



God will provide  
for himself  
the lamb.

Genesis 22:8

**February 21, 2021**  
**First Sunday in Lent**  
**9:30 AM Worship**

First Lutheran Church  
709 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. – P.O. Box 218  
Washburn, North Dakota 58577  
[www.flcwashburn.com](http://www.flcwashburn.com)

## PRELUDE AND BELLS

### AS WE GATHER

*(Today we hear of God testing Abraham and of Satan tempting Jesus. James reminds us that God tempts no one. So, how can we know whether God is testing us or Satan is tempting us? James reminds us that “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” (James 1:17). As we go through life, striving to live out our calling as God’s people, we will hit obstacles and face tests to our faith and to how we live that faith. God can work through these tests to draw us closer to Him. On the other hand, Satan wants to lure and entice us away from the path God would have us walk.)*

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

### OPENING SENTENCES

*Mark 14:38; 1 Peter 5:8; 1 Corinthians 10:12–13*

P: Jesus said, “Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

**C: Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.**

P: Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man.

**C: God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

*Romans 6:20, 22–23, adapted; Mark 1:15*

P: God's Word reminds us that when we were slaves of sin, we were free in regard to righteousness.

**C: But now that we have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit we get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life.**

P: For the wages of sin is death,

**C: but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

P: Let us confess our sins to God, who has brought us out of slavery and promises to lead us to the promised land of heaven.

*A moment for silent confession.*

P: Heavenly Father, we know we are blessed when we remain steadfast under trial, yet we fall prey to the devil's schemes and give in to temptation. We are lured and enticed by our own evil desires—desires that contradict your good and gracious will.

**C: For Jesus' sake, forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

P: As Jesus began His ministry, He said, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel." As you have repented of your sins, believe these words as if Jesus was standing here speaking them to you: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

INTROIT      *Psalm 91:9–13; antiphon: vv. 15–16*

P: When he calls to Me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him. With long life I will satisfy him and show him My salvation.

**C: Because you have made the LORD your dwelling place—the Most High, who is my refuge—no evil shall be allowed to befall you, no plague come near your tent.**

P: For He will command His angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.

**C: On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.**

P: You will tread on the lion and the adder; the young lion and the serpent you will trample underfoot.

**C: When he calls to Me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him. With long life I will satisfy him and show him My salvation.**

HYMN ..... “Lord Jesus, Think on Me”

## Lord Jesus, Think on Me

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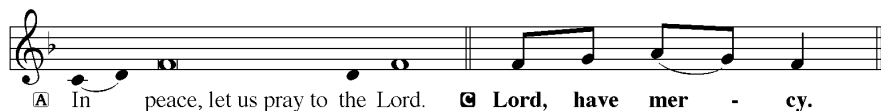
1 Lord Je - sus, think on me And purge a - way my sin;  
2 Lord Je - sus, think on me, By anx - ious thoughts op - pressed;  
3 Lord Je - sus, think on me, Nor let me go a - stray;  
4 Lord Je - sus, think on me, That, when the flood is past,

From self - ish pas - sions set me free And make me pure with - in.  
Let me your lov - ing ser - vant be And taste your prom - ised rest.  
Through dark - ness and per - plex - i - ty Point out your cho - sen way.  
I may the e - ter - nal bright - ness see And share your joy at last.

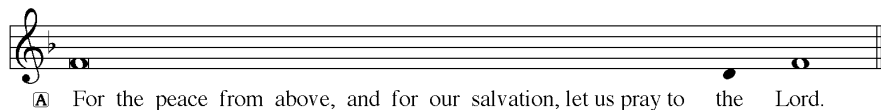
# KYRIE

**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.**



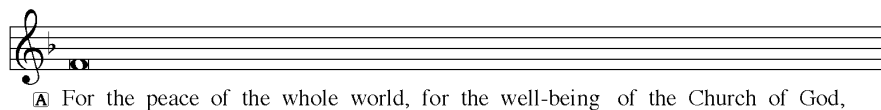
**A** In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



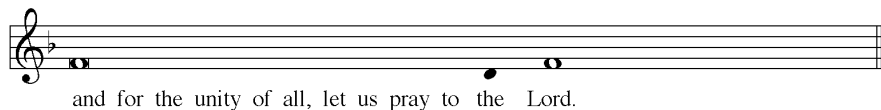
**A** For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



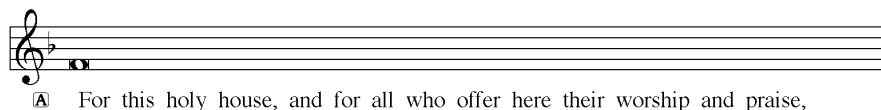
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



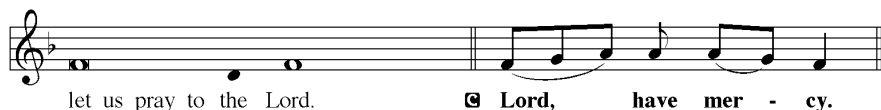
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

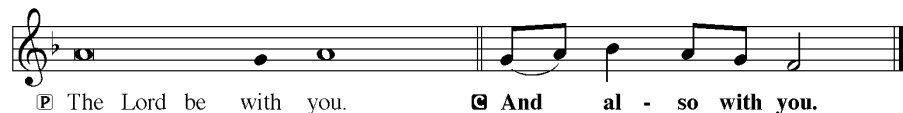


let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra-cious Lord. **C** A - men

# SALUTATION



**P** The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

P: Let us pray:

**C: Holy God, through the covenant of baptism you give us new life for the sake of the world. Sustain us by your Holy Spirit, strengthen us in times of temptation and protect us from all evil; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.**

FIRST READING .....Genesis 22:1-18

*(How awful it must have been for Abraham to take his son up the mountain, believing he was to die — at his father's hand. Yet, is this not what we do as we take our own children “up the mountain” to God? When we walk them up the aisle to the font, we usher them to their death. In the waters of baptism, our children are united in the death of Jesus. In this death there is eternal life, because in baptism, one not only unites in Christ's death but also joins in his resurrection (Rom 6:5).)*

<sup>1</sup>After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” <sup>2</sup>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.” <sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. <sup>5</sup>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.” <sup>6</sup>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. <sup>7</sup>And Isaac said to his father Abraham, “My father!” And he said, “Here I am, my son.” He said, “Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” <sup>8</sup>Abraham said, “God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So they went both of them together. <sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. <sup>11</sup>But the angel of the Lord called to him

from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." <sup>12</sup>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." <sup>13</sup>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. <sup>14</sup>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." <sup>15</sup>And the angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven <sup>16</sup>and said, "By myself I have sworn, declares the Lord, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, <sup>17</sup>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, <sup>18</sup>and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice."

SPECIAL MUSIC ..... Choir  
"How Great Thou Art/Majesty"

PSALM.....Psalm 25:1-10  
*(The impulse is to fix things ourselves. After all, who else will do it for us? Indeed, who else but the Lord? We may place our trust in him. If we are patient, learning his ways and walking in his truth as we wait for him, we will not be put to shame. Our souls are in his care; offer them up to the Lord. Give yourselves wholly over to God and receive all the Lord's blessings of unfaltering love and faithful mercy.)*

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

<sup>2</sup> **O my God, in you I trust;  
let me not be put to shame;  
let not my enemies exult over me.**

<sup>3</sup> Indeed, none who wait for you shall be put to shame;  
they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

<sup>4</sup> **Make me to know your ways, O Lord;  
teach me your paths.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

SECOND READING .....James 1:12-18  
*(Just as God created the lights in the beginning (Gen 1:3-5) and all the lights in the heavens (Gen 1:14-19), he continues to give us good gifts. There is no “shifting shadow” with God, no variation in his goodness. As he created light in the darkness, so he produces in our darkness the light of his own Son. He is in the process of restoring creation, and he has begun with us, recreating us in baptism by the word of truth.)*

**12**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. **13**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.

**14**But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. **15**Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death. **16**Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. **17**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. **18**Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.



# RETURN TO THE LORD

Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in  
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

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

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL READING ..... Mark 1:9-15  
*“Thy kingdom come!” The kingdom of God is ushered in upon earth, even as it is in heaven, through Jesus. This is clearly seen in Jesus' baptism and the word of God that enjoined it: “You are my beloved Son!” We, too, when we are baptized, put on Christ (Gal 3:27), are clothed with his righteousness, are covered by the Word of God — and please the Father.)*

<sup>9</sup>In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup>And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. <sup>11</sup>And a voice came from heaven, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.” <sup>12</sup>The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. <sup>13</sup>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. <sup>14</sup>Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, <sup>15</sup>and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



☩ Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON ..... Pastor Chuck Mann

HYMN ..... "In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

# In the Cross of Christ I Glory

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1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, Tow'r - ing  
 2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, Hopes de -  
 3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing, Light and  
 4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, By the

o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of  
 ceive, and fears an - noy, Nev - er shall the  
 love up - on my way, From the cross the  
 cross are sanc - ti - fied; Peace is there that

sa - cred sto - ry Gath - ers round its head sub - lime.  
 cross for - sake me; Lo, it glows with peace and joy.  
 ra - diance stream - ing Adds more lus - ter to the day.  
 knows no mea - sure, Joys that through all time a - bid.

Text: John Bowring, 1792-1872  
Tune: Ithamar Conkey, 1815-1867

## 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 THE CHURCH

### SHARING OF THE PEACE

*(Place your hand over your heart and turn to your neighbor sharing the peace in this manner. No hand shaking.)*

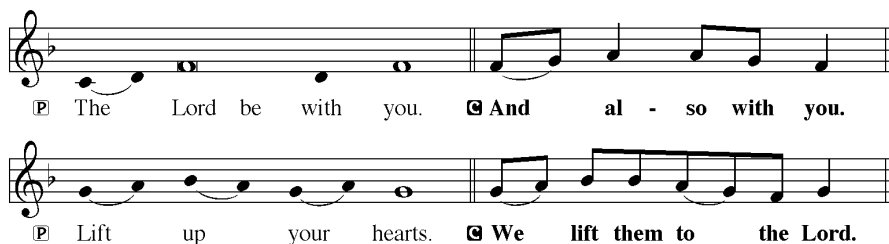
**P:** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C:** **And also with you.**

### OFFERTORY PRAYER (Said in unison)

**God of love, you have provided for our every need from your abundant bounty. Grant us grateful hearts that we may give generously to those in need and thereby show your love to the world around us. Amen.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Great Thanksgiving is presented with two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the lyrics: "The Lord be with you. And also with you." The second staff contains the lyrics: "Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord." The music consists of simple, rhythmic patterns with some ties and slurs, suitable for a congregational setting.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:

Heav-en and earth are full of your glo- ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.

Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

### 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, for ever and ever. Amen**

### COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

(Single Aisle Station – one side at a time, social distancing)

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C: Amen**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Blessed is the one 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. (James 1:12)

Go now, in the name of God the Father, the Son, + and the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

BENEDICTION *Psalm 32:10*

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace

*Numbers 6:24–26*

In the name of the Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

**HYMN ..... On next page**

**“My Faith Looks Up to Thee”**

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

**C: Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

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## My Faith Looks Up to Thee

1 My faith looks up to thee, Thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
 2 May thy rich grace im - part Strength to my faint - ing heart,  
 3 While life's dark maze I tread And griefs a - round me spread,  
 4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, When death's cold, sul - len stream

Sav - ior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, Take all my  
 My zeal in - spire; As thou hast died for me, Oh, may my  
 Be thou my guide; Bid dark - ness turn to day, Wipe sor - row's  
 Shall o'er me roll; Blest Sav - ior, then, in love Fear and dis -

guilt a - way, Oh, let me from this day Be whol - ly thine!  
 love to thee Pure, warm, and change - less be, A liv - ing fire!  
 tears a - way, Nor let me ev - er stray From thee a - side.  
 trust re - move; Oh, bear me safe a - bove, A ran - somed soul!

Text: Ray Palmer, 1808-1887  
 Tune: Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

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Today's Worship Leaders & Volunteers – Thank You!

PASTOR ..... Pastor Chuck Mann  
ACOLYTE ..... Aaron Blumhagen  
COMMUNION ASSISTANT ..... Mike Nelson  
READER..... Kellie Sheldon  
ORGANIST ..... LeAnn Richard  
USHERS/GREETERS ..... Sarah Kraft & Emily Retterath  
ALTAR GUILD ..... Peggy Moran & Donna Kroll  
SERVICE GROUP COORDINATORS ..... Evangelism Committee

**Our Mission**

“Working hand in hand to know Christ and make Christ known through Worship, Christian Education, Evangelism, Fellowship, Caring Ministries, and Service.”

**Welcome to all who have come to worship.**

Greeting, in the name of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit on this first Sunday in Lent. Let us walk with Jesus and one another these sacred 40 days.

**Visitors**

We welcome all visitors to First Lutheran today.

**Holy Communion**

*All are welcome to receive the Lord's Body and Blood who are baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and believe that Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, is truly present in, with and under the forms of bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. Receive the bread into your open, flat palm. Ask if you wish to receive grape juice or a gluten free wafer. Alert an usher if you, or someone you know, needs communion served in the pew.*

**Nursery**

The nursery, located beside the narthex, is available for use for any parent feeling the need to use it during worship services with their child.

**Thank you for your giving**

Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, Attendance – 115

Facebook Online Viewing - 145

General Fund & Plate Giving - \$6,639.00

## **Prayer Requests**

Cindy Thiel, George Sheldon, Jason Sauer – Son of Wes Sauer, Haley Beaudry – Brother to Mac Beaudry, Kathy Solomonson, Mary Ann Beeks, Josiah Johnson – Brother to Steph Mann, Greg Merrill – Uncle to Steph Mann, Wayne & Cindy Vorland – Parents of Aaron Vorland, Shauntaye & Oaklynn Kopecky – Kurlle family member, Mary Schulz, Ross Lorentzen, Gwen DeMontigny, Kayla Boger – Family member of Steve & Peggy Wollmuth, Keith Hammerbeck – Family friend of the Kugler's, Deborah Davenport – Mother of Laura Gardner's friend, Virgie Emineth, Cindy Delmonico – Mother to Melissa Kugler, Glenn Weist, Ruby from Pine Ridge, Claire Boucher – Friends of Aaron & Lexie Solomonson newborn, Jamie Baumann, James Tolbert, Brad Taylor – Friend of Pastor Chuck, Taylor Gardner, Harold Holtz, Elaine Renfrow – Mother to Lynette Sondrol, Sandi Femling – Cousin to Melanie Beckman, Laren Holznagel, Harlow Tatum – Daughter to Brea (Gutknecht) Tatum, Melisa Chrest, Ruth Lund – Mother to Doddie Kuntz, Derek Laning, Jacklyne Carlson, John Krebsbach – Brother to Peggy Wollmuth, Arlo Omoth – Brother to Jeneen Loe, Bob Miller, Rodney Jaeger

## **Pastoral Care**

**Please call Pastor Chuck** if you or a loved one are in the hospital or know you will be going to the hospital. The church does not usually get informed of your stay by any of the hospitals even if you are registered under our congregation's name. We want to make sure you get pastoral care. Thank you!

## **Men, Women, Teenagers Needed**

Looking for men, women and teenagers to be part of the Lenten Drama series on Wednesday nights! Save Pastor Chuck the headache of finding people and volunteer yourself now by talking to Pastor Chuck. Don't make us go looking for you!

## **Our Daily Bread**

The March/April/May edition of *Our Daily Bread* is in the magazine racks in the narthex. Pick up a copy today to use with your daily devotions.

## **Missing**

A Super Valu bag in a box with a string of red lights and a 6" star is missing. It was put in the narthex about a month ago and is now gone. It did not make it to the person it was to go to. If you took the box or know where it is, please bring it back and let Jeannette know in the church office so it can get to the rightful person. No questions asked!



## **Lenten Meals & Worship**

Join us this Wednesday, February 24<sup>th</sup> for our Lenten meal. FLCW will be serving soup and bread from 5:30 – 6:45 pm. Free-will offering. Money will be used for camperships for First Lutheran youth going to Camp of the Cross this summer. Join us after the meal for our Lenten Worship drama series, “How to be a Disciple: The Reflections of a Contemporary Twelve” at 7:00 pm.

## **Quilting**

Women! Join us for quilting this Thursday & Friday, February 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00 am – noon. If you don't know how to quilt, come join us and learn! Also, great fellowship!

## **First Communion**

A letter has gone out in the mail to all 5<sup>th</sup> graders and parents regarding First Communion classes. If you do not receive one, or are older than 5<sup>th</sup> grade and not already confirmed or taking communion but would like to, please talk to Pastor Chuck or Jeannette. Please reply to sign up for the classes by February 26<sup>th</sup> to insure we have books for all.

## **Looking for Volunteers**

We are looking for volunteers for the following:

1. People to serve on the Endowment Committee. If interested please talk to Matt Gardner.
2. Anyone interested in serving on the Evangelism Committee. If interested contact Melanie Beckman.

## **Kitchen Items**

Please check the church kitchen and see if you are missing any of your kitchen items from home. Some of the bowls, pots, pans, etc. have been there for over a year. If you took food to the Mann household, your dishes were brought to the church for you to pick up. Items not claimed by March 1<sup>st</sup> will be given a chance for a free-will offering or given to the McLean County Resource Center.

## **CCM Annual Meeting Representatives Needed**

CCM ANNUAL Meeting will be held February 28, 2021, at 2:00 pm at St. Paul Lutheran Church at Garrison in person, with the option of attending virtually via ZOOM. Attendees need to register ahead of time to keep organization in voting with in person and virtual attendance. Each congregation is allowed 3 representatives and their rostered leader for voting purposes. Please let Peggy Moran or the church office know if you could represent First Lutheran for this meeting.

## **The Marriage Course**

The Marriage Course began this past Saturday and goes through April 3, from 6-8 pm (depending on discussion time) each Saturday. This is a free 7-week course. There will be a mixture of short films and study journals that couples will work through together privately at their tables. This is open to couples married at least 1 year and up to 70, 80 or however many years you are married. If you are interested in investing in your marriage and would like to sign-up for the course, please email Pastor Chuck ([pastorchuck@westriv.com](mailto:pastorchuck@westriv.com)) or Jeannette ([flc@westriv.com](mailto:flc@westriv.com)). There is still room for more couples. Questions or concerns, please contact Pastor Chuck by email or cell (701-891-9443). More information can be found in the February newsletter.

## **Thank You**

THANKS to the FLC Church Council, FLCW, Evangelism Committee, Men's Bible Study group, and an anonymous party, all registration fees will be covered for FLC campers to Camp of the Cross Ministries this summer. There is an early bird discount for registering with CCM by April 1, 2021. Please let Peggy Moran know by May 24, 2021, if you have campers registered so the funds can be sent to the camp before the camp season begins.

## **LWR Personal Care Kits**

LWR is in need of personal care kits. If you would like to purchase any of the items listed below to help with a kit, please bring the items to the church and put downstairs in the quilt room. They will be sending these kits out in May.

- One light-weight bath-size towel (between 20" x 40" & 52" x 27"), dark color recommended
- 2 or 3 bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz., any brand, in original wrapping
- One adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging
- One sturdy comb, remove packaging
- One metal nail clipper, remove packaging

## **Thrivent Choice Dollar Cards**

If you are a Thrivent member and able to get cards to help out with fundraisers, etc., FLCW could use your help with your card(s) to help purchase items for the LWR kits. If you would like to use your card to help them out, please talk to Marlys Knell.

## **Thrivent Choice Dollars**

Thrivent members that have Thrivent Choice Dollars to direct to an organization, you have until March 31<sup>st</sup> to do that before you lose last year's dollars.

## Prayer Shawl Ministry

- ⇒ **Class:** We are looking at how many would be interested in a class to be scheduled in the future in learning how to knit or crochet. Please contact Jeannette and specify which you would like to learn and stay tuned for time/date TBA.
- ⇒ **Distribution of Shawls:** There will be a sheet located on top of the prayer shawl box. It will have a place for the *name of the person taking the shawl, number of shawls being taken and the recipient*. You do not need to fill out all of it, please at least fill out the number so we know how many shawls we have been able to provide. If you would like us to add the recipient to the prayer chain, please include the name.

### THIS WEEK AT FIRST LUTHERAN

TODAY	8:30 AM	Bible Study Led by Cathy Sheldon
	9:30 AM	Worship w/Holy Communion
	10:45 AM	Sunday School
		Bible Study Led by Alexis Solomonson
	7:00 PM	AA Meeting AI-Anon Meeting
TUES.	8:00 AM	Men's Bible Study
	10:00 AM	Mommy's Group
WED.	9:30 AM	Friendship Bible Study
	5:30 – 6:45 PM	Lenten Meal Served by FLCW
	6:15 PM	Bell Choir
	7:00 PM	Lenten Worship Service
	7:45 PM	FLY
	7:45 PM	Choir
THURS.	9:00 AM	Quilting
FRI.	9:00 AM	Quilting
SAT.	6:00 PM	Marriage Course
SUNDAY	8:30 AM	Bible Study Led by Cathy Sheldon
	9:30 AM	Worship w/Holy Baptism
	10:45 AM	Sunday School
		Bible Study Led by Alexis Solomonson
	7:00 PM	AA Meeting
	7:00 PM	AI-Anon Meeting

# Listening for the Promise

## WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL

February 21, 2021 – First Sunday in Lent

*“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 that I shall show you.” – Genesis: 22:2*

This text for today is disturbing, especially this awful command from God to Abraham. “Take your son,” seems like an unbelievable command for any God of love to give. Even Martin Luther’s wife, Katie, once said to her husband regarding this passage, “Martin, I don’t believe God would ask anyone to sacrifice his only son.”

We heard earlier how Isaac had been a gift from God to Abraham and Sarah in their old age. We heard how God had given them a promise of many descendants, and through those descendants all of the families of the earth will be blessed.” Isaac had been born to start the line of those descendants, and now God is saying kill him. WHY? Sometimes God accomplishes his works through human faith. The question is, does Abraham have that faith? Having been given Isaac, which does Abraham trust more? The GIFT or the GIVER?

In each of the Gospels, we also have the picture of a Father and Son, going to a place where the Son will be sacrificed. Jesus trusts his Father with his life, just as Isaac trusted Abraham. No words are exchanged on this journey, only a brief conversation in Gethsemane, “My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me. Yet not my will, but yours be done.” And the answer Jesus received was the same one Abraham implied to Isaac. The sacrifice must be carried out. So, Jesus, too, must choose between disobedience and this obedience. This obedience...in which Jesus also carries the wood up the hill to the place of offering. This obedience...in which Jesus also is laid upon the wood. This obedience...in which hammers are raised over the nails of Jesus’ cross just as the knife was raised above Isaac’s chest.

THIS is where the stories become very different, because there is no substitute ram to rescue Jesus from this terrible fate. But it’s not the end of the story, because God didn’t forsake Jesus any more than He forsook Abraham and Isaac. In this obedience, there is provision. In this obedience, we share Christ’s victory over the grave. This obedience...in which the broken are made whole, and in which all curses are swallowed up in blessing. This obedience is God’s loving gift for you and for all people. Amen.