

First Sunday in Lent  
February 21, 2021

Faith Lutheran Church

Online

Georgetown, TX 78628

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flcms.org

*(The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod)*

**WELCOME**

**PRESERVICE BELL CHOIR MUSIC**

“Lift High the Cross,” arranged by J. Wayne Kerr based on the hymn tune “Crucifer.”  
*Published by Concordia Publishing House, copyright 1989.*

**INVOCATION:**

*Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

**People: Amen.**

**CALL TO WORSHIP:** *Psalm 25:1-2,4-5*

*Pastor: To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul; in You I trust, O my God.*

**People: Do not let me be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

*Pastor: Make me to know Your ways, O Lord; teach me Your paths.*

**People: Lead me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation;  
for You I wait all the day long.**

*Pastor: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;*

**People: As it was in the beginning is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION:**

*Pastor: Beloved, if we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not  
in us.*

**People: But if we confess our sins, God, Who is faithful and just, will forgive our  
sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.*

**People: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean.  
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 justly**

deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

*Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

**People: Amen.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

*Pastor: The Lord be with you.*

**People: And also with you.**

*Pastor: Let us pray.*

**People: O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

### **OPENING HYMN:** “I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus” (LSB, #729 v 1-2, 5-6)

I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus,  
Trusting only Thee;  
Trusting Thee for full salvation,  
Great and free.

I am trusting Thee for pardon;  
At Thy feet I bow,  
For Thy grace and tender mercy  
Trusting now.

I am trusting Thee for power;  
Thine can never fail.  
Words which Thou Thyself shalt give me  
Must prevail.

I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus;

Never let me fall.  
I am trusting Thee forever  
And for all.

*Text: Public domain*

**THE OLD TESTAMENT READING:** *Genesis 22:1–18*

After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here am I.” He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.” So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you.” And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. And Isaac said to his father Abraham, “My father!” And he said, “Here am I, my son.” He said, “Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” Abraham said, “God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So they went both of them together.

When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here am I.” He said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me.” And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called the name of that place, “The Lord will provide”; as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided.”

And the angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven and said, “By Myself I have sworn, declares the Lord, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice.”

*Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.*

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE READING:** *James 1:12–18*

Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love Him. Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am being tempted by God,” for God cannot be tempted with evil, and He Himself tempts no one. But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with Whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures.

*Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.*

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*Lector: Please rise, as you are able.*

*Lector: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter:*

**People: Glory to You, O Lord!**

**GOSPEL READING:** *Mark 1:9–15*

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And when He came up out of the water, immediately He saw the heavens opening and the Spirit descending on Him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, “You are My beloved Son; with You I am well pleased.”

The Spirit immediately drove Him out into the wilderness. And He was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. And He was with the wild animals, and the angels were ministering to Him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”

*Lector: This is the Gospel of our Lord.*

**People: Praise to You, O Christ!**

*Lector: We confess together our Christian faith, using the Apostles' Creed*

**CONFESSION OF FAITH:** The Apostles' Creed

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

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen!**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

The Children's Message will return to its regularly scheduled place when we are able to increase the length of the worship service. Until then, it is available online at [www.flcms.org/index.php/media/sermons](http://www.flcms.org/index.php/media/sermons).

**HYMN:** "In the Cross of Christ I Glory" (LSB, #427)

In the cross of Christ I glory,  
Tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time.  
All the light of sacred story  
Gathers round its head sublime.

When the woes of life o'ertake me,  
Hopes deceive, and fears annoy,  
Never shall the cross forsake me;  
Lo, it glows with peace and joy.

When the sun of bliss is beaming  
Light and love upon my way,  
From the cross the radiance streaming  
Adds more luster to the day.

Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure  
By the cross are sanctified;  
Peace is there that knows no measure,  
Joys that through all time abide.

*Text: Public domain*

**SERMON:** “Real Sacrifice” (*Psalm 25*)

**OFFERTORY:**

While the Coronavirus may have changed the way we come through the front doors of church, thanks be to God it has not prevented us from coming to Church! Please consider, as you are able, returning thanks and giving today at [www.flcms.org/index.php/give](http://www.flcms.org/index.php/give).

**OFFERTORY HANDBELL ANTHEM:** “Stand Up and Bless the Lord”

Hymn text (stanzas 1 and 4):

Stand up, and bless the Lord, You people of His choice;  
Stand up, and bless the Lord your God With heart and soul and voice.  
God is our strength and song, And His salvation ours;  
Then be His love in Christ proclaimed With all our ransomed pow’rs.

*Arranged by Bill Ingram based on the hymn tune St. Michael (James Montgomery, 1824). Published by Lorenz Publishing Company, copyright 2010.*

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

**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.**

**BENEDICTION:** (*Numbers 6:24-26*)

*Pastor:* The Lord bless you and keep you;  
the Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you;  
the Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

**People: Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN:** “Come to Calvary’s Holy Mountain” (LSB, #435)

Come to Calv’ry’s holy mountain,  
Sinners, ruined by the fall;  
Here a pure and healing fountain  
Flows for you, for me, for all,  
In a full, perpetual tide,  
Opened when our Savior died.

Come in poverty and meanness,  
Come defiled, without, within;  
From infection and uncleanness,  
From the leprosy of sin,  
Wash your robes and make them white;  
Ye shall walk with God in light.

Come in sorrow and contrition,  
Wounded, impotent, and blind;  
Here the guilty, free remission,  
Here the troubled, peace may find.  
Health this fountain will restore;  
They that drink shall thirst no more.

They that drink shall live forever;  
'Tis a soul-renewing flood.  
God is faithful; God will never  
Break His covenant of blood,  
Signed when our Redeemer died,  
Sealed when He was glorified.

*Text: Public domain*

**DISMISSAL:**

Please be seated  
and kindly wait for an usher to dismiss your row.

+ † +

Go in peace and serve the Lord!

**In Christian Service:**

All disciples of the Lord Jesus

*with*

Proclaimer – Rev. Bill Crowe

Liturgist – Rev. Walt Pohland

Organist: Karen Darby

Lay Readers:

9:30 Reader – Melinda Graf

11:00 Reader – La Nell Hill

Children's Chapel:

DCE Jonathan Loesch, DCE Austin Angerman