

# Sunday, February 21, 2016

## Service of Holy Eucharist

To all who join in worship, we are grateful that you are here today!

- We invite all believers in Christ to receive the Sacrament with us. White grape juice is available in the glass chalice. Gluten-free wafers are also available. If you would like us to bring the bread and wine to you, please notify one of the ushers.
- Nursery attendants are available during worship just off the South Lobby area for children ages 5 years and younger. If you arrive and no one is in the nursery, please notify one of the ushers to get the attendant. A changing table is available in the nursery.
- Pew Pads are located at the end of each pew. Please sign in and pass them down to the end of the row so we can note that you attended worship with us today. If you or someone you know would like a visit from one of our staff, please inform Pastor Rachel or Intern Jennifer.
- Prayer request cards are in the pew racks. Please hand to an usher during the hymn following the sermon.

**WELCOME... We pray your worship time is enriching for your spiritual life.**

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### Second Sunday in Lent:

*Though we sometimes doubt and often resist God's desire to protect and save us, our God persists. In holy baptism, God's people have been called and gathered into a God-initiated relationship that will endure. Lent provides the church with a time and a tradition in which to seek the face of the Lord again. Lent provides another occasion to behold the God of our salvation in the face of the Blessed One who "comes in the name of the Lord."*

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## PRELUDE

## WELCOME

*The assembly stands.*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God,  
who brings us safely through the sea,  
who gives us water from the rock,  
who leads us into the land of milk and honey.

**Amen.**

Let us come home to God, confessing our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Merciful Father,  
**we have sinned against heaven and before you.**  
**We do not fully live as your sons and daughters.**  
**We use your gifts to our own ends.**  
**Forgive us and restore us,**  
**that we may resist all that draws us away from you,**  
**and be at peace with one another. Amen.**

We are reconciled to God through Christ;  
for his sake, God does not count our trespasses against us.  
Once dead in sin, we are now alive to God.  
Once lost, we now are found.  
God clothes you in the finest robe of all,  
the righteousness of ✙ Jesus Christ,  
forgiving you all your sins  
and making of you a new creation.

**Amen.**



**GATHERING HYMN: “Lord Christ, When First You Came to Earth”**  
**(ELW 727)**

## GREETING

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

**And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

*The presiding minister leads the prayer of the day.*

Let us pray.

*A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## CHOIR ANTHEM: “Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days”

(Arranged by Mark Schweitzer with words by Claudia F. Hernaman)

*Lord, who throughout these forty days, for us didst fast and pray.  
Teach us with Thee to mourn our sins, and close by Thee to stay.*

*As Thou with Satan didst contend, and didst the vict'ry win,  
Give us strength in Thee to fight. In Thee to conquer sin.*

*As Thou didst hunger, bear and thirst, so teach us, gracious Lord,  
To die to self, and chiefly live by Thy most holy word.*

*Through these days of penitence, and through Thy Passion-tide,  
Yea, with us in life and death, Jesus, with us abide.*

## FIRST READING: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

*God promises a childless and doubting Abram that he will have a son, that his descendants will be as numerous as the stars, and that the land of Canaan will be their inheritance. Abram's trust in God is sealed with a covenant-making ceremony, a sign of God's promise.*

A reading from Genesis.

<sup>1</sup>After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, “Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” <sup>2</sup>But Abram said, “O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” <sup>3</sup>And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.” <sup>4</sup>But the word of the LORD came to him, “This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.” <sup>5</sup>He brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your descendants be.” <sup>6</sup>And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

<sup>7</sup>Then he said to him, “I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess.” <sup>8</sup>But he said, “O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?” <sup>9</sup>He said to him, “Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.” <sup>10</sup>He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. <sup>11</sup>And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

<sup>12</sup>As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

<sup>17</sup>When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. <sup>18</sup>On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.”

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM: Psalm 27**

*The psalm for the day is sung.*

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then | shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I | be afraid?

<sup>2</sup>**When evildoers close in against me to de- | vour my flesh,  
they, my foes and my enemies, will stum- | ble and fall.**

<sup>3</sup>Though an army encamp against me, my heart | will not fear.

Though war rise up against me, my trust will | not be shaken.

<sup>4</sup>**One thing I ask of the LORD; one | thing I seek;  
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life; to gaze upon the  
beauty of the LORD and to seek God | in the temple.**

<sup>5</sup>For in the day of trouble God will | give me shelter,

hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high up- | on a rock.

<sup>6</sup>**Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies | who surround me.**

**Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and  
make music | to the LORD.**

<sup>7</sup>Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call;

have mercy on me and | answer me.

<sup>8</sup>**My heart speaks your message— | “Seek my face.”**

**Your face, O LORD, | I will seek.**

<sup>9</sup>Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your ser- | vant in anger.

Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of | my salvation.

<sup>10</sup>**Though my father and my moth- | er forsake me,  
the LORD will | take me in.**

- <sup>11</sup>Teach me your | way, O LORD;  
lead me on a level path, because of | my oppressors.
- <sup>12</sup>**Subject me not to the will | of my foes,**  
**for they rise up against me, false witnesses | breathing violence.**
- <sup>13</sup>This I believe—that I will see the goodness | of the LORD  
in the land | of the living!
- <sup>14</sup>**Wait for the LORD | and be strong.**  
**Take heart and wait | for the LORD!**

## SECOND READING: Philippians 3:17--4:1

*Although Paul's devotion to Christ has caused him to be persecuted, he does not regret the course he has taken. Writing from prison, he expresses confidence in a glorious future and encourages other Christians to follow in his footsteps.*

A reading from Paul's letter to the Philippians.

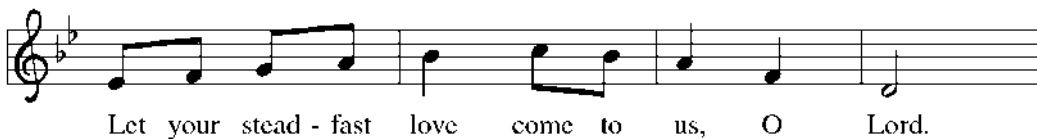
<sup>17</sup>Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. <sup>18</sup>For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. <sup>19</sup>Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. <sup>20</sup>But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>21</sup>He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself.

<sup>4:1</sup>Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

Word of God, word of life.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*



## **GOSPEL: Luke 13:31-35**

*Neither Herod's plotting nor Jerusalem's resistance to maternal love will deter Jesus from his sacrificial mission.*

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>31</sup>At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus,] “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” <sup>32</sup>He said to them, “Go and tell that fox for me, ‘Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. <sup>33</sup>Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.’” <sup>34</sup>Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! <sup>35</sup>See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## **CHILDREN'S TIME**

*All children are welcome to come forward to hear a special message for them.*

## **SERMON**

*Silence for reflection follows the sermon.*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY: “Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth” (ELW 735)**

*The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.*

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**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**

Hearing the call to return to the Lord, let us join the whole people of God in prayer for all who cry out in pain and in hope.

*A brief silence.*

*Refrain is sung and then repeated after each petition.*



For an end to killings because of faith, we turn to you, O Lord. Protect all those who risk their lives each time they worship you. Give new vision to the intolerant. Hear us, O God.  
**(Refrain)**

For the beauty of the stars, we turn to you in thanksgiving, O Lord. By their vast number and light, remind us of your covenant with Abram and deep love for all creation. Hear us, O God.  
**(Refrain)**

For peace and justice in our neighborhoods, we turn to you, O Lord. Where gangs, domestic violence, or kidnappings cause your children to live in fear, give courage and wisdom to those in authority. Hear us, O God.  
**(Refrain)**

For older adults with no family to care for them, we turn to you, O Lord. Surround them with social workers, medical professionals, and neighbors to support them. Embrace them with compassion and quell any fear. Hear us, O God.

**(Refrain)**

For the sick in our congregation and our community, we turn to you, O Lord. Gather all who live with illness under your wings. Make us instruments of your healing. Hear us, O God.

**(Refrain)**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

For the prophets and all the faithful departed, we turn to you in thanks, O Lord. Empowered by their witness, may we stand firm in you until the day we see you face-to-face. Hear us, O God.

**(Refrain)**

To you, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your boundless mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen.**

## **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.*

*The assembly is seated.*

## **OFFERING**

### **CONGREGATIONAL OFFERTORY “Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery”**

**(ELW 334: Stanza 1 and Lent 2 only)**

*The assembly stands and sings the offertory hymn as the gifts are brought forward.*

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

*After the table is set, the assisting minister leads the prayer.*

Let us pray.

God our provider,

you have not fed us with bread alone,  
but with words of grace and life.

Bless us and these your gifts,  
which we receive from your bounty,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**



## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

This musical score is written on four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and hymn-like, using quarter and half notes with slurs. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes.

## PREFACE

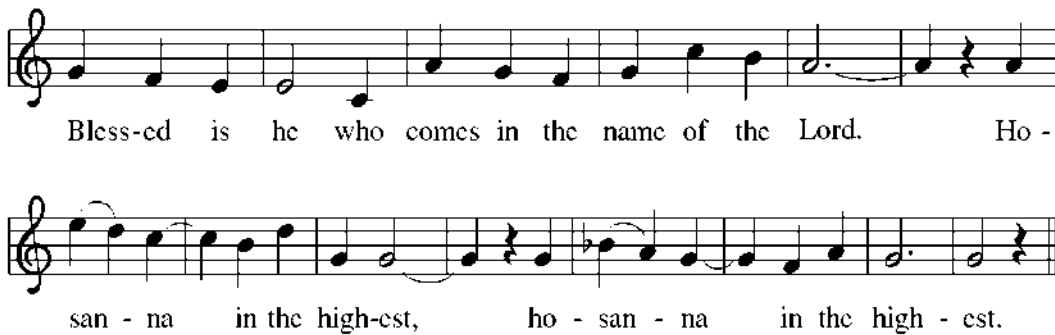
### HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and

might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high-est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

This musical score is written on three staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is more complex than the first piece, featuring eighth and sixteenth notes, as well as rests. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes.



## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God of the universe...

...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.**

O God of resurrection and new life:

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us

and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Bless this feast.

Grace our table with your presence.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.

Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.

Breathe new life into us.

Send us forth,

burning with justice, peace, and love.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

With your holy ones of all times and places,

with the earth and all its creatures,

with sun and moon and stars,

we praise you, O God,

blessed and holy Trinity,

now and forever.

**Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All who thirst, all who hunger,  
come and be filled with the goodness of God.

## COMMUNION

*When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say*

The body of Christ, given for you.

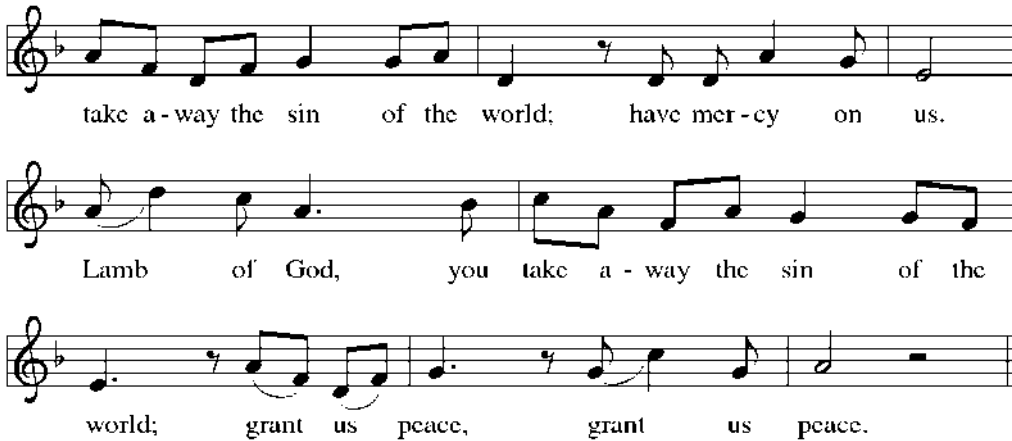
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*and each person may respond*

Amen.

## LAMB OF GOD





## DISTRIBUTION HYMN

*“Day by Day” (ELW 790)*

## POST COMMUNION BLESSING

*The assembly stands to receive the blessing.*

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

**Amen.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*The assisting minister leads the prayer.*

Let us pray.

O God, we thank you for gathering and feeding us  
as a mother hen embraces her young.

Release us now to go on our way in these forty days,  
ready to see our work as prayer,  
ready to fast from complacency,  
and ready to share with those in need;  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**



## **BENEDICTION**

The blessing of God Almighty,  
the wisdom and power of ☩ Christ Jesus,  
and the light of the Holy Spirit  
be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

## **PARISH SHARING TIME**

*Brief announcements may be made, especially those related to the assembly's participation in God's mission in the world.*

## **SENDING HYMN: “My God, How Wonderful Thou Art” (ELW 863)**

*The assembly stands.*

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Remember the poor.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**



## ***TEXTS FOR NEXT WEEK:***

First Reading—Isaiah 55:1-9

Psalm—Psalm 63:1-8

Second Reading—1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Gospel—Luke 13:1-9

## **A WORD ABOUT THE GOSPEL TODAY**

### **Under Christ's Wings**

If only Christ's people could be gathered under his wing—but time and again, no matter how he has desired it to be so, it doesn't happen.

In today's gospel, Jesus does not cry out that there is a particular people—in this case, his own people—who are somehow less able to be “gathered” than others. He grieves a behavior pattern he has surely seen in the people he is addressing, yes, but one that will come to be shared by every one of us.

All of the faithful struggle with rejecting the life Jesus offers: we move from light to darkness, from faithfulness to unfaithfulness, from devotion to doubt, in the blink of an eye. We know in our heart of hearts that there is only one way to life. Still, sometimes we cannot or do not see our Lord for who he is. And so we do not follow, nor do we allow ourselves to be gathered.

The image Jesus uses in the gospel text is striking. Mother hens gather their brood under their wings for protection and care. They gather the chicks whenever harm might be at hand. Even the suggestion of harm can send the hen scurrying to bring her offspring together beneath her body so that she might protect them with her own life if need be.

Jesus knows that Jerusalem, rejecting him, is heading for a fall. He knows the same thing of us. He longs to protect his beloved city, and us, his people, with his mercy, his presence, his wings. Unlike chicks, which are quick to return to the safety of their mother's care, we all too often don't want to go there. We think we can make it on our own. We can't. But Christ nonetheless gathers, and gathers again—all with the giving of his own body on the cross.

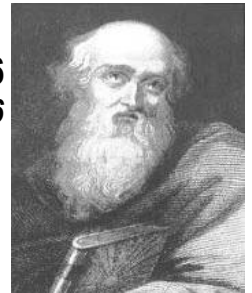
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### **COMMEMORATIONS THIS WEEK**

**Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna, Martyr, died 156**

***Tuesday, February 23, 2016***

Because he is said to have been known by John, the author of Revelation, as well as the important early church fathers Irenaeus and Ignatius, Polycarp serves as a vital link in church history. He was burned at the stake at age 86 for refusing to renounce his faith.



**Elizabeth Fedde, Deaconess, died 1921**

***Thursday, February 25, 2016***

Born in Norway and trained there as a deaconess, Fedde was asked to come and minister to the poor and to seamen in New York City. She established the Deaconess House in Brooklyn as well as Deaconess Hospital in Minneapolis.

# Serving the Church

**THIS WEEK—February 21, 2016**

**Preacher:** Pastor Rachel Larson  
**Lector:** 8:00AM Mark Rehwaldt  
10:30AM Steve Barrett  
**Acolyte:** 8:00AM Marygrace Buckner  
10:30AM Kent Henry  
**Ushers:** 8:00AM The Anderson  
Family  
10:30AM Jason Sherwood  
Teresa Sherwood  
**Greeters:** 8:00AM The Anderson  
Family  
10:30AM Barb Rouse  
Mike Smith  
**Nursery:** 8:00AM Hailey Anderson

**NEXT WEEK—February 28, 2016**

**Preacher:** Pastor Rachel Larson  
**Lector:** 8:00AM Judi Weatherwax  
10:30AM Tracy Kidwell  
**Acolyte:** 8:00AM Madie Jablin  
10:30AM Rebecca Lyford  
**Ushers:** 8:00AM Mike Nutter  
Janet Overman  
10:30AM Georgia Mitchell  
Bob Campbell  
**Greeters:** 8:00AM Bobbie Schimek  
Al Schimek  
10:30AM Debbie, Lindsay,  
& Lily Conyers  
**Nursery:** 8:00AM Rosalind Kidwell

**Stewards:** Steve Boss & Mark Stayton

**Altar Guild:** Barb Rouse

**Coffee Fellowship:** Janet Talbott

## TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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*Congregation President*.....Stephen Boss  
*Organist*.....Meng Xu  
*Choir Director*.....Larry Hazlett  
*Financial Secretary*.....Bev Gossett  
*Treasurer*.....Susan Manown



*This is Christ's church...*

*There is a place for you here.*