

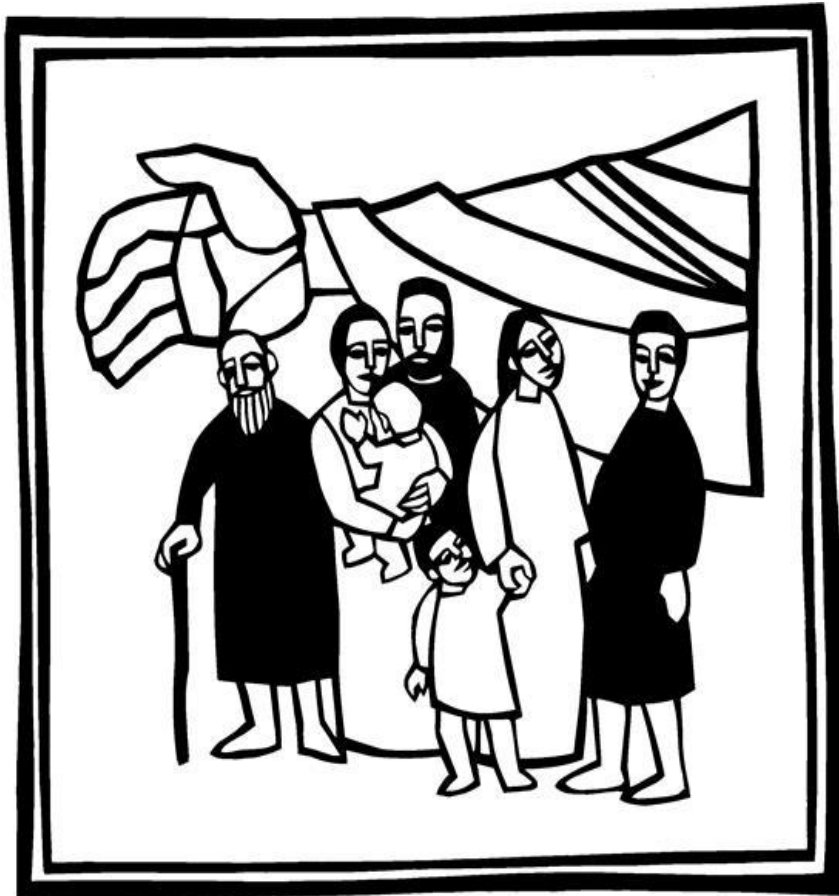
# FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Northwood, Iowa

641-324-2984

[www.flcnorthwood.org](http://www.flcnorthwood.org)

*THAT ALL MAY KNOW THE LOVE OF GOD IN JESUS CHRIST*



**Second Sunday in Lent**

**March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

**9:00 am**

**Pastor Becky Sogge**

**Organist/Pianist:** Brenda Blanshan

**Special Music:** Senior Choir

**Lay Reader:** Doug Krull

**Usher:** Petznick family, Anderson family

**Counters:** David & Sharron Petznick, Steph Perkins

**Sound/Video:** Camden Trenhaile, Mark Willand

**Communion Set-up:** Megan Gentz

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**Prelude:**

-Brenda Blanshan

**Welcome – Announcements**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who forgives all our sin,  
whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's  
abiding love.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Compassionate One, you are slow to anger and abounding in  
steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love  
for the world. We do not show others the tender compassion you  
have shown to us. We do not welcome others with the radical  
hospitality you grant to all people. We oppress others, even though  
you have set us free again and again. We squander the abundant  
gifts of the earth. Transform our lives and guide us again in the  
way of the cross. **Amen.**

Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always stretched open wide to  
welcome the wandering ones home. In ☩ Christ your sins are  
forgiven. You have a place in God's house forever. **Amen.**

**Opening Hymn** ..... *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less* ELW 597

**Greeting** p. 138

**Kyrie** p. 138

**Prayer of the Day**

**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.**

**Children's Sermon**

**Special Music:**

Senior Choir

**First 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**

**Psalm 27**

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?

**When evildoers close in against me to devour my flesh, they, my foes and my enemies, will stumble and fall.**

Though an army encamp against me, my heart will not fear. Though war rise up against me, my trust will not be shaken.

**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.**

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.

**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.**

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

**My heart speaks your message -"Seek my face." Your face, O LORD, I will seek.**

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.

**Though my father and my mother forsake me, the LORD will take me in.**

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

**Subject me not to the will of my foes, for they rise up against me, false witnesses breathing violence.**

This I believe—that I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living!

**Wait for the LORD and be strong. Take heart and wait for the LORD!**

**Second 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.**

The Holy Gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

**Gospel: Luke 13:31-35**

<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 word of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

Pastor Becky

**Hymn of the Day**.....*Thy Holy Wings* WOV 741

**Apostles’ Creed**

**Prayers of Intercession**

God in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

**Sharing of the Peace**

**Offering**

Offering is received in the pews, or electronically through Vanco.

**Offering Prayer**

**Great Thanksgiving**

**Words of Institution**

**Lord’s Prayer**

**Benediction**

**Invitation to Communion**

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

**Lamb of God**

**Blessing and Communion Prayer**

**Benediction**

**Closing Hymn** ..... *God of Grace and God of Glory* ELW 705

**Dismissal**

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you. **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

-Brenda Blanshan

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**Mission Project for March**

**Lutheran World Relief**

**&**

**Lutheran World Hunger**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Welcome, we are glad you are here!*

*Join us for coffee in the Fireside Room after worship.*

**We extend our sympathy and prayers** to Jean Van Veldhuizen and her family and friends at the death of her husband, Bernie. Bernie's funeral will Friday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at 10:30am at FLC, visitation will be Thursday from 5-7pm at Hoff Celebrations, Sites Chapel.

**Congratulations to** Mike Janssen and Dani Gentz on the upcoming baptism of their son, Hunter Aaron Janssen. He will be baptized this afternoon at 4:00pm. His sponsors are Jade Stubble and Mark Willand.

**No Sunday School** today. Class will resume next week, on March 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**You may order an Easter Lily or give an Easter Memorial** in memory of a loved one who has passed or in Honor of someone still living. Please have your orders turned into the office by Friday, March 21<sup>st</sup>. Forms are available in the Narthex or you can find a copy in the newsletter.

**Join Gary Nerlien on Sundays in Lent for conversation about Marks of the Christian: Lenten Journey.** This is a discussion based on the Book of Faith unit for the Lenten Journey (books can be ordered for 15.00, sign up in the narthex). This is a forty-day journey exploring Romans 12. Sunday mornings gatherings will be a time for Gary to lead a discussion about the mutual journey.

**Troy Bachtle has decided to end his position as building manager at First Lutheran effective March 28.** We are beyond grateful for his 13 years of dedication and work beyond the call of duty to First Lutheran. **In place of a fellowship event please join us in a card shower for Troy.** You can drop off the cards or mail them to the church. Thank you, Troy, for all that you have done for First Lutheran and we will see you as soon as you get back from your spring trip. — Pastor Becky

**Lutheran Retirement Home Annual Meeting** will be held on March 27th, 6:00pm, in their chapel.

**Come early – stay late on our Wednesdays in Lent.** Noon worship will be followed by a soup and sandwich lunch with conversation. Evening worship will begin at 6:00pm with Soup and Sandwiches beginning at 5:00pm.

### Weekly Calendar

Sunday, March 16	9:00 am	Service with H.C. No Sunday School
	10:30 am	DCV with H.C.
	3:00 pm	LRH
	6:30 pm	J.H. Youth
Tuesday March 18	6:00 pm	Council Mtng.
	7:00 pm	AA-Al-Anon Mtng
Wednesday, March 19	Noon	Lenten Service
	2:00 pm	Maple Court
	4:00 pm	Confirmation
	5:00 pm	Soup Supper
	6:00 pm	Lenten Service
	7:00 pm	Choir Practice
	7:00 pm	SH Youth
Thursday, March 20	8:30 am	Quilting
	9:00 am	Prayer Group
	6:30 pm	Taekwondo
Sunday, March 23	9:00 am	Service with N.O.
	10:10 am	Sunday School
	10:30 am	DCV
	6:30 pm	J.H. Youth

### Sunday Attendance and Giving

<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Giving</u>
March 9	61	
March 2	84	\$3,740
February 23	86	\$1,335
February 16	107	\$1,560

### Electronic Income

<u>January</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
\$3,167.39	\$3,167.39