

The Divine Service
The First Sunday in Lent
February 21, 2021



AS WE GATHER

Today we hear of God testing Abraham and of Satan tempting Jesus. James reminds us that God tempts no one. So, how can we know whether God is testing us or Satan is tempting us? James reminds us that "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change" (James 1:17). As we go through life, striving to live out our calling as God's people, we will hit obstacles and face tests to our faith and to how we live that faith. God can work through these tests to draw us closer to Him. On the other hand, Satan wants to lure and entice us away from the path God would have us walk.

Call to Worship / Check In

Words of Welcome / Theme of the Day

Invocation

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the (✠) Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
People: **Amen.**

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.

Confession and Absolution

Pastor: God's Word reminds us that when we were slaves of sin, we were free in regard to righteousness.

People: **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.**

Pastor: For the wages of sin is death,

People: **but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

Pastor: 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.

Pastor: 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.

People: **For Jesus' sake, forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Pastor: 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.

People: **Amen.**

Processional Hymn "In God, My Faithful God"

LSB 745



1 In God, my faith - ful God, I trust when dark my road;
 2 My sins fill me with care, Yet I will not de - spair.
 3 If death my por - tion be, It brings great gain to me;
 4 O Je - sus Christ, my Lord, So meek in deed and word,
 5 "So be it," then, I say With all my heart each day.



Great woes may o - ver - take me, Yet He will not for - sake me.
 I build on Christ, who loves me; From this rock noth - ing moves me.
 It speeds my life's en - deav - or To live with Christ for - ev - er.
 You suf - fered death to save us Be - cause Your love would have us
 Dear Lord, we all a - dore You, We sing for joy be - fore You.



My trou - bles He can al - ter; His hand lets noth - ing fal - ter.
 To Him I will sur - ren - der, To Him, my soul's de - fend - er.
 He gives me joy in sor - row, Come death now or to - mor - row.
 Be heirs of heav'n - ly glad - ness When ends this life of sad - ness.
 Guide us while here we wan - der Un - til we praise You yon - der.

Greeting

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the Promised Land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

The Old Testament

Genesis 22:1-18

Reader: ¹After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here am I." ²He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you." ³So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. ⁴On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. ⁵Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you." ⁶And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. ⁷And Isaac said to his father Abraham, "My father!" And he said, "Here am I, my son." He said, "Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" ⁸Abraham said, "God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So they went both of them together. ⁹When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. ¹⁰Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. ¹¹But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here am I." ¹²He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." ¹³And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴So Abraham called the name of that place, "The LORD will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."¹⁵ And the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven ¹⁶and said, "By myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, ¹⁸and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice."

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

James 1:12-18

Reader: ¹²Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. ¹³Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. ¹⁴But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. ¹⁵Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death. ¹⁶Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. ¹⁷Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse



☐ Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Mark 1:9-15

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens opening and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." ¹²The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³And he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. And he was with the wild animals, and the angels were ministering to him. ¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, ¹⁵and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

4 **People: Praise to You, O Christ.**



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, A sword and shield vic -
 2 No strength of ours can match his might. We would be lost, re -
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land All threat'ning to de -
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, No thanks to foes, who



to - rious; He breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod And wins sal -
 lect - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, Whom God Him -
 vour us, We trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; They can - not
 fear it; For God Him - self fights by our side With weap - ons



va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe Has sworn to
 self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be? The Lord of
 o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage; In bat - tle
 of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house, Goods, hon - or,



work us woe. With craft and dread - ful might He
 hosts is He, Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord, God's
 we'll en - gage. His might is doomed to fail; God's
 child, or spouse, Though life be wrenched a - way, They



arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
 on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
 judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
 can - not win the day. The King - dom's ours for - ev - er!

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Apostles' Creed

People: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life † everlasting. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Psalm 25:4–6, adapted

Pastor: 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.

People: **Bless the work of our congregation and all who bear Your name.**

Pastor: Remember Your mercy, O LORD,

People: **and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.**

Pastor: Lord Jesus, the government is on Your shoulders.

People: **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.**

Pastor: Remember Your mercy, O LORD,

People: **and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.**

Pastor: Lord Jesus, You are our Teacher.

People: **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.**

Pastor: Remember Your mercy, O LORD,

People: **and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.**

Pastor: Lord Jesus, You are the God of our salvation.

People: **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.**

Pastor: Remember Your mercy, O LORD,

People: **and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.**

6 **Pastor:** Lord Jesus, You are the Great Physician.

People: **Bind up the brokenhearted, give sight to the blind, make the lame to walk and the deaf to hear.**

Pastor: We name before You those who are struggling in body, mind, and spirit and ask You to heal them: *[names]*. Remember Your mercy, O LORD,
People: and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

Pastor: Into Your hands, Lord Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your great mercy to hear and answer us.
People: Amen.

Gathering of Gifts

Offertory Prayer

Pastor: Let us pray: Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
People: Amen.

A word about Holy Communion: We welcome to the Lord's Table all baptized Christians who believe in the Real Presence of Christ in this sacrament and believe that in this eating and drinking, we receive the forgiveness of sins and the power to amend our sinful lives. Children who have not yet been instructed may come forward for a blessing, crossing their arms over the chest thus indicating they will not receive the elements.

Service of the Sacrament

Stand as you are able.

Preface

Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

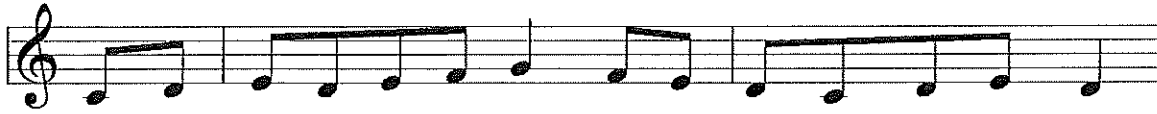
Pastor: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.



Proper Preface

Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

The Lord's Prayer

Pastor: Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:
People: **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.**

Words of Institution

Peace of the Lord

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
People: **And also with you.**

Agnus Dei



C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Distribution Hymn

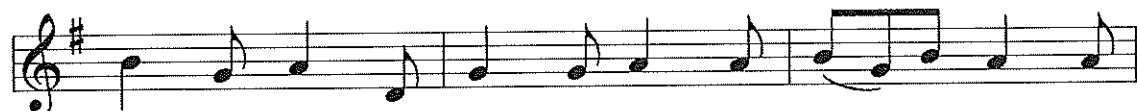
"On Eagles' Wings"

Adult Choir

Post Communion Canticle



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what



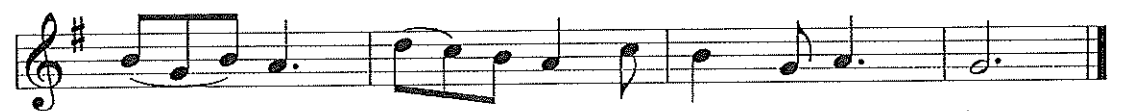
He has done. Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re -



joice and proud - ly bear His name. He re-calls His prom-is-



es and leads His peo - ple forth in joy with shouts of thanks -



giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Post-Communion Collect

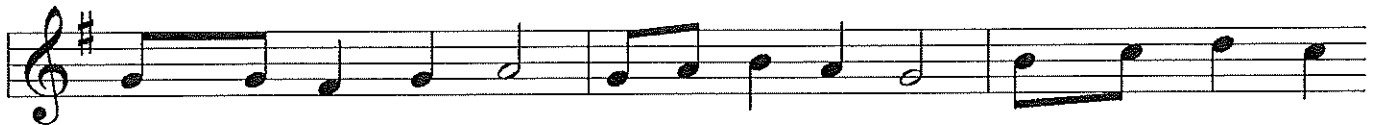
Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Announcements

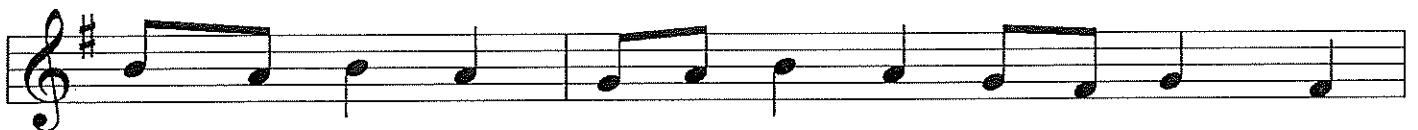
Benediction

Recessional Hymn "Jesus, Lead Thou On"

LSB 718



1 Je - sus, lead Thou on Till our rest is won; And al-though the
2 If the way be drear, If the foe be near, Let not faith-less
3 When we seek re - lief From a long-felt grief, When temp - ta - tions
4 Je - sus, lead Thou on Till our rest is won. Heav'n-ly lead - er,



way be cheer-less, We will fol - low calm and fear - less.
fears o'er - take us; Let not faith and hope for - sake us;
come al - lur - ing, Make us pa - tient and en - dur - ing.
still di - rect us, Still sup - port, con - sole, pro - tect us,



Guide us by Thy hand To our fa - ther - land.
For through man - y a woe To our home we go.
Show us that bright shore Where we weep no more.
Till we safe - ly stand In our fa - ther - land.

Dismissal

Pastor: Lord Jesus you lead us! Now we go as....

People: Disciples making disciples.

Pastor: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Amen!

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

Rev. Scott Henze

Mr. Jeremy Becker, DCE, Director of Youth and Family Ministry

Mrs. Kathy Henze, Preschool Director

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Sunday Worship Services: 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Sunday School for Children and Youth at 9:45 AM via Zoom

Adult Bible Study at 10:00 AM in rooms 202/202