



**Worship Bulletin: Mount Calvary Lutheran Church
Feb. 20 (5:30 PM) and Feb. 21 (8:45AM) 2021**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: We gather in the name of our baptism, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **A: Amen.**

P: God of heaven and earth, you come in close and make us yours. Equip us by your Spirit to confess our sin, embrace your forgiveness, and seek the way you set before us in your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **A: Amen.**

P: With honesty of heart, let us confess our sin.

P: Merciful God,

A: forgive us. Our will is handcuffed to sin, and we cannot break free. We have spoken when we should have kept quiet.

We were silent when we should have said something.

We acted when we knew better.

We were still when we know we should have moved.

For the wrong we have done, for the good we have failed to do, have mercy on us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: People of God, look to the † Son, given to heal you and set you free because God loved the world so much. Take hold of life—eternal life! **A: Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

“Oh, Praise the Gracious Power”

performed by First Presbyterian Church Richmond, Virginia

Oh, praise the gracious pow'r
that tumbles walls of fear
and gathers in one house of faith
all strangers far and near:

Refrain

We praise you, Christ!
Your cross has made us one!

Oh, praise persistent truth
that opens fist'd minds
and eases from their anxious clutch
the prejudice that blinds: *Refrain*

Oh, praise inclusive love,
encircling ev'ry race,
oblivious to gender, wealth,
to social rank or place: Praise!

Oh, praise the word of faith
that claims us as God's own,
a living temple built on Christ,
our rock and cornerstone: *Refrain*

Oh, praise the tide of grace
that laps at ev'ry shore
with visions of a world at peace,
no longer bled by war: *Refrain*

Oh, praise the pow'r, the truth,
the love, the word, the tide.
Yet more than these, oh, praise their source,
praise Christ the crucified: *Refrain*

Oh, praise the living Christ
with faith's bright songful voice!
Announce the gospel to the world
and with these words rejoice: *Refrain*

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **A: And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Heavenly Father, you delivered Noah and his family from the flood and your Son from wilderness temptation. Now deliver us from evil and lead us not into temptation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **A: Amen**

FIRST READING: GENESIS 9:8-17

Today's reading is the conclusion to the flood story. Because of human sin, God destroys the earth by flood, saving only Noah, his family, and the animals on the ark. Yet divine destruction gives way to divine commitment. As in the first creation, God blesses humanity and establishes a covenant with all creatures.

⁸God said to Noah and to his sons with him, ⁹"As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, ¹⁰and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. ¹¹I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." ¹²God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is

with you, for all future generations: ¹³I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” ¹⁷God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

R: The word of the Lord,

A: Thanks be to God!

PSALMODY:

“Word of God, Come Down on Earth”

Word of God, come down on earth,
living rain from heav'n descending;
touch our hearts and bring to birth
faith and hope and love unending.
Word almighty, we revere you;
Word made flesh, we long to hear you.

Word that caused blind eyes to see,
Speak and heal our mortal blindness.
Deaf we are, our healer be;
loose our tongues to tell your kindness.
Be our Word in pity spoken,
Heal the world by our sin broken.

Word that speaks God's tender love,
one with God beyond all telling,
Word that sends us from above
God the Spirit, with us dwelling,
Word of truth, to all truth lead us;
Word of life, with one bread feed us.

SECOND READING: 1 PETER 3:18-22

As God acted through Christ's suffering and death to bring us to God, so God acts through baptism to save us from a sinful existence. This spiritual cleansing marks our new life in Christ.

¹⁸Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were

saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

R: The word of the Lord,

A: Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

P: Return to the Lord your God!

A: One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.

P: For the Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

GOSPEL: MARK 1:9-15

P: The holy Gospel according to Mark,

A: Glory to you, O Lord.

The Spirit that comes upon Jesus at his baptism sustains him when he is tested by Satan so that he might proclaim the good news of God's reign.

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

¹²And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

P: The gospel of the Lord,

A: Praise to you, O Christ!

SERMON

HYMN OF PRAISE

"Faith of Our Fathers" as interpreted by Dan Gresh



1 Faith of our fa - thers, liv - ing still in spite of dun - geon,
 2 The mar - tyrs, chained in pris - ons dark, were still in heart and
 3 Faith of our fa - thers! We will love both friend and foe in



fire, and sword. Oh, how our hearts beat high with joy
 con - science free; and blest would be their chil - dren's fate
 all our strife; pro - claim thee too, as love knows how,

Refrain



when - e'er we hear that glo - rious word.
 if they, like them, should die for thee. Faith of our fa - thers,
 by sav - ing word and faith - ful life.



ho - ly faith, we will be true to thee till death.

APOSTLES' CREED

A: 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

P: Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

P: In Jesus your realm has come near to us in every place and time. Give your church throughout the world a spirit of humility and repentance; teach us to trust always in the good news of your salvation. Hear us, O God.

A: Your mercy is great.

P: You have made a covenant of mercy with every living creature. Protect all the earth's creatures from destruction (especially . . . here local environmental concerns may be named). Empower the work of biologists, conservationists, and science educators. Hear us, O God.

A: Your mercy is great.

P: All your paths are steadfast love and faithfulness. Direct the words and actions of leaders in our community and throughout the world, that they may maintain justice for the lowly. Hear us, O God. **A: Your mercy is great.**

P: Even in the wilderness you are with us. Walk alongside migrants and refugees crossing dangerous lands. Tend to those whose lives feel desolate. Give healing and strength to all who suffer (especially). Hear us, O God. **A: Your mercy is great.**

P: In the covenant of baptism you claim us as beloved children. Nurture us in our baptismal identity and teach us to live within it for the sake of others. Strengthen this congregation's ministries of care and concern (especially). Hear us, O God. **A: Your mercy is great.**

P: In baptism you join us to the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We praise you for all those who have died trusting in your faithfulness. Bring us with them to the fullness of your reign. Hear us, O God. **A: Your mercy is great.**

P: We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **A: Amen.**

PEACE

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

OFFERING PRAYER

P: God of goodness and growth,

A: you faithfully care for all of creation. Water and word, wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace. Nourish us through these gifts, that we might be your witnesses, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song. Amen.

DIALOGUE

P: The Lord be with you. **A: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts. **A: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **A: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: O God most mighty, O God most merciful, O God our rock and our salvation, hear us as we praise, call us to your table, grant us your life. When the earth was a formless void, you formed order and beauty. When Abraham and Sarah were barren, you sent them a child; When the Israelites were enslaved, you led them to freedom. Ruth faced starvation, David fought Goliath, and the psalmists cried out for healing, and full of compassion, you granted the people your life. You entered our sorrows in Jesus our brother. He was born among the poor, he lived under oppression, he wept over the city. With infinite love, he granted the people your life.

P: 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.

P: 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.

P: Remembering his death, we cry out Amen. **A: Amen.**

P: Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen. **A: Amen.**

P: Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen. **A: Amen.**

P: O God, you are Breath: send your Spirit on this meal. O God, you are Bread: feed us with yourself. O God, you are wine: warm our hearts and make us one. O God, you are Fire: transform us with hope. O God most majestic, O God most motherly, O God our strength and our song, you show us a vision of a tree of life with fruits for all and leaves that heal the nations. Grant us such life, the life of the Father to the Son, the life of the Spirit of our risen Savior, life in you, now and forever. **A: Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

A: 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! Come to the table of mercy and joy.

SHARING OF COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: We thank you, living God,

A: for the body and blood of your Son, which sustains us in the wilderness and the garden alike. As Christ has loved us in this feast, so send us to love Christ in our neighbors. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

SENDING HYMN:

“I Drive Your Truck” by Lee Brice

Eighty-nine cents in the ashtray

Half empty bottle of Gatorade

Rollin' in the floorboard

That dirty Braves cap on the dash

Dogtags hangin' from the rear view

Old Skoal can and cowboy boots

And a "Go Army" shirt folded in the back

This thing burns gas like crazy

But that's all right

People got their ways of copin'

Oh, and I've got mine

I drive your truck

I roll every window down

And I burn up

Every back road in this town

I find a field, I tear it up

'Till all the pain is a cloud of dust

Yes, sometimes, I drive your truck

I leave that radio playin'

The same ole country station

Where you left it

Yeah, man, I crank it up

You'd probably punch my arm right now

If you saw this tear rollin' down my face

Hey, man, I'm tryin' to be tough

And Mama asked me this mornin'

If I'd been by your grave

But that flag of stone

Ain't where I feel you, anyway

I drive you truck
I roll every window down
And I burn up
Every back road in this town
I find a field, I tear it up
'Till all the pain is a cloud of dust
Yes, sometimes, I drive your truck

I've cussed, I've prayed, I've said goodbye
I've shook my fist and asked God why
These days, when I'm missin' you this much

I drive your truck
I roll every window down
And I burn up
Every back road in this town
I find a field, and I tear it up
'Till all the pain is a cloud of dust sometimes
Brother, sometimes, I drive your truck

I drive your truck
I hope you don't mind
I hope you don't mind
I drive your truck

BLESSING

P: Now is the acceptable time. Now is the day of salvation. Holy God, speaking, spoken, and inspiring, ✠ bless you, unbind you, and send you in love and in peace.

A: Amen.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Share the good news.

A: Thanks be to God.