

# St. Matthew's Ev. Lutheran Church

1615 N. Wauwatosa Ave., Wauwatosa, WI 53213

February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024

8:30 & 11:00 am Services

## Second Sunday in Lent

**Introduction to the Day:** The second covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the one made with Abraham and Sarah: God's promise to make them the ancestors of many, with whom God will remain in everlasting covenant. Paul says this promise comes to all who share Abraham's faith in the God who brings life into being where there was no life. We receive this baptismal promise of resurrection life in faith. Sarah and Abraham receive new names as a sign of the covenant, and we too get new identities in baptism, as we put on Christ.

## Gathering

Prelude

*Gammel fäbodpsalm från Dalarna*

– Oskar Lindberg [1887-1955]

This piece is an arrangement of an old traditional herding tune, formerly known as Psalm, from Älvdalsåsen in Dalarna, Sweden. The only verse left can be found on the clock in the local chapel:

*O God who faithfully helped me in all my distress and deficiency.*

*I want to thank you everyday, Lord.*

*You give me daily bread and are my strong support.*

*I'm alive and I'm dying out of Your love.*

Welcome & Announcements

Pastor Ann Williams

*Please stand as you are able.*

Call to Worship

Lord God, you have called us. You loved us before we could love you. You have given your Son for our salvation. For this we join all creation in blessing you, praising you, thanking you.

**As we offer our praise, we long for you to mold us in the image of your Son, whose death and resurrection give us hope.**

Confession and Forgiveness

Search me, O God, and know my heart;

**try me and know my thoughts.**

See if there is any wicked way in me,

**and lead me in the way everlasting.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

1. O Lord, have mercy; O Christ, have  
 2. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, Chris - te e -

mer - cy; O Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy, Lord.  
 - lei - son, Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, e - lei - son.

Lord Je - sus, think on me, and purge a - way my sin; from  
 earth - born pas - sions set me free, and make me pure with - in.

Text: Trad. Kyrie & Synesius of Cyrene. Music: Paraguay Tune. Setting by Hal Hopson & John Paradowski. Copyright: © 2000 Hope Publishing. Podcast/Streamed/Reprinted with permission under One License A-703603.

Gracious God,

**In times of temptation, we forget what you have done for us. You give us everything we need, yet we often remain unsatisfied. You show us the way we are to follow, yet we often continue the path of self-indulgence and self-centeredness. Forgive us, we pray. We ask for your direction, your patience, your love, in the name of Jesus Christ, who, despite his temptations, was faithful to your saving Word.**

By water and the Holy Spirit, God gives us a new birth, and through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, God forgives us all our sins. Almighty God strengthen us in all goodness and keep us in eternal life.

**Amen.**

Gathering Song

**#769 If You But Trust in God to Guide You**

Greeting

We gather as we live in the name of the God, our Creator; the Son, our Redeemer; and the Holy Spirit, our Comforter.

**Amen.**

## Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

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.

**Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

Anthem (11:00)

*I Will Praise You, O Lord* by Mark Patterson  
– New Creation Choir

*I will praise you, O Lord with all my heart. In ev'ry song I sing I will praise you O Lord with all my heart. In the things that I do, in the words that I say, I will praise you, O Lord with all my heart.*

*I will serve you, O Lord with all my heart. In ev'ry song I sing I will serve you O Lord with all my heart. In the things that I do, in the words that I say, I will serve you, O Lord with all my heart. -Psalm 138:1*

## Word

First Reading

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

*As with Noah, God makes an everlasting covenant with Abraham and Sarah. God promises this old couple that they will be the ancestors of nations, though they have no child together. God will miraculously bring forth new life from Sarah's womb. The name changes emphasize the firmness of God's promise.*

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

Psalm Reading

Psalm 22:23-31

*All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD. (Ps. 22:27)*

Let us read responsively from Psalm 22.

You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's line, give glory. Stand in awe of the LORD, all you offspring of Israel.

**For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the LORD's face hidden from them; but when they cry out, the LORD hears them.**

From you comes my praise in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

**The poor shall eat and be satisfied. Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!**

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; all the families of nations shall bow before God.

**For dominion belongs to the LORD, who rules over the nations.**

Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship; all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the LORD.

**Their descendants shall serve the LORD, whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.**

They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying to them, "The LORD has acted!"

## Second Reading

Romans 4:13-25

*Paul presents Abraham as the example for how a person comes into a right relationship with God not through works of the law but through faith. Though Abraham and Sarah were far too old for bearing children, Abraham trusted that God would accomplish what God had promised to accomplish.*

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## Gospel Acclamation

**p 189, Let Your Steadfast Love Come to Us**

## Gospel

Mark 8:27-36

*After Peter confesses his belief that Jesus is the Messiah, Jesus tells his disciples for the first time what is to come. Peter's response indicates that he does not yet understand the way of the cross that Jesus will travel.*

The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 8<sup>th</sup> Chapter.

**Glory to You, O Lord.**

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to You, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

## Sermon

Pastor Frank Janzow

*Please stand as you are able.*

## Hymn of the Day

## Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said

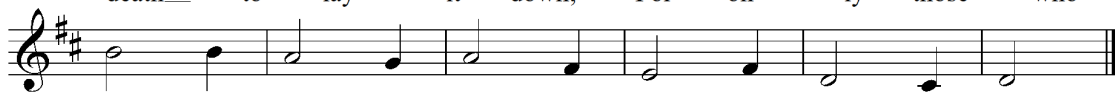
*(Prayer Cards, which can be found in the pew racks, will be collected during the Hymn of the Day)*



1. "Take up your cross," the Sav - ior said, "If you would
2. Take up your cross; let not its weight Per - vade your
3. Take up your cross, nor heed the shame, Nor let your
4. Take up your cross and fol - low Christ, Nor think till



my\_\_\_ dis - ci - ple be; For - sake the past, and  
 soul\_\_\_ with vain a - larm; His strength shall bear your  
 fool - ish heart re - bel; For you the Lord en -  
 death\_\_\_ to lay it down; For on - ly those who



come this day, And hum - bly fol - low af - ter me."  
 spir - it up, Sus - tain your heart, and nerve your arm.  
 dured the cross To save your soul from death and hell.  
 bear the cross May hope to wear a gold - en crown.

Text: Charles W. Everest, 1814-1877, alt. Music: Micheal Praetorius, 1571-1621. Tune: Puer Nobis, LM.  
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## Profession of Faith

## 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.**

*Usher Volunteers gather for Offering Collection at the Welcome Center.*

## Prayers of Intercession

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

### Call to Prayer

### God of Love, Hear Our Prayer

God of love, hear our prayer, we are trust-ing in your  
mer - cy, God of love, hear our prayer, grant us your peace.

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...Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

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

**Amen.**

### Sharing the Peace of Christ

The peace of the Lord be with you all.

**And also with you.**

*Please be seated.*

## Meal

Offering

8:30

*Interlude* by Mark Hayes

11:00

*O Lord, Increase My Faith* by Orlando  
Gibbons [1583-1625] – Senior Choir

*O Lord, increase my faith, strengthen me and confirm me in Thy true faith; endue me with wisdom, charity, and patience, in all my adversity, sweet Jesus, say Amen.*

*Please stand as you are able.*

## Offertory Response

## When Grains of Wheat Fall

1. When grains of wheat fall in the ground,  
 2. With Christ we die; with Christ we live;  
 New life with - in their death is found.  
 To Christ our ran - somed lives we give.  
 When grapes are crushed, there flows new wine.  
 With grate - ful hearts, our gifts in hand,  
 So from Christ's death flow gifts di - vine.  
 Be - fore the cross of Christ we stand.

Text: Arden Mead. Copyright: © 1999 Creative Communications. All rights reserved. Used with permission.  
 Tune: Tune: Old Hundredth. Meter: 88 88, LM.

## Offertory Prayer

Merciful God, receive the sacrifice of our praise and thanksgiving and the offering of our lives, that following in the way of the cross, we may know the joy of the resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## Words of Institution

## The Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
 your kingdom come, your will be done,  
 on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,  
 and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

## Invitation to Communion

Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.

**We prepare our hearts to receive this meal.**

*Please be seated.*

## Call to Communion

**#336 Lamb of God/Your Only Son**

## Communion Hymn

**#808 Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## Communion Response

May the body of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his love and grace.

**Amen.**

## Prayer After Communion

Lord Jesus Christ, you shouldered the cross, our cross, and offered yourself, a living sacrifice in our place.

**Lead us, O Christ. We shoulder our crosses. We follow. You are the Lord forevermore. Amen.**

## Sending

### Blessing

The blessing of God's eternal love, the courage to follow the way of the cross, and the guidance of the Spirit in the desert places of our world, be among us. The Father, Son and Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us both now and forever.

**Amen.**

## Sending Song

**#324 In the Cross of Christ I Glory**

## Dismissal

Marked with the cross of Christ, go forth to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude



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

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. <sup>2</sup>And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." <sup>3</sup>Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, <sup>4</sup>"As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. <sup>5</sup>No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. <sup>6</sup>I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. <sup>7</sup>I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you."

<sup>15</sup>God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. <sup>16</sup>I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

**Psalm 22:23-31****SECOND READING: Romans 4:13-25**

The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

<sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations")—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

<sup>18</sup>Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." <sup>19</sup>He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. <sup>20</sup>No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, <sup>21</sup>being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. <sup>22</sup>Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>23</sup>Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, <sup>24</sup>but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, <sup>25</sup>who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

**GOSPEL: Mark 8:31-38**

[Jesus] began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup>He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup>But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

<sup>34</sup>He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. <sup>36</sup>For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? <sup>37</sup>Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? <sup>38</sup>Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

**Next Sunday's Readings:** Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 1:18-25; John 2:13-22.

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