

Full to the Brim } *Under God's wing*

March 13, 2022 + Second Sunday in Lent

*An asterisk * invites you to stand in body or in spirit, and you are invited to read responses found in **bold**.
You are welcome to sing during worship if you are vaccinated!
Welcome to First Lutheran Church!*

Gathering in God's Presence

Prelude — “When Twilight Comes” (*refer to the text for hymn no. 566*)

Setting by Wayne Kerr

Words of Welcome

***Gathering Hymn** — no. 735

“Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth”

***Confession and Forgiveness**

Family of faith, we come to confession not to wallow in our own guilt. Instead, we come to confession because we know that change starts with being honest. So in a desire to grow and change, let us pray to a God who loves us like a mother hen. Let us confess our sins together. . .

When the Pharisees tried to stop Jesus, Jesus said, “I will keep on.”

I will keep on healing.

I will keep on teaching.

I will keep on preaching.

I will keep on flipping the tables of injustice.

I will keep on treating every person like a child of God.

I will keep on believing that this world can change.

I will keep on and keep on and keep on until God's promised day.

Forgive us, God, for the times when we stop.

Holy One,

we confess that we have wandered far from you:

we have not trusted your promises,

we have ignored your prophets in our own day,

we have squandered our inheritance of grace,

we have failed to recognize you in our midst.

Have mercy on us! Forgive us and turn us again to you.

**Teach us to follow in your ways, assure us again of your love,
and help us to love our neighbor. Amen.**

Family of faith, because Jesus' love just keeps going, we can trust that that love and grace exists for us. So rest in this good news: in ☩ Jesus' name, your sins are forgiven. No matter what we do wrong or what we leave undone, we are under God's wing. **We are loved, held, and forgiven. Thanks be to God for a love like that! Amen.**

***Kyrie** — pg. 156, front of hymnal, from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, Setting Five

***Lenten Litany**

If God is a hen,
we are under God's wing.
If God is a table,
we each have a seat.
If God is a house,
we are safe from the storm.
If God is a party,
we're invited to dance.
If God is a melody,
our names are the lyrics.
If this is God's house,
then all are welcomed. All are loved. All belong.
Let us worship Holy God.

***Prayer of the Day**

May God be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

Holy God, this life of ours is full to the brim. Our days are overflowing with emails and to-do lists, schedules and notifications, assignments and deadlines. We wake up feeling behind, we go to sleep worrying about tomorrow, and we know—there has to be more than this. So we pray: bend down and show us the way. Leave breadcrumbs in the street. Point us toward awe and wonder. Guide us to intimacy and trust. Gift us with laughter that will make us cry and hope that will make us feel alive. We want a new kind of life full to the brim. Show us the way. We are listening for your cues. In Jesus' name, gratefully we pray, **amen.**

Hearing & Responding to Scripture

A Reading from the book of Genesis — Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

¹After 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." ²But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." ⁴But 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." ⁵He 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." ⁶And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

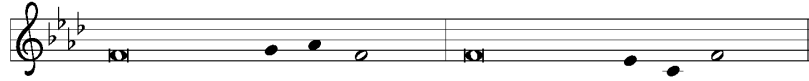
⁷Then he said to him, "I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." ⁸But he said, "O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" ⁹He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." ¹⁰He 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. ¹¹And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

¹²As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

17When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. 18On 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.”

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 27 — *sung responsively by verse*



Refrain (hymn no. 262): **Wait for the Lord, whose day is near. Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!**

1The 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?

2When evildoers close in against me to de- | vour my flesh,

they, my foes and my enemies, will stum- | ble and fall.

3Though an army encamp against me, my heart | will not fear.

Though war rise up against me, my trust will | not be shaken.

4One 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. R

5For in the day of trouble God will | give me shelter,

hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high up- | on a rock.

6Even 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.

7Hear my voice, O Lord, | when I call; have mercy on me and | answer me.

8My heart speaks your message— | “Seek my face.”

Your face, O Lord, | I will seek. R

9Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your ser- | vant in anger.

Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of | my salvation.

10Though my father and my moth- | er forsake me,

the Lord will | take me in.

11Teach me your | way, O Lord; lead me on a level path, because of | my oppressors.

12Subject me not to the will | of my foes, for they rise up against me, false witnesses | breathing violence.

13This I believe—that I will see the goodness | of the Lord

in the land | of the living!

14Wait for the Lord| and be strong.

Take heart and wait | for the Lord! R

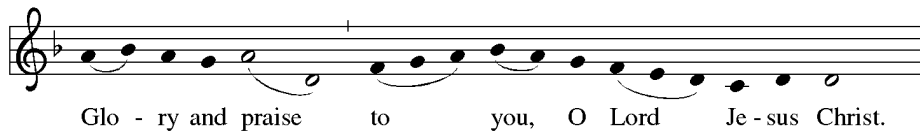
A Reading from Paul’s Letter to the Philippians — Philippians 3:17–4:1

17Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. 18For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. 19Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. 20But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. 21He 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. 4:1Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people. **Thanks be to God.**

***Gospel Acclamation** — from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, Setting Five

“Glory and Praise”



***Gospel** — Luke 13:31-35

The Gospel of Luke, the 13th chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

31At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus,] “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” 32He 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. 33Yet 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.’ 34Jerusalem, 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! 35See, 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 Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon — “Under God’s Wing”

Pastor Chris Culuris

***Hymn** —

“Lord, We Confess We Turn Away”
Sung to the tune ROCKINGHAM OLD

1. Lord, we confess we turn away
The very ones we need today.
God's prophets speak out loud and clear,
Yet prophets still aren't welcomed here.

3. Lord, call us out and draw us in
when we would rather side with sin —
Let the prophetic things you say
still challenge how we live this day.

2. You grieved for old Jerusalem
For you were like a mother hen
Who brought her brood beneath her wings —
While they were drawn to other things.

4. May we who listen to your voice,
Be still, be wise, then make a choice.
You call us to a life that's new;
Lord, may we now return to you.

***Affirmation of Faith** — Apostles’ 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 power of 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

Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

You gather the church into a community of mercy and grace. Unify Christians around the globe in efforts to proclaim good news even in the face of opposition and to protect those whose lives are imperiled by the gospel. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You create the entire universe and call it good. Hinder those who would cause further destruction to our planet's fragile ecosystems, and augment the calls of those who advocate for thoughtful stewardship of the earth's resources. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You hear us when we cry to you. Attend to those expecting a child, and console those who have experienced miscarriage. Comfort veterans enduring post-traumatic stress. Shield those endangered by domestic violence. Uphold those who are ill or grieving. Help us to stand firmly with the people of Ukraine and their supporters, that there may be a peaceful end to this conflict. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You kindle faith that moves us into action. Guide children and adults preparing for baptism, confirmation, and First Communion. Empower Sunday school teachers, confirmation leaders, and parents who share their faith with younger generations. Give us all a renewed sense of vocation. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You welcome us into your heavenly realm. We give thanks for those whose labors on earth are ended and who now rest with you. On the final day, gather all of us, with them, in your loving arms. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Offering

Music at the Offering

"Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth"

Setting by David Cherwien

Lauren Russell, viola

Sharing the Meal

***The Great Thanksgiving** — pg. 161, front of hymnal, from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, Setting Five

***Sanctus** — pg. 162, front of hymnal, from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, Setting Five

*Words of Institution and Prayers

God who knows us, we are amazed by you. Your love never runs out, your hope never runs dry, your joy never gives up. We wish that we could be more like you in that way. In a world that loves scarcity, your abundance is shocking. In a world that knows fear, your joy is compelling. In a world that knows anxiety, your peace is captivating. We long for these things.

Show us a life of expansive faith. Show us a life of overflowing joy. Show us a life of absorbing beauty. Show us a life of engrossing purpose. Show us a life that is as honest, and rich, and meaningful as the one Jesus led.

And until that expansive and holy day, we will continue to gather at this Table. Until that day we will continue to look for you in our midst.

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 covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

God, we are amazed by you. Your love never runs out, so bring that never-ending love here.
Together we pray: **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

***Invitation to the Table**

Jesus has always been one to invite.
He said, “Drop your nets and follow me.”
He said, “Let the little children come.”
He said, “Stand up from your mat, you are healed.”
Jesus has always been one to invite, and that has not changed.

So friends, you are invited to this Table. Each and every one of us—with our doubts, our fears, our scars, our joy, our dreams, our hopes, our questions—we are invited to God’s table.
And here we will be met. Here we will be fed. Here we are given a taste of an expansive life that is full to the brim with love, overflowing with joy.

So come. Not because you must, but because you can.
Come. You are invited. This Table is for you.

Distribution of Communion

Lamb of God — pg. 164, front of hymnal, from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, Setting Five

Communion Blessing & Prayer

Departing to Serve God’s World

Announcements

***Sending Hymn** — no. 831, Stanzas 1-4

“The God of Abraham Praise”

*Blessing & Dismissal

As you leave this place, may you be awestruck by the beauty of this world.

May you laugh, and may it be contagious.

May you overflow with love for those around you.

May you be effusive with hope and quick to point out joy.

And in all of your living, and breathing, and being, may you find yourself full to the brim with God's Holy Spirit, and may it change your life. In the name of the Lover, the Beloved, and Love itself—

go in peace, full to the brim. **Thanks be to God.**

*Postlude — “The God of Abraham Praise”

Setting by Robert Powell

Lauren Russell, viola

Acknowledgements

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Worship Assistants

Pastor: Chris Culuris

Director of Music: Emily Bruflat

Audio/Video: Malcolm McHugh, Sam Sybnski

Acolytes: Ivy McHugh, Paul Szybnski, Natalie Twait

Greeter/Reader: Tobias Twait

Ushers: Brett Peterson, Bill Kautt, Lewis Nowell, Henry Timm

Musicians: Laruen Russell

Announcements

- You are invited to our Lenten midweek worship services, which are Wednesdays from 7:00-7:30 p.m. They fit into our Lenten “Full to the Brim” series. Many of our youth will be involved in the leadership for these services!
- Thank you to the Cemetery Committee for sponsoring this morning's First Forum! Our next forum will be a presentation about safety from Saint Peter Police Officer John Hughes on March 27th at 9:00 a.m.
- Lutheran Disaster Response is accompanying companion churches in Eastern Europe to respond to the crisis in Ukraine. To support this response, you can make a donation <https://www.elca.org/our-work/relief-and-development/lutheran-disaster-response>
- We are collecting food and common household items from now until Sunday, April 10. During this campaign, all donations are matched, and the proceeds go to the St. Peter Area Food Shelf!
 - On March 20, you have the opportunity to help us “Pack the Pews.” Let's make use of our pent-up generosity and fill the two back pews in the sanctuary with food donations next Sunday!
 - Checks can also be made to *First Lutheran* with “Food Shelf” in the memo line.

Prayers

- We lift up prayers for those on our long-term list: Tom and Deb Johnson, Tom Michels, Abigail Christenson, Betty Gustafson, Elgene Lund, Chuck Petry, Bob Cady, Joan Williams, Myrene Bunge, Glen Stryker, Erika Schuldt, Gloria Kane, Gwen Powell, Nancy Maag, and Urusla McRostie.
- We pray for the families of those who have recently died: Martin Larson, Dale Haack.
- We pray for all those families continuing to adjust to the loss of loved ones.

St. Peter Food Shelf Donation Needs

Dry goods

- Cooking oil
- Baking ingredients
 - Flour
 - Baking powder/soda
 - Sugar
- Bullions
- Dry beans and lentils
- Rice
- Cereals
- Pancake mix
- Pancake syrup
- Dried Nuts and Fruits
- Peanut butter/nut butter
- Crackers, Snack items
- Raman/Instant Noodles

Canned goods

- Meats
- Fruits
- Jellies and preserves
- Soups and broths
- Pasta Sauces

Personal Care/Hygiene Products

- Toilet paper, paper towels
- Kleenex
- Bar soap, Body wash
- Shampoos and conditioners
- Deodorant
- Pads and Tampons
- Laundry and dish soaps
- Toothbrushes, toothpaste
- Masks and sanitizers

Baby care

- Diapers sizes 4-6
- Baby wipes
- Baby formula
- Baby soaps/shampoos/lotions

Other:

- Paper towels
- Eating utensils
- Disposable plates and utensils
- Aluminum foil

Items that we cannot accept:

- *Food with broken seals/partially used food items*
- *Heavily damaged cans/packages*
- *Past-date/expired foods*
- *Unlabeled foods*
- *Food with no expiration/best by date*
- *Home processed foods*

