

OPENDOOR

MARCH 2022



HOLY TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE REV. DR. WILLIAM O. GAFKJEN, BISHOP,
INVITES YOU TO A SERVICE OF INSTALLATION

for

Rev. Elizabeth Lee

10:00 AM EST (9:00 AM CST)
Sunday, March 6, 2022
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
1005 N. 21st St.
Lafayette, IN 47904

Bishop William O. Gafkjen will preach and preside.
Rev. Lee has been called as pastor to **Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in** Lafayette, Indiana. Masks are required. Individual communion sets will be available on a table as you enter the sanctuary.

Live-streamed versions of the service will be available.



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2022

Recognition Awards



Diane Longdo received the Paul Slavens Award in recognition of her outreach and leadership efforts. She served as the Chairperson of the Call Committee, reached out to visiting families while also guiding the youth program.



Floyd Garrott received the Wayne Barnaby Award for his property and grounds care. Serving as the church "Rose Whisperer" his advice was often requested. He mowed frequently, kept equipment in good working order and was a regular presence at each cleanup event,



The top spot for the 2022 Adopt-A-Spot award went to Don Lambert for the "showcase" flower and plant display around the gazebo. It's a very visible location that looked great all season. Thank you Don!



Nita Cunningham received the one and only "2022 All-Star Award" for all the times she stepped up to bat whenever needed. She is a multi-talented and generous lady who served as Council President during a time without a pastor which meant she was faced with many decisions and dilemmas. Leading worship, zooming meetings, dealing with the synod, instituting the "care team" and marshalling volunteers for all sorts of tasks. She and her patient husband, Walt, deserve a cheer from the HTLC fan club.

Let's get Pastor Elizabeth and her family off to a good start...

We can learn from others about some good practices to help our new pastor begin a vibrant ministry at HTLC. Here are a few ideas suggested by leaders in other church communities embraced by our welcome team.

- Pray for your new pastor and her family. Pray for a smooth transition. Pray for God to give Pastor Elizabeth a vision and a passion for HTLC. Pray that her family is welcomed and embraced in our community so that they soon feel at home here.
- Put yourself in her shoes, which is basically the idea behind The Golden Rule: "Do for others what you want them to do for you..." --Matthew 7:12.

Try to imagine how you would feel if you're walking into a brand new church in a brand new town with a brand new group of people whose names you don't know. What would you want people to do for you?

- Introduce yourself! That's the idea behind the welcome letter request. Drop your note in the basket located in the lounge. Be graceful if she can't recall your name.
- You might love it if people gave you gift cards to their favorite local places, because that would help you get to know the community.
- You might appreciate having some food dropped off or maybe an invitation to go out to lunch.

- Let Pastor Elizabeth use her Spiritual Gifts (Romans 12:3-8) Paul mentions seven Spiritual Gifts: Prophecy, Serving, Teaching, Encouraging, Giving, Leadership, Mercy. These are special abilities, given by the Holy Spirit, to accomplish the mission of the church. Every Christian has at least one of these. No one person has all the gifts! God made us incomplete on purpose so that we would need each other. But it's easy for us to expect pastors to have **all the gifts**. We often think every pastor should be ... An inspiring preacher, An insightful teacher, A visionary leader, An organized administrator, A compassionate caregiver, A wise counselor, An evangelist who's always out in the community, And a chaplain who's always in the homes of church members. There's not a single one of us who does all those things well, even pastors! As Paul says: We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us (Romans 12:6).
- Be open to what God wants to do through Pastor Elizabeth. God can do amazing things with people who are receptive to a bit of change.



An Interfaith Call to Peace for Ukraine

February 24, 2022

Though we have been anxious about the recent growing tensions between Ukraine and Russia and between Russia and the NATO countries in recent weeks, we remain deeply concerned, as we have been since 2014, for the impact of this ongoing conflict on innocent civilians throughout Ukraine. All parties to the conflict must take every measure possible to protect civilians. All parties and the international community must renew efforts to de-escalate this threat to international peace and security.

All our religious traditions call us to pray and work for peace. We join our voices and hands together. We must open our eyes to those who are suffering, and we cannot remain indifferent to the injustice this conflict has brought on the people of Ukraine and may bring on people of neighboring countries.

We call on all those involved—whether governments, movements or individuals—to repent of aggression and violence, and turn instead to the way of peace through dialogue. We also call upon the faithful people of our congregations and communities to pray for wisdom, peace and justice to prevail in Ukraine.

Join us as we pray:

Oh Divine, most mighty, most merciful, our sacred stories tell us that you help and save your people. You are the fortress: may there be no more war. You are the harvest: may there be no more hunger. You are the light: may no one die alone or in despair. Oh Divine, most majestic, most motherly, grant us your life. Amen.

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton

Presiding Bishop, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Rev. Eddy Alemán

General Secretary, Reformed Church in America

The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry

Presiding Bishop and Primate, The Episcopal Church

Rev. Dr. John C. Dorhauer

General Minister and President, United Church of Christ, National Ministries

Bishop Sally Dyck

Ecumenical Officer, The United Methodist Church

Rev. Teresa Hord Owens

General Minister and President, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the US and Canada

Bishop Teresa Jefferson-Snorton

Fifth Episcopal District, The Christian Methodist Episcopal Church

Chair, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA

President, Churches Uniting in Christ

Rev. Dr. Betsy Miller

President, Provincial Elders' Conference, Moravian Church Northern Province

Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson, II

Stated Clerk of the General Assembly, Presbyterian Church (USA)

Mr. Basharat Saleem

Executive Director, Islamic Society of North America

Dr. Tarunjit Singh Butalia

Executive Director, Religions for Peace USA

Rev. Chris Thore

President, Provincial Elders' Conference, Moravian



Be a part of the response:

Pray: Please pray for people who have been affected by the crisis in Ukraine. May God's healing presence give them courage and help in their time of need.

Give: Thanks to generous donations, Lutheran Disaster Response and Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS) have excellent track records in responding quickly and effectively to disasters around the globe. Learn more: <https://www.lirs.org/ukraine-crisis> and <https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/Lutheran-Disaster-Response>

Right now, according to the Doomsday Clock, we're just 100 seconds from Armageddon.

A group of researchers established *The Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists* in 1947 to help alert humanity to the perils of atomic age



weaponry. Very few people paid attention until 1949, when the group invented the metaphor of a clock ticking ominously toward the extinction of human civilization.

Year by year the time on the clock is “set” by a panel of scientists who assess the world’s current threat levels of nuclear war, climate change, and other hints of the Apocalypse.

The original setting was 11:53 pm. Since then the minute hand has been adjusted 24 times – backward eight times and forward (closer to the end of the world) 16 times.

Until recently, the nearest the clock had been to midnight was 1953. That year the hands were moved to 11:58 pm because both the Americans and the Soviets had begun testing the hydrogen bomb – and also possibly because that was the year I was born.

That mark was surpassed in January 2020, when the panel of scientists – concerned about the nuclear saber-rattling of America and North Korea – opted for 11:58:20 pm. That’s where Doom Time has remained for the past two years.

The Doomsday Clock has been generating a low-grade fever of overwhelming dread for 73 years now, leaving the rest of us feeling utterly helpless.

But not everyone is shaking in their shoes.

In their book *Clear and Present Safety*, Michael Cohen and Micah Zenko make a case that the world has never been a safer place. Since September 11, 2001, Americans have spent trillions of dollars fighting wars, patrolling the nation’s borders, and shoring up transportation security – even though the actual threat of a major terrorist incursion on our soil (from outsiders, at least) appears to be vanishingly small. Global security remains the hottest of hot issues during election cycles, however, and no one running for office can afford to look soft on military preparedness.

Cohen and Zenko agree that American lives really are at stake every day. It’s just that most of us don’t take those threats very seriously.

As a society, we’re overweight. We eat too many fried foods. We smoke too much, exercise too little, drive too fast and too often after having a few drinks. Incredibly, the number of privately owned firearms in our country exceeds the population.

The Doomsday Clock, meanwhile, gets all the headlines. It’s easy to forget that the “current time” is entirely subjective. The artist who crafted the first image set the minute hand at seven minutes before midnight “because it looked good to my eye.” Even though the clock has never been more optimistic than 17 minutes before midnight, here we are after more than seven decades – still plugging away day after day in the longest-ever period of human history without a major war.

Russia’s invasion of Ukraine this week is stirring old fears of global conflict.

What are we supposed to do with such anxiety?

Perhaps we can recall an event at the Continental Congress in Philadelphia early in the 1770s, when delegates from the various American colonies were debating whether to take the risk of declaring their independence from Great Britain.

As the discussion intensified, a violent thunderstorm closed in on the city. The meeting hall became so dark that some wondered aloud if the end of the world might be approaching. That’s

(Continued from page 5)

when Ben Franklin, ever the pragmatist, proposed that candles be brought into the room so the work might continue. That broke the spell.

Is there a civilization-terminating event in our near future? We can truthfully say that is God's department.

Only a few of us are specifically called to the high drama of making decisions and taking actions that by God's grace will steer humanity away from future catastrophes.

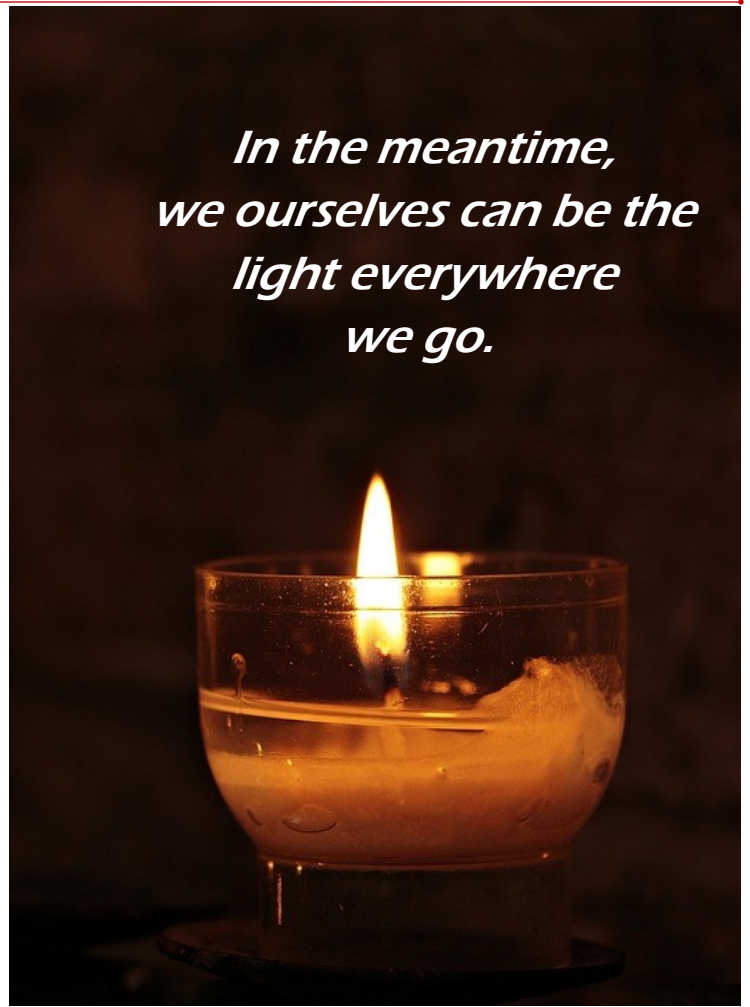
What can the rest of us do?

We're all called to pray. And all of us are called to "bring the candles" to every conversation, every meeting, and every event on today's calendar, no matter how dark things may seem.

Only God knows what time of day it really is.

In the meantime, we ourselves can *be the light* everywhere we go.

*In the meantime,
we ourselves can be the
light everywhere
we go.*



From "Morning Reflections" written by Glenn McDonald.



Glenn is an ordained Presbyterian minister, has 33 years of congregational leadership experience, and is the author of ten books on discipleship and spiritual formation.

Got a little spring fever?

The Property Committee has a cure! The team caring for the building and grounds is looking for a few more members. Touch base with Kevin Letcher.





PRAYER FOR OUR CHURCH

Faithful Father, we joyfully lift up the Lee family. We thank you for Pastor Elizabeth's call to Holy Trinity Lutheran.

Holy Spirit, we ask You to fill their home with Your gentleness, peace, joy, and Godly order. We ask You to bless Josh and their marriage as transitions are challenging times. Bless Xander, Nico, and Kenzie as they mature academically, socially, emotionally and spiritually in our midst.

Help our congregation members love and support them. Keep us all mindful of the importance of maintaining a balance in their public and private lives.

Thank you Lord for the opportunities ahead. Amen.



LET'S CELEBRATE

March Birthdays

- 2 Clarissa Bush
- 6 Gordon Rains
- 7 Jamie Crowe, Ethan Gustafson
- 10 Brian Glick
- 12 Jim Lichtenberger
- 13 Zachary Schwartz
- 16 Charles McDonald
- 20 Carol Purdy, Steve Hahn
- 27 Midge Habben
- 31 Jean Wagner, Paul Widmer, Paul Wenthold

March Anniversaries

- 2 Mike & Mary Anderson
- 17 Doug & Sue Phebus
- 29 Jim & Jean Wagner

Easter Flowers

If you would like to share a blooming plant with worshippers for a special Easter service, please look for an order form in the Lounge. Easter lilies, hyacinths, and tulips are available for \$9.00 each; you may place a check in the offering basket with "Easter Flowers" noted on the memo line. Orders are due by Sunday, March 20. You may take your plant home after the service.



FEBRUARY 14 COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

		In attendance?
President	Nita Cunningham	yes
Vice President	Kevin Letcher	yes
Financial Secretary	Floyd Garrott	yes
Treasurer	Stan Harlow	yes
Secretary	Elizabeth White	yes
Members	David Krueger	yes
	Bob Montgomery	yes
	Jim Smith	yes
	Mike Anderson	yes
	Vacancy	
Pastor of Record	Pastor Randy Schroeder	yes

Council Meeting Minutes



Topic 1: Greetings and Devotions –

Greetings– Hello from/to All

Quorum

All present, quorum established.

Devotions - Bob Montgomery

Approve agenda

Noted that the January congregation meeting minutes will be approved at the February congregational meeting. Modify this agenda appropriately.

Bob Montgomery moved to approved the draft agenda as modified. Voice vote to pass.

Topic 2: Administrative Topics

Approve January minutes

Mike Anderson moved to approve the January council meeting minutes as prepared. Voice vote to approve.

Pastor of Record report

Pastor Randy: All going well, no crises. Met w/ mutual ministry team. Welcome to Pastor Lee.

Topic 3: Treasurer's Report

Report sent ahead of the meeting, and attached in the Council section of 360Unite. Bob Montgomery moved to approve the Treasurer's report as provided. Approved via voice vote.

Topic 4: Old Business

Masks, singing, coffee

General agreement to continue mask wearing within HTLC, including Sunday service

Tippe county still RED. The general consensus was to start singing w/ masks. Hold off on coffee still.

Communion to be revisited after Pastor Lee arrives with Worship and Music.

Parish Administrator update

New administrator, Marianne Blickenstaff, working well.

Constitution update for continuing resolution related to Zoom and phone-in voting (January 2022 meeting topic 6)

Done. Sent to Synod and receipt acknowledged. Available on the Council page of 360Unite.

Late 2022/early 2023 constitution should be updated again as there will be a new revised template (model constitution) from the synod.

FEBRUARY COUNCIL CONTINUED

Topic 5: Congregational meeting

February 27, 11 am after service.

Pastor Randy has conflict w/ services at OSLC at this time. Checking on getting a rostered pastor for the meeting.

Nita sent agenda and minutes from last year. These minutes will be reviewed and approved.

The approval of the minutes from the January congregational meeting.

Zoom will be available but only for viewing, no interactive possible. Then no voting via Zoom. Quorum will be needed based on in-person attendance only.

Topic 6: Secretary – Recurring Tasks

List of tasks for the council and committees that need to not be forgotten...

All are encouraged to send tasks and ECW will update. Review again next time.

Topic 7: New Business

Business letters from the synod

Email from Jeffrey Prescott the missionary

Thank you for gifts for ELCA World Hunger

Thank you from Bishop for extra gift.

Thank you from Pastor Nyland for mission support funding.

Synod assembly, information for Pat and Floyd Garrott.

Playpen Sports Academy

Kevin Letcher: This organization has requested to use the field next to the parking lot for the summer months. Toddlers for tumbling and other activities. Requested for a certificate of insurance from the organization. Contacted our church insurance rep to check our policy.

Will need access to church for restrooms.

Question on zoning, neighbors. 3 days/week, a few hours each.

Kevin Letcher still working on details, and will take these questions into account. Will report back next meeting with additional information.

(Free) Tax preparation at HTLC

Stan Harlow: Is willing to offer free tax Q&A information to members of HTLC, to assist in completing a 1040. Something he does for Purdue students. Request to approve use of the church for these sessions. General agreement to proceed.

Topic 8: Pastor Elizabeth Lee

Start date Sunday March 6.

Welcoming arrangements

Welcome team, Pat Garrott, Diane Longdo, Pastor Jim Litchenberger and Nita Cunningham.

Gift card local business/restaurants, Zoo membership

Encourage all congregational members to write a note, w/ picture, to Pastor Elizabeth. Mail to church.

New member class, to include Pastor Elizabeth and Josh.

Installation

Sunday March 6. Bishop plans to attend if possible.

Need congregational representative to participate. Let Nita know if interested.

FEBRUARY COUNCIL CONTINUED

Topic 9: Committee Reports

Oral reports supplementing written submissions

Committee reports sent. Reports are attached in the Council section of 360Unite webpage.

Update from technology – suggestion to be able to use Zoom for committee meetings. Bob still doing some checking w/ tech committee members for details.

Walk-in topics

Topics from congregation members attending as visitors

None.

Topic 10: Closing

Prayers

Next meeting, Monday March 14, 2022 at 6:30pm

Dave Krueger motion to adjourn. Approved via voice vote. 7:50pm.



A Word From Pastor Steve Albertin



Thank you for the privilege and opportunity to provide Holy Trinity Lutheran Church pulpit supply during your pastoral vacancy over the

past year. It has been honor to serve in your midst. My time ended in February at the start of Lent with the arrival of your new pastor, Elizabeth Lee. With her leadership, you will have new opportunities to carry your ministry of the Gospel into your community. I will pray for your continued faithfulness.

I will continue to do pulpit supply and interim ministry in our synod. Since my retirement, I have made available to interested people (friends, former parishioners, students, relatives, colleagues, etc.) my sermons (including those I preached here at Holy Trinity) through text, audio and sometimes video through an email ministry called **“Faith Seeking Understanding.”** If you would like to receive these sermons in the future, please let me know at stalbertin94@gmail.com and I will put you on the list.

Christ bless your ministry!

Pastor Steve Albertin

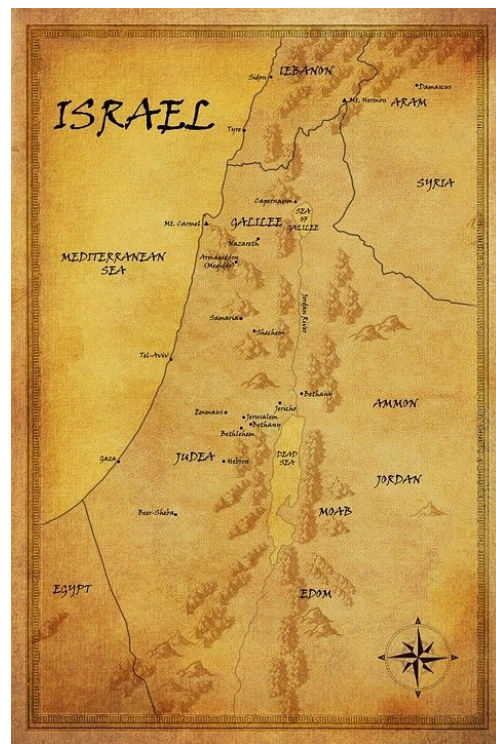
An Opportunity to Travel to the Holy Land

Join Pastor Jim Lichtenberger for a trip to the Holy Land from January 9-18, 2023. Yes, *Israel is open again to tourism!* At this time there are certain requirements for travel. However, the latest news from the travel agency is that *"starting March 1st they will be removing some of the requirements and by June 1st all travel restrictions should be lifted, with the exception of being vaccinated....and even then they may possibly allow those to enter Israel without proof of vaccination if they can show they're recovered and have a medical note."* No one can know for certain the requirements for travel in the future.

This is truly the trip of a lifetime for one's faith and spiritual growth. We will travel to sights such Nazareth, Capernaum, the Sea of Galilee, Qumran, Masada, Jerusalem, and Bethlehem. **There will be time each evening for devotions and planning for the next day.**

This will be Jim's fourth trip to Israel. The cost will be \$4387, which includes air fare out of Indianapolis, hotel, tips (except for lunches), two meals a day, and present fuel costs. Recommended travel insurance is extra. If you are interested, please contact Jim at 476-1318. He will have more details as time progresses. If you want to see a video about this trip, go to this link.

<https://youtu.be/TQgvSMYNFnA>





50th
ANNIVERSARY
1972 - 2022

YOU'RE INVITED TO THE LAFAYETTE URBAN MINISTRY

50TH ANNIVERSARY
C E L E B R A T I O N

BENEVOLENT LUM GOOD SAMARITAN FUND

| FRI APRIL 8 | 7 P.M. |

| \$50 PER PERSON | CENTER, LAFAYETTE, IN |





FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO PURCHASE TICKETS

[LUMSERVE.ORG/50TH-ANNIVERSARY](https://lumserve.org/50th-anniversary)

Friday, April 8, 2022

- ✦ 7 p.m. celebration begins; 6 p.m. social hour
- ✦ \$50 per person
- ✦ Mars Theatre at the Long Center, 111 N 6th St.

Desserts & Beverages

One hundred percent of the proceeds go to the LUM [Good Samaritan Fund](#) for individuals, families, and children in crisis. In 2021, the Good Samaritan Fund helped 2,018 families 1,309 times; and shared \$196,198.

LUM Ecumenical Choir

Lafayette Urban Ministry is putting together an Ecumenical Choir to celebrate their 50th Anniversary. The performance will be April 8, 7:00 pm, at the Long Center. There are two rehearsals in March. If interested, contact Eileen Weiss at eweiss@lumserve.org.

Ash Wednesday, March 2

In person worship at noon and 7 pm
Livestream at 7 pm

**Holy Trinity Lutheran Church**

1005 North 21st Street

Lafayette, IN 47904-2296

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Marianne Blickenstaff

Office Hours: 10am -2pm M-F

E-mail: office@htlcweb.org

Website: www.htlcweb.org

Open Door Editor: Susan Davis

BIBLE PASSAGE — Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.” Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone.’” Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, “To you I will give their glory and all this

Agnus Day

DO YOU THINK THAT SATAN
REALLY THOUGHT HE
COULD DEFEAT JESUS?



WWW.AGNUSDAY.ORG

WELL, HE *IS* THE FATHER OF
LIES. PERHAPS HIS FIRST LIE IS
ONE HE TELLS TO *HIMSELF*.



AIN'T THAT
THE TRUTH!



LUKE 4:1-13

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authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’” Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, ‘He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,’ and ‘On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’” Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time. — *First Sunday in Lent, Series C.*