



March 9, 2025

The First Sunday in Lent

Rev. Ken Bersche

Maggie Kent, Secretary

Prelude

Processional Hymn *Please Stand*

“A Mighty Fortress”

- ♪ A mighty fortress is our God, A sword and shield victorious;
He breaks the cruel oppressor's rod And wins salvation glorious.
The old satanic foe Has sworn to work us woe. With craft and dreadful might
He arms himself to fight. On earth he has no equal.
- ♪ No strength of ours can match his might. We would be lost, rejected.
But now a champion comes to fight, Whom God Himself elected.
You ask who this may be? The Lord of hosts is He, Christ Jesus, mighty Lord,
God's only Son, adored. He holds the field victorious.
- ♪ Though hordes of devils fill the land All threat'ning to devour us,
We tremble not, unmoved we stand; They cannot overpower us.
Let this world's tyrant rage; In battle we'll engage. His might is doomed to fail;
God's judgment must prevail! One little word subdues him.
- ♪ God's Word forever shall abide, No thanks to foes, who fear it;
For God Himself fights by our side With weapons of the Spirit.
Were they to take our house, Goods, honor, child, or spouse,
Though life be wrenched away, They cannot win the day. The Kingdom's ours forever!

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Invocation

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

Matthew 28:19b

Amen.

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

Who made heaven and earth.

Psalms 124:8

Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.

Romans 10:13, 10

Confession and Absolution

Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith and confess our sins unto God our Father, that we may receive His forgiveness.

O God, we believe Your Word is true for it reveals our sin for which we deserve Your rebuke and judgment. Yet even more, we believe in Your promise of mercy and forgiveness for the sake of Christ. We therefore confess to You all our sins. We plead the suffering and sacrifice of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, as the all-sufficient price of our redemption, and beg Your grace and forgiveness for the sake of faith in our Savior alone. Hear us in Your mercy and according to Your promise in Christ, our Lord.

A Time of Silence

“Because you have made the Lord your dwelling place—the Most High, who is my refuge.”

Psalms 91:9

Upon this, your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Introit

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. *Psalm 91:15–16*

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.

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

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

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

Psalm 91:9–13

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.

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.

Psalm 91:15–16

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

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Old Testament Reading *Please Be Seated*

Deuteronomy 26:1–11

¹“When you come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you for an inheritance and have taken possession of it and live in it, ²you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from your land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket, and you shall go to the place that the Lord your God will choose, to make his name to dwell there. ³And you shall go to the priest who is in office at that time and say to him, ‘I declare today to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our fathers to give us.’ ⁴Then the priest shall take the basket from your hand and set it down before the altar of the Lord your God.

⁵“And you shall make response before the Lord your God, ‘A wandering Aramean was my father. And he went down into Egypt and sojourned there, few in number, and there he became a nation, great, mighty, and populous. ⁶And the Egyptians treated us harshly and humiliated us and laid on us hard labor. ⁷Then we cried to the Lord, the God of our fathers, and the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. ⁸And the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great deeds of terror, with signs and wonders. ⁹And he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. ¹⁰And behold, now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground, which you, O Lord, have given me.’ And you shall set it down before the Lord your God and worship before the Lord your God. ¹¹And you shall rejoice in all the good that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house, you, and the Levite, and the sojourner who is among you.

The Epistle

Romans 10:8–13

⁸But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. ¹¹For the Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.” ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. ¹³For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

Gradual Hymn

“God Loved the World”

- ♪ God loved the world so that He gave His only Son the lost to save,
That all who would in Him believe Should everlasting life receive.
- ♪ Christ Jesus is the ground of faith, Who was made flesh and suffered death;
All then who trust in Him alone Are built on this chief cornerstone.
- ♪ God would not have the sinner die; His Son with saving grace is nigh;
His Spirit in the Word declares How we in Christ are heaven’s heirs.
- ♪ Be of good cheer, for God’s own Son Forgives all sins which you have done;
And, justified by Jesus’ blood, Your Baptism grants the highest good.
- ♪ If you are sick, if death is near, This truth your troubled heart can cheer:
Christ Jesus saves your soul from death; That is the firmest ground of faith.

Please Stand

- ♪ Glory to God the Father, Son, And Holy Spirit, Three in One!
To You, O blessed Trinity, Be praise now and eternally!

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 571-Text: Heiliges Lippen und Hertzens-Opffer, Stettin c. 1778;
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Holy Gospel

Luke 4:1–13

¹And Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness ²for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing during those days. And when they were ended, he was hungry. ³The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread.” ⁴And Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone.’” ⁵And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, ⁶and said to him, “To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. ⁷If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” ⁸And Jesus answered him, “It is written,
“‘You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve.’”

⁹And he took him to Jerusalem and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰for it is written,
“‘He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you,’ ¹¹and
“‘On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.’”
¹²And Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’” ¹³And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time.

Children’s Message *Please Be Seated*

The Hymn

“On Eagles’ Wings”

- ♪ You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, Who abide in His shadow for life,
Say to the Lord: “My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!”
~And He will raise you up on eagles’ wings, Bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun, And hold you in the palm of His hand.
♪ The snare of the fowler will never capture you, And famine will bring you no fear;
Under His wings your refuge, His faithfulness your shield. ~And He...
♪ You need not fear the terror of the night, Nor the arrow that flies by day;
Though thousands fall about you, Near you it shall not come. ~And He...
♪ For to His angels He’s given a command To guard you in all of your ways;
Upon their hands they will bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone. ~And He....

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 727 - Text & Tune: Michael Joncas b. 1951; © OCP Publications; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.

Proclamation of the Word

“With Outstretched Arms”

Deuteronomy 26:1–11

Apostles’ Creed

Offering and Musical Offering

Prayer of the Church *Please Stand Each petition is concluded with the following:*

Lord, in Your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Lord’s Prayer

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on You with favor and + give You peace.
Amen.

Numbers 6:24–26

Recessional Hymn *Please Be Seated*

“Jesus Lead Thou On”

- ♪ Jesus, lead Thou on Till our rest is won; And although the way be cheerless,
We will follow calm and fearless. Guide us by Thy hand to our fatherland.
♪ If the way be drear, If the foe be near, Let not faithless fears o’ertake us;
Let not faith and hope forsake us; For through many a woe To our home we go.
♪ When we seek relief From a long-felt grief, When temptations come alluring,
Make us patient and enduring. Show us that bright shore Where we weep no more.
♪ Jesus, lead Thou on Till our rest is won. Heav’nly leader, still direct us,
Still support, console, protect us, Till we safely stand In our fatherland.

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Postlude