

Welcome to Tree of Life Lutheran Church



February 18, 2024 ~ First Sunday in Lent

Leader in regular type, **congregation in bold type**

↑ means stand as you are able

Restrooms are located by the kitchen, in the nursery or at the end of the piano wing of the sanctuary.

We Gather as God's People

PRELUDE

You can use this time for quiet reflection, prayer and preparation for worship.

↑ CONFESSIOIN AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the Holy Trinity – Father, +Son, and Spirit, one God – who writes the Law on our hearts and saves us by the Gospel of Jesus. **Amen.**

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one-another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God, **we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. Our thoughts follow the ways of the world, rather than turn to your will. Our words hurt others, rather than speak your love. Our deeds center on ourselves, rather than care for our neighbor. For all this and for the sins only you know, forgive us for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us. By the death and resurrection of Jesus, God has broken every snare of sin, washed away our wrongs, and restored us to life. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

↑ HYMN


“O Lord Throughout These Forty Days” RED HYMNAL #319

↑ APOSTOLIC 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.**

↑ KYRIE

Refrain




Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, on our world and on our way.




Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, ev-'ry day.



- 1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
- 2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
- 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . . for
- 4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for
hun - gry and the poor; that
friends and fam - i - ly; for
wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
life and for love, for our work and our play,
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,

Refrain



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

↑ PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray: 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. **Amen.**

We Hear God's Word

FIRST READING: Genesis 9:8-17

A reading from Genesis.

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.”

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

PSALM: Psalm 25:1-10

¹To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

²**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph me.**

³Let none who look to you be put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

⁴**Show me your ways, O LORD, and teach me your paths.**

- ⁵Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.
- ⁶**Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.**
- ⁷Remember 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.
- ⁸**You are gracious and upright, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners in your way.**
- ⁹You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.
- ¹⁰**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

A reading from 1 Peter.

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.

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

↑ LENTEN GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Composed by D. D. Dillard

Voice 

LET YOUR STEAD - FAST LOVE COME TO US O LORD ____

⁴

SAVE US AS YOU PRO - MISED WE WILL TRUST YOUR WORD ____

↑ GOSPEL: Mark 1:9-15

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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."

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

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

↑ HYMN

"Lord Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word" RED HYMNAL #517

↑ PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the Church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

God our truth, you show grace to the sinful and establish a covenant of peace. Help your Church to always proclaim your salvation by grace alone, as did Martin Luther, Renewer of the Church, whom we commemorate today. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God our maker, you remember your covenant with the earth and all its creatures. Grant that all species and habitats might thrive and bear witness to your goodness. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God our light, you seek goodness in all lands. Bring freedom, justice and peace to every nation, and keep those who govern away from selfishness and corruption. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God our help, you are the ark that carries us through the floodwaters of life. Comfort all who are grieving, ill, afraid, in pain, or in despair. We pray especially for Amanda, Annalise, Anya, Brian, Carolyn, Christine, Clara, Dale, Danielle, Dallas, Elizabeth, Erica, Grace, Jack, Kenneth, Kimberly, Marilyn, Mercedes, Patrick, Richard, Sarah, and those we name with our lips or in our hearts... *Time for personal petition* Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God our home, you gather us here at Tree of Life. Free us from all temptation to go against your will, and lead us in your ways of truth. Bless our new members, whom we will soon welcome into the life of this congregation. Bless our bishops, Elizabeth and William; our pastor, Robbie, Community Lutheran Church and its pastor Karis, and Grace of God Community Church. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God our hope, you promise eternal life to your beloved children. Accept our thanksgiving for those who have died in the faith and now live in you. Grant that we may also dwell with you in everlasting peace. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

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

WELCOME OF NEW MEMBERS

Dear friends in Christ: In Holy Baptism, our Lord Jesus Christ liberates us from sin and death, and makes us all members of his holy, catholic and apostolic Church. Today we give thanks for two people, united with us in Baptism, whom God has called to be members of Tree of Life Lutheran Church:

The new members come forward as their names are read.

Jeffrey Alan Hillwig

Linda Jeanne Klein

Jeff and Linda, as members of the body of Christ, we are called to live among God's faithful people; to hear the Word of God and share in the Lord's Supper; to proclaim the Good News of God in Christ through word and deed; to serve all people, following the example of our Lord Jesus; and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth. Do you intend to continue in the covenant of your Baptism in this congregation?

R: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

People of God at Tree of Life, do you promise to support and pray for these new members in their life in Christ?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Let us pray: We give you thanks, Almighty God, for Linda and Jeff, whom you have drawn to yourself by the grace of your Son, and who now join us as members of Tree of Life. By your Holy Spirit, bind us to each-other; unite us in the breaking of bread and the prayers; strengthen us for service; support us all our days; and bring us at last to that day when all your children will be one and when you will be All-in-All. All this we pray through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The congregation president addresses the new members.

Jeff and Linda, we welcome you as fellow members of Tree of Life. We rejoice with you in Christ's baptismal gift of grace and call to service. May we together be faithful children of God, called by grace through Christ, and sharing this gift with Middletown, Odessa, Townsend and the World.

Thanks be to God!

The congregation may offer acclamation with applause.

↑ **PEACE**

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


We Share God's Holy Meal

OFFERING

↑ OFFERTORY

"We Believe"

Charles W. Pratt



1. WE BE-LIEVE IN GOD THE ONE, THE GI - VER OF OUR
2. WE BE-LIEVE IN JE - SUS CHRIST, THE ON - LY SON OF



4
SOULS MA - KER OF THE LAND AND SEA AND SKIES.
GOD WHO DIED AND ROSE TO SAVE US FROM OUR SIN.



9
3. WE BE-LIEVE THE HO - LY SPIRIT GOD AND CHRIST THE



12
LORD REIGN SU-PREME AND GIVE E-TER - NAL LIFE.

↑ OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together: **Jesus our Lord, 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. We pray this in your holy name. Amen.**

↑ GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

The image shows a musical score for 'Great Thanksgiving' in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff has two measures, the second and third have two measures each, and the fourth has two measures. The notes are mostly quarter and eighth notes, with some slurs and ties.

The thanksgiving continues with the preface for the day. The congregation responds:

↑ SANCTUS

Composed by D.D. Dillard

Voice HO - LY HO - LY HO - LY LORD GOD OF POW'R AND
MIGHT HEA - VEN AND EARTH ARE FULL OF YOUR GLO - RY HO -
SA - NA IN - THE HIGH - EST BLESS - ED IS HE - WHO

The image shows a musical score for 'Sanctus' in B-flat major (two flats) and 8/8 time. It is labeled 'Voice' and consists of three staves of music. The first staff starts with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff has 8 measures, the second has 8 measures, and the third has 8 measures. The notes are mostly quarter and eighth notes, with some slurs and ties.

10

COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD HO - SA NA IN THE

13

HIGH - - - - EST

↑ WORDS OF INSTITUTION

↑ LORD'S PRAYER

OUR FA - THER WHICH ART IN HEA - VEN

HAL - LOW - ED BE - THY

NAME THY KING - DOM COME THY WILL BE

DONE ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEA -

VEN GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAI - LY

BREAD AND FOR - GIVE US OUR DEBTS AS

WE FOR - GIVE OUR DEB - TORS AND

10 LEAD US NOT IN - TO TEMP - TA - TION BUT DE -
 LI - VER US FROM E - VIL FOR THINE IS THE
 15 KING - DOM AND THE PO - WER AND THE GLO - RY FOR -
 20 E - VER A - MEN

↑ INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness. **Thanks be to God.**

All baptized Christians are welcome to commune. Wine and white grape juice are in the individual cups. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

COMMUNION

Composed by D.D. Dillard

LAMB OF GOD YOU TAKE A - WAY THE SIN OF THE WORLD HAVE
 5 MER - CY ON US MER - CY ON US MER - CY ON US LAMB OF GOD YOU
 10 TAKE A - WAY THE SIN OF THE WORLD HAVE MER - CY ON US MER - CY ON US
 15 MER - CY ON US LAMB OF GOD YOU TAKE A - WAY THE SIN OF THE WORLD
 20 GRANT US PEACE

HYMNS

**“Let Us Break Bread Together”
“Come to the Table of Mercy”**

**RED HYMNAL #471
RED HYMNAL #481**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together: **Generous God, at this table we have tasted your salvation. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one in your grace, all through Jesus, the Bread of Life and our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God Sends Us in Mission

ANNOUNCEMENTS

↑ BENEDICTION

May Almighty God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and give you peace. In the name of the Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

↑ HYMN

“Guide Me Ever Great Redeemer”

RED HYMNAL #618

↑ MISSION STATEMENT

What is our Mission? **To be faithful children of God, called by grace through Christ, and sharing this gift with Middletown, Odessa, Townsend and the World.**

↑ DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

You may listen to the music or depart to do God's work.

Please join us for refreshments in the fellowship room after the service.

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