

Lent worship 9am  
Memorial Lutheran Church  
Second Sunday in Lent—February 28, 2021

Gather together in worship

**Welcome and Greeting**

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

**C. And also with you.**

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**Call to Worship** (Assistant: Cindy Rerucha)

Core Value: **Local Mission**—we value caring for the needs of others

**Embracing Innovation**—we aspire to use creative methods in our ministry

Symbols: **Towel and Bowl are placed**

CR: Gracious Lord, wash us and we shall be whiter than snow.

**C. Create in us clean hearts, O God and renew right spirits within us.**

CR: Restore unto us the joys of our salvation:

**C. for you are the strength of our lives and the ground of our being. Amen.**

**Reading: John 13: 3-5 &12-14** (Reader: John MacKay)

R: <sup>3</sup> Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; <sup>4</sup> so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. <sup>5</sup> After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

<sup>12</sup> When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. "Do you understand what I have done for you?" he asked them. <sup>13</sup> "You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and rightly so, for that is what I am.

<sup>14</sup> Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet.

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**Opening Song "Lead Me to the Cross"** (Worship Team)

*Savior I come Quiet my soul, remember*

*Redemption's hill Where Your blood was spilled*

*For my ransom*

*Everything I once held dear I count it all as lost*

*Lead me to the cross Where Your love poured out  
Bring me to my knees Lord I lay me down  
Rid me of myself I belong to You  
Lead me,, lead me to the cross*

*You were as I Tempted and tried, Human  
The word became flesh Bore my sin and death  
Now you're risen  
Everything I once held dear I count it all as lost*

*Lead me to the cross Where Your love poured out  
Bring me to my knees Lord I lay me down  
Rid me of myself I belong to You  
Lead me,  
lead me to your heart  
Lead me to your heart  
Lead me to your heart  
Lead me to your heart*

*Lead me to the cross Where Your love poured out  
Bring me to my knees Lord I lay me down  
Rid me of myself I belong to You  
Lead me, lead me to the cross*

**Litany and Song of Praise (Assistant: Cindy Rerucha-MacKay)**

CR: Holy One, you are shelter and strength for those in distress.

**C. When loved ones experience pain and suffering...When illness, aging, or chronic pain diminish our joy...When doubts arise and confusion fills our minds...**

CR: Holy One, you are shelter and strength for those on the journey

**C. When others fail us or refuse to forgive us for our failings...When we stumble and stray from the path of goodness...When death separates us from those we love dearly...**

CR: Holy One, you are shelter and strength for those living life

**C. When financial problems threaten our security...When things do not go the way we planned...When depression or loneliness return again and again...When broken relationships have not been mended...**

CR: Holy One, you are shelter and strength for those living your grace

**C. When our faith strengthens and gives us courage...When the precious gift of life is recognized and appreciated...When unexpected kindness and caring comes our way...When optimism stirs in our heart and springtime returns...**



**Prayer of the Day** (Assistant: Cindy Rerucha-MacKay)

CR: Let us pray...O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C. Amen**

Inspired by the Word

**Readings** (Reader: John MacKay)

**Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16**

**R: 17** When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to him and said, “I am God Almighty<sup>[a]</sup>; walk before me faithfully and be blameless. <sup>2</sup> Then I will make my covenant between me and you and will greatly increase your numbers.”

<sup>3</sup> Abram fell facedown, and God said to him, <sup>4</sup> “As for me, this is my covenant with you: You will be the father of many nations. <sup>5</sup> No longer will you be called Abram<sup>[b]</sup>; your name will be Abraham,<sup>[c]</sup> for I have made you a father of many nations. <sup>6</sup> I will make you very fruitful; I will make nations of you, and kings will come from you. <sup>7</sup> I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you

<sup>15</sup> God also said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you are no longer to call her Sarai; her name will be Sarah. <sup>16</sup> I will bless her and will surely give you a son by her. I will bless her so that she will be the mother of nations; kings of peoples will come from her.”

**Romans 4:13-25**

**R: 13** It was not through the law that Abraham and his offspring received the promise that he would be heir of the world, but through the righteousness that comes by faith. <sup>14</sup> For if those who depend on the law are heirs, faith means nothing and the promise is worthless, <sup>15</sup> because the law brings wrath. And where there is no law there is no transgression.

<sup>16</sup> Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham’s offspring—not only to those who are of the law but also to those who have the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all. <sup>17</sup> As it is written: “I have made you a father of many nations.” He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed—the God who gives life to the dead and calls into being things that were not. <sup>18</sup> Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, “So shall your offspring be.” <sup>19</sup> Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead—since he was about a hundred years old—and that Sarah’s womb was also dead. <sup>20</sup> Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, <sup>21</sup> being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised. <sup>22</sup> This is why “it was credited to him as righteousness.” <sup>23</sup> The words “it was credited to him” were written not for him alone, <sup>24</sup> but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness—for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the

dead. <sup>25</sup> He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification.

**Gospel Verse** (Reader: John MacKay)

R: Let us recite together the gospel verse.

**C: *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 8:31-38**

R: <sup>31</sup> He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup> He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.

<sup>33</sup> But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. “Get behind me, Satan!” he said. “You do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.”

<sup>34</sup> Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup> For whoever wants to save their life<sup>[a]</sup> will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it. <sup>36</sup> What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? <sup>37</sup> Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? <sup>38</sup> If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his Father’s glory with the holy angels.”

**Children’s Sermon – Greg Silliman**

**Sermon—Pastor Rebecca**

**Song: "To the Table" (Worship Team)**

*Hear the voice of love that's calling  
There's a chair that waits for you  
And a Friend who understands  
Everything you're going through*

*But you keep standing at a distance  
In the shadow of your shame  
There's a light of hope that's shining  
Won't you come and take your place?*

*Bring it all to the table  
There's nothing He ain't seen before  
For all your sin, all your sorrow, and your sadness  
There's a Savior and He calls  
Bring it all to the table*

*He can see the weight you carry  
The fears that hold your heart  
But through the cross you've been forgiven  
You're accepted as you are*

*Bring it all to the table  
There's nothing He ain't seen before  
For all your trials, all your worries, and your burdens  
There's a Savior and He calls  
Bring it all to the table*

*Bring it all  
You can bring it all*

*Come on in, take your place  
There's no one whose turned away  
All you sinners, all you saints  
Come right in and find your grace*

*Come on in, take your place  
There's no one whose turned away  
All you sinners, all you saints  
Come right in and find your grace*

*and bring it all to the table  
There's nothing He ain't seen before  
For all your sin, all your sorrows and your sadness  
There's a Savior and He calls  
Bring it all to the table*

**The Apostle's Creed** (Assistant: Cindy Rerucha-MacKay)

CR: Let us recite together the Apostles Creed:

**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 People** (Assistant: Cindy Rerucha-MacKay)

CR: Drawn near to God as children and heirs of Christ's promise, we pray for all people of God, for our nation and our world, and for those in need. [*A brief silence.*]

CR: For those in our Community of Faith: Bishop Beaudoin and staff, Bishop Eaton and staff, Memorial Church Staff, Student Katie Leslie, Intern Rebecca West-Estell, Monroe Corridor Parish, Hope Learning Academy teachers and families and all teachers and students in all schools, and for faith communities throughout the world. Help us to see ourselves in our neighbors, especially those who differ from us, and draw us together in common service to those who are hungry, poor, and oppressed. Lord, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

CR: For the well-being of the earth as we begin another year entrusted with its care. Give us lively imaginations to see ways to conserve its limited resources, harness its renewable energies, and conform ourselves to its natural goodness. Lord, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

CR: For peace among nations, for peace in our homes, and for peace in our hearts. Urge us to cry out at injustice and inequality among your people until vindication comes and righteousness prevails. Lord, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

CR: For our military personnel: Ryan Woods, Henry Kozak, Dustin Pawloski, and Reid Leslie; guard their lives and keep them safe, Lord, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

CR: For our **homebound**: Dotty Sauer, Claudia Sauer, Bob Rank, Kathy Schoembs, Sam Schlegel, Phyllis Ballas, Joanne Hummel, Doris Buchholz (hospice care), Pat Reiber; and those who are in need of **healing**: William Claucherty, Sara Scholl, Kent Seagart, Donald Dotson, Jess Weber, Afaf Barakat, Brenda Facey, Katie Maly, Sheila MacKay Davidson, Marcene Jackson, Leslie Bean, Don Gurwell, Dave Gilbert, Char Bachmayer, Fred Schaefer, Michael Curtis, and all suffering with Covid 19; Lord, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

CR: For those grieving the loss of friends and family; especially the families of William Teaderman (Bill's son), Lee Royce (Sheri Poole's father), June Weitz (Codi Calcamuggio's great-grandmother), John Vance, Oscar Bunch, Walt Carlson. Only you can turn the shadow of death into daybreak. Keep us in union with all your saints, and bring us with them to the joyous feast of heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Lord, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

CR: Into your outstretched arms, O God, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Jesus Christ, the light and life of the world. **C: Amen.**

### Meal declaring Jesus' presence among us

#### **The Great Thanksgiving**

PM: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

PM: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

PM: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

#### **The Words of Institution**

PM: 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 in memory of Me.

Again, after supper, He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying; This is the new covenant in My blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this in memory of Me.

#### **The Lord's Prayer**

**C: 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**

**Prayer** (Assistant: Cindy Rerucha-MacKay)

A: We give you thanks, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In Your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

### Sent into the world for sharing

#### **Announcements**



## **Blessing**

PM. The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus. **C. Amen.**

## **Song: "Amazing Grace/My Chains are Gone" (Worship Team)**

*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*

*'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear and grace my fears relieved  
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed*

*My chains are gone I've been set free  
my God, my Savior has ransomed me  
And like a flood His mercy rains unending love, Amazing grace*

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

*My chains are gone I've been set free  
my God, my Savior has ransomed me  
And like a flood His mercy rains unending love, Amazing grace*

*My chains are gone I've been set free  
my God, my Savior has ransomed me  
And like a flood His mercy rains unending love, Amazing grace*

*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*

**Dismissal** (Assistant: Cindy Rerucha-MacKay)

CR: Go in peace. Christ is with you. **C. Thanks be to God**