



March 6, 2022

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

4515 Dobie Road
Okemos, MI 48864
517-349-0620

First Sunday in Lent

To make disciples for Jesus Christ. . .

. . .we **Gather** in faith for worship, prayer,
study and fellowship

. . .we **Equip** the people of God with a faith
that works in real life

. . .we **Serve** the world in the name of Jesus Christ

Pastor:..... Ellen Schoepf
Music Director:.....Debra Borton-McDonough
Organist/Pianist:.....Bruce Williams
Church Secretary:..... Katie Love
Youth & Education DirectorPam Williams
Pastor's email:.....prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org
Church email:.....faith@faithlutheranokemos.org
Website:.....www.faithlutheranokemos.org
Facebook Page:.....facebook.com/faithlutheranokemos

Introduction to the day

These forty days called Lent are like no other. It is our opportune time to return to the God who rescues, to receive the gifts of God's grace, to believe with the heart and confess with the mouth the wonder of God's love in Jesus, and to resist temptation at every turn. This is no small pilgrimage on which we have just embarked. It is a struggle Jesus knew. It is a struggle Jesus shares. The nearness of the Lord, in bread and wine, water and word, will uphold and sustain us.

PRELUDE

“Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley”

arr. Dale Wood

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of God,
who makes a way in the wilderness,
walks with us,
and guides us in our pilgrimage.

Amen.

Holy One,
**we confess that we have wandered far from you:
we have not trusted your promises,
we have ignored your prophets in our own day,
we have squandered our inheritance of grace,
we have failed to recognize you in our midst.**

Have mercy on us!

Forgive us and turn us again to you.

**Teach us to follow in your ways,
assure us again of your love,
and help us to love our neighbor.**

Amen.

Beloved in Christ,
the Word draws near to you,
and all who call out to God shall be saved.
In Jesus, God comes to you again and again
and gathers you under wings of love.

In ✝ Jesus' name, your sins are forgiven.

God journeys with you and teaches you how to live in love.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

When We Are Tested



1 When we are test - ed and wres - tle a - lone,
2 When in the des - ert we cry for re - lief,
3 When we are tempt - ed to bar - ter our souls,
4 When we have strug - gled and searched through the night,



fam - ished for bread when the world of - fers stone,
plead - ing for paths marked by cer - tain be - lief,
trad - ing the truth for the pow'r to con - trol,
sort - ing and sift - ing the wrong from the right,



nour - ish us, God, by your word and your way,
lift us to love you be - yond sign and test,
teach us to wor - ship and praise on - ly you,
Sav - ior, sur - round us with cir - cles of care,



food that sus - tains us by night and by day.
trust - ing your pres - ence, our on - ly true rest.
seek - ing your will in the work that we do.
an - gels of heal - ing, of hope, and of prayer.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

Text © 1996 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.

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.**

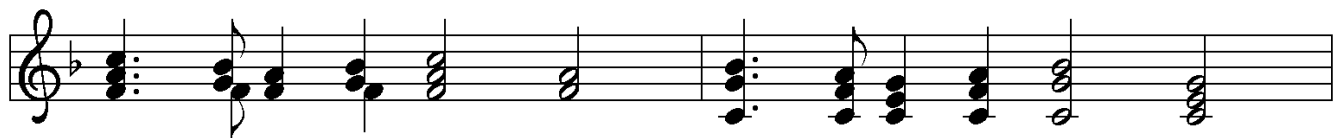
PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

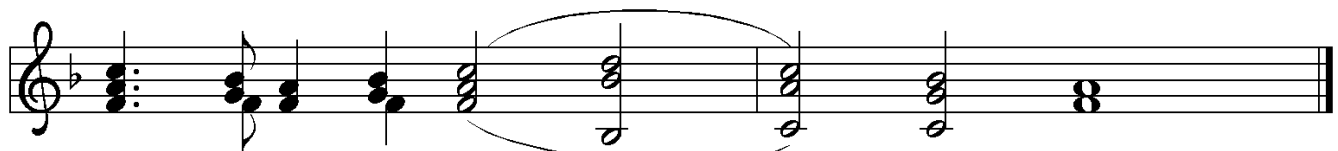
O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy



1, 3	Ky - ri - e	e - lei - son.	Ky - ri - e	e - lei - son.
2	Chris - te	e - lei - son.	Chris - te	e - lei - son.
1, 3	<i>Lord, . . .</i>	<i>have mer - cy.</i>	<i>Lord,</i>	<i>have mer - cy.</i>
2	<i>Christ, . . .</i>	<i>have mer - cy.</i>	<i>Christ,</i>	<i>have mer - cy.</i>



Ky - ri - e	e - le	-	i - son.
Chris - te	e - le	-	i - son.
<i>Lord, . . .</i>	<i>have mer</i>	-	<i>cy.</i>
<i>Christ, . . .</i>	<i>have mer</i>	-	<i>cy.</i>

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Deuteronomy 26:1-11

The annual harvest festival, called the Feast of Weeks, provides the setting for this reading. This festival celebrates the first fruits of the produce of the land offered back to God in thanks. In this text, worshipers announce God's gracious acts on behalf of Israel.

A reading from Deuteronomy.

¹When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, ²you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. ³You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us."

⁴When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God, ⁵you shall make this response before the LORD your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. ⁶When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, ⁷we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. ⁸The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; ⁹and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. ¹⁰So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me." You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God. ¹¹Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

NEW TESTAMENT READING: Romans 10:8b-13

Paul reminds the Christians at Rome of the foundation of their creed, the confession of faith in the risen Christ as Lord.

A reading from Romans.

^{8b}“The word is near you,
on your lips and in your heart”

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. ¹¹The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

GOSPEL: Luke 4:1-13

After being filled with the Holy Spirit at his baptism, Jesus is led in the wilderness. Through his responses to the temptations of the devil, he defines what it means to be called “the Son of God.”

The holy gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, ²where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. ³The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.” ⁴Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone.’”

⁵Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶And the devil said to him, “To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. ⁷If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.”

⁸Jesus answered him, “It is written,
‘Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him.’”

⁹Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰for it is written,

‘He will command his angels concerning you,
to protect you,’

¹¹and

‘On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’”

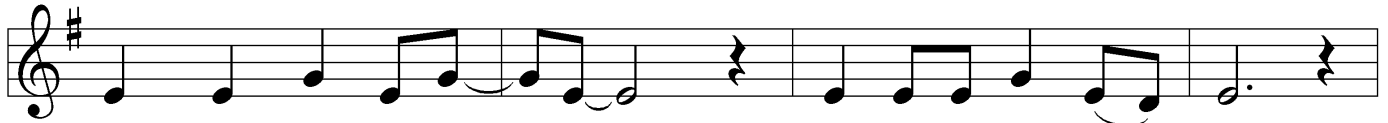
¹²Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” ¹³When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

Out in the Wilderness



1 Driv - en by the Spir - it out in the wil - der - ness;
2 Tempt - ed by the dev - il out in the wil - der - ness;
3 An - gels all a - round you out in the wil - der - ness;
4 "You are my be - lov - ed" out in the wil - der - ness.



driv - en by the Spir - it out in the wil - der - ness;
tempt - ed by the dev - il out in the wil - der - ness;
an - gels all a - round you out in the wil - der - ness;
"You are my be - lov - ed" out in the wil - der - ness.



when the Spir - it says, "Go," you can't say, "No."
though you try to be strong, it's been so long.
you are far . . . from home where wild things roam.
When you were . . . bap - tized, you re - a - lized



You lis - ten for the voice when you're bend - ed low;
He whis - pers in your ear and you know he's wrong;
There's dan - ger ev - 'ry - where but you're not a - lone;
you'd heard the voice of God from the o - p'ning skies:



driv - en by the Spir - it out in the wil - der - ness.
tempt - ed by the dev - il out in the wil - der - ness.
an - gels all a - round you out in the wil - der - ness.
"You are my be - lov - ed" out in the wil - der - ness.

Text: Jay Beech

Music: OUT IN THE WILDERNESS, Jay Beech

Text and music © 1999 Jay Beech

The assembly is seated

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Prayers of intercession are prayed. To each petition, the assembly responds: Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

The presiding minister concludes the prayers, and the assembly responds:

Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

“My Jesus Walked”

(Doucet)

Tammy Heilman and Deb Borton-McDonough

Please stand if you are able.

OFFERING 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.

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. **And also 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.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,
we may come to the fullness of your grace.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



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



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



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

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. **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

Here is food and drink for the journey.

Take and be filled.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.
Amen.

COMMUNION SONG



- 1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
- 2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
- 3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

“Elegiac Melody”

Malcolm McKelvey

Please stand if you are able.

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING

You are children of God, anointed with the oil of gladness and strengthened for the journey. Almighty God, motherly, majestic, and mighty, ✝ bless you this day and always. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

Bless Now, O God, the Journey



1 Bless now, O God, the jour - ney that all your peo - ple make,
2 Bless so - journ - ers and pil - grims who share this wind - ing way;
3 Di - vine e - ter - nal lov - er, you meet us on the road.



the path through noise and si - lence, the way of give and take.
your hope burns through the ter - rors, your love sus - tains the day.
We wait for lands of prom - ise where milk and hon - ey flow,



The trail is found in des - ert and winds the moun - tain round,
We yearn for ho - ly free - dom while of - ten we are bound;
but wait - ing not for plac - es, you meet us all a - round.



then leads be - side still wa - ters, the road where faith is found.
to - geth - er we are seek - ing the road where faith is found.
Our cov - e - nant is writ - ten on roads, as faith is found.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: LLANGLOFFAN, Welsh tune, 19th cent.

Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com

800.442.3358 All rights reserved. Used by permission.

PRINTED UNDER ONE LICENSE A-708005

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

“Ukrainian National Anthem”

We encourage those who are able, to remain seated in the chairs for the postlude.

Reader: Brenda Kopf
Lay Assistant: Walter Kopf
Ushers: McCracken/Milne

Year to Date

January – December 30, 2021

Income	\$ 285,472
Expenses	<u>\$ 288,230</u>
Net Income (Loss)	\$ (2,758)

02/20

Loose Cash	\$ 55.00
General Fund	\$ 1,155.00
Youth	<u>\$ 63.00</u>
Subtotal	\$ 1,273.00

Vanco

General Operating \$ 2,170.00

Building \$ 25.00

Total \$ 3,468.00

02/27

General Fund	\$ 2,945.00
Lutheran World Relief	\$ 10.00
Pantry Fund	\$ 200.00
Parish House	\$ 257.00
World Hunger	\$ 12.00
Youth	<u>\$ 140.00</u>
Subtotal	\$ 3,564.00

Vanco

General \$ 707.00

Total **\$ 4,271.00**

For a quick overview of giving options, please visit the Faith Lutheran Church website and look for the giving button in the top right corner.
www.faithlutheranokemos.org



Council President, Ryan Edberg, and the other members of Council are calling a Special Congregational Meeting to update the congregation on what has been happening with the sale of our plot of land on the north side of the church property. A committee composed of Ryan Thompson, Ryan Edberg, Cecelia Kramer, and John McCracken had been tasked with working on this effort and they would like to report to the congregation. **This Special Congregational Meeting will take place on Sunday, March 13, following morning worship. This will be an informational meeting and it will be an IN-PERSON meeting.** We hope you will be able to join us.