

Filled with the Holy Spirit,
Jesus returned from the Jordan
and was led by the Spirit
into the desert ...

LUKE 4:1

FIRST SUNDAY OF

LENT



SAINT PAUL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

10:30 AM Service
February 21, 2021

Meditation Psalm

Psalm 25:1-10

Prelude

Welcome

Opening Hymn

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

LSB #901

1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty; Zi - on, let me
2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore Thee; Come Thou al - so
3 Here Thy praise is glad - ly chant - ed; Here Thy seed is
4 Thou my faith in - crease and quick - en; Let me keep Thy
5 Speak, O God, and I will hear Thee; Let Thy will be

en - ter there, Where my soul in joy - ful du - ty
un - to me. Where we find Thee and a - dore Thee,
du - ly sown. Let my soul, where it is plant - ed,
gift di - vine, How - so - e'er temp - ta - tions thick - en;
done in - deed. May I un - dis - turbed draw near Thee

Waits for Him who an - swers prayer. Oh, how bless - ed
There a heav'n on earth must be. To my heart, O
Bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone, So that all I
May Thy Word still o'er me shine As my guid - ing
While Thou dost Thy peo - ple feed. Here of life the

is this place, Filled with sol - ace, light, and grace!
en - ter Thou; Let it be Thy tem - ple now!
hear may be Fruit - ful un - to life in me.
star through life, As my com - fort in all strife.
foun - tain flows; Here is balm for all our woes.

Text and tune: Public domain

Invocation, Confession and Absolution

- P. In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C. Amen.**
- P. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Confession

- 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. Amen.**

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 and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C. Amen.**

Service of the Word

Introit

- When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble;
I will rescue him and honor him.
- With long life I will satisfy him
and show him my salvation.
- 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.
- For he will command his angels concerning you
to guard you in all your ways.
- On their hands they will bear you up,
lest you strike your foot against a stone.
- 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.**
- When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble;
I will rescue him and honor him.
- With long life I will satisfy him
and show him my salvation.

Kyrie

Pg. 152

- P. In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- C. Lord, have mercy.**
- P. For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- C. Lord, have mercy.**
- P. 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.
- C. Lord, have mercy.**

P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship
and praise let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
C **Amen.**

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**
P Let us pray.
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.**

Please be seated

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 22:1-18

1 After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." 2 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." 3 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. 4 On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. 5 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." 6 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. 7 And Isaac said to his father Abraham, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" 8 Abraham said, "God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So they went both of them together. 9 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. 10 Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. 11 But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." 12 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." 13 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. 14 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." 15 And the angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven 16 and said, "By myself I have sworn, declares the Lord, because you

have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, 17 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, 18 and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

O come, let us fix our eyes on] Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Epistle Reading

James 1:12-18

12 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. 13 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. 14 But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. 15 Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death. 16 Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. 17 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. 18 Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Lent

Pg. 157

C Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and abounding in steadfast love.

Holy Gospel

Mark 1:9-15

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

9 In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. 10 And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. 11 And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." 12 The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. 13 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. 14 Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, 15 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

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried.

And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

Feeding of the Lambs

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

LSB #657

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, A sword and shield vic -
2 No strength of ours can match his might. We would be lost, re -
3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land All threat - ning to de -
4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, No thanks to foes, who

to - rious; He breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod And wins sal -
ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, Whom God Him -
your us, We trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; They can - not
fear it; For God Him - self fights by our side With weap - ons

va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe Has sworn to
self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be? The Lord of
o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage; In bat - tle
of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house, Goods, hon - or,

work us woe. With craft and dread - ful might He
hosts is He, Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord, God's
we'll en - gage. His might is doomed to fail; God's
child, or spouse, Though life be wrenched a - way, They

arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
can - not win the day. The King - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000129

Tune: Public domain

Sermon

Pastor Steve Richardson

"The Scape Goat"

Mark 1:9-15

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Offering

Preface

Pg. 160

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who ascended above the heavens and, sitting at Your right hand, poured out on this day the promised Holy Spirit on His chosen disciples. For all this the whole earth rejoices with exceeding joy. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

Pg. 161

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Pg. 161

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

The Words of Our Lord

Pg. 162

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ☩ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ☩ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

- P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**
- P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

Pg. 162

- C 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.**

Pax Domini

Pg. 163

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.**

Passing of the Peace (No personal contact please)

Agnus Dei

Pg. 163

- C Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

Distribution

(Post-Communion Blessing)

Nunc Dimittis

Pg. 165

- C Lord, now You let Your servant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the salvation which You have prepared in the sight of ev'ry people: A light to reveal You to the nations and the glory of Your people Israel. 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.**

Post-Communion Collect

Pg. 166

- P Let us pray.
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.**

Benediction

Pg. 166

- P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.
- C Amen.**

Closing Hymn

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

LSB #809



1 Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;
2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest,
3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,



There is no shad - ow of turn - ing with Thee.
Sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove
Thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide;



Thou chang - est not: Thy com - pas - sions, they fail not;
Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,



As Thou hast been, Thou for - ev - er wilt be.
To Thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
Bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!



Refrain
Great is Thy faith - ful - ness! Great is Thy faith - ful - ness!



Morn - ing by morn - ing new mer - cies I see;



All I have need - ed Thy hand hath pro - vid - ed;



Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me!

Text: Public domain Tune: Public domain

Postlude

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Because of the recent holidays the virus is only getting worse and will for a while. So, as before, there will be no meals or fellowship activities at St Paul until further notice. We will continue to worship in house in limited numbers as we have been doing with our safeguards in place and continue with live streaming. I commend you for taking precautions and abiding by our safeguards we have in place. You have not complained and are doing everything asked of you. THANK YOU! This allows us to continue to worship as we do.

LENTEN SCHEDULE

Wednesday, February 24: Lenten Service - 7:00 pm
Wednesday, March 3: Lenten Service - 7:00 pm
Wednesday, March 10: Lenten Service - 7:00 pm
Wednesday, March 17: Lenten Service - 7:00 pm
Wednesday, March 24: Lenten Service - 7:00 pm

EASTER SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday: March 28 - 8:00 & 10:30 am
Maundy Thursday: April 1 - 7:00 pm
Good Friday: April 2 - 7:00 pm
Easter Sunday: April 4 - 8:00 & 10:30 am

Office is closed the week following Easter.

St. Paul Lutheran Church
4475 Atlanta Highway
Montgomery, Alabama 36109
www.stpaulmontgomery.org