Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham

P.O. Box 100, Durham PA, 18039 ◆ 610-346-8500

durhamlutheran.org

Rev. James Heckman, Pastor Cell: 267-664-3160

February 25, 2024 Second Sunday in Lent



Introduction to Worship

The second covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the one made with Abraham and Sarah: God's promise to make them the ancestors of many, with whom God will remain in everlasting covenant. Paul says this promise comes to all who share Abraham's faith in the God who brings life into being where there was no life. We receive this baptismal promise of resurrection life in faith. Sarah and Abraham receive new names as a sign of the covenant, and we too get new identities in baptism, as we put on Christ.

You can find the live stream at the following locations: www.youtube.com/@DurhamLutheran

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Prelude: Prelude and Fugue - Charles Geissler

GATHERING

P: The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (Stand if you are able)

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

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

C: Amen.

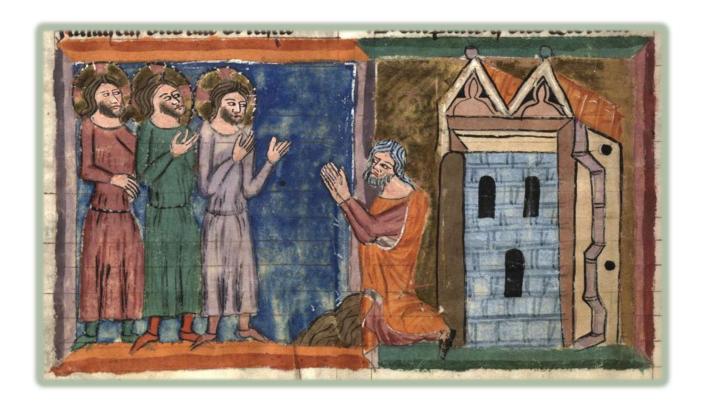
P: Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Silence is kept for reflection.

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.



Entrance Hymn: ELW 831

The God of Abraham Praise



Text: Thomas Olivers, 1725-1799, alt., based on the Yigdal, c. 14th cent.

Music: YIGDAL, Jewish melody; arr. Meyer Lyon, 1751–1797

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Prayer of the Day

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, 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 17:1-7, 15-16

As with Noah, God makes an everlasting covenant with Abraham and Sarah. God promises this old couple that they will be the ancestors of nations, though they have no child together. God will miraculously bring forth new life from Sarah's womb. The name changes emphasize the firmness of God's promise.

L: A reading from the seventeenth chapter of Genesis:

¹When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. ²And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." ³Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, ⁴"As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁵No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁶I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. ⁷I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you."

¹⁵God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 22:23-31

- L: ²³You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him; stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel
- C: ²⁴For he did not despise or abhor the affliction of the afflicted; he did not hide his face from me, but heard when I cried to him
- L: ²⁵From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will pay before those who fear him
- C: ²⁶The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD. May your hearts live forever

- L: ²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; and all the families of the nations shall worship before him
- C: ²⁸For dominion belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations
- L: ²⁹To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for him
- C: ³⁰Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the LORD,
- L: ³¹and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it.

Second Reading: Romans 4:13-25

Paul presents Abraham as the example for how a person comes into a right relationship with God not through works of the law but through faith. Though Abraham and Sarah were far too old for bearing children, Abraham trusted that God would accomplish what God had promised to accomplish.

A reading from the fourth chapter of Romans:

¹³The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

¹⁶For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations")—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." ¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. ²⁰No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." ²³Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: THANKS BE TO GOD.

Gospel Acclamation (Please stand if you are able)





The Gospel - Mark 8:31-38

After Peter confesses his belief that Jesus is the Messiah, Jesus tells his disciples for the first time what is to come. Peter's response indicates that he does not yet understand the way of the cross that Jesus will

P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark the eighth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord

³¹[Jesus] began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you. O Christ.

Children's Sermon / Sermon (please be seated)



Hymn of the Day: ELW 667

Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said



Text: Charles W. Everest, 1814-1877, alt.

Music: BOURBON, W. Hauser, Hesperian Harp, 1848

Apostles' Creed

P: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

C: 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: 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.

A brief silence.

- P: We turn to you for meaning, holy God. Nurture in your children the gifts of the Spirit poured out in baptism and let the mind of Christ guide the church. Give wisdom and discernment to our bishops, pastors, deacons, teachers, and leaders. Hear us, O God.
- C: Your mercy is great.
- P: We turn to you for renewal. Save lives and ecosystems threatened by pollution and a changing climate. Cleanse the earth's waters and restore the soil. Preserve rainforests, deserts, and wildlife, that generations to come may cherish your creation. Hear us, O God.
- C: Your mercy is great.
- P: We turn to you for justice. Uphold the worth and dignity of every person, especially any who experience hatred and rejection because of gender, ability, sexual orientation, color, ethnicity, or religion. Hear us, O God.
- C: Your mercy is great.
- P: We turn to you for healing. Send compassionate helpers to any who suffer because of war and violence. Shelter unhoused people, befriend those who are lonely, bring hope to any in despair, and console the bereaved (especially). Hear us, O God.
- C: Your mercy is great.
- P: We turn to you for purpose. Remind us of your faithfulness to this congregation. Increase our trust in your guidance and keep us near the cross. Grant that our acts of service will express Christ's sacrificial love. Hear us, O God.
- C: Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: We turn to you for peace. We honor the saints who lived in service to others. Inspire us by their example until you gather us into your kingdom. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

- C: Your mercy is great.
- P: Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
- C: Amen.

OFFERING

Choir Anthem: Guide My Feet, Lord - American Spiritual arr. by John Carter

Presentation of the Gifts





Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923 Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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Offering Prayer

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.

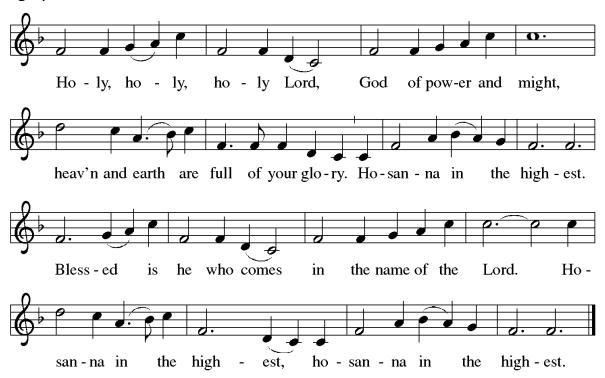
THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving

- 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.

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:



Eucharistic Prayer (said by Pastor)

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.



Christ has died. Christ is ris-en. Christ will come a - gain.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.



P: Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

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

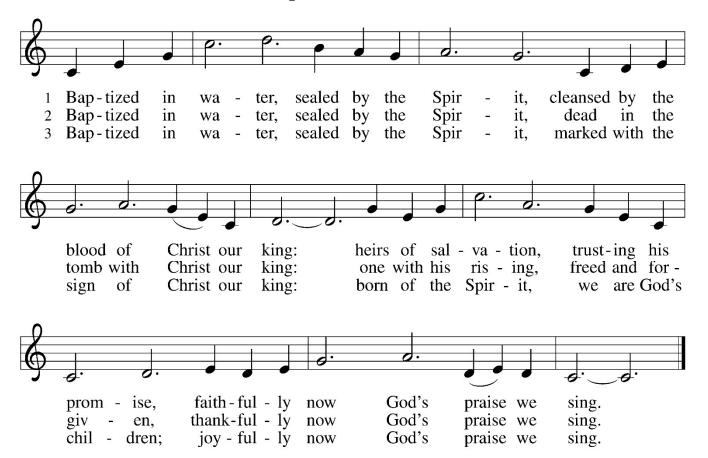
P: Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come!



Distribution of Bread & Fruits of the Vine (please follow ushers)

Hymn during Communion: ELW 456

Baptized in Water



Text: Michael Saward, b. 1932

Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune

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Prayer after Communion

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.

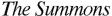
Announcements

BLESSING

C: Amen.

SENDING SONG: ELW 798

Will You Come and Follow Me





Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949 Music: KELVINGROVE, Scottish traditional

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Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Share your bread.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please remain for the Annual Congregation meeting!



<u>ANNOUNCEMENTS</u>							
February	BIRTHDAYS		ANNIVERSARIES		BAPTISMS		
26					Tom Gaun, Doug Litzenberger		
27	Tanya Naska						
28	Grace Litzenberger, Rowan Froehlich				Nicole Crouse		
29	Becky Harrison						
March	Birthdays		Anniversaries		Baptisms		
1					Mike Rhine		
	THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES						
Sunday, February 25 Second Sunday in Lent		A	10:00 AM fter Worship	Annual Cor	Communion Worship Annual Congregational Meeting (Snow Date March 3)		
Tuesday, February 27			7:00 pm		Care-a-Lot 40 th Anniversary planning meeting		

Wednesday, February 28	10:00 AM - 2:00 PM	Office Hours
,	11:00 AM - 11:15 PM	Care -A-Lot Visit
	12:00 PM	Chat & Chew with Pr. Jim
		PALM Midweek Gathering
		Change of Habit @ St. Peter's,
		Riegelsville
	6:00 PM	Soup Supper
	6:45 PM	Devotion
Thursday, February 29	10:00 AM - 11:00 PM	Choir rehearsal.
	11:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Office hours
	1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Adult Bible Study @ Hlavaty's
	UPCOMING ACTIV	<u>VITIES</u>
Sunday, March 3	10:00 AM	Communion Worship
Third Sunday in Lent	2:00-5:00 PM	Upper Bucks Conference Annual Assembly @ St. Peter's, Riegelsville
	5:00 PM	Confirmation class @ Trinity, Pleasant Valley
Monday, March 4	7:00 PM	Palm Planning meeting @ Trinity, Pleasant Valley.
Wednesday, March 6	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM	Choir rehearsal.
•	11:00 AM - 11:15 PM	Care -A-Lot Visit
	11:00 AM - 2:00 PM	Office Hours
	12:00 PM	Chat & Chew with Pr. Jim
		Weekly Lenten soup & devotions
	6:00 PM	@ Trinity, Pleasant Valley
Thursday, March 7	10:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Office hours
	1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Adult Bible Study @ Hlavaty's
Sunday, March 10	10:00 AM	Communion Worship
Fourth Sunday in Lent		
Monday, March 11	7:00 PM	Council Meeting
Wednesday, March 13	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM	Choir rehearsal.
	11:00 AM - 11:15 PM	Care -A-Lot Visit
	11:00 AM - 2:00 PM	Office Hours
	12:00 PM	Chat & Chew with Pr. Jim
	6:00 PM	Weekly Lenten soup & devotions
		@ Upper Tinicum
Thursday, March 14	10:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Office hours
	1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Adult Bible Study @ Hlavaty's



For Healing of those in our Congregation:

Joanne & David Antoni; Brian Ashmore; Frank Erceg; Kenneth Hager; George Kreitz; Paul McGinn; Cheryl Mesko; Dot Peterman; Wes Simmons; Ed Xander; Joanne and Bobby Ziegenfuss.

For Healing of Friends and Family:

Frank Allebach; Lynn Bailey; Ron & Kathy Ballek; Bob Benoure; Jason Bigley; Deb Carmichael; Jane Carr; Peggy Coleman; Stephanie Courtney; Nancy Edelen; Diane Ellington; Leon Errico; Fred Foerster; Gerry Foran; Gabriella Froehlich; Debbie Gardner; Cindy Gilligan; Candie Gimbar; Baree Lee Goodman; Penni Griffith; Bill Hunt; Lois James & family; Martine King; Sue Kiry; Tim Koplin; Jim McAnally; Letitia McCrea; Sue Odor; Cindy Oswald; Lucia Otero; Jennifer Phelps; Connie Rugen; Paul Sauter; Debbie Schultz; David Sebring; Laura Sheetz; Shawn Stadt; Kay Stokes; Donna Storm; Russ Trauger; Annette von Watzdorf; Kelly Walsh; Jacqueline Ward; Regina Ward; Dean Erika Wesch; Henry Wong; Rostam Wong Chaffin and Scotty Yurconis.

For those who are Homebound:

Cleo & Ken Eck; Norma Fox; Phyllis Lanshe; Frank Mammana; Jayne Miller; and Silas Rodenbach.

For families and friends grieving the loss of:

Ronald Fox, Rev. Dennis Durasoff; Jean Pratt, Charles Reiman (Brittany Froelich and Dane Reiman's father)

If you want to add or remove someone from the prayer list, please contact Joan Mammana either by phone (610-258-5717 or 610-417-6553) or by email at:

prayerchain@durhamlutheran.org

ALLENTOWNRESCUEMISSION

FEBRUARY OUTREACH - The February outreach envelope will go to the Allentown rescue Mission.

Worship

Preacher	Rev. James Heckman	
Organist / Choir Director	Carolyn Williams	
Altar Guild	Kris Simmons, Linda Sauter	
Greeter(s)	Wagner Family	
Acolyte	Colton Wagner	
Lector	Kathryn Wagner	
Head / Communion Usher	Mark Harwick	
Council Counting Team	Karen Beerer & Cathy Mueller	
Administration & Technology	Ken Anderson	
Custodian	Dianna Streletz	



Easter Flowers Order Form

The 2024 prices of Easter flowers are as follows:

Mums – random colors	\$7
Tulips – random colors	\$6
Lilies – white	\$8
Daffodils	\$8



Name and Phone Number:				
# of Mums	X \$7	 Total \$ for Mums		
# of Tulips	X \$6	 Total \$ for Tulips		
# of Lilies	X \$8	 Total \$ for Lilies		
# of Daffodils	X \$8	Total \$ for Daffodils		
 Total # of Plants		Total \$ for Order		
☐ In Honor of or ☐ In Memory of: (Please check one)				

