

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

February 17 & 18, 2024

INTRODUCTION

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



- 1 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.
 2 "When you heard the won-der of the Word I was there to cheer you on;
 3 "In the mid-dle a - ges of your life, not too old, no lon - ger young,



I re - joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold.
 you were raised to praise the liv - ing Lord, to whom you now be - long.
 I'll be there to guide you through the night, com-plete what I've be - gun.



I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;
 If you find some-one to share your time and you join your hearts as one,
 When the eve - ning gent - ly clos - es in and you shut your wea - ry eyes,



in a blaze of light you wan-dered off to find where de-mons dwell."
 I'll be there to make your vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun."
 I'll be there as I have al - ways been, with just one more sur - prise."



- 4 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.



I re - joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold."

Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937
 Music: John C. Ylvisaker
 Text and music © 1985 John C. Ylvisaker

WATERLIFE:
 9796 D.

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*** GREETING**

P Christ has called us to this place,
gathered one and all by his Holy Spirit

C **We are followers of Christ
who seek to hear the Word,
live the Word,
and share the Word.**

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

C **And also with you.**

*** KYRIE**

Assistant: In peace, in peace,

Assistant: *Congregation:*
Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy,
Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

*Assistant: For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world,
for the unity of all... (Refrain)*

*Assistant: For your people here, who have come to give you praise,
for the strength to live your Word... (Refrain)*

Congregation:
Help, save and de - fend us, O God. A - - - men.

*** SALUTATION**

Presider: *Congregation:*
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

*** PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P 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.

C **Amen.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

5:30 Praise Choir

8:30 Chancel Choir

11:00 Choir on Fire

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

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.

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, ¹⁰and 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."

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.

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.

* GOSPEL VERSE

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,
grant us peace, grant us peace.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 1st chapter.

C Speak, Lord, your servants are listening!

GOSPEL: Mark 1:9-15

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.

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."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Pastor Jon

Leader or All



1 Be - fore I can re - mem - ber the cov - e - nant was sealed
 2 A sim - ple sweet be - gin - ning, a lov - ing place to start:
 3 My hope and ex - pec - ta - tion for true com - mun - i - ty



with Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it, in wa - ter was re - vealed.
 Christ be - gan the sing - ing that swells with - in my heart.
 be - gins with res - ur - rec - tion, his death and life in me.



The cleans - ing was for cer - tain, with wa - ter and the Word;
 His love be - came my call - ing, his life my min - is - try.
 His Spir - it fills the Bod - y: his church through wa - ter sees



gen - tle words were spo - ken, in heav - en they were heard.
 His name is my a - dop - tion in - to his fam - i - ly.
 prom - ise for to - mor - row, his wa - ter - life in me.

Refrain
All

They were sing - ing wa - ter - life, be - gin - ning life, wa - ter - life



all my life, wa - ter - life, Spir - it life, wa - ter - life.

Text: Handt Hanson, b. 1950

Music: Handt Hanson

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SPIRIT LIFE

7 6 7 6 D and refrain

* THE APOSTLES' CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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**

P Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of
 creation, and a world in need.

A brief silence.

P Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through
 Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C Amen.

THE OFFERING



*** THE OFFERTORY**

"Accept, O Lord, the Gifts We Bring"

ELW #691

1 Ac - cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to place up - on your ta - ble.
 2 The vines were plant - ed, seeds were sown. They grew in your good plea - sure.
 3 Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares we lift in prayer be - fore you.

We do not wor - ship as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble.
 What once was com - mon, dail - y food be - comes a ho - ly trea - sure.
 Lord, by your grace now come to us, as hum - bly we a - dore you.

Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer, b. 1957
 Music: English folk tune; arr. Alice Parker, b. 1925
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 Arr. © 1995 Augsburg Fortress

BARBARA ALLEN
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Welcome to the Feast of Holy Communion.(Gluten free wafers available, ask the Pastors)
We believe that in the sacrament Holy Communion, the crucified and risen Christ is present, giving his true body and blood as food and drink. This real presence is a mystery. All who trust in Jesus and call upon his name as Lord are invited to receive Holy Communion. Guests who are with us, who regularly commune in their home congregations, are also welcome. Children who have not yet been instructed in receiving the sacrament are encouraged to come forward to receive a blessing.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P 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 testament in my blood,
shed for you and for all people
for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

* THE 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**

* INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P The gifts of God for the people of God.

C I am not worthy to receive you, Lord; but only say the Word and I shall be healed.

* LAMB OF GOD



Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.



Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.



Save us as you prom-ised; we will trust your word.



Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"Thy Holy Wings"

ELW #613



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

BRED DINA VIDA VINGAR

Music: Swedish folk tune; arr. hymnal version

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“All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly”

ELW #461

1 All who hun - ger, gath - er glad - ly; ho - ly man - na is our bread.
 2 All who hun - ger, nev - er strang - ers; seek - er, be a wel - come guest.
 3 All who hun - ger, sing to - geth - er, Je - sus Christ is liv - ing bread.

Come from wil - der - ness and wan - d'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.
 Come from rest - less - ness and roam - ing. Here in joy we keep the feast.
 Come from lone - li - ness and long - ing. Here in peace we have been fed.

You that yearn for days of full-ness, all a-round us is our food.
 We that once were lost and scat-tered in com-mu-nion's love have stood.
 Blest are those who from this ta-ble live their days in grat-i-tude.

Taste and see the grace e-ter-nal. Taste and see that God is good.
 Taste and see the grace e-ter-nal. Taste and see that God is good.
 Taste and see the grace e-ter-nal. Taste and see that God is good.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993
 Music: W. Moore, *Columbian Harmony*, 1825; arr. hymnal version
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HOLY MANNA
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P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
 C Amen.

*** PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

P Generous God,
 at this table we have tasted your grace.
 As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread,
 now make us one in Christ,
 the Bread of life.
 C Amen.

*** BLESSING**

P The Lord bless you and keep you,
 the Lord make His face shine upon you
 and be gracious to you;
 the Lord look upon you with favor
 and give you peace.
 C Amen

1 Guide me ev - er, great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain where the heal - ing
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land. I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me
 wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me
 fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me

with your pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
 all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer, strong de - liv - 'rer,
 safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs and prais - es, songs and prais - es

feed me now and ev - er - more, ev - er - more, feed me now and ev - er - more.
 shield me with your might - y arm, might - y arm, shield me with your might - y arm.
 I will raise for - ev - er - more, ev - er - more, I will raise for - ev - er - more.

Text: William Williams, 1717-1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams,
 1722-1796, alt.
 Music: John Hughes, 1873-1932

CWM RHONDDA
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* DISMISSAL

P Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.