

SERVICE ORDER AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

FEBRUARY 21, 2021

THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

SERVICE ORDER

Confession:

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.

Silence is kept for reflection.

**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.

Opening Hymn: #857 (sing twice) “Lord, I Lift Your Name On High”

Prayer of the Day: 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.

Lesson: Mark 1:9-15

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.”

Sermon

Sermon hymn: # 763 “My Life Flows On In Endless Song”

Prayer

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

In Jesus your realm has come near to us in every place and time. In difficult times, assure us of Your presence and grant us the grace to leave the wilderness to renewed purpose and stronger love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You have made a covenant of mercy with every living creature. Protect all the earth’s creatures from destruction. Empower the work of biologists, conservationists, and science educators. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

All your paths are steadfast love and faithfulness. Direct the words and actions of leaders in our community and throughout the world, that they may maintain justice for the lowly. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Even in the wilderness you are with us. Tend to those whose lives feel desolate. Give healing and strength to all who suffer. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Holy Communion: Words of Institution

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.**

Home Distribution

Post-Communion blessing and prayer

Benediction

Closing Music: Bell Choir: "Almighty"

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WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor Susan Berge Church Musicians: Lawrence Burkhard and Karen Johnson

Lector: Laurie Jackson Videographer: Scott Shelerud

Special Music: Knife River Ringers; Sam Black, director

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

KNIFE RIVER PRAYER LIST

In need of healing: Veronica Persons, Susan Anderson, Elsa Keeler, Becca Kuechle, Les Bolen, Fred Wright, Reid Carson, Kayla Davidson, Archie Moore, Pastor John Reppe, Faith Swanson, Seth Goodnature, Pat Hovis, Sarah Monaghan, Melyssa Bloom, DeWayne and Maurine Rubedor, Bill Crandall, Ella Jackson, Miranda and baby David Jackson, Blair Raycraft, Del Hubbartt, Susan Hubbartt, Phil Berge, Harriet Dahl, Sara Ojard, Amy Hatton-Walters, Carol Carlson, Tom Gould, Dick Sigel, Gail Safstrom, Diane Friebe, Dave Olin, Kevin Roby

Long Term Concerns: Sue Sigel, Laurie Jackson, David Pierce, Jan Moon, Pat Hanson, Dani Mattson, Lyle Northey, Leif Zmolek, Kane Bolen, Aspen Winbigler, Deb Allert, Peggy B., Corine Sutherland, Dennis Swanson

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Today, Sunday, February 21: Virtual Worship

1:00 PM-Zoom practice for Annual meeting! (see below)

Monday, February 22-10 AM-Worship Committee meets online

Lenten email study(see below)

Tuesday, February 23: 9 AM - Lectio Divina/Dig Deeper online

Wednesday, February 24-Midweek devotion and announcements posted/sent

6 PM-Lenten evening study(see below)

Sunday, February 28, 10 AM-Congregational Annual meeting online-(see below)

Zoom Practice for Annual Meeting Today! 1 PM!

Go to www.zoom.us

Click on Join Meeting

Enter

Meeting ID 884 7963 4235

Passcode 713784

KRLC Annual Meeting for Feb. 28

Go to www.zoom.us

Click on Join Meeting

Enter

Meeting ID 857 8772 0043

Passcode 776246

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING- SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 10 AM

Because of the Coronavirus, our meeting will be held virtually this year, with the link sent out well in advance. Our intent is to include as many as possible on zoom, and to that end, there will be a practice session the preceding Sunday, February 21st, at 1 PM. This is an opportunity to practice logging in, seeing how things work, and practice voting. It's not hard! The information needed is printed above.

We also hope to include those who do not have such internet access, and so votes by email or telephone call are also allowed, up to an hour after the Zoom portion of the Annual Meeting is concluded. The reports have been sent out, so that everyone has a chance to review them. They have been emailed to all on our usual list and sent by postal mail to those who usually receive their bulletins and sermons that way. If you would like a full report sent by mail to you, rather than by email, let Melanie know! The content of the meeting will be brief, as recommended by the Synod: elections and budget will be the main items.

SMART TEAM/COUNCIL UPDATE

This past week our Council passed two important recommendations from our Smart Team. These recommendations were made –after thoughtful deliberation and considerable discussion-- as a result of the greatly reduced number of cases of Covid-19 both statewide and in our area, the greatly reduced positivity rate of the virus in the state and in our area, and the increasing number of those vaccinated in our state and area. These recommendations, made by the Smart Team and approved by the Council, are as follows:

Recommendation 1: We recommend that our church building be once again open to use by small groups of 10 or less under the precautions set forth in earlier approved recommendations, including safe distancing, wearing masks, signing in, using hand sanitizer, no food consumed or kitchen use, meeting downstairs in lower level and using that door whenever possible. This would take effect Feb. 21.

Recommendation 2: We recommend that we proceed on the idea of in-building worship starting up again the Sunday following Easter, April 11, under appropriate precautions and guidelines similar to those of recommendation 1, but allowing for greater numbers. If this is approved by the council as a tentative goal, then the Smart Team, the Worship Committee, and the Tech Team will all go ahead and make concrete plans to be provided to the council by the March 7 meeting for further discussion. This recommendation also allows for funerals and Holy Baptisms for groups of 25 or less to occur, as had earlier been adopted by the Council, prior to the surge of the virus in November and December.

IMPORTANT NOTES ABOUT THESE RECOMMENDATIONS:

Here are some things that we will be considering as a Smart Team, a Worship Committee, a Church Council, and a congregation as we move forward with these recommendations: we will need to find and train ushers specifically for this time of transitional worship; we will need to find a way to continue our online worship services for those unable to attend; we will need to determine safe arrangements for seating in the sanctuary; we will need to find the best ways to

slowly phase back into activities like hand shaking, coffee fellowship, children's involvement, and so on.

FURTHERMORE, if the situation changes and coronavirus numbers begin to surge again, we will immediately step back from these recommendations.

ABOVE ALL, KEEP IN MIND:

*Our initial worship experience will NOT be just like worship had been prior to March of 2020. We will be masked, distanced, unable to sing hymns, unable to share coffee time afterwards. We need to have realistic expectations and be patient with the process that over time will eventually and safely allow for all of those wonderful things we so miss!

*Many will not feel initially comfortable with returning to in-building worship, and that is completely understandable and, in some cases, wise! No one is going to be judged for the choice they make, and no one is going to be overlooked! WE WILL CONTINUE to provide online worship services for those unable to attend in-building. These online services will also likely be different at first as we figure out how to do things differently. Again, patience and more realistic expectations will be essential!

LENTEN STUDY OPPORTUNITIES:

Wednesday Evening Lenten Book Study on Zoom Meeting at Six

There is still plenty of room and time to join the study of **Plenty Good Room: A Lenten Bible Study Based on African American Spirituals** by Marilyn E. Thornton and Lewis V. Baldwin. The first of six **one-hour meetings** is **February 24th**. If you can't join right at **6:00 pm**, that is okay. During the meeting, we will visit, listen to spiritual music and reflect on the reading (seven pages/week). Past Lenten studies at Knife River Lutheran Church included a simple soup supper. In that tradition, participants are welcome to eat dinner during the Zoom meeting.

The book is available in paperback and in Kindle format from AMAZON (\$9.99). Barnes & Noble at the Duluth location estimates delivery time to be less than two weeks. Local booksellers may also be able to order the book

If you are interested in joining the Zoom meetings, please send e-mail to randi.alreck@gmail.com or text to 218-349-3788. The Zoom ID and password will be sent to you.

LENTEN STUDY FROM LYLE NORTHEY

Due to the pandemic, we will not have in-person Lenten Bible studies, but 4 revised lessons on the Gospel of Mark will be available to anyone who wishes to receive one. Ash Wednesday begins early this year, February 17th, and our first of four will go out on Monday, February 22nd with the others on the three succeeding Mondays. If interested please send Lyle Northey (northneys@frontiernet.net) your desire to have a copy sent to your e-mail box.

GUESS WHO TURNED 97 ON FEBRUARY 18???

Our own dear Audrey Carlson!! Happiest of birthdays to our matriarch and most wonderful, kind sister in Christ! We love you, Audrey, and wish you many more glorious days!!

NEW OPTION FOR ONLINE OFFERING

We are now offering the option to submit your weekly offerings online. Simply click on the link on the church's home page that states "NEW: Make online donation here via Subsplash" and watch for the link on upcoming YouTube videos. Make a one-time donation, or set up a recurring offering that allows you to support the church even when you're away.

OFFERING ENVELOPES

In order to be united with your offering envelopes, please call Melanie and arrange a pick up time. Thanks!

PHOTO REQUESTS FOR ONLINE WORSHIP

We are asking people NOT to submit pictures of children without parents' permission. It is also important NOT to submit pictures from magazines, websites or sources that may be under copyright or ownership of others. Original photos preferred. Thank you!!

WHO ARE WE MISSING?

We are attempting to cast our net wide in sending out these emails, along with postings on Facebook and our church website. Additionally, we are sending snail mail copies to those who are without online resources. If you know of someone we are missing, please let us know, so we may include them too!

MASK MESSAGE FROM JOANIE LEE We continue to make masks, and realize that masks wear out from wearing and washing. Please don't hesitate to ask for replacements. We have plenty. Contact at joanielee14@gmail.com
