

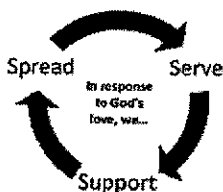
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MISSION STATEMENT:

*In response to God's love for us, we **SERVE** God,
SUPPORT Christian fellowship,
And **SPREAD** the Good News of Jesus Christ to all people.*

Volume 77

February 21, 2021

No. 08

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

+ Service of Holy Communion +

9:00 AM

AS WE GATHER – “By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, of whom it was said, ‘Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.’ He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back” (Hebrews 11:17–19). The writer to the Hebrews makes such a beautiful statement about something that must have been literally gut-wrenching for Abraham. Losing a loved one is hard. Losing a child is incredibly hard. But being asked to sacrifice your one and only son? It seems unfathomable. Yet, this presents a poignant truth for us—when everything looks so wrong, God provides by keeping His promises for us and by being with us.

PRESERVICE MUSIC “O Lord, Throughout These Forty Days” by David N. Johnson

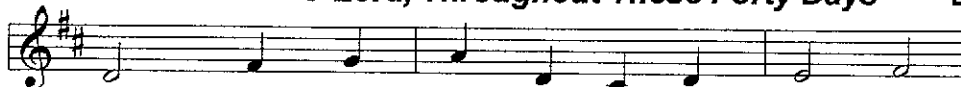
WELCOME

[♩ Means please stand; ♪ Means please be seated]

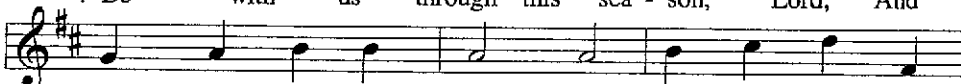
♩ **OPENING HYMN**

O Lord, Throughout These Forty Days

LSB 418



1 O Lord, through - out these for - ty days You
2 You strove with Sa - tan, and You won; Your
3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet You prayed And
4 Be with us through this sea - son, Lord, And



prayed and kept the fast; In - spire re - pen - tance
faith - ful - ness en - dured; Lend us Your nerve, Your
fixed Your mind a - bove; So teach us to de -
all our earth - ly days, That when the fi - nal

(continued)



for our sin, And free us from our past.
skill and trust In God's e - ter - nal Word.
ny our - selves, Since we have known God's love.
Eas - ter dawns, We join in heav - en's praise.

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INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES

Mark 14:38; 1 Peter 5:8; 1 Corinthians 10:12-13

- P** *In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.*
- C** **Amen.**
- P** *Jesus said, "Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."*
- C** **Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.**
- P** *Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man.*
- C** **God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.**

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Romans 6:20, 22–23, adapted; Mark 1:15

- P** *God's Word reminds us that when we were slaves of sin, we were free in regard to righteousness.*
- C** **But now that we have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit we get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life.**
- P** *For the wages of sin is death,*
- C** **but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.**
- P** *Let us confess our sins to God, who has brought us out of slavery and promises to lead us to the promised land of heaven.*

[A moment for silent confession.]

- P** *Heavenly Father, we know we are blessed when we remain steadfast under trial, yet we fall prey to the devil's schemes and give in to temptation. We are lured and enticed by our own evil desires—desires that contradict your good and gracious will.*
- C** **For Jesus' sake, forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**
- P** *As Jesus began His ministry, He said, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel." As you have repented of your sins, believe these words as if Jesus was standing here speaking them to you: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.*
- C** **Amen.**

INTROIT

Psalm 91:9–13; antiphon: vv. 15–16

- P** *When he calls to Me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him. With long life I will satisfy him and show him My salvation.*
- C** **Because you have made the LORD your dwelling place—the Most High, who is my refuge—no evil shall be allowed to befall you, no plague come near your tent.**

- P** *For He will command His angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.*
- C** **On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.**
- P** *You will tread on the lion and the adder; the young lion and the serpent you will trample underfoot.*
- C** **When he calls to Me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him. With long life I will satisfy him and show him My salvation.**

KYRIE

James 1:18; Psalm 102:1, adapted

- P** *Lord, have mercy.*
- C** **Christ, have mercy.**
- P** *Lord, have mercy.*
- C** **Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures.**
- P** *O LORD, hear our prayer.*
- C** **And let our cry come to You!**

SALUTATION & COLLECT OF THE DAY

- P** *The Lord be with you.*
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** *Let us pray.*

All: You promised Abraham that his descendants would be as numerous as the stars in the sky, and then you asked him to sacrifice his only son. You provided a ram as a substitute sacrifice. Open our eyes to how You provide for us, especially in tough times when everything looks so wrong, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Genesis 22:1–18

(lesson is on the last page of the bulletin)

- A** *This is the Word of the Lord.* **C** **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

James 1:12–18

(lesson is on the last page of the bulletin)

- A** *This is the Word of the Lord.* **C** **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL

O Come, and Let Us Look Up

O come, and let us look up to Je-sus Christ, our Lord,
 The found-er and per-fec - ter of faith placed in God's Word.
 Who for the joy be - fore Him en - dured the cross's pain,

De - spis - ing what sins wrought, their pun - ish - ment and shame.
 For that which He ac - com - plished for all hu - man - i - ty,
 At God's right hand He reigns, now and to e - ter - ni - ty.

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HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 1:9–15

P *The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.*

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

(lesson is on the last page of the bulletin)

P *This is the Gospel of the Lord.*

G **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY

The Lamb

LSB 547

1 The Lamb, the Lamb, O Fa - ther, where's the sac - ri - fice?
 2 The Lamb, the Lamb, One per - fect fi - nal of - fer - ing.
 3 The Lamb, the Lamb, As way - ward sheep their shep - herd kill
 4 He sighs, He dies, He takes my sin and wretch - ed - ness.
 5 He rose, He rose, My heart with thanks now o - ver - flows.

Faith sees, be - lieves God will pro - vide the Lamb of price!
 The Lamb, the Lamb, Let earth join heav'n His praise to sing.
 So still, His will On our be - half the Law to fill.
 He lives, for - gives, He gives me His own righ - teous - ness.
 His song pro - long Till ev - 'ry heart to Him be - long.

Refrain

Wor - thy is the Lamb whose death makes me His

own! The Lamb is reign - ing on His throne!

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SERMON

“WHY ME?”

Genesis 22:1-18

- I. God demands sacrifice to atone for sin.
- II. At Mt. Moriah, God provided a ram for Abraham to sacrifice. At Mt. Calvary, God provided His Son as the final sacrifice for sin.

✠NICENE CREED

C I believe in One God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in One Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made Man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Psalm 25:4-6, adapted

- P** *Friends in Christ, I urge you to lift up your souls to our God in whom we trust, as Christ, our Lord, promises to hear us. Lord Jesus, You are the Lord of the Church.*
- C** **Bless the work of our congregation and all who bear Your name.**
- P** *Remember Your mercy, O LORD,*
- C** **and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.**
- P** *Lord Jesus, the government is on Your shoulders.*
- C** **Watch over all in this world. Guide the world’s leaders with Your wisdom, as well as our elected officials—our president, our governor, and our local authorities—that we may live peaceful and quiet lives.**
- P** *Remember Your mercy, O LORD,*
- C** **and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.**
- P** *Lord Jesus, You are our Teacher.*
- C** **Make us to know Your ways, O LORD; teach us Your paths. Lead us in Your truth and teach us, for You are the God of our salvation; for You we wait all the day long.**
- P** *Remember Your mercy, O LORD,*
- C** **and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.**
- P** *Lord Jesus, You are the God of our salvation.*
- C** **Guide us, Lord, in living lives that bear witness to Your truth. Lead us to connect with those who are wandering or who do not know You.**
- P** *Remember Your mercy, O LORD,*
- C** **and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.**
- P** *Lord Jesus, You are the Great Physician.*
- C** **Bind up the brokenhearted, give sight to the blind, make the lame to walk and the deaf to hear.**

- P** *We name before You those who are struggling in body, mind, and spirit and ask You to heal them: [especially...]. Remember Your mercy, O LORD,*
- C** **and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.**
- P** *Into Your hands, Lord Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your great mercy to hear and answer us.* **C** **Amen.**

PREFACE

- 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 Him thanks and praise.**
- P** *It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, Holy Lord, Almighty Father, Everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:*
- P** *Isaiah wrote, "I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of His robe filled the temple. Above Him stood the seraphim. . . . And one called to another and said:*
- C** **'Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!'"**
- P** *When Jesus entered Jerusalem, "those who went before and those who followed were shouting,*
- C** **'Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!'"**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

- P** *Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given your only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. In Your great wisdom, You tested Abraham and provided a ram as a substitute sacrifice. In Your great mercy, You allowed Your Son to be tempted in every way that we are, and as He did not sin, You provided Him as the substitute sacrifice for our sins, including the temptations we so easily fall prey to. We thank You for the forgiveness You freely offer us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever.*
- C** **Amen.**

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

- P** *O Lord Jesus Christ, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:*
- 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.**

PAX DOMINI

P *The peace of the Lord be with you always.*

C Amen.

DISTRIBUTION

CHORAL SELECTION
COMMUNION INTERLUDE

"You're the Word of God the Father"
"I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table"

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P *Let us pray. Lord Jesus, we thank You for pouring out Your body and blood and serving it to us in this Meal in bread and wine. In Your mercy, strengthen and lead us as we face temptations and testing in this life on our way to the life to come, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever.*

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

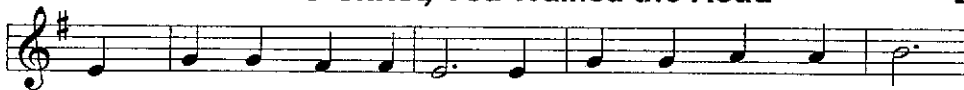
P *The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you His peace.*

C Amen.

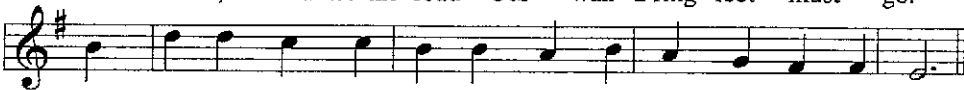
CLOSING HYMN

O Christ, You Walked the Road

LSB 424



1 O Christ, You walked the road Our wan-d'ring feet must go.
2 No bread of earth a-lone Can fill our hun-g'ring hearts.
3 No blind-ing sign we ask, No won-der from a-bove.
4 When lures of eas-y gain With prom-ise bright-ly shine,
5 O Christ, You walked the road Our wan-d'ring feet must go.



You faced with us temp-ta-tion's pow'r And fought our an-cient foe.
Lord, help us seek Your liv-ing Word, The food Your grace im-parts.
Lord, help us place our trust a-lone In Your un-swerv-ing love.
Lord, help us seek Your king-dom first; Our wills with Yours a-lign.
Stay with us through temp-ta-tion's hour To fight our an-cient foe.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

"Sortie"

by George Blake

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~~~~~

WE WISH TO THANK the following for their participation in our worship service this morning:

Altar Guild Marilyn Kettner & Beth Tevah
 Communion Assistant Bill Milliken
 Counter Carl Kurth
 Organist / Music Director Beth Buss
 Special Music Christ Choristers; Beth Buss, Director
 Sanitation CEO (Clean Every Object) Al Axford
 Service Web Recorder Robert Showalter
 Service Live Streaming..... Stuart Ruwet
 Usher Phil Vandre

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