



ST. GEORGE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

803 West Main St, Brighton, MI 48116

www.stgeorgelutheran.org

February 25, 2024

9:00 a.m.

Phone 810-229-6670

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Second Sunday of Lent

Holy Communion

Welcome! We are glad you're here!

A warm welcome is extended to all!

Your presence enriches us at this time of celebration together.

Announcements

Prepare Hearts for Worship

Welcome and Sharing the Peace

Confession and Forgiveness

(inspired by Mark 8:31-38)

God, we humble ourselves now in confession:

We want to be followers of Jesus,

but we do not always want to follow Jesus.

We don't even want to listen

when the conversation turns toward depriving ourselves for others.

We prefer to indulge ourselves.

We are eager to put down our crosses.

We cling tightly to our lives.

We grasp at worldly rewards.

Holy and loving God,

forgive all of our thoughts and actions

that would protect us from the path of Christ.

Assurance of Forgiveness

If we rely upon the law of God,
we are beyond hope.

But in God's mercy we are declared righteous
through our faith in Jesus, who died for our sins.

You are a new creation in Christ,
everything old has passed away;
see, everything is becoming new.

Go and share the good news of God's love. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn:

In The Cross of Christ I Glory

#324

In the cross of Christ I glory, tow'ring
o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of
sacred story gathers round its head
sublime.

When the woes of life overtake me,
hopes deceive and fears annoy, never
shall the cross forsake me; lo, it glows
with peace and joy.

When the sun of bliss is beaming light
and love upon my way, from the cross
the radiance streaming adds more luster
to the day.

Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure, by
the cross are sanctified; peace is there
that knows no measure, joys that through
all time abide.

Apostolic Greeting 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.**

Kyrie

A In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

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

C Lord, have mercy.

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 mercy.

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

C Lord, have mercy.

A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C Amen.

Hymn of Praise: *Glory to God In the Highest*

A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

C Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father, Amen.

Prayer of the Day: 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.

Youth Message

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

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

L The Word of the Lord **All Thanks be to God**

Psalm 22

You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him; stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

For he did not despise or abhor the affliction of the afflicted; he did not hide his face from me, but heard when I cried to him.

From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD. May your hearts live forever!

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.

For dominion belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations.

To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for him.

Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord, and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it.

Second Lesson: Romans 4: 13-25

For the 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. For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law, neither is there transgression.

For this reason the promise depends on faith, in order that it may rest on grace, so that it may be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (who is the father of all of us, as 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. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So shall your descendants be." He 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), and the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore "it was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were

written not for his sake alone but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

L: The Word of the Lord **All: Thanks be to God.**

All: Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and abounding in steadfast love.

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

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Mark 8:31-38

Then he 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. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But 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." He called the crowd with his disciples and said to them, "If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For 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. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those 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."

The Gospel of the Lord **All: Praise to You, O Christ.**

Sermon

Hymn

Take Up Your Cross, The Savior Said (tune of Breslau)

Take up your cross, the Savior said,
If you would my disciple be;
Deny yourself, the world forsake,
And humbly follow after me.

Take up your cross, which gives you
strength, Which makes your trembling
spirit brave: 'Twill guide you to a better
home And lead to vict'ry o'er the grave.

Take up your cross, be not ashamed!
Let not disgrace your spirit fill!
For God himself endured to die
Upon a cross, on Calvary's hill.

Take up your cross, and follow Christ,
Nor think till death to lay it down;
For only they who bear the cross
May hope to wear the glorious crown.

Apostle's 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 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, and 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.

**catholic here meaning "universal"*

Prayers of Intercession:

A Lord, in your mercy.... C Hear our prayer

Offertory

Take My Life, That I May Be (Verses 1-3)

ELW 685

Take my life, that I may be consecrated, Lord, to thee; take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love; take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King; take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee.

Offertory Prayer:

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Words of Institution

The 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.

Lamb of God: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Holy Communion

Communion Hymn

O Master, let me walk with You
in lowly paths of service true;
tell me Your secret; help me bear
the strain of toil, the fret of care.

Help me the slow of heart to move
by some clear, winning word of love;
teach me the wayward feet to stay,
and guide them in the homeward way.

Teach me Your patience; share with me,
a closer, dearer company,

I Am The Bread Of Life #485

“I am the Bread of life. You who come to me shall not hunger, and who believe in me shall not thirst. No one can come to me unless the Father beckons.”

Refrain: “And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up, and I will raise you up on the last day.”

“The bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world, and if you eat of this bread, you shall live forever, you shall live forever.” *Refrain*

O Master, Let Me Walk With You #818

in work that keeps faith sweet and strong,
in trust that triumphs over wrong,

In hope that sends a shining ray
far down the future's broad'ning way,
in peace that only You can give;
with You, O Master, let me live.

Text: Washington Gladden, 1836-1918, alt.

“Unless you eat of the flesh of the Son of Man and drink of his blood, and drink of his blood, you shall not have life within you.” *Refrain*

“I am the resurrection, I am the life. If you believe in me, even though you die, you shall live forever.” *Refrain*

Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who have come into the world. *Refrain*

Suzanne Toolan 1927

Post Communion Blessing:

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

Post Communion Canticle: *Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am* (sing 3x) #814

Take, oh, take me as I am; summon out what I shall be; set your seal upon my heart and live in me.

Benediction

(based on Jesus' words in Mark 8:34-35, and Philippians 4:7)

Jesus said: *"If anyone would be my disciple,
let them deny themselves, take up their cross and follow me.
For whoever would save their life will lose it;
and whoever loses life for my sake and the gospel's will save it."*

Amen!

Learn from Christ, trust him, delight in him,
give your whole daily affairs to him,
and you will never walk alone
or serve without that special happiness
which cannot be taken from you.

The peace of God which surpasses all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge of God
and of his true Son, Christ Jesus our Lord;
And the blessing of the fullness of God,
Father, Son and Holy, Spirit,
will be with you
today and ever more.

Amen!

— written by Bruce Prewer, and posted on **Bruce Prewer's Homepage**. <http://www.bruceprewer.com/>

Sending Hymn

Amazing Grace

#779

Amazing grace!--how sweet the sound--
 that saved a wretch like me!
 I once was lost, but now am found;
 was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
 and grace my fears relieved;
 how precious did that grace appear
 the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares
 I have already come;

'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
 and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me;
 his word my hope secures;
 he will my shield and portion be
 as long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand
 years,
 bright shining as the sun,
 we've no less days to sing God's praise
 than when we'd first begun.

Dismissal

A: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Current Budget Report: as of 2/18/2024

Last week's giving: \$2,844.00

Needed to meet budget: \$5,425.96

Year to Date: \$32,591.00

Ahead (Behind) Budget: (\$5,390.73)

	Feb. 25	March 3	March 10	March 17	March 24	March 31
	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM	9:00 AM
Asst. Min	Joan V.	Keith B.		Bob S.	Lorna D.	Joan V.
Lay Reader	Joan V.	Keith B.		Bob S.	Lorna D.	Joan V.
Greeter						
Usher	Bob Knight					
Media	Prieskorn	Prieskorn	Prieskorn	Prieskorn	Prieskorn	Prieskorn

Fellowship			Friends & Family Breakfast	Birthday Celebration		
Altar Care	Joanne	Judy	Linda F.	Linda G.	Sally	Elaine

Announcements

Adult Sunday School: Today at 10 AM.

Midweek Lenten Soup Supper and Service: Wednesday 6:15 and 7 PM.

Bible Study: Thursdays at 10:00 at the Parish House and via Zoom.

Book Study: Thursday, at 11:15 AM.

Ukrainian Easter Egg: Tuesday, March 12th from 11AM - 2:30 PM.

Needleworks: Friday, March 1st and 15th at 10:00 AM. All are welcome!

New Creations: Thursday, March 7th at 4:15 PM at Grace Lutheran Church.

Friends and Family Breakfast: March 10th at 10 AM.

Birthday Celebration: Sunday, March 17th at 10:00 AM.

Love Inc, Buckets of Blessings: We are asking for dish soap this month.

Sunday 2/25	9 AM Traditional Worship 10 AM Sunday School 11AM Contemporary Worship
Monday 2/26	Office Hours 8 AM-1 PM
Tuesday 2/27	Office Hours 11:30 – 2:30 PM; 7:30 PM AA
Wednesday 2/28	Office Hours 8 AM-1 PM; 8 AM Men’s Club; Soup Supper 6:15 PM and Lenten Service 7 PM
Thursday 2/29	Office Hours 11:30 – 2:30 PM; Bible Study 10 AM; Book Study 11:15 AM; 7:00 PM AA
Friday 3/1	Office Hours 8 AM-1 PM
Saturday 3/2	



For Our Church Members, especially:

Al Voss.

The Foster family, after William's passing.

Mary Lou Davis, and family after the passing of her husband, Charlie.

Carrie Weiland, with health concerns.

Kathie Wilhelm, for healing after kidney surgery.

Kathy Schenk, for healing after a broken wrist.

Cindy, John, and Jon Brach, with health concerns.

Kathy Boyes with health challenges.

Barb Gienapp with health concerns.

Theo Evans being treated for leukemia.

Joan Richardson, dealing with health concerns.

For Friends and Family of our Church Members:

Dan Herbst's sister.

Family of Ann Dilloway's sister, Karen, who lost her son this week.

Family of Lei Olsen, following her passing.

Wyatt, Gail's student who broke his wrist.

Karla Shaffer, best friend of the Petersburg's daughter, diagnosed with stage 4 lung and brain cancer.

Keegan Sergant, 18-year-old with recurring cancer.

Karin, heart valve replacement surgery.

Juanita Fox, George's mom, for healing.

Hudson Bennett, George Fox's nephew, for healing.

Kimberlie Gilbertson, Jeanie Petersburg's cousin, dealing with eye damage/temporary blindness from an interocular lens removal.

Carl Loerwald, friend of Joanne Bellmard, recovering from back surgery and other medical issues.

Dian Kolis, friend of Linda Fox, with Parkinson's and scheduled for brain surgery.

Nick Hodgin, Jim Hartman's friend's 12-year-old son, following brain cancer surgery.

Matt B., Linda Walton's son's best friend, diagnosed with stage 4 liver disease.

Nathan, friend of the Petersburg's, paralyzed in a diving accident.

Family of Stacy Scott as they grieve the passing of her stepdad, friend of Michele Hirschman.

Lydia, Gail's adult piano student, recovering from brain surgery.

Norma Topp, Michele Hirschman's friend, going through radiation and chemotherapy.

Victor, Gail's 82-year-old student's wife, in hospice.

Alicia Gardner, Linda Walton's niece, awaiting a liver transplant.

Trey Martin, cousin of Bryan Rush, in Europe in the military. Pray for his safety.

John D, friend of Bryan Rush, suffering from Diabetes Type II.

Melissa Alofalter, Angela Martin's friend, battling an unknown medical issue.

Margaret Doane, Kristiina H.'s friend, with breast cancer.

Micah, Alia's nephew, with a chronic infection and declining health.

Ethan and his mom, Marianne, friends of Linda Walton, as they are dealing with major physical and emotional struggles.

Jackie, Gail's piano student, diagnosed with throat cancer.

Theresa Knight, spouse of Michael Knight, for her battle with breast cancer.

Terry Pitt, Collene Hedden's brother-in-law, with auto-immune disease.

Vicki, Kristiina Herbst's neighbor, with health concerns.

Beulah & Mark who are having health and life difficulties.

For Our Community and Beyond:

Cats and dogs that do not have a home.

Prayers for peace in Ukraine

Prayers for peace in the Middle East