

Immanuel Lutheran Church, Altamont, Illinois
Our 150th Year

First Sunday in Lent
SUNDAY FEBRUARY 18, 2024 at 11:00 AM

Music Prelude/Ringing of the Bell/Welcome

INVOCATION *Psalm 91:9–13; antiphon: vv. 15–16*

R In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

R When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I
will rescue him and honor him.

C With long life I will satisfy him and show him my salvation.

R 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.

**C For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in
all your ways.**

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

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

SONG *"A Mighty Fortress" GMP 1*

**A mighty fortress is our God,
A bulwark never failing;
Our helper He amid the flood
of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe
doth seek to work us woe
His craft and pow'r are great,
and, armed with cruel hate,
On earth is not his equal.**

**Did we in our own strength confide,
our striving would be losing,
Were not the right man on our side,
the man of God's own choosing.**

**Dost ask who that may be
Christ Jesus it is He,
Lord Sabaoth His name.
From age to age the same,
and He must win the battle.**

**And though this world, with devils filled,
should threaten to undo us,
We will not fear, for God hath willed
His truth to triumph thru us.
The prince of darkness grim,
we tremble not for him.
His rage we can endure,
for lo, his doom is sure:
One little word shall fell him.**

**A mighty fortress, A mighty fortress is our God.
A mighty fortress, A mighty fortress is our God.**

**That word above all earthly pow'rs,
no thanks to them, abideth;
The Spirit and the gifts are ours
through Him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go,
this mortal life also
The body they may kill;
God's truth abideth still:
His kingdom is forever.**

**A mighty fortress, A mighty fortress is our God.
A mighty fortress, A mighty fortress is our God.**

Psalms 18:2©1997 Doulos Publishing CCLI # 189267 GMP 1

OLD TESTAMENT

Genesis 22:1-18

After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here am I." He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you." So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you." And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire

and the knife. So they went both of them together. And Isaac said to his father Abraham, "My father!" And he said, "Here am I, my son." He said, "Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" Abraham said, "God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So they went both of them together.

When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here am I." He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called the name of that place, "The LORD will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."

And the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven and said, "By myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice."

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

James 1:12-18

Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

RESPONSE “Think about His love”

Think about His love, think about His Goodness.

Think about His grace that's brought us through.

For as high as the heavens above

So great is the measure of our Father's love.

Great is the measure of our Father's love. *Repeat.*

Ending: Great is the measure of our Father's love.

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(Stand)

GOSPEL

Mark 1:9–15

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens opening and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”

The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. And he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. And he was with the wild animals, and the angels were ministering to him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord

C Praise to You, O Christ.

CONFESSION OF SINS

P “If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. *1 John 1:8*

C “**But if we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.**” *1 John 1:9*

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.**

Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name.

ABSOLUTION

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called servant of the Word, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. *John 20:23*

C Thanks be to God! He has given us the victory through Jesus Christ our Lord! Amen.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER

P 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.

C Amen.

(Sit)

CHILDREN'S TALK

SERMON HYMN 547 THE LAMB

SERMON: God is Testing Us (*Genesis 22:1-18*)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

(Following the prayers, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3).)

LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING

WELCOME

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift our hearts to greet the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C We give him our thanks and praise.

COMMUNION PRAYER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

(Sit)

SONGS FOR DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

"You Who Are Thirsty"

**You who are thirsty, come to the well and drink
from waters flowing.**

**You who are hungry, come to the bread and eat
of His holiness.**

You who are tired, find rest.

You who are weak, find strength.

You who are thirsty, come to the well and drink.

He will freely feed

all of them who are weak.

He will quench the righteous thirst

of all who humbly seek.

Repeat all.

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"Great is Thy Faithfulness"

**Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not;
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.**

Chorus:

**Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

**Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love. Chorus.**

**Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! Chorus.**

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"You Are My Hiding Place"

You are my hiding place.

You always fill my heart with songs of deliverance.

Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in You. I will trust in You.

Let the weak say, "I am strong in the strength of the Lord."

You are my hiding place.

You always fill my heart with songs of deliverance.

Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in You. I will trust in You.

Let the weak say, "I am strong in the strength of the Lord.

I will trust in You."

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POST COMMUNION PRAYER

ADMONITION

P Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. ¹³Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. ¹⁴But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. *James 1:12-14*

C No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it. *1 Corinthians 10:13*

BENEDICTION

THE CLOSING SONG *"The Battle Belongs to the Lord"*

In heavenly armor we'll enter the land;
The battle belongs to the Lord.
No weapon that's fashioned against us will stand;
The battle belongs to the Lord.

Chorus:

We sing glory, honor, power and strength to the Lord.
We sing glory, honor, power and strength to the Lord.

When the power of darkness comes in like a flood;
The battle belongs to the Lord.
He's raised up a standard, the power of His blood;
The battle belongs to the Lord. ***Chorus.***

When your enemy presses in hard, do not fear;
The battle belongs to the Lord.
Take courage my friend your redemption is near;
The battle belongs to the Lord. ***Chorus.***

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