

Third Sunday in Lent

March 3, 2024

Greetings and Welcome

Prelude sung by the Faith Singers – “You Are My Anchor,” by Stuart Townend

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)*
(piano)

**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 – “We Will Glorify” *(piano)*

**We will glorify the King of kings, we will glorify the Lamb;
We will glorify the Lord of lords, who is the great I AM.**

**Lord Jehovah reigns in majesty, we will bow before His throne;
We will worship Him in righteousness, we will worship Him alone.**

WORD

Reading: Psalm 86:8-13

Reader: John Williams

⁸There is none like you among the gods, O Lord,
nor are there any works like yours.

⁹All the nations you have made shall come
and bow down before you, O Lord,
and shall glorify your name.

¹⁰For you are great and do wondrous things;
you alone are God.

¹¹Teach me your way, O LORD,
that I may walk in your truth;
give me an undivided heart to revere your name.

¹²I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with my whole heart,
and I will glorify your name for ever.

¹³For great is your steadfast love towards me;
you have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol.

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

**Gospel Reading:* Mark 12:1-17

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 12th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Then he began to speak to them in parables. ‘A man planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a pit for the wine press, and built a watch-tower; then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. ²When the season came, he sent a slave to the tenants to collect from them his share of the produce of the vineyard. ³But they seized him, and beat him, and sent him away empty-handed. ⁴And again he sent another slave to them; this one they beat over the head and insulted. ⁵Then he sent another, and that one they killed. And so it was with many others; some they beat, and others they killed. ⁶He had still one other, a beloved son. Finally he sent him to them, saying, “They will respect my son.” ⁷But those tenants said to one another, “This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.” ⁸So they seized him, killed him, and threw him out of the vineyard. ⁹What then will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and destroy the tenants and give the vineyard to others. ¹⁰Have you not read this scripture:

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
¹¹ this was the Lord’s doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes”?’

¹²When they realized that he had told this parable against them, they wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowd. So they left him and went away.

¹³Then they sent to him some Pharisees and some Herodians to trap him in what he said.

¹⁴And they came and said to him, ‘Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality, but teach the way of God in accordance with truth. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not? ¹⁵Should we pay them, or should we not?’ But knowing their hypocrisy, he said to them, ‘Why are you putting me to the test? Bring me a denarius and let me see it.’ ¹⁶And they brought one. Then he said to them, ‘Whose head is this, and whose title?’ They answered, ‘The emperor’s.’ ¹⁷Jesus said to them, ‘Give to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.’ And they were utterly amazed at him.

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

Song –“We Will Glorify” *(piano)*

**He is Lord of heaven, Lord of earth, He is Lord of all who live;
He is Lord above the universe, all praise to Him we give.**

**We will glorify the King of kings, we will glorify the Lamb;
We will glorify the Lord of lords, who is the great I AM.**

Sermon: "Taking or Giving"

Song of the Day – “The Church’s One Foundation” ELW 654 *(organ)*

- 1 **The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
she is his new creation by water and the word.
From heav'n he came and sought her to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.**
- 2 **Elect from ev'ry nation, yet one o'er all the earth,
her charter of salvation one Lord, one faith, one birth:**

**one holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses, with ev'ry grace endued.**

- 3 Though with a scornful wonder this world sees her oppressed,
by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,
yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up: "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.**
- 4 Through toil and tribulation and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation of peace forevermore;
till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.**
- 5 Yet she on earth has union with God, the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.
Oh, blessed heav'nly chorus! Lord, save us by your grace,
that we, like saints before us, may see you face to face.**

**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 of Intercession*

Stewardship Time

**"Kyrie Eleison," arr. Redman, Maher, & Ingram
*Sung by the Faith Singers***

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

“Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation” ELW 645 (*organ*)

- 1 Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ, our head and cornerstone, chosen of the Lord and precious, binding all the church in one; holy Zion's help forever and our confidence alone.**

- 2 **To this temple, where we call you, come, O Lord of hosts, and stay; come, with all your lovingkindness, hear your people as they pray; and your fullest benediction shed within these walls today.**
- 3 **Here bestow on all your servants what they seek from you to gain; what they gain from you, forever with the blessed to retain; and hereafter in your glory evermore with you to reign.**
- 4 **Praise and honor to the Father, praise and honor to the Son, praise and honor to the Spirit, ever three and ever one: one in might and one in glory while unending ages run!**

“The Wonderful Cross”

(piano)

1. **When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of Glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.**
2. **See from His head, His hands, His feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?**

*Refrain: O the wonderful cross, O the wonderful cross
bids me come and die and find that I may truly live.
O the wonderful cross, O the wonderful cross;
all who gather here by grace draw near and bless Your name.*

3. **Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were an off'ring far too small.
Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all. *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 – “Living Stones”*

(piano)

**1. Jesus Christ is our Cornerstone. He’s the Rock; He’s the solid foundation.
We are building on Jesus alone, building up as the people of God.**

**2. Each of us is a living stone, precious stones in the building of Jesus.
In this house we don’t stand all alone; we are one. We’re the people of God.**

*Refrain: Living stones, we are living, living stones. Built on Christ,
living stones, holy people of God, building on the firm foundation.*

*Living stones, we are living, living stones. Built on Christ,
living stones, holy people of God, building on the firm foundation ... of Christ.*

**3. Jesus, You are our Cornerstone. You’re the Rock; You’re the solid foundation.
We are building on Your love alone. Build us up as the people of God.**

**4. Each of us is a living stone. We’re alive in the love of Jesus.
We are trusting in Jesus alone; we are His. We’re the people of God.**

*Refrain: Living stones, we are living, living stones. Built on Christ,
living stones, holy people of God, building on the firm foundation.*

*Living stones, we are living, living stones. Built on Christ,
living stones, holy people of God, building on the firm foundation,
building on the firm foundation, building on the firm foundation ... of Christ.*

**Dismissal*

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Worship Assistants

Communion Assistant: Pam Devlin
Greeter: Judy Dillard
Reader: John Williams
Ushers: Judy Dillard & Vicki Robson
Pastor: Adam Dichsen
Sabbatical Pastor: Paul Schwartzkopf
Music Director: Jean Welch
Organist: Sandi Watts
Pianist: Jean Welch
Drummer: John Demien
Financial Assistants: Greg Kimler & Kelly Street
Chancel Committee: Pat Glyshaw
Coffee Host: Karen Sibert



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			

Song Credits

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“Living Stones,” by Michael A. Schmidt, © 1999. CCLI#973583

What’s Coming Up at Faith?

Sunday, March 3, 9:30am: Worship

10:45am: Sunday School + Book Club Discussion

Wednesday, March 6, 7:00am: Men’s Prayer Group

6:00pm: Lenten Potluck Supper

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

Sunday, March 10, 9:30am: Worship – we welcome Pastor Jonathan Warren
10:45am: Sunday School

Daylight Savings Time Begins!

Wednesday, March 13, 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.

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

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!

Pastor Jonathan Warren here on March 10

Next Sunday, we will welcome Pastor Jonathan Warren from First Presbyterian Church while Pastor Paul is at Grace Lutheran in Virginia and St. John’s in Bluff Spring.

Music Rehearsals – 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 10:55am after the service. Please sign up by the Coffee Sales to let us know you’re interested.

Jean Welch, *Music Director*

Faith Family Easter Breakfast 10:30am

Join us after worship for a delicious meal of breakfast casseroles, coffee cakes, and fruit salad. A free-will donation will be collected to support youth retreats and activities this summer. **If you would like to donate food** (casserole, coffee cake, fruit salad, milk, or orange juice), **there is a signup sheet** on the counter by the Fair-Trade Coffee sales.

Discipleship Group

Join our monthly discussion at 10:00am on Wednesday, March 20, in the Faith Library. This month, we'll discuss the upcoming Holy Week and what it means to us. For more information, please contact Kelly Hartz at (217) 502-1979 or by email at khartz@sompo-intl.com.

Women of Faith Fellowship Night

We are on hiatus during Lent, but will resume meeting in April. Look for more information to come!

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!

Contribution Envelopes for 2024 are available in the gathering area.

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

(continued next page)

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.

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.