

Holy Cross Lutheran
SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

February 28, 2021 – 9 AM



AS WE GATHER We continue our sermon series on Faith Tested. Faith is a gift that God creates in our lives. We again look at the life of Abraham and Sarah this morning. In spite of their self-reliance of trying on their own to have an heir, the Lord patiently continues growing their faith through His promises and His actions." The Psalm for today pleads, "Remember Your mercy, Lord." The Lord's mercy is even more evident for Abraham and Sarah as the Lord promises that in the next year, together they will have a son even though they are past the child-bearing years. God's Word encourages us to trust in His promises as we see God's faithfulness to Abraham and Sarah. They will be a blessing to all nations through this miracle of God's grace. The Lord bless your worship.

† IN DOMINE JESU †

(In the Name of Jesus)

PRELUDE

WELCOME "This is the Day that the Lord has made let us rejoice and be glad in it." *Ps. 118:24*

GATHERING HYMN

"Great is Thy Faithfulness"

LSB 809 v 1-2

1 Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;
2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest,
There is no shad - ow of turn - ing with Thee.
Sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove
Thou chang - est not: Thy com - pas - sions, they fail not;
Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
As Thou hast been, Thou for - ev - er wilt be.
To Thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
Refrain
Great is Thy faith - ful - ness! Great is Thy faith - ful - ness!
Morn - ing by morn - ing new mer - cies I see;
All I have need - ed Thy hand hath pro - vid - ed;
Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me!

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INVOCATION

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

OPENING SENTENCES/PSALMS

Psalm 115:11–13; antiphon: Psalm 25:6

P: Remember Your mercy, O LORD, and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. You who fear the LORD, trust in the LORD! He is their help and their shield.

C: The LORD has remembered us; He will bless us; He will bless the house of Israel; He will bless the house of Aaron;

P: He will bless those who fear the LORD, both the small and the great.

C: We will bless the LORD from this time forth and forevermore. Praise the LORD! Remember Your mercy, O LORD, and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Incorporating Genesis 17:7; Psalm 22:27; Romans 5:6, 9–10

P: We remember that God established an everlasting covenant with Abraham,

C: a covenant for all nations, but like future generations of Israel, our faith has waxed and waned. O Lord, forgive our forgetfulness of Your unchanging grace.

P: David wrote, "All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD,"

C: but we have failed to remind one another of God's mercy and love. O Lord, forgive our hesitancy to share the news of Your gracious presence.

P: Paul wrote that because Christ died for the ungodly, we are justified by His blood,

C: but we have tried to hide our sinfulness. O Lord, forgive our blindness to the necessary sacrifice of our Savior.

P: God sent His Son into the world with one purpose: to save us from the wrath of God. "For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by His life." As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen. Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF RESPONSE

"Great is Thy Faithfulness"

LSB 809 vs 3

**Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth. Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!
Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided; Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray together, **O God, You see that of ourselves, we have no strength. By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

† THE LIVING WORD †

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Genesis 17:1–19

(God makes a covenant to Abram through circumcision, and a gift of grace, a son to Abraham and Sarah)

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, ²that I may make my covenant between me and you and may multiply you greatly." ³Then Abram fell on his face. And God said to him, ⁴"Behold, my covenant is with you, and you shall be the father of a multitude of nations.

⁵No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham, for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations. ⁶I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make you into nations, and kings shall come from you. ⁷And 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. ⁸And I will give to you and to your offspring after you the land of your sojournings, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession, and I will be their God." ⁹And God said to Abraham, "As for you, you shall keep my covenant, you and your offspring after you throughout their generations. ¹⁰This is my covenant, which you shall keep, between me and you and your offspring after you: Every male among you shall be circumcised. ¹¹You shall be circumcised in the flesh of your foreskins, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and you. ¹²He who is eight days old among you shall be circumcised. Every male throughout your generations, whether born in your house or bought with your money from any foreigner who is not of your offspring, ¹³both he who is born in your house and he who is bought with your money, shall surely be circumcised. So shall my covenant be in your flesh an everlasting covenant. ¹⁴Any uncircumcised male who is not circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin shall be cut off from his people; he has broken my covenant." ¹⁵And God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶I will bless her, and moreover, I will give you a son by her. ¹⁷Then Abraham fell on his face and laughed and said to himself, "Shall a child be born to a man who is a hundred years old? Shall Sarah, who is ninety years old, bear a child?" ¹⁸And Abraham said to God, "Oh that Ishmael might live before you!" ¹⁹God said, "No, but Sarah your wife shall bear you a son, and you shall call his name Isaac. I will establish my covenant with him as an everlasting covenant for his offspring after him.

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

EPISTLE

Romans 5:1–11

(Grace: Christ died for the ungodly.)

L: ¹Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. ²Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. ³More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. ⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die—⁸but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. ¹¹More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

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

VERSE

Mark 8:34b

If anyone would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the eighth chapter. **C: Glory be to You, O Lord.**

(As Peter learns today, truly knowing Christ means following Him and not temptation of oneself.)

P: ²⁷And Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi. And on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" ²⁸And they told him, "John the Baptist; and others say, Elijah; and others, one of the prophets." ²⁹And he asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Christ." ³⁰And he strictly charged them to tell no one about him. ³¹And he began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²And he said this plainly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man." ³⁴And he called to him the crowd with his disciples and said to them, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ³⁵For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. ³⁶For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? ³⁷For what can a man give in return for his life? ³⁸For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of Man also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to You O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Faith and Truth and Life Bestowing"

LSB 584

1 Faith and truth and life be - stow - ing, O - pen now the
 2 May the Spir - it's pow'r un - ceas - ing Bring to life the

Scrip - tures, Lord, Seed to life e - ter - nal sow - ing,
 hid - den grain, Dai - ly in our hearts in - creas - ing,

Scat - tered on the wind a - broad. Let not hearts, Your
 Bear - ing fruit that shall re - main. So in Scrip - ture,

Word re - ceiv - ing, Like a bar - ren field be found, Choked with
 song, and sto - ry, Sav - ior, may Your voice be heard. Till our

thorns and un - be - liev - ing, Shal - low earth or ston - y ground.
 eyes be - hold Your glo - ry Give us ears to hear Your Word.

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THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life † of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH *(after petitions, Pastor prays "Lord in your mercy" please pray, "Hear our prayer")*

(after all the petitions have been prayed, we commend all the prayers with these words)

P: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

† CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER †

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(In preparation for the Lord's supper, we pray the prayer Jesus taught us)*

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.

THE PREPARATION *(please take your communion vessel in hand for our Lord's Words of Institution)*

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and after giving thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also after supper, He took the cup, and after giving thanks He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this is My † blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of all your sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. **C: And also, with you.**

ONE BODY IN CHRIST *(As brothers and sisters in Christ, as one body we communion with the invitation of the following words)*

P: Take and eat this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ given into death for all your sin.

P: Take and drink this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior shed for you for the forgiveness of all your sin.

P: The body and blood of our Lord strengthen and preserve you steadfast, in the true faith, to life everlasting. Know that His peace, joy, love and forgiveness is yours now and forever. Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P: O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;

C: and His mercy endures forever.

P: Let us pray together: **We give thanks to You, almighty God, that through this Sacrament You have given your Son's very presence, His true body and blood, in the bread and wine. Continue to strengthen the faith you have created in us that we may in fervent love serve you and our neighbor, through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

OFFERING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with His favor and † give you peace.

C: Amen.

SONG OF SENDING

"I Will Follow"

by Chris Tomlin

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace and join Jesus on His mission! **C: Amen! We will! Amen!**

† SOLI DEO GLORIA †

(To God be the Glory)

POST SERVICE MUSIC

reprisal

HOLY CROSS HAPPENINGS

February 28 – March 7, 2021

WELCOME GUESTS AND MEMBERS! Welcome to the Lord's House. God bless you as hear the Good News today of His unconditional love! Jesus promised wherever two or three are gathered in His name, His presence is there. Jesus is here! We pray and know He will bless you with faith, hope, and love for your daily life through His Word and Spirit! If you have any questions, please feel free to speak to one of our ushers or greeters.

ADULT SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS – The OT book of Nahum led by Rev. Robert Nowak continues today.

SOUP SUPPERS -Please come to our soup suppers each Wednesday at 6:00 pm.**Sign up sheets** are now posted in the Commons. As always help is needed with various food categories as well as set up and clean up. We are taking safety measures as we come together to enjoy this fellowship opportunity. If **all** help, **all** can enjoy the soup suppers! Thank you! We will also be collecting a free will offering for PABLO support during the Lenten Soup Suppers.

BASIC YOUTH GROUP – Thank you Holy Cross for your generous donations! The BASIC Youth Group delivered almost 400 pounds of food for the CAP Agency!

INFORMAL PRAYER TIME – We will continue the informal time of prayer at Holy Cross on Wednesday evenings after the Lenten service until 8:00 pm in the sanctuary.

MCKENNA VISITING UPDATE – Please pick up a visitation guideline for McKenna crossing if interested in visiting Lohart, please call McKenna Crossing's office after reading the guidelines to schedule your appointment.

HOLY COMMUNION is celebrated today. Our belief and practice is Confessional. Jesus clearly teaches He is truly present in His supper in the bread and wine. We receive miraculously, in the gift of faith, His true body and blood, given and shed for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you have been baptized and confirmed in our church body, please commune with us. If you have questions about communing, please wait to commune until receiving instruction in one of our communion classes. Thank you.

SERVING TODAY - SUNDAY FEBRUARY 28, 2021 9:00 AM

Elder/Communion	Brit Weimer
Lector:	Michele Lein
Ushers:	Dave Albrecht
Acolyte:	Daniel Vannett
AV:	Jason Eickhoff
Offering Counters:	Carol Albrecht & Michele Lein

SERVING WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3, 2021 7:00 PM

Elder/Communion	Dave Albrecht
Lector:	Pam Hunter
Ushers:	Jon Dobberstein
Acolyte:	Colin Kruse
AV:	Dinah Gilberts
Offering Counters:	Dave Albrecht & Denny Case

SERVING SUNDAY, MARCH 7, 2021 9:00 AM

Elder/Communion Jon Dobberstein
Lector: Paige Westrum
Ushers: Jason Kruse
Acolyte: Blake Dobberstein
AV: Rostina Vannett
Offering Counters: Wendy Fitzwater & Doug Schulze

CHURCH OFFICE REPORTS

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

Contributions needed/month (General Fund): \$20,928.50
Contributions received in January \$20,837.57

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2021 ATTENDANCE

Worship: 54 Drive-up Communion: 2
Communion: 42 Bible Class: 0
Zoom: 10 Sunday School: Pray & Play

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2021 ATTENDANCE

Worship: 23

THIS WEEK AT HOLY CROSS

Sun. February 28 Second Sunday in Lent
9:00 am Worship w/Holy Communion also via Zoom
10:00 am Bible Study
10:15-10:45 am Drive-Up Communion

Mon. March 1
5:30 pm Elder/Leader Meeting zoom

Tue. March 2
8:00 am Men's Bible Study

Wed. March 3
12:00 pm Happenings Articles Due
6:00 pm Lent Soup Supper
7:00 pm Lenten Service
7:30 pm Informal Prayer in Sanctuary

Thu. March 4

Fri. March 5
9:30 am Cleaning Crew

Sat. March 6

Sun. March 7 Third Sunday in Lent
9:00 am Worship W/ Holy Communion also via Zoom
10:00 am "Nahum" Bible Study in back of the Sanctuary
10:15 -10:45 am Drive-Up Communion



14085 Pike Lake Trail NE, Prior Lake, MN 55372 Phone: (952) 445-1779
Music & Choir Director: Mui Cheng; Praise Music Director: Becca Tutewohl
Office Ministry Assistants: Meg Batchelder and Dorene Oak
Pastor James Jobst: (612) 615-2939

