

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Parker, South Dakota

Rev. Don Reiffenberger, Pastor

Music Leaders: Shirley Oswald, Deone Christensen, Grace Reiffenberger, Michele Reiffenberger

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Second Sunday in Lent

March 17, 2019

PRELUDE, VISUAL PRAYERS (Reconnecting with an Unhurried God) AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

"Psalms" LENTEN JOURNEY VIDEO:

"Psalm 41" (Luther House of Study)

(Second in a series of five during the Season of Lent)

LENTEN CANDLE LITURGY/CONFESSION

Leader: We come into God's presence on this Second Sunday in Lent as Lenten people – as God's people – in a world divided and distressed.

All: Some of us come with hearts of joy, and some of us come loaded down with heavy burdens.

Leader: All of us are eager for God to reveal to us a love that hopes all things, endures all things and never fails, as we journey into the unknown with Jesus toward Jerusalem. We now extinguish the second candle, confessing our own failure to give thanks to God for the many blessings we have received.

~ The second candle is extinguished ~

Leader: God does not hide from us, and always hears our cry for help. Confident of God's presence, let us confess our sins together...

We want to believe, O God, that we bring our whole selves, our whole hearts, to you – but we don't.

All: You ask us to deny ourselves and follow you, but we don't. You ask us to share the Good News of the Gospel – but we don't.

Leader: You ask us to put your concerns above our worldly concerns – but we don't.

All: Forgive us for all those times when we fall short, when we doubt, when we are tempted by Satan. Help us to stand before you with our whole selves – trusting that it is you who makes us whole. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

PROCLAMATION OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Friends in Christ, our Lord was rejected, taunted, beaten and crucified – and raised from the dead on the third day. Though we fall short, we believe and share the Good News of the Gospel:

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and granted peace. Thanks Be to God!

OPENING HYMN

"Blessed Assurance"

ELW 638

(Led by a music video as a time of peaceful prayer...please join in singing the Chorus)

KYRIE/PRAYER OF THE DAY

"O God, We Call"

Spoken Words – Cantor – ALL [4X]

O God, we call (2X)

From deep inside we yearn (3X)

For You

Leader: God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world.

All: 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 FIRST READING

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

THE READING RESPONSE

"Thanks Be to God!" (After each reading)

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalm 27

THE SECOND READING

Philippians 3:17 – 4:1

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Only a Prayer Away"

Sunday School Children

KID TALK

"The Mother Hen"

SHARING OF THE PEACE

(Please remain **standing** for The Gospel)

THE GOSPEL

Luke 13:31-35

(Pew Bible p. 58 – New Testament)

GOSPEL RESPONSES

"Glory to You, O Lord" (After The Gospel is announced)

"Praise to You, O Christ" (After The Gospel is read)

SERMON

“About Courage and Vulnerability”

HYMN OF THE DAY

“My Life Flows On in Endless Song”

ELW 763

APOSTLES’ CREED

pg 127

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

(Congregational response after each petition of “Lord, in your mercy:” “Hear our prayer.”)

RETURNING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

“Sometimes we worry that there won’t be enough – enough for the mortgage, enough for the bills, enough for the kids’ activities. Think about a time you worried about having enough. How did your heavenly Father provide?

How might God’s promises change your outlook on your finances?” ~Kristin Schultz~

Music Video – “My Defender” (Jeremy Camp)

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

“Give Thanks”

Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks, because he’s given Jesus Christ, his Son. (repeat)
And now, let the weak say, “I am strong.” Let the poor say, “I am rich,”
Because of what the Lord has done for us. (repeat)
Give thanks.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Leader: God of extravagant love, fill our spirits with your love, and place upon our hearts your call to serve all in the name of Christ.

All: We ask that you dedicate our gifts and our lives to faithful service and ministry. Amen.

COMMUNION PRAYER & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD’S PRAYER

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT BY INTINCTION (Special Music played during Communion)

BENEDICTION/BLESSING

Leader: See how Christ has loved us.

All: So now we are to love each other.

Leader: See how Christ has loved us.

All: So now we are to love the whole world.

Leader: See how Christ has loved us.

All: So now we are to live such love as the Good News for all life. Amen.

DISMISSAL

Leader: Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord by loving and serving one another!

All: Thanks Be to God!

Even amid Lent we live in the light of Easter, and every Sabbath celebrates salvation! Welcome to worship, to forgiveness, to everlasting life. As we celebrate Holy Communion by Intinction this morning, we invite all baptized Christians who seek forgiveness and who believe in Christ’s real presence in the Sacrament to join us at the altar. * If you want Pastor Don to come to you with Communion, please let an usher know.*****



Please join us in the fellowship hall following the service. Breana Jensen will be serving breakfast to raise money for her National Honor Society induction project: Tie Blankets for Teens and Tots at the Sanford Castle.

A free-will offering will be taken for breakfast. Scrambled eggs, sausage links, muffins, juice and coffee will be served. All proceeds will be used to purchase fleece materials to help Breana complete her project. Breana would appreciate your support to help share the love of Christ with those that need to feel the comfort of God’s hands.

This Week at GRACE

- Today: 10:00 am: Sunday School
- 10:00 am: Church Council meeting
- Tues: 4:30 pm: Bread Give-Away @ Courthouse
- Wed: 5:30 pm: Lenten Supper (served until 6:15)
- 6:30 pm: Worship (Holy Communion)
- 7:00 pm: Choir
- 7:00 pm: Luther League
- Thurs: 12:00 pm: Lenten Luncheon @ Grace
- Sun: 9:00 am: Worship
- 10:00 am: Sunday School
- 10:00 am: Bible Study

Attendance 3/10/2019: 95

Last week's offering total was \$3,191.00. This includes Sunday's and Wednesday's offerings, Simply Giving, and direct EFT through First Savings Bank. We exceeded our weekly offering goal of \$2,600 which helps to ensure that all of our bills and salaries are paid timely!!

Thank you to the following people for helping with our Worship service this morning: Dave & Robin Mammenga, reader Terryn Fuller, greeters Darin & Char Hay, Communion Assistants Judie Nelson, Donovan & Jaivyn DeBoer, and A/V assistant Grace Reiffenberger.

Announcements:**Please join us for this week's Lenten activities:****Wednesday, March 20**

5:30 – 6:15 pm: Supper by our chefs of the week: Denny & Lyla Johnson and Ordell & Shirley Oswald.
Taco bar is on the menu.
6:30 pm: Worship with Holy Communion. This week's speaker will be Arlen Mohr.

Thursday, March 21

12:00 pm: Lenten Luncheon at Grace.

Sunday, March 24

9:00 am: Erin Patten will be giving her faith story during Worship.

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"Christ in our Home" devotionals for April, May, and June are here. You can pick up a copy from the shelf in the narthex.



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