



“Jerusalem, Jerusalem...How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!”

- Luke 13:34

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church

Second Sunday in Lent – February 24, 2013

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Rev. Mark Bringman, Pastor
Jacob Gordon, Director of Music

*We welcome you to St. John Lutheran Church. We are delighted to have you worship with us this morning. Should you have no permanent church-home in this community, why not consider making this one your own? Please sign the guest book as you leave worship today or the attendance pad in the pew. You are most welcome here at St. John! Most elements of our service can be found in the bulletin, everything else is in the hymnal. Page refers to the numbered pages towards the front of the hymnal, hymns are bold and towards the back. Please rise when there is an *, congregational responses are in **bold**, and underlined elements of the service are found in the hymnal.*

HOLY COMMUNION
Second Sunday in Lent – February 24, 2013

Though we sometimes doubt and often resist God's desire to protect and save us, our God persists. In holy baptism, God's people have been called and gathered into a God-initiated relationship that will endure. Lent provides the church with a time and a tradition in which to seek the face of the Lord again. Lent provides another occasion to behold the God of our salvation in the face of the Blessed One who "comes in the name of the Lord."

PRELUDE: *The God of Abraham Praise* - Richard Proulx

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
who brings us safely through the sea,
who gives us water from the rock,
who leads us into the land of milk and honey.
Amen.

Let us come home to God, confessing our sin.

Merciful Father,
we have sinned against heaven and before you.
We do not fully live as your sons and daughters.
We use your gifts to our own ends.
Forgive us and restore us,
that we may resist all that draws us away from you,
and be at peace with one another. Amen.

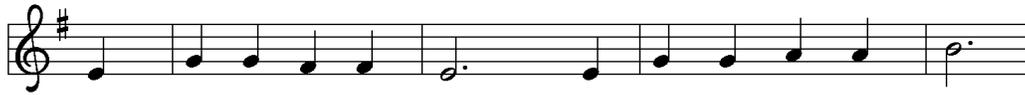
We are reconciled to God through Christ;
for his sake, God does not count our trespasses against us.
Once dead in sin, we are now alive to God.
Once lost, we now are found.
God clothes you in the finest robe of all,
the righteousness of + Jesus Christ,
forgiving you all your sins
and making of you a new creation.
Amen.

***GATHERING SONG #552:** *Blessed Be the God of Israel*

***GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

*KYRIE



1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Genesis 15:1–12, 17–18

God promises a childless and doubting Abram that he will have a son, that his descendants will be as numerous as the stars, and that the land of Canaan will be their inheritance. Abram's trust in God is sealed with a covenant-making ceremony, a sign of God's promise.

^{15:1}After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." ²But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." ⁴But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." ⁵He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." ⁶And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

⁷Then he said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." ⁸But he said, "O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" ⁹He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." ¹⁰He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. ¹¹And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

¹²As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

^{15:17}When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. ¹⁸On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 27

1. Lord, my light and my sal - va - tion, whom in life have
 2. Though a host en - camp a - gainst me; yet shall not my
 3. In the day of pain of trou - ble you will hide me

I to fear? You, my strong - hold, my foun - da - tion,
 heart be moved. Though their war - riors rise to slay me,
 in your tent. You, my con - stant rock and shel - ter,

when life's dark - ness clo - ses near. When the wick - ed rise a -
 still my trust in you is proved. This one thing will I seek
 foil my en - e - mies' in - tent. When you lift me high a -

- gainst me, filled with slan - der and with hate, you rise
 af - ter: let me dwell in your ac - cord. Grant me
 - bove them, can I help but shout your praise? Joy - ful

up to make them stum - ble; Lord, my light, on you I wait.
 life with - in your pre - sence; let me see your beau - ty, Lord.
 here, with - in your pre - sence, I will bless you all my days.

Text: Psalm 27; para. Fred R. Anderson

Music: William P. Rowlands

Text reprinted from *Singing Psalms of Joy and Praise*, © 1986 Fred R. Anderson, by permission.

BLAENWERN

8 7 8 7D

SECOND READING: Philippians 3:17—4:1

Although Paul's devotion to Christ has caused him to be persecuted, he does not regret the course he has taken. Writing from prison, he expresses confidence in a glorious future and encourages other Christians to follow in his footsteps.

^{3:17}Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us.

¹⁸For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears.

¹⁹Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things.

²⁰But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself.

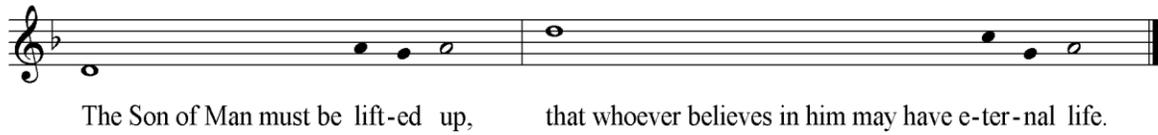
^{4:1}Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

(the cantor sings the refrain and verse, then all repeat the refrain)



***GOSPEL READING: Luke 13:31–35**

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Neither Herod's plotting nor Jerusalem's resistance to maternal love will deter Jesus from his sacrificial mission.

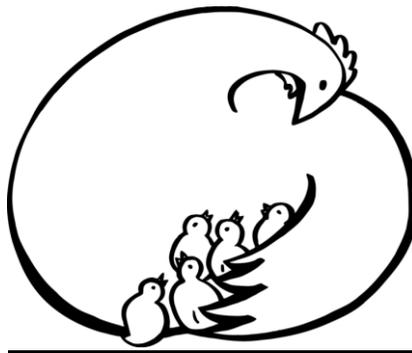
^{13:31}At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you."
³²He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. ³³Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' ³⁴Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON



***HYMN OF THE DAY:** *The God of Abraham Praise*



1. The God of A-br'ham praise, who reigns en-throned a - bove;
 2. The God of A-br'ham praise! At your su - preme com - mand
 3. The God of A-br'ham praise! Your all - suf - fi - cient grace
 4. The whole tri - um - phant host give thanks to God on high.



An - cient of ev - er - last - ing days, and God of love—
 from earth I rise and seek the joys at your right hand.
 shall guide me all my pil - grim days in all my ways.
 "Hail, Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost!" they ev - er cry.



"I Am the One I Am"— by earth and heav'n con - fessed;
 I all on earth for - sake— its wis - dom, fame, and pow'r—
 You deign to call me friend; you call your - self my God!
 Hail, A-br'ham's God and mine! I join the heav'n - ly lays:



I bow and bless the sa - cred name for - ev - er blest.
 and you my on - ly por - tion make, my shield and tow'r.
 And you will save me to the end through Je - sus' blood.
 to you be glo - ry, might di - vine, and end - less praise!

Text: Thomas Olivers, 1725-1799, alt., based on the *Yigdal*, c. 14th cent.
 Music: Jewish melody; arr. Meyer Lyon, 1751-1797

YIGDAL
 6 6 8 4 D

***NICENE CREED**

**We believe in one God,
 the Father, the Almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth,
 of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
 the only Son of God,
 eternally begotten of the Father,
 God from God, Light from Light,
 true God from true God,
 begotten, not made,
 of one Being with the Father;
 through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
 he came down from heaven,
 was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
 and became truly human.
 For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
 he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Returning to the Lord with all our heart, let us pray for the whole people of God, the earth, and all who cry out for healing.

Give to your church rest and renewal, even as we listen to the word of the prophets and pray for those persecuted for their faith. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Grant peace to the city of Jerusalem, and lead all nations to care for their land and employ its resources wisely. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Bring relief to polluted or burdened cities, and teach us to treasure sky and sun, stars and moon, lands and rivers. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Enfold with compassion all who cry out for nourishment, peace of mind, or healing especially Wally, George, Wanda Jean, Winnie, Helen, Virginia, Margaret, Francis & Grace, Kathryn, Ed, Fred & Jane, and David & Ellen. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Form us in these Lenten days to be a people marked by gratitude and generosity. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

As a hen gathers her brood under her wings, draw us, with all the saints, to your tender and merciful embrace. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Hear us according to your steadfast love, O God, and in your great compassion bring us to resurrection and rebirth in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

***PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERING HYMN #613: *Thy Holy Wings*

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray,
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 from your bounty,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

***DIALOGUE**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***PREFACE**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,
we may come to the fullness of your grace.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

***HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

***THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Holy God,

our living Water and our merciful Guide,
together with rivers and seas, wells and springs
we bless and magnify you.

You led your people Israel through the desert,
and provided them water from the rock.

We praise you for Christ, our Rock and our Water,
who joined us in our desert,
pouring out his life for the world.

In the night in which he was handed over,
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.

Remembering, therefore,
his life, death, and resurrection,
we await your salvation for all this thirsty world.

Pour out your Spirit on this holy food
and on all the baptized gathered for this feast:
wash away our sin,
that we may be revived for our journey by the love of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.

Amen.

***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**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All who thirst, all who hunger,
come and be filled with the goodness of God.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**
The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

In response to Jesus' invitation, all are welcome to come forward and experience the real presence of Christ in the bread and wine of communion. Through this meal, we know forgiveness, life and salvation as the blessings of God's sacramental grace. All are invited forward for communion or a blessing. The inner ring of individual cups has grape juice.

COMMUNION SONG: *Lamb of God*



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;

you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

COMMUNION HYMN #468: *Around You, O Lord Jesus*

***POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in grace.

Amen.

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

O God, in this holy meal

you have embraced us and gathered us into your arms of compassion and protection.

Release us now to go on our way in these forty days,

ready to see our work as prayer,

ready to fast from complacency,

and ready to share with those in need;

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

***BLESSING**

God our Father bless you and shield you.

Christ our Brother shelter you and carry you.

And may God's Mothering Spirit guide your journey

+ both now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG #536: *God Be with You Till We Meet Again

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: *The God of Abraham Praise* - Gerald Near

Assisting Minister (8:00 a.m.): Matt Claus
Ushers (8:00 a.m.): Clarence & Marlene Strabel
Acolyte (8:00 a.m.): Danielle Dishong
Communion Assistant (8:00 a.m.): Marlene Strabel
Counters: Jamie Weaver & Jim Ward
Attendance Last Week: 55 →
Budgeted Weekly Need: \$2,669.62 →
(2013 Annual Budget of \$138,820 divided by 52 weeks)
YTD Budgeted Expenses: \$21,356.92 (Weekly Expense
Need multiplied by 8 weeks - as of 2/24/13)

Assisting Minister (10:30 a.m.): Missy Kramer
Ushers (10:30 a.m.): Keith & Valerie Cardinal
Acolyte (10:30 a.m.): Madison Cardinal
Communion Assistant (10:30 a.m.): Denise Hager
Attendance Last Year: 64
Last Week's Giving: \$2,667. Earmarked \$85
Year to Date Receipts: \$20,206.00
YTD Actual Expenses: \$15,044.73

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