



Preparation for Worship:

Jesus, when you overturn my priorities like tables in the temple (John 2:13-16), help me see that your aim is to turn me back to our loving God.

Please stand as you are able* **Bold Items read in unison

GATHERING We come together to worship God

Welcome and Announcements

Invocation/Call to Worship: [Jesus said,] **Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.** (Matthew 11:28-29)

Opening Prayer

* Opening Hymn – *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing* Red **#181**

Communion Exhortation

Confession of Sin: **Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess to You that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. Therefore, we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy and ask You for Christ's sake, grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to eternal life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Kyrie (sung, p. 3): **O God the Fa-ther in heav-en, have mer-cy up-on us! O God the Son, Re-deem-er of the world, have mer-cy up-on us! O God the Ho-ly Ghost, true Com-fort-er, have mer-cy up-on us!**

Declaration of Grace

Prayers of the Church (P: Lord in Your mercy C: **Hear our prayer.**)

WORD – We seek guidance from God's Word

Numbers 21:4-9

Old Testament

Psalms 107:1-9

Responsive Reading

Ephesians 2:1-10

Epistle

* Confession of Faith (Apostles' Creed): **I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit; born of the virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and is seated on the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from where He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the Holy Christian Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

* Gloria Patri: (sung, p. 4) **Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.**

* Offertory (sung, p. 33 for melody) **Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence: and take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Your salvation: and uphold me with Your free Spirit.**

Children's Sermon

Hymn of the Day – *Softly and Tenderly* Red **#431**

* Mark 2:18-22

* Gospel

Sermon – *Embracing the New Life* Pastor Barry Nelson

Hymn – *In the Cross of Christ I Glory* Red **#64**

MEAL The Table of Our Lord

* Lord's Prayer: **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.**

Holy Communion

* Closing Hymn – *Sent Forth by God's Blessing* Red **#284**

SENDING We go out to live in & share God's Word

* Benediction & Doxology: (sung, p. 24 for melody) **Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise Him, all crea-tures here be-low; Praise Him a-bove, ye heaven-ly host: Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A-men.**

* Dismissal L: Go in Peace, and Serve the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

Our Feeble Prayers, Our Father's Response

In *He Still Moves Stones*, Max Lucado recalls the story of Derek Redmond, a 1992 Olympic competitor in the 400-meter race. Halfway through Redmond's semifinal run, a torn hamstring sent him tumbling to the ground. His dad, Jim, immediately ran onto the track. He met up with Derek, who, though crying, had managed to stand and was hopping forward.

"You don't have to do this," Jim said. But Derek insisted. "Well, then, we're going to finish this together," said Jim, who supported his son as he hobbled to the finish line. The crowd cheered and wept as Derek, with Dad's assistance, finished the race.

Lucado writes: "What made the father do it? ... Was it the strength of his child? No, it was the pain of his child. ... God does the same. Our prayers may be awkward. Our attempts may be feeble. But since the power of prayer is in the One who hears it and not in the one who says it, our prayers do make a difference."

This Week in the Parish - March 3 - 10

WEDNESDAY	5:00 pm	Confirmation at Hope
	6:00pm	Baked Potato Supper at Hope
	7:30 pm	Joint Lenten Worship at Hope, Pastor Barry
SATURDAY	8:30 am	Men's Fellowship Breakfast at First American
SUNDAY	9:00 am	First American Worship
	9:30 am	Hope Sunday School
	10:00 am	First American Sunday School
	10:45 am	Hope Worship

Rejoicing in your presence & gifts – February 25, 2024

First American: General—\$1915. Benevolence—\$80. Noisy Offering for Kayla Leininger Mission Trip—\$90. Lenten Offering for All Nations Family Center (Pastors Johnny & Heidi Wade)—\$50. Nate Jore—\$80. SESD Lutherans for Life Ultrasound Fund—\$50. Sunday School—\$15. Budget per Sunday—\$1742.

Welcome to worship. Welcome to worship as we continue in the season of Lent. May we listen for Jesus' voice, rest in his care, and share his love with others. Guests, please sign the book in the narthex.



Softly and Tenderly was selected by Sara Bitterman. This hymn is special to her since it was one of her mom's favorites.

Our time of prayer during our corporate worship service is very important. To maintain a current prayer list, requests for non-members will be printed in the bulletin for three weeks. For additional time, please send an update to Pastor Barry. New additions will be underlined, and those scheduled to come off the next week will be in italics.

Health Needs of our Members: Raymond Anderson. Sandy Baier. Dorothy Friman. Allan Hale. Dawsyn Johnston. Sue Neumeister.

Health Needs: *Mary Bitterman* (wife of Dave Bitterman). *Stew Hyde* (brother of Charlene Bietz). *Linda Nelson* (mother of Pastor Barry). Kendall Simpfinderfer (brother of Joelyn Orchard).

Sympathy: Prayers of comfort for the family and friends of *Ray C. Dewald* (father of Glen Dewald), Harry Guthmiller (Tripp Community), Agnes Halverson (Tripp Community), Betty Honomichl (mother of Terri Bitterman) and Rosemary Solis (mother-in-law of Kevin Friederich).

Birthdays: 3 Emily Shipp, Aaron Nelson. 5 Cort Jensen. 7 Sylvester Prusia. 9 Mary Gunnare, Susan Neumeister.

AFLC Churches: St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran, Gifford, IL; Zion/Sharpsborg Lutheran, Dalton, MN; Ny Stavanger Free Lutheran, Buxton, ND.

Mission: Our Sunday school teachers

Tripp-Delmont Parish + Association of Free Lutheran Churches
Pastor Barry Nelson

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Today's Readings

March 3, 2024

Third Sunday in Lent

Old Testament

Numbers 21:4-9

⁴ They traveled from Mount Hor along the route to the Red Sea, to go around Edom. But the people grew impatient on the way; ⁵ they spoke against God and against Moses, and said, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? There is no bread! There is no water! And we detest this miserable food!” ⁶ Then the LORD sent venomous snakes among them; they bit the people and many Israelites died. ⁷ The people came to Moses and said, “We sinned when we spoke against the LORD and against you. Pray that the LORD will take the snakes away from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸ The LORD said to Moses, “Make a snake and put it up on a pole; anyone who is bitten can look at it and live.” ⁹ So Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, they lived.

Psalm 107:1-9

¹ Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
his love endures forever.

² **Let the redeemed of the LORD tell their story—
those he redeemed from the hand of the foe,**

³ those he gathered from the lands,
from east and west, from north and south.

⁴ **Some wandered in desert wastelands,
finding no way to a city where they could settle.**

⁵ They were hungry and thirsty,
and their lives ebbed away.

⁶ **Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble,
and he delivered them from their distress.**

⁷ He led them by a straight way
to a city where they could settle.

⁸ **Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love
and his wonderful deeds for mankind,**

⁹ for he satisfies the thirsty
and fills the hungry with good things.

Epistle

Ephesians 2:1-10

As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, ² in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. ³ All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath. ⁴ But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, ⁵ made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. ⁶ And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, ⁷ in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. ⁸ For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— ⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰ For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord. Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Mark 2:18-22

¹⁸ Now John’s disciples and the Pharisees were fasting. Some people came and asked Jesus, “How is it that John’s disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees are fasting, but yours are not?”

¹⁹ Jesus answered, “How can the guests of the bridegroom fast while he is with them? They cannot, so long as they have him with them. ²⁰ But the time will come when the bridegroom will be taken from them, and on that day they will fast.

²¹ “No one sews a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment. Otherwise, the new piece will pull away from the old, making the tear worse. ²² And no one pours new wine into old wineskins. Otherwise, the wine will burst the skins, and both the wine and the wineskins will be ruined. No, they pour new wine into new wineskins.”

Lessons – March 10, 2024 - Old Testament – Genesis 17:1-7,15-16
Psalm 22:23-31 Epistle – Romans 5:1-8 Gospel – Mark 8:27-38



Our Lenten theme this year is entitled, “Witnesses.” Each of our round-robin speakers will focus on a different group of witnesses to the passion of Jesus Christ. Our round-robin series will conclude with our Good Friday service.

Lenten Services (7:30 pm):

The Witness of the Criminals

Not recorded – Maurice Bueber

The Witnesses of Jesus’ Arrest

Online at FAHope.org – Travis Fink

The Witnesses of Jesus’ Trial

Hope: March 6 – Pastor Barry Nelson

The Witness of the Apostles

First American: March 13 – Del Neumeister

The Witness of the Soldiers

Hope: March 20 – Pastor Kevin Czymbor

Maundy Thursday

First American: March 28 – Pastor Barry Nelson

The Witness of the Religious Leaders

Hope: March 29 (Good Friday) – Rod Goldammer

Lenten Offerings:

First American – All Nations Family Center on the Rosebud Reservation. This is the ministry served by Johnny and Heidi Wade. Heidi is the daughter of Jan Jerke.

Hope – Southeastern South Dakota Lutherans for Life ultrasound fund which supports the ultrasound ministry of the Alpha Center in Sioux Falls.

Lenten Suppers (6-7pm):

Hope will have a baked potato supper on March 6th and a taco supper on March 20th. First American will have a soup supper on March 13th. A sign-up sheet will be posted in the narthex of each church for volunteers to help with these meals.

Mark 2:18-22

“Embracing the New Life”

March 3, 2024

1. Rejoice, the New Has Come!

2. Letting Go of the Old

3. Living in the Joy of the New Life