

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT
FEBRUARY 25, 2024
9:00 A.M.



We Gather in Jesus' Name

Prelude (a time for silent meditation)

Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who writes the law on our hearts,
who draws all people together through Jesus.

Amen.

Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin
in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,
**we confess that we are caught in snares of sin
and cannot break free.
We hoard resources while our neighbors
are hungry and cold.
We speak in ways that silence others.
We are silent when we should speak up.
We keep score in our hearts.
We let hurts grow into hatred.
For all these things and for sins only you know,
forgive us, Lord.
Amen.**

Here is a flood of grace:
Out of love for the whole world,
God draws near to us,
breaks every snare of sin,
washes away our wrongs,
and restores the promise of life through † Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Gathering Song: "Beneath the Cross of Jesus" LBW #107

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 Beneath the cross of Jesus
I long to take my stand;
the shadow of a mighty rock
within a weary land,
a home within a wilderness,
a rest upon the way,
from the burning of the noontide heat
and burdens of the day. | And from my contrite heart, with tears,
two wonders I confess:
the wonder of his glorious love
and my unworthiness. |
| 2 Upon the cross of Jesus,
my eye at times can see
the very dying form of one
who suffered there for me. | 3 I take, O cross, your shadow
for my abiding place;
I ask no other sunshine than
the sunshine of his face;
content to let the world go by,
to know no gain nor loss,
my sinful self my only shame,
my glory all, the cross. |

Greeting

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

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. . . O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Children's Sermon

Readings for The Second Sunday in Lent

First Reading: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

¹When 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. ²And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." ³Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, ⁴"As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁵No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁶I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. ⁷I 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."

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

Word of God, Word of Life

Thanks be to God

Psalm: Psalm 22:23-31

²³You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's line, give glory.
Stand in awe of the LORD, all you offspring of Israel.

²⁴**For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the LORD's face hidden from them; but when they cry out, the LORD hears them.**

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great assembly;
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

**²⁶The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!**

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;
all the families of nations shall bow before God.

**²⁸For dominion belongs to the LORD,
who rules over the nations.**

²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow ^l down in worship;
all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the LORD.

**³⁰Their descendants shall serve the LORD,
whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.**

³¹They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying to them, "The LORD has acted!"

Second Reading: Romans 4:13-25

¹³The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

¹⁶For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations")—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." ¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. ²⁰No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." ²³Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

Word of God, Word of Life

Thanks be to God

Gospel: Mark 8:31-38

P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark the 1^{8th} Chapter

C: **Glory to You, O Lord**

³¹[Jesus] began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Song of Praise: "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me" WOV #660

- 1 I want Jesus to walk with me;
I want Jesus to walk with me;
all along my pilgrim journey,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

- 2 In my trials, Lord, walk with me;
in my trials, Lord, walk with me;
when my heart is almost breaking,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

- 3 When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;
when I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;
when my head is bowed in sorrow,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

Apostle's 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

(Each prayer ends with ... *Hear us, O God. The congregation responds: **Your mercy is great.***)

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you

The Offering Please leave your offering on our website: https://www.eservicepayments.com/cgi-bin/Vanco_ver3.vps?appver=3=Dc8dzPGn4-LCajFevTkh9MYPCImH2sG-jdxWYJMFgw_lQfxkD4hBw8WoQ6UZLveQvLkSxosar2o939JWiAad87o7zqy-JU_UuLu19bUbJx2MmPFcXvWIUz6A7FDgkhUKkoPpduXvnt8gXUeZjQYbn9G3frHWC59Y_VCHQ6_VCoE=&ver=3

The Offertory

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray... **Jesus, you are the bread of life
and the host of this meal.**

**Bless these gifts that we have gathered
that all people may know your goodness.**

**Feed us not only with this holy food
but with hunger for justice and peace.**

We pray this in your name.

Amen.

Sacrament

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.

Amen.

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.**

Distribution

The body of Christ, given to you
The blood of Christ, shed for you

Prayer After Communion

Let us pray... Generous God,
at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace.
As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread,
now make us one loaf to feed the world;
in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.
Amen.

Sending

Blessing

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. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn: "Table of Grace"

Verse 1:
Hear the good news
You've been invited
No matter what others may say
Your darkest sins
Will be forgiven
And you will always have a place

Chorus:
At the table of grace
The cup's never empty
The plate's always full
And it's never too late
To come and be filled
With love never ending
You're always welcome
At the table of grace

Verse 2:
So come you weak
And heavy hearted
Don't try to hide
Your earthly scars
In His Eyes
We all are equal
Don't be afraid
Come as you are

Chorus:
At the table of grace
The cup's never empty
The plate's always full
And it's never too late
To come and be filled
With love never ending
You're always welcome
At the table of grace

Verse 3:
So let the first
Become the last
Let the poor
Put kings to shame
Their willing hearts
Will be their treasure
By the power of Jesus' name

Chorus:
At the table of grace
The cup's never empty
The plate's always full
And it's never too late
To come and be filled
With love never ending
You're always welcome
At the table of grace

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share your bread.

Thanks be to God.

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OUR MISSION

- + To **gather** as God's people and nurture one another.
- + To **know** the Word of God.
- + To **grow** in faith, love, and service.
- + To **go** into the world with the Good News of Jesus Christ.



SERVING OUR LORD IN WORSHIP TODAY

Pastor:	The Rev. Matthew E Ollikainen
Music Director	Michael Dettra
Worship Assistant	John Flint



ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar Flowers are dedicated by John Flint in honor of John's Birthday and by the Dennis Family in memory of William A. Jayne on the one-year anniversary of his death and with thanks to Pastor Matt and the Church Council for aiding him in his membership.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Sunday, February 25, 8:00 am 20, 9:30 am 34, S.S. 4 TOTAL 58

REMINDER ONE WORSHIP SERVICE AT 9:00 AM FEBRUARY 25TH

On Sunday, February 25th there will only be 1 service with Holy Communion at 9:00 am. The Annual Congregational Meeting will follow at 10:00 am



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25

On Sunday, **February 25**, we will have **one worship service at 9:00 a.m.** The Annual Congregational Meeting will follow the service at **10:00 a.m.** Please plan to attend so that we make quorum and are able to conduct the business of the church.

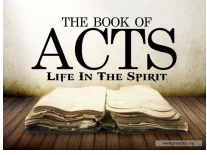
If you are unable to attend the meeting in person, please plan to attend via zoom. While using Zoom, please mute yourself when you are not speaking.

Topic: Congregational Meeting: 10:00 am February 25, 2024

Join Zoom Meeting ID: 898 2827 3113 - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89828273113>

WE WANT YOU!

Advent Lutheran Church wants some new faces/voices helping before and in the services! We want you, in other words. Please consider sharing your gifts with us as an Usher/Greeter, Lay Reader, or Communion Assistant. Also, if you know a male or female youth who may be interested in being an acolyte, we could use them, too. As we approach this most holy of seasons, please add serving the Lord to your list of things to try. Pastor (and I hope I) will be training any who would like to volunteer as Usher/Greeter on Sunday, March 3, after the 9:30 am service. Also, on March 17 he/we will train any who would like, in Worship Assistant duties (Lay Reader, Communion Assistant, or both). Can't wait to see you there! Gail Oines, Deconess



Book of Acts Bible Study

The first congregation wide activity of the Strategic Mission Plan will continue through Lent. We will be doing the four weekly sessions of the **Book of Acts Bible Study!** “Congregation wide” means we want everyone in the congregation to participate.

Why should you participate? This Bible Study is life changing. The season of Lent is about recognizing and responding to our need for God’s love. The Book of Acts is about how God’s love is active in the lives of Jesus’ followers and the world through the power of the Holy Spirit. The Book of Acts Bible study will help you recognize God’s love in your life through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Multiple opportunities to be involved! Participate in the manner that best suits your needs and schedule:

- Sign up for a **Study Group** at a parishioner’s home.
- Sign up with a **Study Buddy** and meet in-person, online or by phone at your convenience.
- **Sunday Morning Bible Study** in-person at 9 AM beginning February 18th, in-person.
- **Zoom at Noon** with Pastor Matt beginning February 20th.
- **Solo Study** at your leisure beginning February 20th with the emailed YouTube video clip.
- At the **Lenten Mid-Week Service** Thursdays starting February 22nd online or in-person.

Please sign up in the narthex or by calling/emailing the Church. God bless you this coming Lenten Season as we explore God’s loving activity in our church and in our lives.



MID-WEEK LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS

Gather at church during the season of Lent for soup and fellowship before the mid-week Lenten worship service. The Soup Suppers will begin at **6:00 p.m.** in the social hall on **Thursdays February 22 through March 21**. Please sign up at church to bring soup, bread or drinks. Please contact Gail Oines with any questions or concerns 215-534-8218.



MID-WEEK LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES, **THURSDAYS FEBRUARY 22 - MARCH 21**

“**Book of Acts**” is the theme for worship this season of Lent.

Services will be held in person and online this year Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m., February 22 through March 21, in the social hall.

Mid-week Lenten Worship services may also be attended by **Zoom** and will be live streamed on **Facebook**. A recording of the services will be uploaded to **YouTube** and linked to our website immediately after the service concludes. While using Zoom, please mute yourself when you are not speaking.

Topic: Mid-Week Lenten Service, 7:00 pm
Thursdays February 22 thru March 21

Join Zoom Meeting: Meeting ID: 830 9865 6920
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83098656920>

Financial Report For January 2024		
	Rec'vd for Jan 2024	Budget for Jan 2024
General Fund	\$10,602.63	\$17,482.00
Mortgage	\$1,508	\$1,898.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$70	\$75
Other Benevolence	\$255	
Total	\$12,435.63	\$19,455.00



PING PONG - TUESDAYS AT 6:30

All are welcome to join us for an evening of Ping Pong at the church on Tuesday nights at 6:30pm. Please call the church 215-355-2529 if you want to give it a try. (It helps to know how many tables to set up).



PRAISE BAND AND VOCAL CHOIR PRACTICE WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

Praise Band practices from 6:30 to 7:15 pm, Vocal Choir from 7:15 to 8:00 p.m. Please see Mike Dettra for more details

ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION

There are numerous dates available for 2024 to dedicate flowers to beautify the altar each Sunday. Please sign up on the sheet on the table in the narthex with your name and dedication. Two bouquets are available each week. The cost is \$25 per bouquet. In addition to making the altar more beautiful, you take the flowers home after the late service to enjoy during the week. If you have any questions call Cindy Frey 267-205-0713.



NUEVA CREACION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Please consider supporting our sister congregation, Nueva Creación Lutheran Church, which does vital ministry in North Philadelphia. A sign-up chart is on the table in the narthex near the entrance to the sanctuary.



DRIVE in AND DROP off FOOD COLLECTION

If you have food for the Warminster Food Bank that you or your friends would like to donate and the church is not open, just drive in and drop off the food under the seat of the bench outside the front door. You may still bring food into the church narthex during church and office hours. Thank you for helping our neighbors in need.



RECYCLING CAN TABS FOR CHARITY IS A GREAT IDEA!

Recycling can tabs for charity is a great idea! If you bring them in, we'll drop them off. Look for marked containers in the narthex, located on the shelf above the coat rack. No cans, please – just tabs! The tab collection program began at **Ronald McDonald House Charities** of the Philadelphia Region in 1997. Since the inception of the program, **RMHC** has collected over 350 tons of tabs and over \$170,000! See RMHCphilly.org.

THIS WEEK AT ADVENT

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT - FEBRUARY 25
CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

- 9:00 am Contemporary Worship Service with
Holy Communion
Sunday School, age 4 – grade 6
10:00 am Annual Congregational Meeting

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26

- 7:30 pm A.A. Open Meeting

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27

- Noon Zoom at Noon with Pastor
6:30 pm Ping Pong

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

- 6:30-7:15 pm Praise Band Practice
7:15-8:00 pm Vocal choir Practice

Thursday, February 29

- 6:00 pm Lenten Soup Supper
7:00 pm Lenten Worship Services

FRIDAY, MARCH 1

- 7:30 pm A.A. Step Meeting

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 3

- 8:00 am Traditional Worship Service with
Holy Communion
9:30 am Contemporary Worship Service with
Holy Communion
Sunday School, age 4 – grade 6
10:30 am Fellowship Time: open
10:30 am Adult Bible Study