## First Sunday in Lent

## ~ February 18, 2024 ~ Faith & First

**Prelude**

**Welcome & Announcements**

## Confession and Forgiveness LBW pg. 56 ELW pg. 94

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

***C: Amen.***

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from 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: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

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: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

***C: Amen.***

**Gathering Hymn *“Come, All You People”***  WOV #717 ELW #819

Vs. 1 Come, all you people, come and praise the Most High;

Come, all you people, come and praise the Most High;

Come, all you people, come and praise the Most High;

Come now and worship the Lord.

Vs. 2 Come, all you people, come and praise the Savior,

Come, all you people, come and praise the Savior,

Come, all you people, come and praise the Savior,

Come now and worship the Lord.

Vs. 3 Come, all you people, come and praise the Spirit,

Come, all you people, come and praise the Spirit,

Come, all you people, come and praise the Spirit,

Come now and worship the Lord.

**Greeting** LBW pg. 57 ELW pg. 138

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** LBW pg. 57ELW pg. 138

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.***

**Prayer of the Day**

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, or Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**First Reading: Genesis 9:8-17**

*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 in the ark. Yet diving destruction gives way to divine commitment. As in the first creation, God blesses humanity and establishes a covenant with all creatures.*

**8**God 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 **10**and 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. **11**I 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.” **12**God 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: **13**I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. **14**When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, **15**I 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. **16**When 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.” **17**God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

**Psalm 25:1-10**

**1**To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

**2My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame, not let my enemies triumph over me.**

**3**Let none who look to you be put to shame; rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.  
**4Show me your ways, O Lord, and teach me your paths. Your paths, O Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness.**

**5**Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

**6Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.**

**7**Remember not the sins of my youth and transgressions; remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.

**8Your are gracious and upright, O Lord; therefore you teach sinners in your way. Your paths, O Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness.**

**9**You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.

**10All your paths, O Lord, are steadfast love and faithfulness to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies. Your paths, O Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness.**

**Second Lesson: 1 Peter 3:18-22**

*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.*

**18** Christ 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, **19**in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, **20**who 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 lives, were saved through water. **21**And 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, **22**who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

**Gospel Acclamation**  LBW Page 62 ELW pg. 142

Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and

Merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in

Steadfast love, and abounding in steadfast love.

**Gospel:** **Mark 1:9-15**

*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.*

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

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

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

**Sermon**

**Hymn of the Day *“Thy Holy Wings”***  WOV #741 ELW #613

Vs. 1 Thy holy wings, O Savior, spread gently over me,  
 and let me rest securely through good and ill in thee.  
 Oh, be my strength and portion, my rock and hiding place,  
 and let my ev’ry moment be lived within thy grace.

Vs. 2 Oh, let me nestle near thee, within thy downy breast  
 where I will find sweet comfort and peace within thy nest.  
 Oh, close thy wings around me and keep me safely there,  
 for I am but a newborn and need thy tender care.

Vs. 3 Oh, wash me in the waters of Noah’s cleansing flood.  
 Give me a willing spirit, a heart both clean and good.  
 Oh, take into thy keeping thy children great and small,  
 and while we sweetly slumber, enfold us one and all.

**Apostles’ Creed** LBW pg. 65ELW pg. 105

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 the People**

**“*Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying***” WOV #775 ELW #752

Lord, listen to your children praying,  
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;  
Lord, listen to your children praying,  
send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Trusting in God’s promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation and the world in need.

God our truth, the ark of your church has room for many expressions of faith. We give thanks for voices that challenge and awaken your people. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God our maker, you remember your covenant with the earth and its inhabitants. Rescue communities and creatures hurting from natural disasters. Preserve species and habitats endangered by human carelessness and disregard. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God our light, you know our weakness. Free all who govern from the temptations of power. Sustain all who work for human rights in every nation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God our help, you care for your beloved children. Comfort all who are grieving, ill, afraid, in pain, or in despair. Feed hungry people living in food deserts. Protect any at risk from exploitation and abuse. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God our home, you gather your people. Grant us health and safety as we assemble. Keep us mindful of any who are homebound, hospitalized, convalescing, or traveling especially

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

God our hope, you promise eternal life to your beloved children. We remember with gratitude those who have lived and died in faith. Grant that we may also dwell with you in everlasting peace. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen**.

**“*Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying***” WOV #775 ELW #752

Lord, listen to your children praying,  
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;  
Lord, listen to your children praying,  
send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

**Peace**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

***C: And also with you.***

**Offering *“We Give Thee but Thine Own” vs. 1*** LBW #410ELW #686

We give thee but thine own, what e’er the gift may be;

All that we have is thine alone a trust, O Lord from thee.

**Offering Prayer**

Let us pray, Blessed are you, O God maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts; our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love; through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, or Savior and Lord. Amen.

**Great Thanksgiving** LBW pg. 68ELW pg. 144

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 our thanks and praise.***

**Words of Institution**

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes. ***Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.***

**Lord’s Prayer** LBW pg. 68ELW pg. 145

P: Let us pray as Jesus has 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.***

**Communion**

**Post Communion Blessing**

**Prayer after Communion**

P: God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. ***Amen.***

**Blessing**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

**Sending Hymn *“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God***” LBW #229 ELW #504

Vs. 1 A mighty fortress is our God, a sword and shield victorious;

He breaks the cruel oppressor’s rod, and

wins salvation glorious. The old satanic foe

has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dreadful might

he arms himself to fight. On earth he has no equal.

Vs. 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re-

jected. But now a champion comes to fight, whom

God himself elected. You ask who this may be?

The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Jesus, mighty Lord,

God’s only Son adored. He holds the field victorious.

Vs. 3 Through hordes of devils fill the land all threat’ning to de-

vour us. We tremble not, unmoved we stand; they

cannot overpow’r us. Let this world’s tyrant rage;

in battle we’ll engage! His might is doomed to fail,

God’s judgment must prevail! One little word subdues him.

Vs. 4 God’s Word forever shall abide, not thanks to foes who

fear it; For God himself fights by our side with

weapons of the Spirit. Were they to take our house,

goods, honor, child or spouse, Through life be wrenched away,

they cannot win the day. The kingdom’s ours forever!

**Dismissal**

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

***C: We will! Thanks be to God!***

**Postlude**

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