

1st Sunday in Lent

February 21, 2021

Lord of Life Lutheran Church, North Pole, AK
Pastor Amanda Kempthorne

(907) 488-6720 www.lordoflifeak.com

Welcome to Worship! Words in **bold** are said together.

Welcome – We will be sharing in Communion, please prepare bread and wine/juice. *Confession and Forgiveness*

L: We gather in the Triune name of God: who gives us their Word, whose promise makes us one people, who seals us with the Spirit. **C: Amen**

(Invitation to confession and moment of silence)

L: God. we confess: we have sinned.

C: We have turned away from you, away from one another, into ourselves. We have allowed our love of you to be overshadowed by the fear of other things: death, suffering, weakness, and want. We do not love one another as you first loved us. Help us. Promise us that even this brokenness can be made well. Amen.

L: Siblings in Christ, listen to this good news: God knew of our brokenness even before we knew it ourselves, and God's promise rests on grace, not our response. Aligned with the ancient promise of a Messiah, Jesus Christ came among us, to live and die and rise again. For his sake, God forgives us all our sins. For his sake, God renews all God's promises. For his sake, God remakes us as the body of Christ for the sake of the world. **C: Amen!**

Gathering Hymn – Bless Now, O God, The Journey #326

- 1. Bless now, O God, the journey that all your people make, the path through noise and silence, the way of give and take. The trail is found in desert and winds the mountain round, then leads beside still waters, the road where faith is found.
- 2. Bless sojourners and pilgrims who share this winding way; your hope burns through the terrors, your love sustains the day. We yearn for holy freedom while often we are bound; together we are seeking the road where faith is found.
- 3. Divine eternal lover, you meet us on the road.
 We wait for lands of promise where milk and honey flow, but waiting not for places, you meet us all around.
 Our covenant is written on roads, as faith is found.

Prayer of the Day

Rainbow God, in the story of the flood we see you turn from black-and-white judgment to the many-hued possibilities between you and your creation. Turn us too, O God. Disarm us through your flowing grace. Submerge us in your saving love. Let our actions drip the gentle rain of your mercy, so that at the last we might hear you name us your people, with whom you are well-pleased. Amen.

Scripture Readings

The holy gospel according to Mark. Glory to you, O Lord.

Mark 1:9-15

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.**

Psalm 25:1-10

¹To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

²O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me.

³Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame; let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

⁴Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths.

⁵Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long.

⁶Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

⁷Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness' sake, O Lord!

⁸Good and upright is the Lord; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

⁹He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way.

¹⁰All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.

1 Peter 3:18-22

¹⁸For Christ 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.

Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

Genesis 9:8-17

⁸Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, ⁹ As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, ¹⁰ and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. ¹¹I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." →

¹²God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: ¹³I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." ¹⁷God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."

Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

Children's Message and Sermon

Pastor Amanda Kempthorne

Hymn of the Day - Thy Holy Wings #613

- 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.

Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of God's People

Each petition ends "God of promise," please respond: hear our prayer.

Offering

- ♦ Mail: Lord of Life Lutheran, 1005 St. Nicholas Drive, North Pole, AK 99705
- ♦ Online: "giving" tab at www.lordoflifeak.com/giving or the QR Code →
- ♦ Phone app: download "Give Plus Church" search by zip 99705, choose Lord of Life, and follow the easy instructions



Offering Hymn – Let All Things Now Living #881

- Let all things now living
 a song of thanksgiving
 to God the creator triumphantly raise,
 who fashioned and made us,
 protected and stayed us,
 who still guides us on to the end of our days.
 God's banners are o'er us,
 God's light goes before us,
 a pillar of fire shining forth in the night.
 Till shadows have vanished
 and darkness is banished,
 as forward we travel from light into light.
- God rules all the forces;
 the stars in their courses
 and sun in its orbit obediently shine;
 The hills and the mountains,
 the rivers and fountains,
 the deeps of the ocean proclaim God divine.
 We too should be voicing
 our love and rejoicing;
 with glad adoration a song let us raise.
 Till all things now living
 unite in thanksgiving:
 "To God in the highest, hosanna and praise!"

Offering Prayer – Faithful God, you walk beside us in desert places, and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven. Receive our response to the gifts you have given us and accompany us with your faithful love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Communion

The Lord be with you, and also with you. Lift up your hearts, we lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

* Eat and drink together at the end of the Eucharistic Prayer.

We pray together with confidence the prayer our Lord Jesus taught us to pray, 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.

Announcements

- "Promise Us" all through Lent: listen to the promises God has made through the Hebrew Scriptures (our Old Testament) on Sunday morning
- Wednesday nights (7pm in-person and on Zoom), we will listen for God's faithfulness in our own stories.
- If you'd like to Serve on Sunday (reading, usher, press a button for power point), please notify the church office: <u>office@lordoflifeak.com</u> or 488-6720

Blessing and Dismissal

L: Held in the promises of God, go to love and serve the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

Special Thanks to...

Pianist, Carol Hughes Reader, Cheryl Park Usher, Marqi Unqrodt Power Point, Kaylee Lindhag Video, James Aleshire and Curt Renner