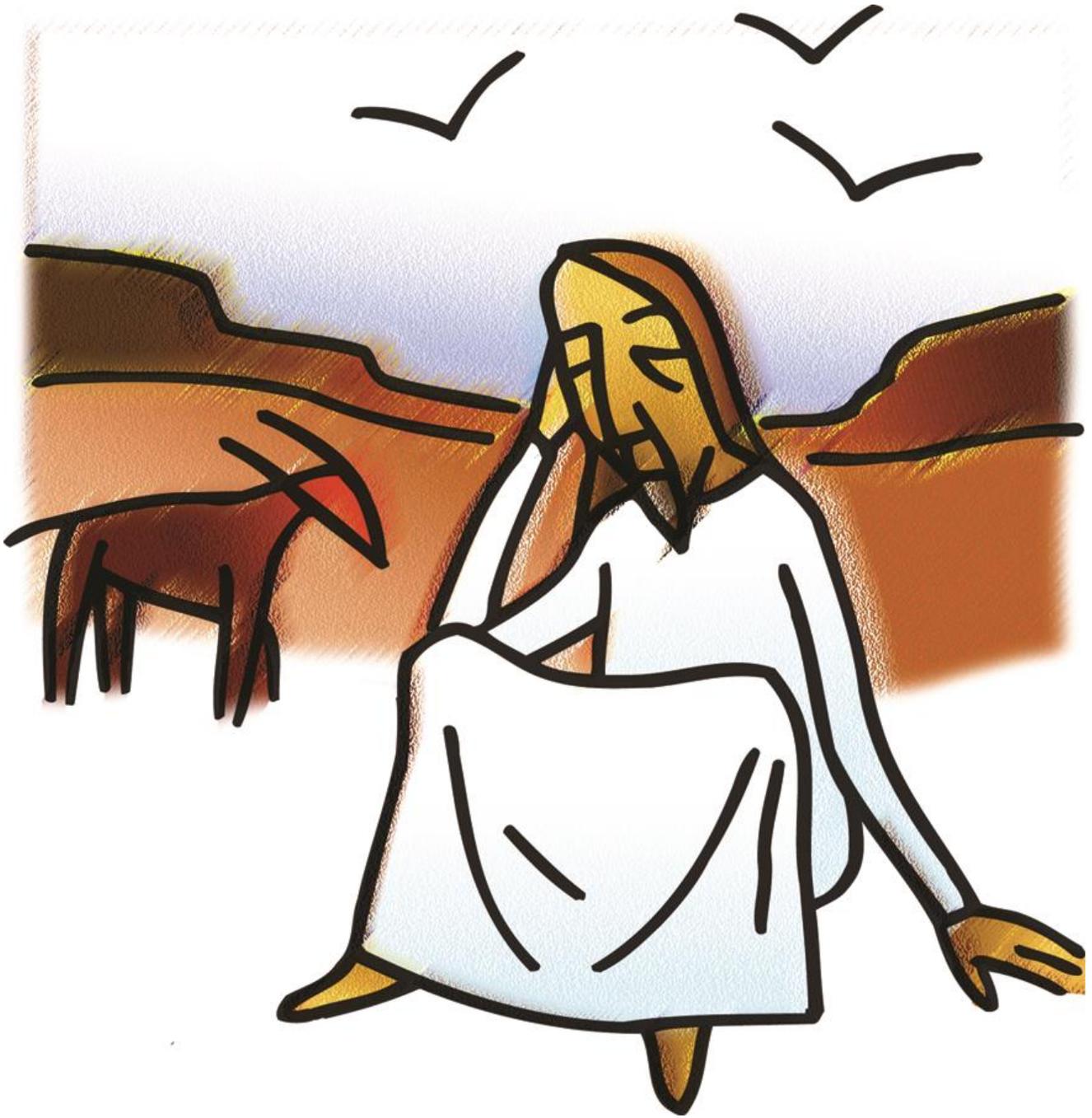


# *First Sunday of Lent*



*First Sunday of Lent*

ELW Service of the Word  
St. Paul Lutheran Church – February 21, 2021 – 10:00 A.M.

**Introduction to the day**

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.

**PRELUDE**

*Fugue on 'B-A-C-H'*  
*Forty Days and Forty Nights*  
*Praeludia*

Robert Schumann  
Healey Willan  
Josef Rheinberger

**WELCOME**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

"If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:8,9

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another.

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. **Amen.**

Almighty God, have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins.  
through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness,  
and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

**GREETING**

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

**And also with you.**

## KYRIE

### Kyrie Eleison

*'La Folia' one of the oldest remembered European musical themes,  
in Finland known as 'Lampaan polska'*

Trad.

D<sup>5</sup>

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ have mer - cy. Lord have

6 Dm A  
mer - cy. Christ have mer - cy. Her - ra ar - mah - da.

11 Dm A Dm A Dm A Dm  
Kris - tus ar - mah - da. Her - ra ar - mah - da. Kris - tus ar - mah - da.

17 F C Dm A  
Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, Chris - te e - lei - son.

21 Dm A Dm A Dm  
Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, Chris - te e - lei - son.

25 F C C<sup>#dim</sup> Dm A  
Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, Chris - te e - lei - son.

29 Dm A B<sup>></sup> Gm A Dm  
Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, Chris - te e - lei - son.

## 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.**

**FIRST READING**

**Genesis 9:8-17**

*Today's reading is the conclusion to the flood story. Because of human sin, God destroys the earth by flood, saving only Noah, his family, and the animals on the ark. Yet divine destruction gives way to divine commitment. As in the first creation, God blesses humanity and establishes a covenant with all creatures.*

<sup>8</sup>God said to Noah and to his sons with him, <sup>9</sup>“As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, <sup>10</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>I 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.” <sup>12</sup>God 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: <sup>13</sup>I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. <sup>14</sup>When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, <sup>15</sup>I 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. <sup>16</sup>When 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.” <sup>17</sup>God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

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



Your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithful-ness.

Psalm 25:10

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year B* © 2008 Augsburg Fortress.

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<sup>1</sup>To | you, O LORD,

I lift | up my soul.

<sup>2</sup>**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be | put to shame,  
nor let my enemies triumph | over me.**

<sup>3</sup>Let none who look to you be | put to shame;  
rather let those be put to shame | who are treacherous.

<sup>4</sup>**Show me your | ways, O LORD,  
and teach | me your paths. R**

<sup>5</sup>Lead me in your | truth and teach me,  
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all | the day long.

<sup>6</sup>**Remember, O LORD, your compas- | sion and love,  
for they are from | everlasting.**

<sup>7</sup>Remember not the sins of my youth and | my transgressions;  
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your good- | ness, O LORD.

<sup>8</sup>**You are gracious and up- | right, O LORD;  
therefore you teach sinners | in your way. R**

<sup>9</sup>You lead the low- | ly in justice  
and teach the low- | ly your way.

<sup>10</sup>All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast | love and faithfulness  
to those who keep your covenant and your | testimonies. **R**

## SECOND READING

### 1 Peter 3:18-22

*As God acted through Christ's suffering and death to bring us to God, so God acts through baptism to save us from a sinful existence. This spiritual cleansing marks our new life in Christ.*

<sup>18</sup>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, <sup>19</sup>in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup>who 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. <sup>21</sup>And 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, <sup>22</sup>who 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.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

## THE GOSPEL

## Mark 1:9-15

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

*The Spirit that comes upon Jesus at his baptism sustains him when he is tested by Satan so that he might proclaim the good news of God's reign.*

<sup>9</sup>In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup>And 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. <sup>11</sup>And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

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

<sup>14</sup>Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, <sup>15</sup>and 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.**

## SERMON

**The Reverend Luther Zeigler**

## Thy Holy Wings

1 Thy ho - ly wings, O Sav - ior, spread gent - ly o - ver me,  
2 Oh, let me nes - tle near thee, with - in thy down - y breast  
3 Oh, wash me in the wa - ters of No - ah's cleans - ing flood.

and let me rest se - cure - ly through good and ill in thee.  
where I will find sweet com - fort and peace with - in thy nest.  
Give me a will - ing spir - it, a heart both clean and good.

Oh, be my strength and por - tion, my rock and hid - ing place,  
Oh, close thy wings a - round me and keep me safe - ly there,  
Oh, take in - to thy keep - ing thy chil - dren great and small,

and let my ev - 'ry mo - ment be lived with - in thy grace,  
for I am but a new - born and need thy ten - der care.  
and while we sweet - ly slum - ber, en - fold us one and all.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903, sts. 1, 3; Gracia Grindal, b. 1943, st. 2; tr. composite  
Music: BRED DENA VIDA VINGAR, Swedish folk tune; arr. hymnal version  
Text © 1983 Gracia Grindal, Selah Publishing Co., Inc., agent, www.selahpub.com  
Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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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 INTERCESSION

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

### *A Brief Silence*

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit including those on our prayer list and those whose names we offer now...; give them courage and hope in their troubles and bring them the joy of your salvation. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We commend to your mercy all who have died, especially Pr. Tim Roser, the husband of Pr. Anne Roser and Myrna Wilczek, mother of Mark Wilczek. That your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

### **THE EXCHANGE OF PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

### **THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD**

#### THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

Gracious God, who has named and claimed us, calling us your beloved children, you know the secrets of our hearts.  
When we sin and stray from your paths,  
you astound us with your saving grace.  
For this Word of life,  
we give you thanks.

Loving Jesus, living Word,  
in you the Kingdom of God has come near; through you all that was lost has been found.  
Help us to boldly follow wherever you may lead, trusting your promise that we need not fear,  
for you are with us.  
For this Word of life,  
we give you thanks.

Holy Spirit, the mystery in which we dwell, into our scarcity, your abundance flows.  
Enliven all communities with your good news. Guide us to love and serve Jesus,  
giving ourselves away for the sake of the world.  
For this Word of life,  
we give you thanks.

All glory to you, holy God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

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.

## BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you,  
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy,  
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. **Amen.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Eternal Lord of Love, Behold Your Church

1 E - ter - nal Lord of love, be - hold your church  
 2 So dai - ly dy - ing to the way of self,  
 3 If dead in you, so in you we a - rise,

walk - ing once more the pil - grim way of Lent,  
 so dai - ly liv - ing in your way of love,  
 you the first - born of all the faith - ful dead;

led by your cloud by day, by night your fire,  
 we walk the road, Lord Je - sus, that you trod,  
 and as through ston - y ground the green shoots break,

moved by your love and toward your pres - ence bent;  
 know - ing our - selves bap - tized in - to your death;  
 glo - rious in spring - time dress of leaf and flow'r,

far off yet here— the goal of all de - sire,  
 so we are dead and live with you in God,  
 so in - to life and glo - ry shall we wake,

Txt: Thomas H. Cain, 1931–3000

Music: OLD 124111, Trouve quatre parties de David, Geneva, 1531

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

**POSTLUDE**

*Prelude on 'Old 124th'*

Healey Willan

**WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY:**

Presiding and Preaching: The Rev. Luther Zeigler

Reader: Dylan Maki

Cantor: Carolyn Stowell

A/V Support: Anne Wheeler and Dylan Maki

Musician and Choir Director: Theodore Stoddard

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**NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

St. Paul Lutheran Church, 1123 Washington St., Gloucester, MA 01930

978-283-6550, office@stpaulcapeann.org

**JOIN US FOR COFFEE HOUR RIGHT AFTER THE SERVICE**

A short, social gathering will be held on Zoom immediately after the service. If you want to participate, just stay signed on to Zoom and Luther will join just as soon as the postlude concludes. Our hope is that this will be a way to interact on Sunday mornings beyond our shared worship. It may not be a real coffee hour, but we'll make it fun!

**ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES AT NOON AND 7:30 P.M. NEXT WEEK!**

Even though we won't be able to gather the way we usually do on Ash Wednesday, and cannot for public health reasons observe the imposition of ashes, Pastor Luther will be leading two Ash Wednesday services by Zoom on February 17, one at Noon and one at 7:30 p.m. The Zoom links, along with the bulletin, were emailed out Wednesday morning. These will be ecumenical services that will include congregants from both the Lutheran and Episcopal communities that Pastor Luther serves.

**WHAT IS OUR BELOVED COMMUNITY DOING FOR LENT?**

For each of the 40 Days of Lent, we will be sharing a spiritual micro-practice to help us stay connected in prayer and practice while we are still unable to physically gather. The micro-practices will be posted on Facebook and Instagram, and/or emailed to anyone who would like to participate. The micro-practices are also available in a booklet form for those who prefer that option.

**WHAT'S A MICRO-PRACTICE?**

A micro-practice is a small spiritual practice. Instead of engaging the same spiritual practice throughout Lent, the micro-practices are meant to give a sample across many different styles of practices. Some are active, some are reflective. They will make you think, take action, connect with God and others, and live into your Christian life.

Email Robin at familyministry@stpaulcapeann.org or call the office at 978-283-6550 if you would like a booklet mailed to you or daily offerings emailed to you. Some booklets have been placed in the bin outside of the pre-school door for pick-up as well.

## **LEAD GARDEN STEWARD NEEDED!**

Kathy is stepping down as our lead garden steward.

Would you like to step in and add to the evolution of beauty in our church gardens?

Your role:

- Plan, plant and tend the gardens Spring through Fall (planting, dead-heading, weeding . . .)
- Trim small trees as needed, edge gardens
- Ask for helpers for specific seasonal jobs (especially weeding and watering)
- Schedule and ask for help for bi-annual cleanups (always plenty of helpers when needed)

Please contact the office if you have questions or to volunteer for this role!

## **OFFICE HOURS FOR PASTOR LUTHER ZEIGLER**

Pastor Luther will be in the church offices every Wednesday from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m., and it available for individual visits from 10 a.m. to Noon and from 2-3 p.m. He is happy to meet inside or outside, using all necessary precautions regarding distancing and wearing masks. Please call him (617-999-6419) or email him ([luther.zeigler@gmail.com](mailto:luther.zeigler@gmail.com)) if you would like to make an appointment. He is also always available for pastoral emergencies.

## **PRAYER LISTS**

**Please keep these people in your prayers for healing throughout the week:** Heidi H., Pastor O., Roger K., Dan W., Caitlin G., Elaine V., Andrew G., Hope L., Amy P., Alane B., Daneen R., Sonny M., Mitch O., Tasha R., Willy G., Jim W., Brian D., Ron M., Judith O., Rachael and Tyler, Verna

**Remembrance:** Please keep Pr. Tim Roser in your prayers. He passed away on Monday, February 15, 2021 in the company of his family, including his wife Pr. Anne Roser. May he rest in peace and may all who loved him also find peace.

Please keep Mark Wilczek ad Judith Oleson in your prayers as they mourn the passing of Mark's mother, Myrna Wilczek. May she rest in peace and may all who loved her find peace.

**Armed services:** Josh Coakley, Stephanie Norberg, Brian Misuraca, Christian DiGregorio, John Korpi III, Danny Hill, Rachel Misuraca Lewin, Zach Hafey, Liam Carney, and Tony Favalora

**Please see the FYI emails for more information**