

February 21, 2021

Online worship

First Sunday in Lent



St. Paul Lutheran Church

Beloit, Wisconsin

Worship Bulletin

Website: www.stpaulbeloit.org

Facebook: [facebook.com/STPAULLUTHERANCHURCHBELOIT/](https://www.facebook.com/STPAULLUTHERANCHURCHBELOIT/)

YouTube: <https://bit.ly/3bcHEV9>

GATHERING – *The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
the keeper of the covenant, the source of steadfast love, our rock and our redeemer.

Pastor: Gracious God, we find ourselves in circumstances we have not chosen, and we scurry to find any sense of normalcy.

All: We know that You are the Rock, yet we lean on other foundations;
We know that You are sovereign, but we seek security in our own control;
We know that You give comfort, but we elevate comforts of our own design;
We know that You satisfy, but we keep scrolling;
We know that You set us free, but addictions grip us tightly;
We know that You call us to rest, but we keep struggling.
By grace, forgive us. In mercy, meet us. By Your Holy Spirit, equip us to walk in the newness of life-with-Jesus.

Pastor: 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.

All: Amen.

Adapted from Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church, as found on thepastorsworkshop.com/prayers-of-confession-for-the-covid-19-pandemic, and Sundays and Seasons.

GATHERING SONG

Eternal Lord of Love, Behold Your Church

ELW 321
See page 7

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

God of untraveled desert, whose Son walked untamed amidst the wild animals and spirits, whose kingdom is not distant but is breaking in among us: give us time and space to find a new identity, to let go of control and walk the pilgrim way; through Jesus Christ, who is the good news of salvation.

All: Amen.

WORD – *God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

FIRST READING

GENESIS 9:8-17

Today's reading is the conclusion to the flood story. Because of human sin, God destroys the earth by flood, saving only Noah, his family, and the animals on the ark. Yet divine destruction gives way to divine commitment. As in the first creation, God blesses humanity and establishes a covenant with all creatures.

⁸God said to Noah and to his sons with him, ⁹"I am now setting up my covenant with you, with your descendants, ¹⁰and with every living being with you—with the birds, with the large animals, and with all the animals of the earth, leaving the ark with you. ¹¹I will set up my covenant with you so that never again will all life be cut off by floodwaters. There will never again be a flood to destroy the earth."

¹²God said, "This is the symbol of the covenant that I am drawing up between me and you and every living thing with you, on behalf of every future generation. ¹³I have placed my bow in the clouds; it will be the symbol of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, ¹⁵I will remember the covenant between me and you and every living being among all the creatures. Floodwaters will never again destroy all creatures. ¹⁶The bow will be in the clouds, and upon seeing it I will remember the enduring covenant between God and every living being of all the earth's creatures." ¹⁷God said to Noah, "This is the symbol of the covenant that I have set up between me and all creatures on earth."

Reader: Word of God, Word of Life.

All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL

MARK 1:9-15

The Spirit that comes upon Jesus at his baptism sustains him when he is tested by Satan so that he might proclaim the good news of God's reign.

⁹About that time, Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and John baptized him in the Jordan River. ¹⁰While he was coming up out of the water, Jesus saw heaven splitting open and the Spirit, like a dove, coming into him. ¹¹And there was a voice from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I dearly love; in you I am deeply pleased."

¹²At once the Spirit forced Jesus out into the wilderness. ¹³He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan. He was among the wild animals, and the angels took care of him.

¹⁴After John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee announcing God's good news, ¹⁵saying, "Now is the time! Here comes God's kingdom! Change your hearts and lives, and trust this good news!"

SERMON

PASTOR LUCY WYNARD

SONG OF THE DAY

Thy Holy Wings

ELW 613

See page 8

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

You are encouraged to share your prayer concerns by typing a name or a few words in the comment box on YouTube or Facebook, or by saying the names aloud.

Intercessor: Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need. *A brief silence.*

Intercessor: In Jesus your kingdom has come near to us in every place and time. Give your church throughout the world a spirit of humility and repentance; teach us to trust always in the good news of your salvation. . . . As your body we pray.

All: Let us know You by Your love.

Intercessor: 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, science educators and ordinary people to preserve your handiwork. . . . As your body we pray.

All: Let us know You by Your love.

Intercessor: 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 continuously seek justice for the poor, oppressed and overlooked. . . . As your body we pray.

All: Let us know You by Your love.

Intercessor: Even in the wilderness you are with us. Walk alongside migrants and refugees crossing dangerous lands. Tend to those whose lives feel desolate. Give healing and strength to all who suffer, in mind, body or spirit. . . . We pray especially for those on our hearts, whom we name now . . . (. . . *pause 10 seconds* . . .). . . . As your body we pray.

All: Let us know You by Your love.

Intercessor: In the covenant of baptism you claim us as beloved children. Build us up in our baptismal identity as your family and teach us to live it out daily for the sake of others. Strengthen St. Paul's ministries of outreach and inreach as we live in your love. . . . as your body we pray.

All: Let us know You by Your love.

Intercessor: In baptism you join us to the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We praise you for all those who have died trusting in your faithfulness. . . . (. . . *pause* . . .). . . . Bring us with them to the fullness of your reign. . . . As your body we pray.

All: Let us know You by Your love.

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

All: Amen.

OFFERING

You are encouraged to continue to give as you are able in this time of worshiping online. You can mail your offerings to St. Paul: 617 St. Lawrence Ave, Beloit, WI 53511. Or give online at: <https://tithe.ly/give?c=531526>. Please check the eNews and newsletter for other ways to support God's Work, Our Hands in our community and around the world.

Our Lenten offerings this year are designated for the ministry of Family Promise of Greater Beloit, whose ministry aims to transform the lives of families experiencing homelessness – because every child deserves a home. For more information St. Paul's partnership with Family Promise and how you can volunteer, contact the church office.

LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

PEACE

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you always.

***People:* And also with you.**

Pastor: Take a moment to creatively share a sign of peace with those with you. Think of others whom you wish a blessing of Christ's peace. Pray for them briefly, and consider texting, calling, or writing them a note this week.

SENDING – *God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

SENDING SONG

Revelation Song

Jennie Lee Riddle

Verse 1

Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain
Holy holy is He
Sing a new song to Him Who sits on
Heaven's mercy seat

Chorus

Holy holy holy
Is the Lord God Almighty
Who was and is and is to come
With all creation I sing
Praise to the King of kings
You are my ev'rything
And I will adore You

Verse 2

Clothed in rainbows of living color
Flashes of lightning rolls of thunder
Blessing and honor strength and glory
And power be to You the only wise King

Verse 3

Filled with wonder awestruck wonder
At the mention of Your name
Jesus Your name is power breath and living water
Such a marv'lous mystery yeah

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SENDING BLESSING & DISMISSAL

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, “Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you.” May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: God bless you ☩ that you may be a blessing, in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity. Go in peace. Share the Good News.

People: Thanks be to God.

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SERVING YOU TODAY

Pastor
Organist & Director of Music
Reader
Intercessor

Rev. Lucy Wynard
David Frank
Connie Heins
Hayden Murry

PRAYER LIST

Names will usually be kept on the prayer list for two months unless otherwise requested. To have yourself or someone else added to the prayer list, please let us know.

We offer our prayers and deepest condolences to the family and all who loved Gladys Weeden, who passed away on February 1, and to the family and all who loved Jim Knaub, Glenda Liptow's brother, who passed away on February 13, 2021.

May God comfort and sustain those who mourn.

Lindsey (Cathy Oswald's daughter); **Rick M.**; **Roger E.**; **Amy F.**; **Kathy W.** (Pastor Lucy's mother-in-law); **Lynn** (Jan Knutson's college friend); **Jane** and **Egil**; **Tom** (Billie Kenitzer's brother); **RL**; **Kathy P.**; **Juelane** (Mark Mueller's sister); **Larry & Shayne M.** (St. Paul Soup Lunch friends); **Carol M.**; **Timothy** (Gladys Weeden's son); **Shirley** (Ken Harris's mother); **Ashley H.**; **Debbie** (Chet Organ's sister); **Todd** (Chet Organ's friend); **all who have been diagnosed with or are waiting for test results or are otherwise affected by COVID-19; those affected by the violence in our nation and around the world; and friends and family in the military.**



1 E - ter - nal Lord of love, be - hold your church
 2 So dai - ly dy - ing to the way of self,
 3 If dead in you, so in you we a - rise,



walk - ing once more the pil - grim way of Lent,
 so dai - ly liv - ing in your way of love,
 you the first - born of all the faith - ful dead;



led by your cloud by day, by night your fire,
 we walk the road, Lord Je - sus, that you trod,
 and as through ston - y ground the green shoots break,



moved by your love and toward your pres - ence bent:
 know - ing our - selves bap - tized in - to your death:
 glo - rious in spring - time dress of leaf and flow'r,



far off yet here— the goal of all de - sire.
 so we are dead and live with you in God,
 so in - to life and glo - ry shall we wake.

Text: Thomas H. Cain, 1931–2003

Music: OLD 124TH, *Trente quatre psaumes de David*, Geneva, 1551

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1 Thy ho - ly wings, O Sav - ior, spread gent - ly o - ver me,
 2 Oh, let me nes - tle near thee, with - in thy down - y breast
 3 Oh, wash me in the wa - ters of No - ah's cleans - ing flood.

and let me rest se - cure - ly through good and ill in thee.
 where I will find sweet com - fort and peace with - in thy nest.
 Give me a will - ing spir - it, a heart both clean and good.

Oh, be my strength and por - tion, my rock and hid - ing place,
 Oh, close thy wings a - round me and keep me safe - ly there,
 Oh, take in - to thy keep - ing thy chil - dren great and small,

and let my ev - 'ry mo - ment be lived with - in thy grace,
 for I am but a new - born and need thy ten - der care.
 and while we sweet - ly slum - ber, en - fold us one and all,

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903, sts. 1, 3; Gracia Grindal, b. 1943, st. 2; tr. composite
 Music: BRED DENA VIDA VINGAR, Swedish folk tune; arr. hymnal version
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