false doctrine, heresy, and schism;

from hardness of heart, and contempt of thy Word and commandment,

Good Lord, deliver us.

From lightning and tempest; from earthquake, fire, and flood;

from plague, pestilence, and famine,

Good Lord, deliver us.

From all oppression, conspiracy, and rebellion;

from violence, battle, and murder; and from dying suddenly and unprepared,

Good Lord, deliver us.

By the mystery of thy holy Incarnation; by thy holy Nativity and submission to the Law;

by thy Baptism, Fasting, and Temptation,

Good Lord, deliver us.

By thine Agony and Bloody Sweat; by thy Cross and Passion; by thy precious Death and Burial;

by thy glorious Resurrection and Ascension; and by the Coming of the Holy Ghost,

Good Lord, deliver us.

In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity;

in the hour of death, and in the day of judgment,

Good Lord, deliver us.

We sinners do beseech thee to hear us, O Lord God;

and that it may please thee to rule and govern thy holy Church Universal in the right way,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to illumine all bishops, priests, pastors and deacons, with true knowledge and understanding of thy Word; and that both by their preaching and living, they may set it forth,

and show it accordingly,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to bless and keep all thy people,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to send forth laborers into thy harvest,

and to draw all mankind into thy kingdom,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to give to all people increase of grace to hear and receive thy Word,

and to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to bring into the way of truth all such as have erred, and are deceived,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to give us a heart to love and fear thee,

and diligently to live after thy commandments,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee so to rule the hearts of thy servants, the President of the United States,
and all others in authority, that they may do justice, and love mercy,
and walk in the ways of truth,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to make wars to cease in all the world;
to give to all nations unity, peace, and concord; and to bestow freedom upon all peoples,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to show thy pity upon all prisoners and captives,
the homeless and the hungry, and all who are desolate and oppressed,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to give and preserve to our use the bountiful fruits of the earth,
so that in due time all may enjoy them,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to inspire us in our several callings, to do the work which thou givest us
to do with singleness of heart as thy servants, and for the common good,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to preserve all who are in danger by reason of their labor or their travel,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to preserve, and provide for, all women in childbirth,
young children and orphans, the widowed, and all whose homes are broken or torn by strife,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to visit the lonely; to strengthen all who suffer in mind, body, and spirit;
and to comfort with thy presence those who are failing and infirm,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to support, help, and comfort all who are in danger, necessity,
and tribulation,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to have mercy upon all mankind,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to give us true repentance;
to forgive us all our sins, our negligence, and our ignorance;
and to endue us with the grace of thy Holy Spirit to amend our lives according to thy holy Word,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers,
and to turn their hearts,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to strengthen such as do stand; to comfort and help the weak-hearted;
to raise up those who fall; and finally to beat down Satan under our feet,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to grant to all the faithful departed eternal life and peace,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to grant that, in the fellowship of all the saints,
we may attain to thy heavenly kingdom,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Son of God, we beseech thee to hear us.
Son of God, we beseech thee to hear us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, *have mercy upon us.*
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, *have mercy upon us.*
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, *grant us thy peace.*

O Christ, hear us. *O Christ, hear us.*

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us. *Amen.*

HYMN *Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive*

- 1 "Forgive our sins as we forgive," you taught us, Lord, to pray;
but you alone can grant us grace to live the words we say.
- 2 How can your pardon reach and bless the unforgiving heart
that broods on wrongs and will not let old bitterness depart?
- 3 In blazing light your cross reveals the truth we dimly knew:
how trifling others' debts to us; how great our debt to you!
- 4 Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls and bid resentment cease;
then, by your mercy reconciled, our lives will spread your peace.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor Marschhausen

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray. Holy God, heavenly Father, in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin. Renew us in the gift of baptism. May your holy angels be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

The First Reading – Genesis 9:8-17

Reader from St. Mary's

Today's reading is the conclusion to the flood story. Because of human sin, God destroys the earth by flood, saving only Noah, his family, and the animals on the ark. Yet divine destruction gives way to divine commitment. As in the first creation, God blesses humanity and establishes a covenant with all creatures.

⁸God said to Noah and to his sons with him, ⁹"As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, ¹⁰and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the

ark. ¹¹I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” ¹²God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: ¹³I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” ¹⁷God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Verse for the Day – (*Matthew 4:4*)

Reverend Johnson

One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.

The Epistle Reading – First Peter 3:18-22

Reader from Concordia

As God acted through Christ's suffering and death to bring us to God, so God acts through baptism to save us from a sinful existence. This spiritual cleansing marks our new life in Christ.

¹⁸Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you — not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Hymn

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

- 1 Lord, keep us steadfast in your word; curb those who by deceit or sword would wrest the kingdom from your Son and bring to naught all he has done.
- 2 Lord Jesus Christ, your pow'r make known, for you are Lord of lords alone; defend your holy church, that we may sing your praise eternally.
- 3 O Comforter of priceless worth, send peace and unity on earth; support us in our final strife and lead us out of death to life.

The Holy Gospel – Mark 1:9-15

Deacon Fedorchak proclaims the Gospel...

The Spirit that comes upon Jesus at his baptism sustains him when he is tested by Satan so that he might proclaim the good news of God's reign.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark. *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

¹²And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

The Holy Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Praise to you, O Christ.

HOMILY

Reverend Johnson

THE APOSTLES' CREED

Pastor Marschhausen

Together with all the baptized in Christ, let us confess our faith.

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.

A PRAYER WHILE WE ARE UNABLE TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION

Reverend Johnson

Lord Jesus Christ, you are the bread of life and the cup of salvation.

I believe that you are truly present in the sacrament of Holy Communion.

I am baptized into your death and resurrection.

I seek you daily. I worship and adore you.

Since I cannot receive you in the eucharistic bread and wine,

I pray that you continue to come into my heart and soul,

as you always have,

through Confession and Forgiveness,

through the proclamation of your holy Word,

and through the prayers of your people;

that I may remain united to you

by your all-powerful and ever-present Holy Spirit.

Let me receive you and be nourished by your abundant grace.

Be for me the manna in my wilderness,
the bread of angels for my very human journey through time,
a foretaste of the heavenly banquet,
and solace in the hour of my death.

And return us all, Lord Jesus, to your Holy Table when this is over.

I pray all this, trusting that you are our life,
our peace, and our everlasting joy. **Amen.**

INTERCESSIONS *Intercessions and Thanksgivings follow...* *Pastor Marschhausen*

The Great Litany takes the place of our customary Prayers of the People this morning, though we still pause to invite your petitions and thanksgiving, silently or aloud.

After each petition we pray, Lord, in your mercy. Hear our Prayer.

Draw near to us, O God, and receive our prayers for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS *Reverend Johnson*

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant *N.* as *he* begins another year. Grant that *he* may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen *his* trust in your goodness all the days of *his* life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit, bless, preserve and keep you; *N. and N..* God mercifully grant you the riches of grace, that you may please God both in body and soul. God make you a sign of the loving-kindness and steadfast fidelity manifest in the life, death, and resurrection of our Savior, and, living together in faith and love, may receive the blessings of eternal life. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER *Pastor Marschhausen*

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

THE BLESSING *Reverend Johnson*

You are what God made you to be:

created in Christ Jesus for good works,
chosen as holy and beloved,
freed to serve your neighbor.

God bless you **✝** that you may be a blessing,
in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

- 1 A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;
our helper frees us from the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe, forsworn to work us woe, with guile and dreadful might
is armed to wage the fight: on earth there is no equal.
- 2 If we in our own strength confide, our striving turns to losing;
the righteous one fights by our side, the one of God's own choosing.
You ask who this may be: Christ Jesus, it is he, the Lord of hosts by name.
No other God we claim! None else can win the battle.
- 3 Though all the world with devils fill and threaten to devour us,
we tremble not, we trust God's will: they cannot overpow'r us.
Though Satan rant and rage, in fiercest war engage, this tyrant's doomed to fail;
God's judgement must prevail! One little word shall triumph.
- 4 God's Word shall stand above the pow'rs, shall end all their thanksgiving.
The Spirit and the gifts are ours, for God with us is living.
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also; though all of these be gone,
they yet have nothing won. The kingdom's our forever!

Deacon Winzler dismisses the assembly...

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

NOTES:

The Bible texts of the Old Testament, Epistle and Gospel lessons are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Church of Christ in the USA, and used by permission. Selected liturgical texts from The Book of Common Prayer, The Seabury Press, 1979. Selected liturgical texts from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2015 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License. Anniversary Blessing, adapted from Liturgical Resources 1 "I Will Bless You, and You Will Be a Blessing" Revised and Expanded Edition As authorized by the 78th General Convention (Episcopal), 2015. Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive, Used with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-724374.

DAILY READINGS FOR FEBRUARY 22-27

Monday, February 22

Psalm 77
Job 4:1-21
Ephesians 2:1-10

Wednesday, February 24

Psalm 77
Proverbs 30:1-9
Matthew 4:1-11

Friday, February 26

Psalm 22:23-31
Genesis 16:1-6
Romans 4:1-12

Tuesday, February 23

Psalm 77
Job 5:8-27
1 Peter 3:8-18a

Thursday, February 25

Psalm 22:23-31
Genesis 15:1-6, 12-18
Romans 3:21-31

Saturday, February 27

Psalm 22:23-31
Genesis 16:7-15
Mark 8:27-30