

Second Sunday in Lent

February 25, 2024

Greetings and Welcome

Prelude sung by Kelly Hartz – “In Christ Alone,” arr. Galbraith

GATHERING

**Call to Worship and Confession*

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

C: Amen.

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Silence for Reflection and Confession

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: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

**Lenten Call to Worship – sung to the tune of “What Wondrous Love is This” (ELW 666)*
(organ)

**All praise to God above who created the world.
Praise to the one who made all things good.
All praise to Jesus Christ who gave for us his life.
All praise the Holy Spirit who calls us to love.
All praise the Holy Three in one.**

**Greeting and Prayer of the Day*

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray ...

C: Amen.

**Sharing Christ’s Peace*

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

C: And also with you.

All are invited to share the peace of Christ with one another.

Children’s Sermon

Hymn of Praise – “Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing” ELW 886, vv. 1-2 (organ)

- 1 Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace!**
- 2 My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad the honors of your name.**

WORD

Reading: Psalm 34:11-14

Reader: Barb Davenport

- ¹¹Come, O children, listen to me;
I will teach you the fear of the LORD.
¹²Which of you desires life,
and covets many days to enjoy good?
¹³Keep your tongue from evil,
and your lips from speaking deceit.
¹⁴Depart from evil, and do good;
seek peace, and pursue it.

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Reading:* Mark 10:32-52

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 10th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

³²They were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking ahead of them; they were amazed, and those who followed were afraid. He took the twelve aside again and began to tell them what was to happen to him, ³³saying, ‘See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death; then they will hand him over to the Gentiles; ³⁴they will mock him, and spit upon him, and flog him, and kill him; and after three days he will rise again.’

³⁵James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, ‘Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.’ ³⁶And he said to them, ‘What is it you want me to do for you?’ ³⁷And they said to him, ‘Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.’ ³⁸But Jesus said to them, ‘You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?’ ³⁹They replied, ‘We are able.’ Then Jesus said to them, ‘The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; ⁴⁰but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.’

⁴¹When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. ⁴²So Jesus called them and said to them, ‘You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as

their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. ⁴³But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.'

⁴⁶They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. ⁴⁷When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, 'Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!' ⁴⁸Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, 'Son of David, have mercy on me!' ⁴⁹Jesus stood still and said, 'Call him here.' And they called the blind man, saying to him, 'Take heart; get up, he is calling you.' ⁵⁰So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. ⁵¹Then Jesus said to him, 'What do you want me to do for you?' The blind man said to him, 'My teacher, let me see again.' ⁵²Jesus said to him, 'Go; your faith has made you well.' Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

P: The gospel of the Lord. C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Song –“Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing” ELW 886, vv. 4 & 6 (*organ*)

- 4 **He speaks, and list'ning to his voice, new life the dead receive;
the mournful, broken hearts rejoice, the humble poor believe.**
- 6 **To God all glory, praise, and love be now and ever giv'n
by saints below and saints above, the church in earth and heav'n.**

Sermon: "Power or Mercy"

Song of the Day – “Amazing Grace/My Chains Are Gone” (*piano*)

1. **Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now I'm found, was blind but now I see.**
2. **'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear, the hour I first believed.**

Refrain: ***My chains are gone. I've been set free, my God, my Savior has ransomed me.
And like a flood His mercy reigns, unending love, amazing grace.***

3. **The Lord has promised good to me, His word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be, as long as life endures. *Refrain twice***

4. **The earth shall soon dissolve like snow, the sun forbear to shine.
But God, who called me here below, will be forever mine,
Will be forever mine. You are forever mine.**

**The Apostles' Creed*

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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*

Stewardship Time

“Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior,” traditional, arr. Huggins
Faith Singers and Congregation

1 **Pass me not, O gentle Savior, hear my humble cry;
while on others thou art calling, do not pass me by.**

Refrain: **Savior, Savior, hear my humble cry;
while on others thou art calling, do not pass me by.**

2 **Let me at thy throne of mercy find a sweet relief;
kneeling there in deep contrition, help my unbelief. *Refrain***

3 **Trusting only in thy merit, would I seek thy face;
heal my wounded, broken spirit, save me by thy grace. *Refrain***

4 **Thou, the spring of all my comfort, more than life to me,
whom have I on earth beside thee? Whom in heav'n but thee? *Refrain***

Stewardship is about our grateful response to God's grace for us. How do you respond? If you would like to financially support our ministry together, you can place a donation in an offering box or through our website. If you would like to support our ministry together through service, you can find a list of ministry teams online or on our ministry team menu. Consider joining a ministry team, or starting a new one, today!

–Please take a moment to sign into the Welcome Folder in your pew–

**Great Thanksgiving*

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.

**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.

Communion Songs

“O Master, Let Me Walk with You” ELW 818 (*organ*)

- 1 **O Master, let me walk with you in lowly paths of service true;
tell me your secret; help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.**
- 2 **Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear, winning word of love;
teach me the wayward feet to stay, and guide them in the homeward way.**
- 3 **Teach me your patience; share with me a closer, dearer company,
in work that keeps faith sweet and strong, in trust that triumphs over wrong.**
- 4 **In hope that sends a shining ray far down the future's broad'ning way,
in peace that only you can give; with you, O Master, let me live.**

“Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love” ELW 708 (*piano*)

*Refrain: Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,
show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.*

- 1 **Kneels at the feet of his friends, silently washes their feet,
master who acts as a slave to them. *Refrain***
- 2 **Neighbors are wealthy and poor, varied in color and race,
neighbors are near us and far away. *Refrain***
- 3 **These are the ones we will serve, these are the ones we will love;
all these are neighbors to us and you. *Refrain***
- 4 **Kneel at the feet of our friends, silently washing their feet:
this is the way we will live with you. *Refrain***

**Post-Communion Blessing*

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: **Amen.**

**Closing Prayer*

SENDING

**Benediction*

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 favor and give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

**Sending Song – “Blessed Assurance” ELW 638 (piano)*

1. **Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.**

*Refrain: This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long:
This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.*

2. **Perfect submission, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels descending bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers of love. Refrain**

3. **Perfect submission, all is at rest; I in my Savior am happy and blest,
Watching and waiting, looking above, filled with his goodness, lost in his love.**

Refrain

**Dismissal*

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**



Song Credits

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“Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone),” words & music by John Newton, John P. Rees, Edwin Othello Excell,

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“Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior,” arr. Huggins. Used by permission.

Worship Assistants

Communion Assistant: Kay Schnitker

Greeter: Angela Spray

Reader: Barb Davenport

Usher: Ken Finkle

Pastor: Adam Dichsen

Sabbatical Pastor: Paul Schwartzkopf

Music Director: Jean Welch

Organist: Sandi Watts

Pianist: Jean Welch

Drummer: John Demien

Financial Assistants: Kelly Hartz & Monica Proefrock

Chancel Committee: Karen Sibert

Coffee Hosts: Kay Schnitker



Singers:

Benen Dichsen

Kelly Hartz

Kris Roth

Carol VanderKloot

Louis Dichsen

Terri Kimler

Cole Street

Marilyn Dichsen

Adam Krohe

Melissa Street

Church Council Members:

Malinda Carlson

Kelly Hartz

Gaylon Martin

Monica Proefrock

Ken Devlin

Greg Kimler

Patty Nelson

Kelly Street

Marilyn Dichsen

What's Coming Up at Faith?

Sunday, February 25, 9:30am: Worship

Friends from Faith

10:45am: Sunday School

11:15am: Worship Core Team

Wednesday, February 28, 7:00am: Men's Prayer Group

6:00pm: Lenten Potluck Supper

6:45pm: Lenten Worship & Workshop in the Great Room

Saturday, March 2, 8:00am: Cooking for Men's Breakfast at 9:00am

Sunday, March 3, 9:30am: Worship

10:45am: Sunday School

Wednesday, March 6, 7:00am: Men's Prayer Group
6:00pm: Lenten Potluck Supper
6:45pm: Lenten Worship & Workshop in the Great Room

News Updates

Sunday School

Calling all kids! After worship, fellowship, and snacks, we will gather for music and then head to our classes. We have two classes this year, one for pre-K through Kindergarten and the other for early elementary. If you have questions or are interested in helping, contact Patty Nelson at 217-653-3105.

Friends From Faith

A ministry team led by Naomi Hahn: on the last Sunday of each month — everyone is welcome to send a greeting card. **Today** you can visit the tall white table just outside the sanctuary where you can select a card, sign a card, or deposit a card in the mailbox to send. Cards and stamps are provided for your use. If you have extra cards or stamps to spare, please bring them and donate them in the provided jar.

Lenten Wednesday Workshops: “Grounded: Plugging into Faith”

Lent will look a little different this year with Pastor Adam on sabbatical, but please plan to join us for midweek Lenten evenings that will help us learn about ourselves as people of faith and of Faith, and to grow deeper in our relationships with God and each other. Plan to join us in the Great Room on **Wednesday evenings from February 21 through March 20** for a potluck meal beginning at 6:00pm followed by a time of learning and fellowship at 6:45pm, and take time this Lent to become Grounded in Faith. If you can bring soup or a side for the potluck, please sign up on the sheet on the counter by the coat closet.

Monica Proefrock

(Soup)er Bowl Food Drive

Let's help the Jacksonville Food Center tackle hunger! Beginning on Super Bowl Sunday, we started collecting food items and will continue through February. Most needed items are **soup, canned vegetables, and canned fruit**. Empty **egg cartons** are also very much needed. Please place your donations by the table under the working cross in the gathering area. Thank You! Talk to Pat Glyshaw or Lillian Korous for more information.

Contribution Envelopes for 2024 are available in the gathering area.

Youth Group Help Wanted

One of the hats worn by Pastor Adam is youth leader. In his absence, we are looking for people willing to lead an event, host a meal, or lead a youth Sunday school class. If you are interested, please let Kelly Hartz know. We have a wonderful group of youth, and you would be blessed by your time with them!

Join us for an Easter Choir!

We plan to gather a group of singers for an **Easter Anthem!** Rehearsals will be on Sundays, March 17 and 24, at 10:45am after the service.

Crisis Center Foundation Supply Collection

Help those in crisis in the Jacksonville Area. The Jacksonville Area Conference of Churches and member churches are collecting much-needed items for the Crisis Center Foundation and their clients. The Crisis Center Foundation is a shelter for women, men, and their dependents looking to get away from their abusers while receiving the care and help they need to process their trauma while striving towards independence. Located in Jacksonville, IL, the facility is open 24/7 and provides a wide selection of services to help transition those in need to a safe and happy life. Trained staff is available on their 24-hour hotline at 217-243-4357 to discuss our services and to plan a path forward.

Needed items include:

Toiletries: Shampoo, Conditioner, Bath Soap, Deodorant, Toothbrush/paste, Shaving Supplies, Combs/Brushes

Clothing: Socks - all sizes, Underwear - all sizes

Baby Items: Diapers, Pull-ups, Wipes, Lotion, Powder

Gift Cards: Walmart, Dollar General, Gas Station

Shelter Supplies: Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Kitchen Towels, Dish Cloths, Hot Pads, Storage Containers

We are collecting these items **until March 24, 2024**; please place your donations in the blue box in the Mission and Ministry Center (coat closet). Thank You! Pick up a handy list of needed items on the counter by the coffee sales.

Music Rehearsals

Exaltation Ringers rehearse on some Sundays after the service at 10:45am in the Choir Room. We ring one Sunday each month. If you are interested in ringing, please let me know. Jean Welch, *Music Director*

Daylight Savings Time, Sunday, March 10

Remember to spring forward 1 hour on Saturday night (March 9) so you won't be late to church the next day!

Fairly-Traded Coffee/Tea

Check out the coffee display from Equal Exchange. Simply select the product(s) you would like to purchase, and place the money in the container provided by the display (**\$6.50** regular; **\$7.50** decaf; **\$3.00** tea; **\$2.50** chocolate bars; **\$5.50** hot chocolate). Checks should be made out to Faith Lutheran Church with “*coffee*” designated in the memo area.

Sign-Up Sheets

are available at the podium in the gathering area. Please take a moment to sign up to be an Usher, Reader, Greeter, Communion Assistant, Coffee Host, Chancel Committee volunteer, and to Donate Altar Plants. **Thank You!** *We are Gifted to Serve!*

Free Concert & Fundraiser for Green Pastures Christian Retreat Center

The popular Christian quartet, Two by Two and K's Creek Golf Club are hosting the Green Pastures Spring Fundraiser on **Sunday, March 17 at 6:00 pm at K's Creek**, 1265 Sandusky Road, Jacksonville, IL. Featured performers are Two by Two, Roger Wainwright, The Benz Trio, and Hope Cherry. There is no cost to attend. Free will donations to benefit Green Pastures Christian Retreat Center will be gratefully accepted. Beverages, pizza, and appetizers are available for purchase.