

Old Testament

Genesis 12:1-9

¹Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you." ²And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

⁴So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. ⁵And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the land of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan, ⁶Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. ⁷Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. ⁸From there he moved to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. And there he built an altar to the LORD and called upon the name of the LORD. ⁹And Abram journeyed on, still going toward the Negeb.

Epistle

Romans 4:1-8, 13-17

¹What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh? ²For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness." ⁴Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. ⁵And to the one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness, "just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works: ⁷"Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered; ⁸blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin."

¹³ The promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no

transgression.

¹⁶That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring—not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, 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.

Holy Gospel

John 3:1-17

¹Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. ²This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him." ³Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." ⁴Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" ⁵Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. ⁶That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' ⁸The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

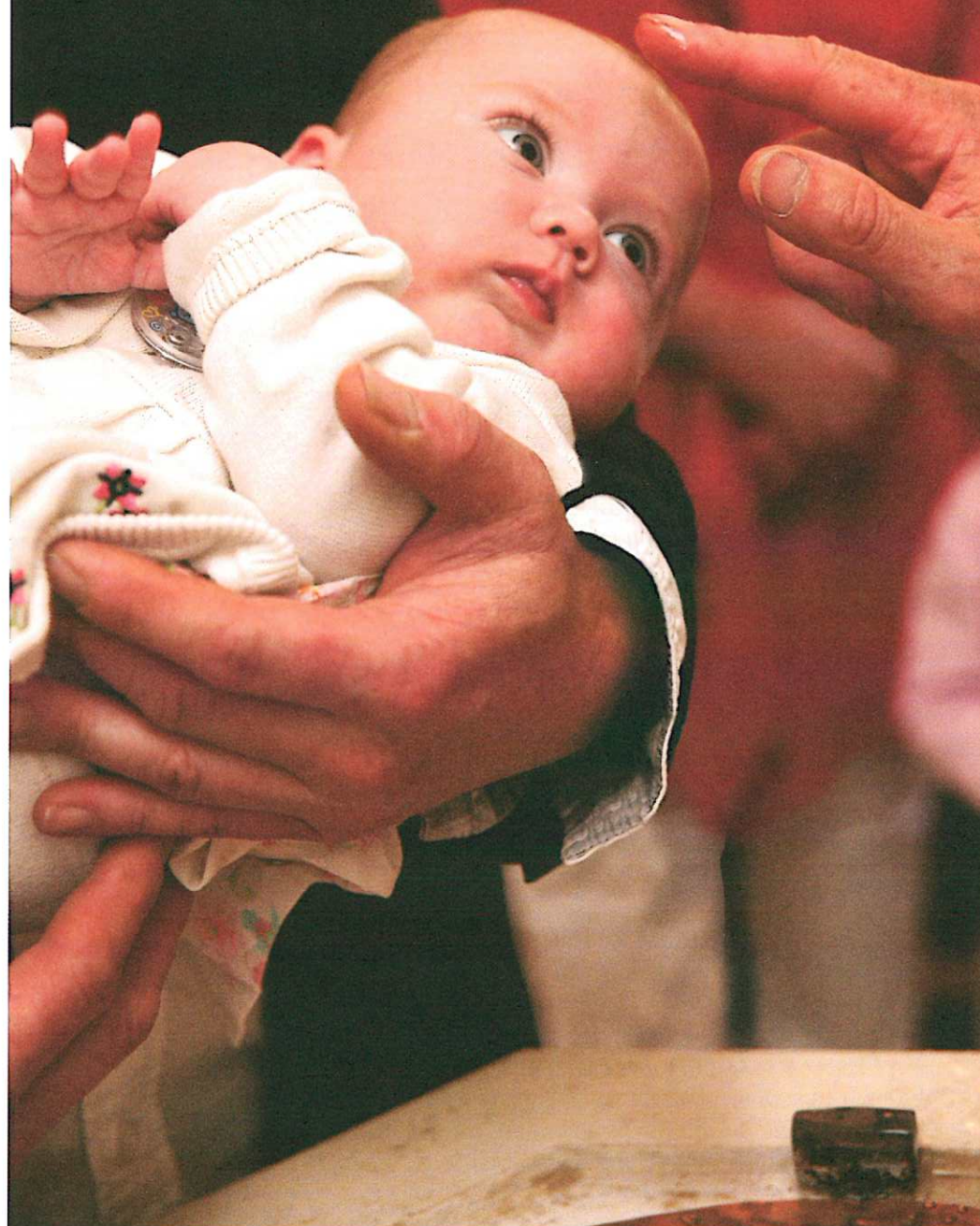
⁹Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" ¹⁰Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶[Jesus said:] "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Born of water and the Spirit

John 3:5



About the Cover: Nicodemus was a Pharisee who believed in God's promise of a Messiah. When Jesus told him he needed to be "born of water and the Spirit," Nicodemus was confused. Physically born again? No, but "born of water and the Spirit," Jesus says. We, too, need to be born again of "water and the Spirit." Jesus seeks to bring us to faith by the work of the Holy Spirit in our hearts and lives.



THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

March 12, 2017

Sharing, Believing, Living, Caring

St. Bartholomew Lutheran Church
105 Horn St., Brillion, WI
(920) 756-3031
www.stbartbrillion.org

Rev. Mark L. Krueger, Pastor
Jessica Krueger, Organist
Pastor Email: sblcpastor@gmail.com
Secretary Email: sblcbrillion@gmail.com

Liturgy: Divine Service Setting One p. 151
Hymns: 708, 422, 431, 438, "God Is So Good" (AGPS 107), 918
Sermon: "A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth" Isaiah 53:7

THE MEASURE OF OUR LOVE

Attendance 3/01 (Ash Wed.):	65	Comm.: 55	Offering: \$1,513.00
Attendance 3/05 (Sun):	104	Comm.: 86	Offering: \$1,750.50
S.S. – 18	Staff – 8	B.C. – 8	
Budget Needs: \$3,330.00		Scrip Profit 3/05: \$ 89.00	

KINGDOM WORK THIS WEEK

WEDS (3/15)	3:30-4:30 p.m. Confirmation (8 th grade only)
	5:45-6:45 p.m. Lenten Meal
	7:00 p.m. Lenten Worship
	8:00 p.m. Elders
THURS (3/16)	2:30 p.m. Trustees
SUN (3/19)	8:00 a.m. S.S/B.C.
	9:00 a.m. Worship with Communion
	10:00 a.m. Choir Practice
	10:00 a.m. National Youth Gathering Meeting
	1:00 p.m. Youth Group Bowling
MON (3/20)	April Newsletter Items Due

TODAY'S BULLETINS are sponsored by Harlen Krahn in memory of Phyllis.

SPECIAL VOTERS MEETING will be held today right after church regarding taking out a loan to replace the parking lot and to repair and upgrade the organ.

NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING 2019 – An interest meeting will be held next Sunday right after church for any youth and their parents who may have an interest in attending the National Youth Gathering in 2019. This would include youth currently in 6th grade-10th grade.

EASTER AND CONFIRMATION CARDS are available in the card room.

YOUTH GROUP FUN DAY – The Youth group will be going bowling on Sunday, March 19 at the Official's Den in Hilbert at 1:00 p.m. Interested youth should sign up on the bulletin board. Please indicate if a ride is needed.

EASTER FLOWER order forms are available in your mailbox. New this year, you may purchase a Easter flower elsewhere and bring it to church after the Good Friday service to be used in the chancel display.

JOIN US "AT THE CROSSROADS" on Wednesday – This week we hear from Pontius Pilate which, I pray, will help us when we come to the crossroads of making a judgment.

MARCH MADNESS BRACKET CHALLENGE – If you signed up to participate in the challenge, you should have received an email with the group name and password. If you did not receive it, let Pastor Krueger know.

BASKETS OF PROMISE - Donate items for Lutheran World Relief Kits to help people in need. This Lenten season, our congregation is taking part in LWR's Baskets of Promise campaign. Each week in Lent, we'll collect items to form LWR Personal Care Kits that help impoverished people stay healthy in life's most challenging situations. Next week we'll be collecting *toothbrushes (adult size, in original packaging)*. Please bring your donations to worship next Sunday. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

LENTEN MEALS: Meals are Wednesday evenings from 5:45-6:45 p.m. Sign-up sheets are posted on the bulletin board. *Menu – Mar. 15: Taco Bar, dessert, & beverage.*

LUWISOMO EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT! Register for a week of camp and pay your \$100 non-refundable deposit by March 21 and receive \$25 off your registration. Camp LuWiSoMo is offering 6 weeks of youth camp for summer 2017. Our summer youth camps provide faith-growing opportunities in a Christ-centered outdoor ministry setting for children from three years old through high school. Visit <http://www.luwisoo.org/youth-camp-summer> to register.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON: Today in Sunday school, we studied "The Triumphal Entry." Jesus' victorious entry into Jerusalem begins the week that ends with His crucifixion and death. As a family, talk about "How did the people welcome Jesus to Jerusalem? How can we praise and honor God today?"