



Alleluia Lutheran Church is a growing multi-ethnic community of Jesus' disciples, gathered into authentic relationships by the Holy Spirit around Word and Sacrament, and sent by the Holy Spirit to transform lives with Christ.

Lent 1 + February 21, 2021



On Ash Wednesday the church began its journey toward baptismal immersion in the death and resurrection of Christ. This year, the Sundays in Lent lead us to focus on five covenants God makes in the Hebrew Scriptures and to use them as lenses through which to view baptism. First Peter connects the way God saved Noah's family in the flood with the way God saves us through the water of baptism. The baptismal covenant is made with us individually, but the new life we are given in baptism is for the sake of the whole world.

transforming lives with Christ!

¡transformando vidas con Cristo!

Jesus is Lord!

¡Jesús es Señor!

God welcomes everyone.

Dios les da la bienvenida a todos.

Everything we have belongs to God.

Todo lo que tenemos pertenece a Dios.

Everyone is on God's team.

Todos están en el equipo de Dios.

Everyone needs a neighbor like us.

Todos necesitan vecinos como nosotros.

WELCOME AND INSTRUCTIONS

The assembly stands.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Holy God, heavenly Father, in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin. Renew us in the gift of baptism. May your holy angels be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG *The Glory of These Forty Days*

1 The glory of these forty days
we celebrate with songs of praise;
for Christ, through whom all things were made,
himself has fasted and has prayed.

2 Alone and fasting Moses saw
the loving God who gave the law;
and to Elijah, fasting, came
the steeds and chariots of flame.

3 So Daniel trained his mystic sight,
delivered from the lions' might;
and John, the Bridegroom's friend, became
the herald of Messiah's name.

4 Then grant, O God, that we may, too,
return in fast and prayer to you.
Our spirits strengthen with your grace,
and give us joy to see your face.

Text: Latin hymn, 11th cent.; tr. Maurice F. Bell, 1862-1947, alt.

Music: ERHALT UNS, HERR, J. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543

Outside USA: Text from *The English Hymnal* © Oxford University Press 1906. All rights reserved.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.

In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

We come before you, O God our Creator, to remember our shortcoming in love and life, needing your forgiveness and your life-giving spirit.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God.

God of our tomorrows, **we confess our sinful condition before you. We desire something better than what we have and what we are. We know ourselves too well and see our human frailty. We know our temporary gods are vulnerable and will crumble under the test. We realize our desires are fickle and backfire on us at the worst times. God of our tomorrows give us your forgiveness. Let us see, today, the promise of something better in our lives.**

Our god is a tomorrow God who knows our past and sees where we are headed. We trust a God who knows our needs and desires. As we confess our sins, God is faithful and will forgive our sin and set us free from what destroys. God always promises us something better, because of the miracle of forgiveness and love. Praise God for the gift of forgiveness in the risen Christ.

The Pastor gives the Absolution. Amen.

The assembly is seated.

SCRIPTURE READING 1 Peter 3:18-22

¹⁸Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

I I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"Come unto me and rest;
lay down, O weary one, lay down
your head upon my breast."
I came to Jesus as I was,
so weary, worn, and sad;
I found in him a resting-place,
and he has made me glad.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808-1889

Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune

GOSPEL Mark 1:9-15

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

¹²And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The assembly is seated.

MESSAGE

The assembly stands to affirm our faith.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I believe in God, the Creator of all life, the source of all love, and the giver of every good and perfect gift. I believe Jesus Christ is God's only Son. Jesus was born of a virgin and lived as no other man has lived. Jesus suffered and died for the sin of the world. I believe Jesus' death and resurrection has given me new life and I will live with him for all eternity. I believe in the Holy Spirit – God with us. I have been called by the Spirit, enlightened by the Spirit, and gifted for service by the Spirit. God is at work today and the Holy Spirit is the means, by which God continues to demonstrate love and concern for me. I believe I can know and experience God in prayer, forgiveness, the Sacraments, and the community of faith. Amen.

The assembly is seated.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

In Jesus your...Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You have made...Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great**

All your paths...Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

In the covenant...Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

In baptism you...Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The assembly stands for the Thanksgiving.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise...**We praise you, O God.**

Generations bless your faithfulness...**We bless you, O God.**

We give you thanks for your dear Son...**We thank you, O God.**

Following the Words of Institution, the Thanksgiving continues...

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end. **Amen.**

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

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, which 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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

The assembly may be seated during Communion, then stands for the Blessing and Sending.

BLESSING

SENDING SONG

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.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903, sts. 1, 3; Gracia Grindal, b. 1943, st. 2; tr. composite

Music: BRED DINA VIDA VINGAR, Swedish folk tune

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God.**

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8444 W Encanto Blvd
Phoenix, AZ 85037
623.849.4327
Office@AlleluiaChurch.org
Visit our website:
www.AlleluiaChurch.org

Week at A Glance

Sun 2/21 *Alleluia Worship@9AM*
Mon 2/22 *Troop 3 Meeting @7PM*
Tue 2/23 *Pack Meeting @7PM*

Scripture Readings & Gospel for next Sunday, February 28

1st Reading Gen 17:1-7, 15-16
Psalm 22:23-31
2nd Reading Rom 4:13-25
Gospel Mark 8:31-38

Check the Alleluia **online calendar** for more scheduled events and group meetings.

Welcome to Alleluia, Pastor Stoney Weiszmann!

Annual Congregational Meeting is Sunday, February 28

Please adhere to Alleluia's re-opening Guidelines for your health and well-being. Maintain physical distancing of 6 feet and wear a mask. Be safe and God Bless!

Weekly Special Offerings—Please bring **canned or boxed food** for St. John's food pantry. Many thanks!

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