

First Reading: Genesis 12:1-4a ¹The Lord had said to Abram, “Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you. ²“I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.” ⁴So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Harran.

Gospel Acclamation: “Tree Of Life” vs 1, 2, 3 & Lent 2 #334 *(stand as you are able)*

**Verse 1: Tree of Life and awesome myst’ry, in your death we are reborn;
though you die in all of hist’ry, still you rise with ev’ry morn, still you rise with ev’ry morn.**

**Verse 2: We remember truth once spoken, love passed on through act and word;
ev’ry person lost and broken wears the body of our Lord, wears the body of our Lord.**

**Verse 3: Christ, you lead and we shall follow, stumbling though our steps may be;
one with you in joy and sorrow, we the river, you the sea, we the river, you the sea.**

**Lent 2: In our call to be a blessing, may we be a blessing true;
may we live and die confessing Christ as Lord of all we do, Christ as Lord of all we do.**

Gospel Reading: John 3:1-17 ¹Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. ²He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him.” ³Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.” ⁴“How can someone be born when they are old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother’s womb to be born!” ⁵Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. ⁶Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. ⁷You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’ ⁸The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.” ⁹“How can this be?” Nicodemus asked. ¹⁰“You are Israel’s teacher,” said Jesus, “and do you not understand these things? ¹¹Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. ¹²I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? ¹³No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man. ¹⁴Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, ¹⁵that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.” ¹⁶For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

P: This is the Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Children’s Message: Pastor Eric Hanson *(you may be seated)*

Choir: “Lamb Of God”

Message: Pastor Eric Hanson

Hymn of the Day & Offering: *(you may be seated)* **“We Are Baptized In Christ Jesus” #451**

Offerings will be collected during the hymn of the day. Thank you also to those who give online. If you’d like to sign up for online giving please visit <http://www.stlukegoodhue.org/online-giving.html>. Children’s coin offering will go toward ELCA Good Gifts serving communities in need around the world.

**Vs :1 We are baptized in Christ Jesus, we are baptized in his death; that as Christ was raised victorious,
we might live a brand new life. And if we have been united in a dreadful death like his,
we will all be reunited, for he lives.**

**Vs 2: In the water and the witness, in the breaking of the bread, in the waiting arms of Jesus who is risen
from the dead, God has made a new beginning from the ashes of our past;
in the losing and the winning we hold fast.**

**Vs 3: Glory be to God the Father, glory be to Christ the Son, glory to the Holy Spirit, ever three and ever
one; as it was in the beginning, glory now resounds again in a song that has no ending. Amen.**

Offertory Response: “Give Thanks”

**Give thanks with a grateful heart. Give thanks to the Holy One.
Give thanks because He’s given Jesus Christ, His Son.**

**And now let the weak say, “I am strong”.
Let the poor say, “I am rich Because of what the Lord has done for us”. Give thanks.**

Offertory Prayer:

P: Let us pray.

**C: 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 first from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Apostles’ Creed: *(please stand as you are able)*

**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 into hell. 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.**

The Prayers: *(call and response)*

Sustained by God’s abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation. *A brief silence.*

O God, you so love your church. Raise up leaders who care for your people. Bless lay theologians, semi-
nary and college professors, and all who are called to the ministry of teaching, that they form and inspire us for
the work of the gospel. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

O God, you so love your creation. Breathe new life into our planetary home. Guide the work of researchers,
scientists, and activists who love your earth and who inspire us to care for the natural world. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

O God, you so love the world. Uphold leaders who resist tyranny and oppression. Strengthen organiza-
tions that promote peace and harmony. Direct their work to alleviate human suffering and to address its root
causes. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

O God, you so love your people. Draw near to all who live with mental illness, depression, or addiction,
and accompany them in healing and recovery. Hear the cries of those who look to you in their distress. Merciful
God, **receive our prayer.**

O God, you so love your children. Bless the young in our midst, and delight us with their joy, wonder,
and curiosity. Revive our ministries with children and youth and equip us all for faithful discipleship. Merciful
God, **receive our prayer.**

O God, you so love your saints. As our ancestors in the faith have been a blessing to us, so inspire us by
their example of holy living to be a blessing to those who come after us. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Named Prayer Requests:

P: On this day we especially pray for Keith Brown, Dolly Mensink, Judy Carpenter, Larry Reese, Jan
Benidt, Dave (Pud) Gnotke, Jen Berg, Marilyn O’Brien, Kellie Peterson, Kay Kurtti, Shawn Frederixon,
Donald & Marcy Jonas, Harold Lensch, & McKenna Dicke. For whom or what else shall the people of
God pray...

Sharing the Peace:

P: The peace of Christ be with you always,

C: And also with you.

The Great Thanksgiving: *(stand as you are able)*

P: The Lord be with you **C: And also with you**

P: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C: It is right to give Him thanks & praise.**

The Words of Institution

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.**

Meal and Hymns: *(congregation may be seated)*

All are welcome at this meal. We believe in the saving power of Jesus Christ through the gift of his life, death, and resurrection experienced in bread and wine.

Please move forward via the center aisle. Bread is received in the hands. Wine is received by dipping the bread into the wine chalice and consuming both together. All ages are welcome to commune. Those not communing may receive a blessing by simply keeping your hands folded or extending your arms over your chest in the sign of a cross inviting blessing. For those unable to consume either wine or bread, communion is received fully in either element alone, for Christ is fully present in the meal. You may return to your seats via the side aisles after communing. Gluten-free is available, simply make the server aware of your need. Also, if you cannot come forward, but wish for communion or blessing, let the usher know it will come to you at the end.

“Come To The Table” 2X #481

Come to the table of mercy, prepared with the wine and the bread. All who are hungry and thirsty, come, and your souls will be fed. Come at the Lord’s invitation; receive from his nail scarred hand. Eat of the bread of salvation; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

“Just As I Am” #592

Vs 1: Just as I am, without one plea, but that thy blood was shed for me, and that thou bidd’st me come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Vs 2: Just as I am, though tossed about with many a conflict, many a doubt, fightings and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Vs 3: Just as I am, thou wilt receive, wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve; because thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come,

Vs 4: Just as I am; thy love unknown has broken ev’ry barrier down; now to be thine, yea, thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

“Jesus Name Above All Names”

Vs. 1: Jesus, name above all names, beautiful Savior, glorious Lord. Emmanuel, God is with us, blessed Redeemer, Living Word.

Vs. 2: Jesus, loving Shepherd, Vine of the branches, Son of God. Prince of Peace, Wonderful Counselor, Lord of the universe, Light of the world.

Vs. 3: Jesus, way of salvation King of Kings, Lord of Lords. The Way, the truth, and the life Mighty Creator, My Savior and Friend.

Communion Prayer: P: Let us pray.

C: Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of life. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The Blessing:

P: 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 and be gracious to you, the Lord look upon you with favor and give you + peace. **Amen.**

Sending: *“How Firm A Foundation” #796*

Vs 1: How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in Christ Jesus, the Word! What more can he say than to you he has said, who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?

Vs 2: “Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dismayed; for I am your God, and will still give you aid; I’ll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand, upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

Vs 3: “When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie, my grace, all-sufficient, shall be your supply; the flames shall not hurt you; I only design your dross to consume and your gold to refine.

Vs 4: “Throughout all their lifetime my people shall prove my sov’rign, eternal, unchangeable love; and then, when gray hairs shall their temples adorn, like lambs they shall still in my bosom be borne.”

Dismissal:

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

Postlude



A Journey Through Lent

**St. Luke Lutheran Church • Pastor Eric Hanson
Second Sunday in Lent • 9:30AM • March 5, 2023**

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Lenten Greeting: *(please stand as you are able)*

L: Friends in Christ, we gather during this season of Lent to remember Jesus’ Passover from death to life. We journey through this holy season by acknowledging our need for repentance and for God’s grace. We are created to live in joyful communion with God and one another, but we oftentimes wound our relationship with God, our neighbors, and creation, so that we do not enjoy the life our creator intended. As disciples of Jesus, we long for repentance leading to change.

C: 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 your will for our lives.

Confession and Forgiveness:

P: With honesty of heart, we confess our sin together. Merciful God,

C: Lord, 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 were still when we should have moved. We moved when we should have been still. For the wrong we have done, and for the good we have failed to do, have mercy on us and bring us new life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: Like a hen who gathers her chicks, God embraces us in tender care. Like a loving parent, God runs to meet us again this day. In Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven. We are created anew, freed from sin and death for new life in Christ.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn: *“This Is The Spirits Entry Now” #448*

Vs 1: This is the Spirit’s entry now: the water & the word, the cross of Jesus on your brow, the seal both felt & heard.

Vs 2: This miracle of life reborn comes from the Lord of breath; the sinless one from life was torn; our life comes through his death.

Vs 3: Let water be the sacred sign that we must die each day to rise again by his design as foll’wers of his way.

Vs 4: Renewing Spirit, hear our praise for your baptismal pow’r that washes us through all our days. Come, cleanse again this hour.

Prayer of the Day: *(you may be seated)*

P: Let us pray together

C: O God, our leader & guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.