

Worship Program  
February 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024

## Introduction

*On Ash Wednesday the church began its journey toward baptismal immersion in the death and resurrection of Christ. This year, the Sundays in Lent lead us to focus on five covenants God makes in the Hebrew Scriptures and to use them as lenses through which to view baptism. First Peter connects the way God saved Noah's family in the flood with the way God saves us through the water of baptism. The baptismal covenant is made with us individually, but the new life we are given in baptism is for the sake of the whole world.*

## Confession and Forgiveness *(Please stand if you are able)*

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus.

**C: Amen.**

P: Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*(Silence is kept for reflection)*

P: Holy God,

**C: we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.**

P: Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through ✠ Jesus Christ. **C: Amen.**

## Greeting

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

**C: And also, with you.**

Gathering Hymn "God of Grace and God of Glory" Hymn 705



1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple  
2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -  
3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to  
4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils



pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;  
sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us  
your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,  
we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion



bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age  
free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age  
rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,



for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.  
for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.  
lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.  
serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

## Prayer of the Day

P: Holy God, heavenly Father, in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin. Renew us in the gift of baptism.

May your holy angels be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: Amen.** *(Please Be seated)*

## 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.*

God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and 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."

I 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."

God 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."

"I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth.

When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I 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."

"When 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."

God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."

The word of the Lord, **C: Thanks be to God.**

Psalmody: Psalm 25:1-10

WA: To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

**C: My God, I put my trust in you. Let me not be put to shame, nor let my enemy's triumph over me.**

WA: Let none who look to you be put to shame. Rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

**C: Show me your ways, O LORD, and teach me your paths.**

WA: Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation. In you have I trusted all the day long.

**C: Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.**

WA: Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions. Remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

**C: You are gracious and upright, O LORD. Therefore, you teach sinner in your way.**

WA: You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.

**C: All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.**

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.*

WA: Christ 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, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who 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.

WA: And 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, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

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

Gospel Acclamation (Setting 1, ELW pg. 103) *(Please stand if you are able)*

Gospel: Mark 1:9-15

*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.*

P: The holy gospel according to Mark. **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

P: In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.

And 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.

And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved. With you I am well pleased."

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness.

He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan.

And he was with the wild beasts.

And the angels waited on him.


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

The gospel of the Lord, **C: Praise to you, O Christ** *(Please be seated)*


Sermon

## Hymn of the Day “I want Jesus to walk with me.” Hymn 325


*(Please stand if you are able)*




1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;  
2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;  
3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;



I want Je - sus to walk with me;  
in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;  
when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;



all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,  
when my heart is al - most break - ing,  
when my head is bowed in sor - row,



Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.  
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.  
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

## Prayers of Intercession

WA: Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need. *(Silence is kept for reflection)*

WA: God our truth, the ark of your church has room for many expressions of faith. We give thanks for voices that challenge and awaken your people. *(Especially that of Martin Luther, re-newer of the church, whom we commemorate today).*

Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

WA: God our maker, you remember your covenant with the earth and its inhabitants. Rescue communities and creatures hurting from natural disasters. Preserve species and habitats endangered by human carelessness and disregard.

Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

WA: God our light, you know our weakness. Free all who govern from the temptations of power. Sustain all who work for human rights in every nation.

Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

WA: God our help, you care for your beloved children. Comfort all who are grieving, ill, afraid, in pain, or in despair. Feed hungry people living in food deserts. Protect any at risk from exploitation and abuse.

Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

WA: God our home, you gather your people. Grant us health and safety as we assemble. Keep us mindful of any who are homebound, hospitalized, convalescing, or traveling *(especially)*. Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

WA: God our hope, you promise eternal life to your beloved children. We remember with gratitude those who have lived and died in faith. Grant that we may also dwell with you in everlasting peace.

Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

WA: Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **C: Amen.**

### Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always. **C: And also, with you.** *(Please be seated)*

### Offertory Song

“Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace” (Hymn 716) v.1-2



## Offering Prayer *(Please stand if you are able)*

P: Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name. **C: Amen.**

## The Dialogue

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also, with you.**

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

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: 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 comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.

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”** (Setting 2, ELW pg. 108)

## Thanksgiving at the Table

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.

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.

**C: Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

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

**C: 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: Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come! *(Please be seated)*

**"O Lamb of God"**

(Setting 1, ELW pg. 112)

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world. Have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. Have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. Grant us peace, grant us peace.**

*(Please be seated)*

## Special Music

"In Jesus Name" Performed by Katy Nichole

Prayer after Communion *(Please stand if you are able)*

P: Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace.

As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world.

In the name of Jesus, the Bread of life. **C: Amen.**

## Blessing

P: Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and ✙ give you peace. **C: Amen.**

Sending Hymn “Thy holy wings” Hymn 613



1 Thy ho - ly wings, O Sav - ior, spread gent - ly o - ver me,  
2 Oh, let me nes - tle near thee, with - in thy down - y breast  
3 Oh, wash me in the wa - ters of No - ah's cleans - ing flood.



and let me rest se - cure - ly through good and ill in thee.  
where I will find sweet com - fort and peace with - in thy nest.  
Give me a will - ing spir - it, a heart both clean and good.



Oh, be my strength and por - tion, my rock and hid - ing place,  
Oh, close thy wings a - round me and keep me safe - ly there,  
Oh, take in - to thy keep - ing thy chil - dren great and small,



and let my ev - 'ry mo - ment be lived with - in thy grace.  
for I am but a new - born and need thy ten - der care.  
and while we sweet - ly slum - ber, en - fold us one and all.

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Share your bread. **C: Thanks be to God.**



“The Chosen” Bible study series. Starting here weekly on Thursday Feb 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00pm. Everyone is welcome to attend!

**The Giving Tree will be collecting select items to donate to the Cambria County Backpack Project through February & March. Please stop in the narthex to drop off your donation or to review what they are looking for. Please Contact Mike Kozak or the church office with any questions.**

