***SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT***

“With Purpose, on Purpose”

February 28, 2021

***AS WE GATHER***

Our Lord’s whole purpose in becoming one of us in human history was to die for us. As a result, He purposely marched toward Jerusalem and the certain death on the cross He knew would come. For Him, the Scriptures were not forecasts of what might happen but God’s immutable will for Him. He had to suffer and die so that we could be saved. And the eternal life He thereby won for us gives us purpose in daily living. We can willingly deny ourselves in service to others; we can take up our cross, knowing that our life with Him will never end.

***✠ PREPARATION ✠***

***HYMN*** “What Wondrous Love Is This” [*LSB* 543]

***INVOCATION***

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

**People: Amen.**

***CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION***

*Pastor:* God established an everlasting covenant with Abraham,

**People: but our faith has waxed and waned. O Lord, forgive our forgetfulness of Your unchanging grace.**

*Pastor:* David wrote, “All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord,”

**People: but we have failed to remind one another of God’s mercy and love. O Lord, forgive our hesitancy to share the news of Your gracious presence.**

*Pastor:* Paul wrote that because Christ died for the ungodly, we are justified by His blood,

**People: but we have tried to hide our sinfulness. O Lord, forgive our blindness to the necessary sacrifice of our Savior.**

*Pastor:* God sent His Son into the world with one purpose: to save us from the wrath of God. “For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. As *an ordained* servant of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen. Thanks be to God.**

***✠ WORD ✠***

***INTROIT*** *Psalm 115:11–13; antiphon: Psalm 25:6*

*Pastor:* Remember Your mercy, O Lord, and Your steadfast love,  
for they have been from of old.  
You who fear the Lord, trust in the Lord!  
He is their help and their shield.

**People: The Lord has remembered us; He will bless us;  
He will bless the house of Israel; He will bless the house of Aaron;**

*Pastor:* He will bless those who fear the Lord, both the small and the great.

**People: We will bless the Lord from this time forth and forevermore.  
Praise the Lord!  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.  
Remember Your mercy, O Lord, and Your steadfast love,  
for they have been from of old.**

***KYRIE [SPEAK RESPONSIVELY]***

Pastor: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

*Pastor:* For the peace we have with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

*Pastor:* For peace among the families of the nations and in coming generations, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

*Pastor:* For all who rejoice here for our access by faith into this grace in which we stand, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

*Pastor:* By Your purposeful suffering, rejection, death, and resurrection—help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**People: Amen.**

***SALUTATION***

*Pastor:* The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

***PRAYER OF THE DAY***

*Pastor:* Let us pray. O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength.

**People: By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul;**

*Pastor:* through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

***OLD TESTAMENT READING*** *Genesis 17:1–7, 15–16*

When Abram was ninety-nine years old the Lord appeared to Abram and said to him, “I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless, 2 that I may make my covenant between me and you, and may multiply you greatly.” 3 Then Abram fell on his face. And God said to him, 4 “Behold, my covenant is with you, and you shall be the father of a multitude of nations. 5 No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham, for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations. 6 I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make you into nations, and kings shall come from you. 7 And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.

15 And God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah[a] shall be her name. 16 I will bless her, and moreover, I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall become nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.”

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

**People: Thanks be to God.**

***WE JOIN TOGETHER IN THE GRADUAL*** *Hebrews 12:2*

***O come, let us fix our eyes on Jesus,  
the founder and perfecter of our faith,  
who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame,  
and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.***

***EPISTLE***  *Romans 5:1–11*

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. 3 Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, 4 and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, 5 and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

6 For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. 7 For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— 8 but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. 9 Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. 10 For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. 11 More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

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

**People: Thanks be to God.**

***VERSE*** *Mark 8:34b*

*Pastor:* If anyone would come after Me,

**People: let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.**

***HOLY GOSPEL*** *Mark 8:27–38*

*Pastor:* The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the eighth chapter.

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

And Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi. And on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” 28 And they told him, “John the Baptist; and others say, Elijah; and others, one of the prophets.” 29 And he asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Christ.” 30 And he strictly charged them to tell no one about him. Jesus Foretells His Death and Resurrection 31 And he began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again. 32 And he said this plainly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. 33 But turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.”

34 And calling the crowd to him with his disciples, he said to them, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. 35 For whoever would save his life[a] will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. 36 For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? 37 For what can a man give in return for his soul? 38 For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of Man also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

*Pastor:* This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

***HYMN OF THE DAY***

“Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart” [*LSB* 708]

***SERMON***

***CREED*** ***Nicene Creed***

***[*ON THE BACK COVER OF YOUR HYMNAL]**

***PRAYER OF THE CHURCH***

*Pastor:* Let us pray for the Church here and around the world and for all people in their various circumstances. For the Church around the world, all people who join Peter in professing that Jesus is the Christ, that they trust God’s purpose for their lives, take up their crosses, and follow, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

*Pastor:* For all who spend their lives serving the physical, mental, social, and emotional needs of the people around them, that God bless and guide them according to His gracious purpose, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

*Pastor:* For professional counselors and private confidants who alleviate suffering, enable endurance, support character, and encourage hope, that they serve as conduits for God’s purposes in the lives of their patients, family, and friends, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

*Pastor:* For those who lead the governments of the world, that they find purpose in their positions, using every means to increase harvests, combat global health crises, minimize conflict between nations, and ensure equal justice for all their citizens, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

*Pastor:* For those near and dear to us, that God bring about the healing, comfort, freedom, and dignity for which they send requests to our gracious Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

*Pastor:* These and any other things You would have us ask of You, heavenly Father, grant to us for the sake of the bitter sufferings and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, in whose name we pray.

**People: Amen.**

***OFFERING / OFFERTORY***

*Pastor*: As we present our offerings, this hymn asks God to use them, His “holy purpose to fulfill.”

***HYMN*** **“Lord of All Good” [*LSB* 786]**

***✠ SACRAMENT ✠***

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

*Pastor:* Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

*Pastor:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

***PROPER PREFACE***

*Pastor*: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, whose Son was undeterred in following His purpose in life, going to the cross and dying and rising for us. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

***SANCTUS* SPOKEN RESPONSIVELY**

*Pastor:* Isaiah wrote, “I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of His robe filled the temple. Above Him stood the seraphim. . . . And one called to another and said:

**People: ‘Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;  
the whole earth is full of His glory!’ ”**

*Pastor:* When Jesus entered Jerusalem, “those who went before and those who followed were shouting,

**People: ‘Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!’ ”**

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING***

*Pastor:* Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on us and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. We rejoice to receive the salvation He won for us by the sacrifice of His body and blood.  
Forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit; gather us with all the faithful from the ends of the earth for the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end.  
To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

***THE WORDS OF OUR LORD***

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”  
  
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

***PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST***

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

**People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

*Pastor:* O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

***LORD’S PRAYER***

**[*ON THE BACK COVER OF THE HYMNAL]***

***PAX DOMINI***

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

**People: Amen.**

***AGNUS DEI:*** ***READ RESPONSIVELY***

Pastor: Abraham said, “God will provide for Himself the lamb.”

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: John said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!”

**People: Christ, have mercy.**

*Pastor:* John saw “the Lamb in the midst of the throne.”

**People: Lord, have mercy and grant us Your peace. Amen.**

***DISTRIBUTION HYMNS***

“Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior” [*LSB* 627]

“Children of the Heavenly Father” [*LSB* 725]

“The Infant Priest Was Holy Born” [*LSB* 624]

***POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE*** *Luke 2:29–32*

*Pastor:* As Simeon held the baby Jesus in the temple, he said,

**People: “Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word; for my eyes have seen Your salvation that You have prepared in the presence of all peoples,  
a light for revelation to the Gentiles,  
and for glory to Your people Israel.”  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

***POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING***

*Pastor:* O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;

**People: and His mercy endures forever.**

*Pastor*: Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that Your Son let nothing keep Him from the cross and that through this Sacrament You have given purpose to our lives. Continue to strengthen us that we may grow in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: 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 upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**People: Amen.**

***HYMN*** “‘Come, Follow Me,’ the Savior Spake” [*LSB* 688]

***DISMISSAL***

*Pastor*: We’ve heard the word, Let’s Go in peace and serve the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

***ANNOUNCEMENTS***

Prayers for our congregation (members in bold):

Family of the Week: **Betty Lenz**

Birthdays: **Andrew Davis, Lori Ogburn, Samantha Bravard-Griggs**

Anniversaries: **Dick & Marilyn Rolen** (apologizes for missing these wonderful anniversaries last week)

For those who are ill or with health issues: **Pastor Harold Baldwin, Adella Schmidt, Alice Baldwin, Bill DeMent**, Gerry Brooks (Ruth’s husband), Larry Bennett (Earl Trantham’s friend), Doug Glenn (Joyce Avery’s son), Alan Reiman (Helen Hegland’s son), Russell Avery

For those recuperating: Janet Normandin (Sandi York’s daughter)

For those with cancer: Bill York (Sandi York’s husband), Nancy Aguilar, Lindsey Duncan (Susan Muldoon’s friend)

For our shut-ins: **Ida Parker, Charlie Bickel, Helen Hegland**

For our active duty & reservist military: **Arthur Bartlett, Mitchell Ogburn, Carrie Bravard, Kaylin Davis**, Brandon Austin (grandson of Carl & Sara Austin), Jake Willis (Carol Bravard’s grandson), Jonathan Fjare (Betty Lenz’s grandson), Michael Sommers (nephew of Ruth Brooks), Hunter Dick (John Holeton’s friend), Austin Allen (friend of Ogburn family), Zachary Bender (Darby Baldwin’s nephew), Melissa

Elders:

A-C Bill Nagler 928-221-0947 [wnagler.bn@gmail.com](mailto:wnagler.bn@gmail.com)

D-J Arthur Bartlett 325-716-5845 [artietb93@gamil.com](mailto:artietb93@gamil.com)

K-R Hon Chu 303-731-5740 [kq6ee55@yahoo.com](mailto:kq6ee55@yahoo.com)

S-Z Greg Ronning 719-659-0098 [gronning@hotmail.com](mailto:gronning@hotmail.com)

SCHEDULE FOR LENTEN SERVICES:

DATE SERVICE LOCATION TIME

3/3 MIDWEEK WEDNESDAY OUR SAVIOR’S 6:00 PM

3/10 MIDWEEK WEDNESDAY BETHANY 6:00 PM

3/17 MIDWEEK WEDNESDAY OUR SAVIOR’S 6:00 PM

3/24 MIDWEEK WEDNESDAY BETHANY 6:00 PM

3/31 MIDWEEK WEDNESDAY OUR SAVIOR’S 6:00 PM

4/1 MAUNDY THURSDAY BETHANY 6:00 PM

4/2 GOOD FRIDAY OUR SAVIOR’S 1:00 pm

4/4 EASTER SUNDAY

(Regular Sunday Schedule OS 9:00 Bethany 10:45)

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