

# Second Sunday in Lent

March 16, 2025; 9 a.m.



**St John's**  
Lutheran Church

*(An usher rings the church bell at 8:55 a.m.)*

## Prelude

*(Acolytes light the candles)*

*What Wondrous Love Is This* arr. Brenda E. Austin  
JuBellation Handbell Choir

## Gathering Hymn

ELW #597; *My Hope is Built on Nothing Less* vs. 1-3

- 1 My hope is built on nothing less  
than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
no merit of my own I claim,  
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

### *Refrain*

On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;  
all other ground is sinking sand.

- 2 When darkness veils his lovely face,  
I rest on his unchanging grace;  
in ev'ry high and stormy gale  
my anchor holds within the veil. *Refrain*

- 3 His oath, his covenant, his blood  
sustain me in the raging flood;  
when all supports are washed away,  
he then is all my hope and stay. *Refrain*

## Apostolic 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

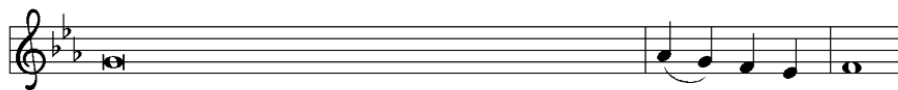
## ELW Setting One



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



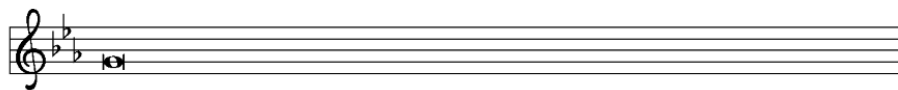
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



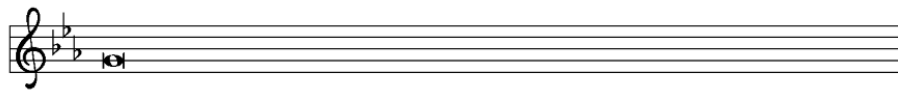
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

## 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.**

## Reading: Genesis 15:1-12,17-18

<sup>1</sup> 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." <sup>2</sup> But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" <sup>3</sup> And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." <sup>4</sup> But 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." <sup>5</sup> He 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." <sup>6</sup> And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

<sup>7</sup> Then he said to him, "I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." <sup>8</sup> But he said, "O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" <sup>9</sup> He 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." <sup>10</sup> He 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. <sup>11</sup> And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

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

<sup>17</sup> When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. <sup>18</sup> On 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."

Word of God. Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Reading: Philippians 3:17-4:1

<sup>17</sup> Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. <sup>18</sup> For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. <sup>19</sup> Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. <sup>20</sup> But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>21</sup> He 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. <sup>4:1</sup> 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.

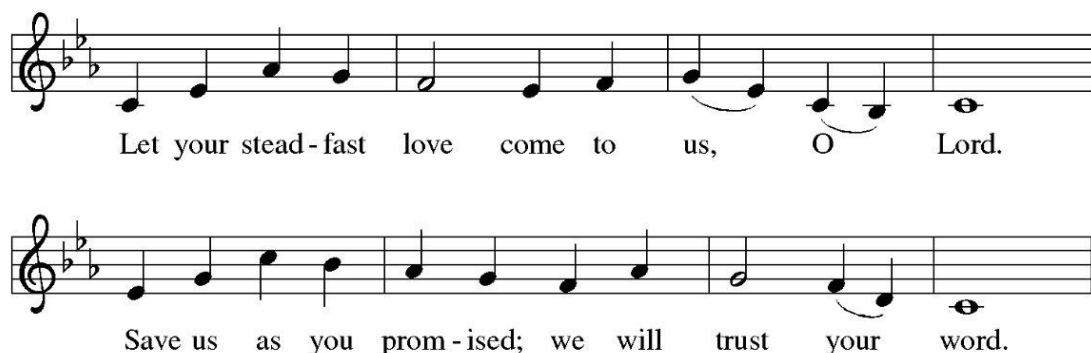
Word of God. Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Children's Time

### Gospel Acclamation *(please stand)*

ELW Setting 1; p. 103



## Gospel: Luke 13:31-35

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 13<sup>th</sup> chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>31</sup> At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus,] “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” <sup>32</sup> He 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. <sup>33</sup> Yet 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.' <sup>34</sup> Jerusalem, 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! <sup>35</sup> See, 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.**

### **Sermon** *(please sit)*

Rev. Diane House

### **Hymn of the Day** *(please stand)*

ELW #613; *Thy Holy Wings*

- 1 Thy holy wings, O Savior,  
spread gently over me,  
and let me rest securely  
through good and ill in thee.  
Oh, be my strength and portion,  
my rock and hiding place,  
and let my ev'ry moment  
be lived within thy grace.
- 2 Oh, let me nestle near thee,  
within thy downy breast  
where I will find sweet comfort  
and peace within thy nest.  
Oh, close thy wings around me  
and keep me safely there,  
for I am but a newborn  
and need thy tender care.
- 3 Oh, wash me in the waters  
of Noah's cleansing flood.  
Give me a willing spirit,  
a heart both clean and good.

Oh, take into thy keeping  
thy children great and small,  
and while we sweetly slumber,  
enfold us one and all.

## Sacrament of Baptism

**Brinley Grace Maas**, daughter of Ashley Zahurones and Greg Maas  
Sponsors: Brandon & Brianna Zahurones

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

**I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

**I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

**I renounce them.**

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

*(parents, child, and sponsors gather around the font)*

**Sponsors:** We present **Brinley Grace Maas** for the sacrament of holy baptism.

**Pastor:** Parents, as you bring **Brinley Grace** to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities: to live with her among God's faithful people, bring her to the word of God and the holy supper, teach her the Lord's prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in her hands the holy scriptures, and nurture her in faith and prayer, so that she may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace. Do you promise to fulfill these promises?

**Parents:** We do.

**Pastor:** Sponsors, do you promise to nurture **Brinley Grace** in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit and to help her live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

**Sponsors:** We do.

**Pastor:** People of God, do you promise to support **Brinley Grace** and pray for her in her new life in Christ?

**People:** We do.

**Pastor:** We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that they who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Pastor:** **Brinley Grace**, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**Pastor:** Let us pray...We give you thanks, O God that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

*(Parents lay hands on the head of the newly baptized.)*

Sustain **Brinley Grace** with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, now and forever. **Amen.**

*(Parents use oil to make the sign of the cross on the forehead of the newly baptized)*

**Pastor: Brinley Grace**, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. **Amen.**

*(Sponsors take the candle and light it using the Christ candle.)*

*(The candle is to remind us that we carry the light of Christ throughout our baptized life.)*

**Worship Assistant:** Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. **Amen.**

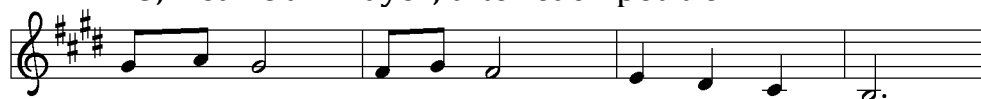
**Pastor:** Let us welcome **Brinley Grace** into the community of faith.

**All: We welcome her into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

*(The child, parents and sponsors may return to their seats.)*

## Prayers of the People

ELW #178; Hear Our Prayer; after each petition



Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole:



peace to all peo - ple, hope for each soul.



God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.



## The Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always!  
**And also with you.**

*(Ushers collect offering. Begin at the back of the sanctuary on the inside aisle and collect as you move to the front and continue around to the outside aisle returning with the offering to the Gathering Area. One usher collects offering from balcony.)*

## Offering *(please sit)*

*O Lord of Light, Who Made the Stars* Latin Hymn tr. Melvin Farrell; music by Daniel Schwandt; St. John's Choir

## Offertory *(please stand – Acolytes receive the offering)*

ELW #185; *Create In Me*

Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from your presence,  
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,  
and uphold me with your free Spirit.  
Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.

## Offertory Prayer

Let us pray. Gracious Provider,  
**you set your immense treasures among us,  
opening your heart to the world.**  
**As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love,  
deepen our commitment to sharing those  
treasures with others,  
through our Savior, Jesus Christ.**  
**Amen.**

## Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

This musical score is written for a single voice part in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of four staves of music. The lyrics are: 'The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.' (Staff 1), 'Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.' (Staff 2), 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.' (Staff 3), and 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.' (Staff 4). The melody is simple and hymn-like, using quarter and eighth notes with various rests.

## Proper Preface

### Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of

pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the

name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

This musical score is written for a single voice part in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of four staves of music. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of' (Staff 1), 'pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -' (Staff 2), 'san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the' (Staff 3), and 'name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.' (Staff 4). The melody is more complex than the previous section, featuring some dotted notes and longer phrases.

## Eucharistic Prayer

### The Lord's Prayer

**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 the Table *(please sit)*

All who are hungry, come!  
The feast of grace is spread.

*(Acolyte- comes forward for communion. The 2 ushers will go to the front of the Sanctuary and begin releasing worshippers to receive a wafer and wine.)*

### Lamb of God



### Communion Hymn

ELW #468; *Around You, O Lord Jesus*

- 1 Around you, O Lord Jesus,  
your own you gather still  
to share the feast you give us  
with grace our lives to fill.  
You say to us so lovingly,

“Take, eat! This is my body!  
Take, drink! This is my blood!”

2 We hear your invitation,  
and heed, O Lord, your call;  
your word of consolation  
is spoken here to all.  
It draws us to your loving heart;  
it brings to us your blessing,  
which never will depart.

3 We are your own forever;  
until our final breath  
we will be true and never  
in joy, in grief, in death  
depart from you, for you are still  
among your people dwelling,  
as you have said you will.

### **Post-Communion Blessing & Prayer** (*please stand*)

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

Generous Host,  
**you have shared your feast with us and made us new.**  
**Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities,**  
**that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom,**  
**in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord.**  
**Amen.**

### **Benediction**

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

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,  
so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

The God of all grace  
✠ bless you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## **Sending Hymn**

*(Acolytes extinguish the candles)*

ELW #834; *Immortal, Invisible* vs. 1-3

- 1     Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
      in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
      most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
      almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise!
- 2     Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,  
      nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;  
      thy justice like mountains high soaring above  
      thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.
- 3     To all, life thou givest, to both great and small;  
      in all life thou livest, the true life of all;  
      we blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,  
      and wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.

## **Sending**

Go in peace. Turn toward God's abundance.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **Postlude**

Linda Ranney

## Altar Flowers

In Memory of Fred Kersten's birthday, March 16 & In Memory of Alice Kersten's birthday, February 1 by Gary & Julie Kersten

## Chancel Flowers

In Honor of Rihanna Hanvelt's Sweet 16 by Genny Gorton

## Serving at Worship Today

Presider	Rev. Diane House
Assistant	Jean Jirovec
Lector	Pam Sorebo
Acolytes	Hadley Wolfe, Bristyl Ische
Ushers	Kurt Kjelstad, Ruth Ann Kjelstad
Greeters	Penny Erickson, Mike Torud
Communion Servers	Penny Erickson, Cora Klawiter, Kathy Freitag, Diana Hogenson
Media & Streaming	Lydia Elko
Screen Operator	Lois Mai
Musicians	Linda Ranney, accompanist; Mark Lundin, Director of Music; St. John's Choir; JuBellation

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