

Second Sunday in Lent
February 25, 8:30 & 11:00 am

Messiah Lutheran Church

MessiahFairview.org

(440) 331-2405

Welcome to worship! We are delighted you are here and have chosen to worship today. We believe the Holy Spirit of God gathers us together as one. May you be strengthened through his word and the promise in our Lord Jesus Christ.

The mission statement of Messiah Church is: ***Drawing in to Christ, Building up in Christ, Sending out for Christ.*** Our aim is to love each other as Christ has loved us all. We continue to encourage sensible social distancing. If you wish to wear a mask, please do so. If you are feeling ill, please take precautions and consider worshipping via the livestream ministry of Messiah. Online services can be found at ***MessiahFairview.org***; click "***watch services***" ***online.***

Holy Communion is shared at every worship service. The sacrament of holy communion is central to our worship life. If you are a first-time worshipper here, know that you are invited to receive and partake in the sharing of holy communion.

Introduction to The Day

The second covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the one made with Abraham and Sarah: God's promise to make them the ancestors of many, with whom God will remain in everlasting covenant. Paul says this promise comes to all who share Abraham's faith in the God who brings life into being where there was no life. We receive this baptismal promise of resurrection life in faith. Sarah and Abraham receive new names as a sign of the covenant, and we too get new identities in baptism, as we put on Christ.

Second Sunday in Lent

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*The congregation is invited to participate at the places marked with **bold** type*

Prelude *Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart* Johann Alberti
 How Firm a Foundation setting by Michael Burkhardt

Gathering

Confession and Forgiveness

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

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

C Amen.

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

Silence is kept for self-examination.

P 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.

C Amen.

P 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.

C Amen.

Gathering Hymn *How Firm a Foundation* ELW 796

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

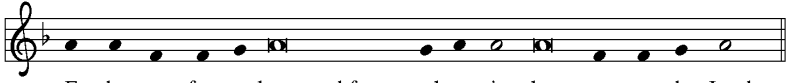
C And also with you.



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-va-tion, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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 mer - cy.



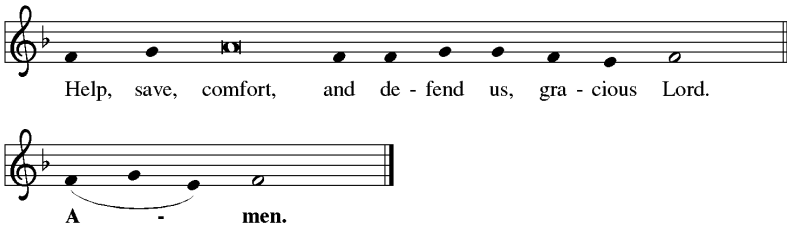
For this ho-ly house, and for all who of-fer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Prayer of the Day

P 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.

C Amen.

Sit

Word

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.”

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

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.

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation



Cantor/Choir: May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world is crucified to me, and I to the world. (Galations 6: 14)

Gospel

Mark 8: 31-38

P The Holy Gospel according to Mark.

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.

Sit

Sermon

Chris Neumann

Silence for Reflection; Stand

Hymn of the Day

Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart

ELW 750

Apostles Creed

ELW page 105

**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,
he 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.**

Prayers of Intercession

After each portion of the prayers:

A Lord in your mercy.

C Hear our prayer.

Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

Greet those around you with these or similar words.

Sit

The Lord's Supper

If the Lord so moves you, you can make an offering in support of the mission and ministry of Messiah by text to 855-913-1744 or by visiting our online giving portal at tinyurl.com/giveMLC

Offering is Received

Music at the Offering

(8:30)

Seed That in Earth Is Dying

ELW 330

(11:00)

Out of the Depths I Cry to Thee

arr. K. Lee Scott

Offertory

Create in Me a Clean Heart

ELW 188

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your
pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -
store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,
and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Stand as the Offerings are brought forward

A 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.

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.

P It is indeed right, our duty and joy . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy ELW page 162

The musical score is written on five staves of music. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.'

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na in the high - est.

P Blessed are you, O God of the universe.

Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age...With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Bless this feast.

Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Send us forth,
burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

We praise you, O God,
blessed and holy Trinity,
now and forever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Concerning the sacrament — Holy Communion is Christ's gift to his Church, his true body and blood given with bread and wine for us to eat and drink. Here Christ confirms in us the benefits of his death and resurrection. He forgives our sins, refreshes our lives, and promises our salvation. We welcome to the Lord's table all baptized and communing Christians who share this faith.

In receiving, please follow the lead of the people around you. Gluten-free hosts are available for those who need them. Quietly ask the pastor for the Gluten-free host. If coming forward not to commune but to receive a blessing, approach the pastor with your arms crossed. If you are physically unable to come forward, simply let an usher or deacon know you would like to receive communion at your seat.

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; grant us peace. A-men.

Sit

Communion

Distribution Hymns

All My Hope on God Is Founded

ELW 757

Christ Is the Life

ACS 927

1 Christ is the life of all that is, God's pure cre-a-tive
 2 Christ is the death of all that is; a broad and beck-'ning
 3 Christ is the death of all that is, a bright, con-sum-ing
 4 Christ is the life of all that is, Be-gin-ning and the

Word, whose pow'r be-yond and through all space the
 tomb, who wel-comes us from well-worn ways to
 fire, whose flames re-quire our pri-or self as
 End; cre-a-tive force, most peace-ful death, trans-

worlds to Be-ing stirred. Christ is the life be-yond all
 dark-ness of the womb. Christ is the death, the sink-ing
 kin-dling for the pyre. Christ is the death of dust-y
 form-ing burn-ing brand. Christ is the life, in whose wise



time, cre - a - tion's birth and breath, whose la - bor
 down past all de - sire and fear, whose prom - ise
 days of un - cre - a - tive strife, for out from
 love cre - a - tion lives and dies and thus for -



brings all things to be and brings all things to death.
 in the gen - tle dark bids new - ness to ap - pear.
 fire we tread up - on the thresh - old of new life.
 ev - er - more shall bless the Source, the liv - ing Christ.

Stand after all have communed

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

C Amen.

A 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.

C Amen.

Sending

P Beloved,
 we are God's own people,
 holy, washed, renewed.
 God bless you and keep you,
 shower you with mercy,
 fill you with courage,
 and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

Sending Hymn

Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said

ELW 667

Dismissal

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Why Shall I Grieve?

Johann Gottfried Walther

Serving Today

Preaching Today – Chris Neumann

Presiding Today - Rev. Seth Bridger

Acolyte –Paige Neumann (8:30)

Deacon – Michael Eckert & Alyssa Dory (8:30) Terrie Leske (11:00)

Interim Music Director – Deborah Zudell-Dickey

Altar Guild –Ruth Mortensen, Maria Geier

In Our Prayers

- For faith to deepen during the 40 days of Lent, and blessings upon the weekly Wednesday evening soup suppers, confirmation classes, and evening prayer worship.
- For all in harms way due to violence and warfare, those experiencing economic hardships, and all who serve in areas of public safety.
- For the Senior Pastor Call process, that the Holy Spirit guide the discernment of candidates and those serving on the Pastoral Call Committee: Sam Gmetro, John Hayduk, Jay Machado, Kathy Neumann, Allison Younger-Waugaman, and Karen Wolf.
- For those with health concerns: Jim Schultz, Maddie Polenz, Steve Reutschi, Rev. Daniel Benuska, Marilyn Sheerer, Leo McDonald (grandson of Dianne), Kristy Younger, Jodi Hoffman, Cliff Preuss, Sue Nerlinger, Terri Civittolo, Liz Dimmock, Nina Long, Evelyn and Churchill Ward, Andrew Boraggina, Marc Heidmann, Officer Nickolas, Baby Miles, Carla (friend of Rita-Ann Shaffer), Lisa (friend of Jim Huetter), Karen Wolf's mom, Amy Roman's father, those quietly receiving medical treatments, and those experiencing mental health concerns.

This Week's Commemorations

Feb. 25—ELIZABETH FEDDE, d. 1921, a Norwegian deaconess who served the poor in Brooklyn and Minneapolis.

Mar. 1—GEORGE HERBERT, d. 1633, English priest, poet, and hymnwriter.

Mar. 2—JOHN WESLEY (d. 1791), founder of the Methodist movement, and CHARLES WESLEY (d. 1788), John's brother and one of the greatest of English hymnwriters.

God's Word for Next Week Third Sunday in Lent

Exodus 20: 1-17, Psalm 19, 1 Corinthians 1: 18-25,
John 2: 13-22

We encourage you to read the lessons as part of your preparation for worship next week.

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Warum sollt ich mich denn grämen (Why Should I Grieve?) Johann Gottfried Walther, Bärenreiter 1967

Messiah Lutheran Church

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E-mail – church@messiahfp.org

Connect with Messiah – text 'MESSIAHFP' to 84576 to sign-up

Messiah Lutheran School

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www.messiahfairview.org

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Servants and Missionaries – All MLC members

Pastor – The Rev. Seth C. Bridger

Pastoral Assistant – Deaconess Ruth Mortensen

Interim Music Director – Deborah Zudell-Dickey

Minister of Youth – Adonai Henderson

Technology Manager – Jared Waugaman

Building Manager – Jason Reynolds

Messiah School Principal – Helen Casselberry

Administrator & Pierstorf College Fund Director – Darlene Waugh

Communications Coordinator – Sarah Heinsbergen

Bookkeeper & Pierstorf College Fund Business Manager – Lisa Daley

Administrative Assistant – Diane Ward



MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Drawing in to Christ. Building up in Christ. Sending out for Christ.

To the glory of God, through the strength of the Spirit.