

LENT 2021



**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
PO Box 228 Blakeslee, PA 18610
570-646-0309**

faithoffice@faithlutheranblakeslee.org

Website: faithlutheranblakeslee.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Faith-Lutheran-Church-Blakeslee-PA-1721550018126312>

**Rev. Debra North, Pastor
Ms. Molly Finkbiner, Director of Music
Ms. Maritza Oquendo, Parish Secretary**

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

Sunday, February 21, 2021

PRELUDE ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

(Please stand as you are able.)

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the keeper of the covenant, the source of steadfast love, our rock and our redeemer. **Amen.**

God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

Fountain of living water, **pour out your mercy over us. Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free. Rebuild what we have ruined and mend what we have torn. Wash us in your cleansing flood. Make us alive in the Spirit to follow in the way of Jesus, as healers and restorers of the world you so love. Amen.**

Beloved, God's word never fails. The promise rests on grace: by the saving love of Jesus Christ, the wisdom and power of God, your sins are † forgiven, and God remembers them no more. Journey in the way of Jesus. **Amen.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

We trust in you, O God, for you are faithful.

Show us your ways and teach us your paths.

We wait for you.

Lead us in your paths of truth.

Do not remember our failures.

Out of your merciful grace, forgive us.

You are faithful, O God. Your love is steadfast.

We lift up our souls to you, and praise you always.

GREETING

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

KYRIE

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

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

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. **Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY (*the assembly is seated*).

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. **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON

The first lesson is found in **Genesis 9:8-17**



⁸God 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.”

PSALM 25:1-10

(Read responsively.)

¹To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

²**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

³Let none who look to you be put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

⁴**Show me your ways, O LORD, and teach me your paths.**

⁵Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

⁶**Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.**

⁷Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

⁸**You are gracious and upright, O LORD; therefore you teach sinners in your way.**

⁹You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.

¹⁰All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.

SECOND LESSON

The second lesson is found in **1 Peter 3:18-22**

¹⁸Christ 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.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

VERSE (*Spoken*) (*Please rise if you are able.*)

Alleluia. One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God. (*Matt. 4:4*)

GOSPEL

(*Please remain standing.*)

The Holy Gospel according to **Mark 1:9-15**
Glory to you, O Lord.

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."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Rainbow" – by Kathy Knittel

MESSAGE

The assembly is seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY (*spoken* – **Lord of Our Life - LBW 366**)

- 1 Lord of our life and God of our salvation,
star of our night and hope of ev'ry nation;
hear and receive your church's supplication,
Lord God Almighty.
- 2 See round your ark the hungry billows curling,
see how your foes their banners are unfurling.
Lord, while their poisoned arrows they are hurling,
you can preserve us.
- 3 Lord, you can help when earthly armor fails us;
Lord, you can save when deadly sin assails us;
and, in the day when hell itself appalls us,
Grant us your peace, Lord:
- 4 Peace in our hearts, our troubled thoughts assuaging,
peace in your church, where kindred souls are raging,
peace, when the world its endless war is waging,
peace in your heaven.

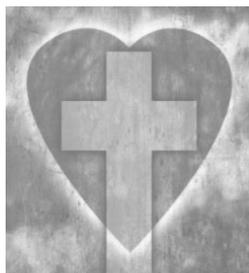
Text: Matthäus A. von Löwenstern, 1594-1648; tr. Philip Pusey, 1799-1855, alt.

LENTEN CREED

I believe in God, the creator of heaven and earth, who gave humanity free will and entrusted this precious world to us.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his Son, our Lord, who was born in a manger by Mary, a woman of humble beginnings. Refusing to seek power, and turning away the sword, He died for us, the Lamb of God. He descended into the darkest of places, but rose again on the third day, bringing life and hope to all.

I believe in Christ's humble spirit, conceiving the holy, apostolic and universal church, which is among us and beyond us, before us and after us. I believe in a church comprised of sinners and saints, imperfect and in need of grace, yet blessed – the Body of Christ. I believe in the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.



PEACE

The Peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

(please share the peace of Christ with others with a wave from your seat, then be seated.)

OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. The gifts are brought forward.

OFFERING PRAYER

Faithful God, **you walk beside us in desert places, and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven. Accompany us in this meal, that we may pass over from death to life with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen**

THE PRAYERS

Let us prayer. O Lord our God, you have commanded the light to shine out of darkness, and you have again brought us to your house of prayer to praise your goodness and ask for your gifts. Accept now in your endless mercy the sacrifice of our worship and thanksgiving, and grant us those requests which will be wholesome for us. Make us to be children of the light and of the day and heirs of your everlasting inheritance. Remember, O Lord, according to the multitude of your mercies, your whole church, all who join with us in prayer, all our sisters and brothers wherever they may be in your vast kingdom who stand in need of your help and comfort. Pour out upon them the riches of your mercy, so that we, redeemed in soul and body and steadfast in faith, may ever praise your wonderful and holy name: through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and always through all ages of ages. **Amen.**

(Here other intercessions may be offered.)

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, they 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.

BLESSING

You are what God made you to be: created in Christ Jesus for good works, chosen as holy and beloved, freed to serve your neighbor. God bless you ☩ that you may be a blessing, in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity.

Amen.



SENDING HYMN (*spoken*) – **Thy Holy Wings - WOV 741**

- 1 Thy holy wings, O Savior,
spread gently over me,
and let me rest securely
through good and ill in thee.
Oh, be my strength and portion,
my rock and hiding place,
and let my ev'ry moment
be lived within thy grace.

- 2 Oh, let me nestle near thee,
within thy downy breast
where I will find sweet comfort
and peace within thy nest.
Oh, close thy wings around me
and keep me safely there,
for I am but a newborn
and need thy tender care.

- 3 Oh, wash me in the waters
of Noah's cleansing flood.
Give me a willing spirit,
a heart both clean and good.
Oh, take into thy keeping
thy children great and small,
and while we sweetly slumber,
enfold us one and all.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903, sts. 1, 3; Gracia Grindal, b. 1943, st. 2; tr.
composite
Text © 1983 Gracia Grindal, Selah Publishing Co., Inc., agent. www.selahpub.com

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**



Special Music **"Rainbow"** – by Kathy Knittel

HYMN OF THE DAY (*spoken* – **Lord of Our Life - LBW 366**)

Text: Matthäus A. von Löwenstern, 1594-1648; tr. Philip Pusey, 1799-1855, alt.

SENDING HYMN (*spoken*) – **Thy Holy Wings - WOV 741**

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903, sts. 1, 3; Gracia Grindal, b. 1943, st. 2; tr. composite
Text © 1983 Gracia Grindal, Selah Publishing Co., Inc., agent. www.selahpub.com

Portions from Evangelical Lutheran Worship and sundaysandseasons.com, © 2021 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License No. SB144827. Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE, License No. A-726919. CCLI License #20635975 and Streaming License #20635982