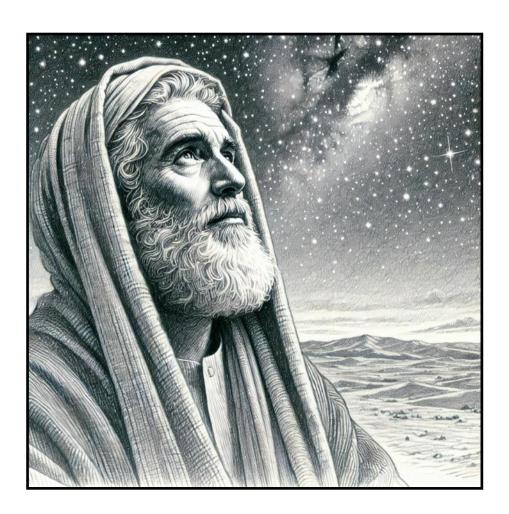
The Lutheran Church of Our Saviour

2415 Chili Avenue, Rochester, NY 14624 www.oursaviourrochester.org

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

Though we sometimes doubt and often resist God's desire to protect and save us, our God persists. In holy baptism, God's people have been called and gathered into a God-initiated relationship that will endure.

Lent provides the church with a time and a tradition in which to seek God's face again. Lent provides another occasion to behold the God of our salvation in the face of the Blessed One who "comes in the name of the Lord."



Sunday, March 16, 2025



Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Processional Hymn

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"



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

All: And also with you.





men.

The Prayer of the Day

Pastor: Let us pray... O Lord God,

All: 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.

(The assembly may be seated)

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

Lector: God promises a childless and doubting Abram that he will have a child, that his descendants will be as numerous as the stars, and that the land of Canaan will be their inheritance. Abram's trust in God is sealed with a covenant-making ceremony, a sign of God's promise.

A reading from the book of Genesis.

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." 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?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." 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." 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." And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

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

As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. 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."

Lector: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 27

Lector: The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

All: When evildoers close in against me to devour my flesh,

They, my foes and my enemies, will stumble and fall.

Lector: Though an army encamp against me, my heart will not fear.

Though war rise up against me, my trust will not be shaken.

All: One thing I ask of the Lord; one thing I seek; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord

all the days of my life; to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek God in the temple.

Lector: For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter, hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary,

and raise me high upon a rock.

All: Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me.

Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing;

I will sing and make music to the Lord.

Lector: Hear my voice, O Lord, when I call; have mercy on me and answer me.

All: My heart speaks your message—| "Seek my face."

Your face, O Lord, I will seek.\

Lector: Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger.

Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of my salvation.

All: Though my father and my mother forsake me,

the Lord will take me in.

Lector: Teach me your way, O Lord; lead me on a level path, because of my oppressors.

All: Subject me not to the will of my foes,

for they rise up against me, false witnesses breathing violence.

Lector: This I believe—that I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living!

All: Wait for the Lord and be strong.

Take heart and wait for the Lord!



Second Reading: Philippians 3:17-4:1

Lector:

Although Paul's devotion to Christ has caused him to be persecuted, he does not regret the course he has taken. Writing from prison, he expresses confidence in a glorious future and encourages other Christians to follow in his footsteps.

A reading from the Paul's letter to the Philippians.

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. 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. Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. 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. 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.

Lector: The word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand if you are able)



The Gospel: Luke 13:31-35

Pastor: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St Luke.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

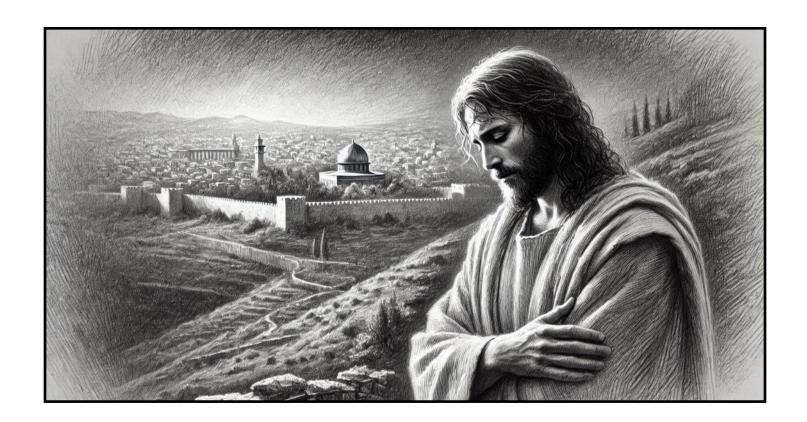
At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to Jesus, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to Pastor:

kill you." 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. 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.' 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! 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.'"

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.



(The assembly may be seated)

The Sermon: Pastor Wilck

Hymn of the Day "Lord, Christ, When First You Came to Earth"



The Nicene Creed

All: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,* who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the Church

Pastor: Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need. (*A brief silence.*) Holy God, you long to gather your church under your wings. Bless the churches of Jerusalem, and all persecuted churches, that your people may take heart and stand firm as they witness and minister in your name. God, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Holy God, you give shelter to living things as numerous as the stars. Strengthen the voice of prophets who call humanity to faithful care for the planet, that they would not be silenced but heeded as your messengers. God, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Holy God, you raised up leaders like Abram, Sarai, and Paul to show your people what it means to rely on your promises. Guide today's leaders to work for justice and safeguard the world for future generations. God, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Holy God, you offer us citizenship in heaven. Unite communities of faith who are divided over earthly things, that following the way of your Son, they may set aside grudges and serve their neighbors with generosity and love. God, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Holy God, you are the stronghold of our life. Care tenderly for those who are ill in body or mind,

and for people living in fear or need Barb Collins, Elaine DeVantier, Jack Erbelding, Jim Flick, Debbie Frey, Meredith Fries, Geraldine Haak, Bonnie Hartfiel, Janie Hopkins, Daryl Jarvis, Don Jermyn, Lynn Johnston, Barb King, Greg Lombard, Jean Lombard, John Macksamie, Linda Palmer, Jackie Potter, Marilies Renke, Edith Russell, Joe Scuderi, and Janine Westa.

May all know they are not alone. God, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Holy God, you are our light and our salvation. We give thanks for the saints who have gone before

us. Help us to trust in you as they did and to live according to their example. God, in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus,

who leads us from death to life.

All: Amen.

Peace

(the people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace and may say, "peace be with you," or similar words.)

Pastor: Peace be with you.

All: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us share with one another a sign of Christ's peace.

(Please be seated)

Offertory Song "I Found the Treasure"

(The offering is collected and brought forward during the singing of the hymn.)

Lord to whom shall we go? You alone speak the words of life. You alone on the earth or in heaven above are my saviour and my Lord.

I found a treasure in a field, that neither time nor death can steal.

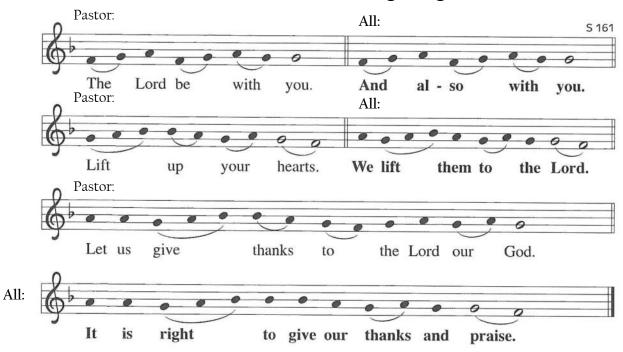
I will sell what I have, give all that I am,
to hold this treasure as my own.

Jesus, Lord of my life, I can ask for nothing more than to see and believe that my life lies in You, in the kingdom of my Lord.

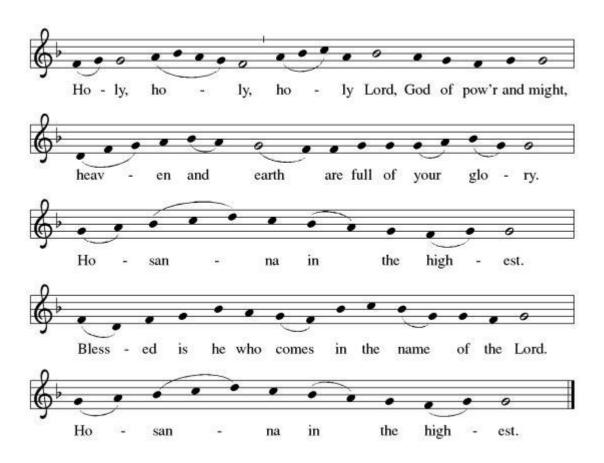
I found a treasure in a field, that neither time nor death can steal.

I will sell what I have, give all that I am,
to hold this treasure as my own.

The Great Thanksgiving



Pastor: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on



Pastor:

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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 for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:



Pastor:

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

All: Come, Holy Spirit.

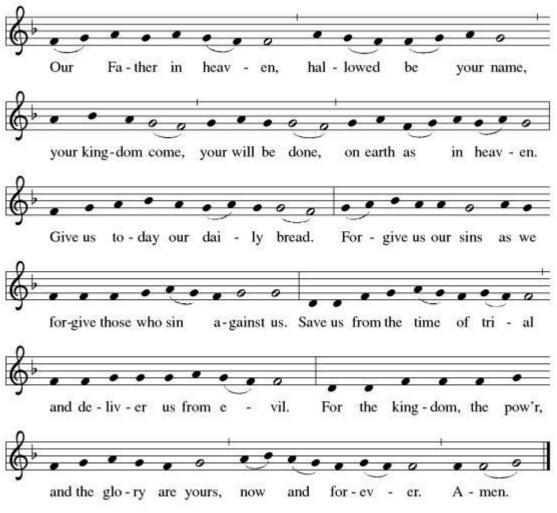
Pastor: Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

All: Come, Holy Spirit.

Pastor: With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.



The Lord's Prayer

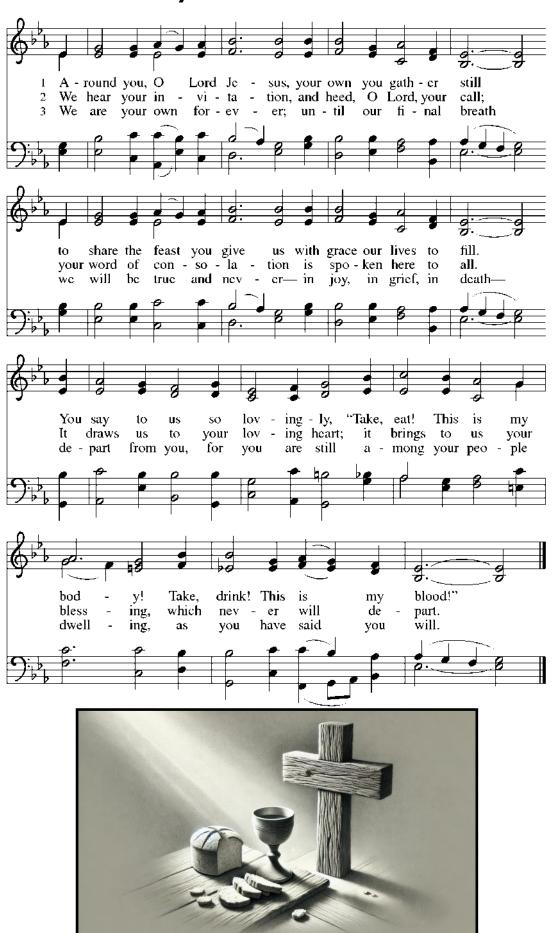




Invitation to Communion

Pastor: Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

Communion Hymn: "Around You, O Lord Jesus"



Communion Choir Anthem: "Now in this Banquet" by Marty Haugen

Refrain: Now in this banquet, Christ is our bread; Here shall all hungers be fed.

Bread that is broken, wine that is poured, Love is the sign of our Lord.

Verses: You who have touched us and graced us with love,

make us your people of goodness and light. (refrain)

Let our hearts burn with the fire of your love; open our eyes to the glory of God. (refrain)

God who makes the blind to see, God who makes the lame to walk, bring us dancing into day, lead your people in your way. (refrain)

Hope for the hopeless, light for the blind,

Strong is your name, Lord, "Gentle," and "Kind." (refrain)

Call us to be your light, call us to be your love,

make us your people again. (refrain)

Come, O Spirit! Renew our hearts!

We shall arise at be children of light. (refrain)

(Please stand if you are able)

Post Communion Blessing

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

All: Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

Pastor: 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.

All: Amen.

Blessing

Pastor: God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit, + bless you now and

forever.

All: Amen.

Sending Song, "God of Grace and God of Glory"



Pastor: Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

All: Amen.