

# The Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 14, 2021

+SERVICE OF THE WORD+

Divine Setting One pg 151

**BELL CALL TO WORSHIP**

**WELCOME**

**OPENING HYMN**

**“Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me”**

**#761**

**INVOCATION**

**CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION**

**KYRIE**

**“Lord, Have Mercy”**

**COLLECT OF THE DAY**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

**Numbers 21:4-9 (ESV)**

*The LORD sends fiery serpents to punish His grumbling people in order that they might repent. Then, in mercy, He listens to their cries for help and grants healing.*

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. And the people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food." Then the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. And the people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and against you. Pray to the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live." So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

L: This is the Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSIVE INTROIT**

**Psalm 27**

L: The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom | shall I fear?\* The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I | be afraid?

**C: Though an army encamp against me, Yet I will be | confident. though war arise against me, yet I will be | confident.**

L: One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek | after:\* that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his | temple.

**C: For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of | trouble;\* he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high up- | on a rock.**

**All: Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\* and to the Holy | Spirit; as it was in the be- | ginning,\* is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

L: The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom | shall I fear?\* The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I | be afraid?

**EPISTLE READING**

**Ephesians 2:1-10 (ESV)**

*Paul explains that, without Christ, we are spiritually dead and under God's judgment for our sins. Through faith in Christ, God makes us spiritually alive. Salvation is a free gift for all.*

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience-- among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ--by grace you have been saved-- and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

L: This is the Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**LENTEN VERSE**

**LSB pg 157**

## GOSPEL READING

**John 3:14-21** (ESV)

*Jesus is like the bronze serpent that Moses lifted up in the desert so that people would be spared from death. Jesus was lifted up on the cross so that we might look to him and live.*

L: The Holy Gospel according to St John the third chapter. **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God."

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

## APOSTLES' CREED

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rachel Saunders

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*"Jesus, Priceless Treasure"*

#743

## SERMON

## OFFERING

## OFFERTORY

**"What Shall I Render to the Lord"**

LSB pg 159

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

## LORD'S PRAYER

## BENEDICTION

## CLOSING HYMN

*"Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus"*

#685

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Rev Lee Seetin and St Peter Lutheran Church, Gresham

Rev Eddie Mekasha, missionary to Sudanese and Ethiopian Immigrants

**Adam, Kellen Hohman and son born on Tuesday**

**Joan Naber receiving chemo treatments**

### For Our Congregation and Community:

**Dealing with an illness:** Andrea Swanson Kuester, Jenni Conell, Shelley Scheele, Stephen Ramsey, Derek Glassman, Christal Fehlhafer, Shirley Utter, Roger Rhodes, Aaron DeWaard,

Paula Huebschman (Jamie Ramsey's mother), Mitch Peeks, Hawley Family, Bill Chessar (brother of Teresa Rathjen), Sheila Franks, Dick Greenwood, Linda Ehlers, Carole Stern (Heather Wellman's mother), Shelley Neemeyer (Sheri Hahn's sister-in-law), Mya Noreen (Great Grand Daughter of Darlene Link)

**Recovering from surgery:** Joan Luebbe, Jackie Corner, Jeff Wellman, Collin Sansom, Duane Barth, Anna (Friend of DuAnne Deremer)

**Declining Health:** Norma Ehlers

**St. Paul Lutheran Church: 1100 D Street, Utica, Nebraska 402-534-2200 (phone); School:402-534-2121**  
**Pastor: Rev. Jon Dunbar; Visitation Pastor: Rev. Richard Gudgel; Principal: Mr. Bob Brauer**  
 Cell:402-641-4813 Cell:402-319-0965 Cell:402-534-3406  
**DCE: Brittany Fulcer; 414-292-8069**

***In Response to God's Love***

March 7 : Total Attendance: 145 Sunday School: 9 Online:

**VOLUNTEERS:**

**TODAY(03-14-21) Acolyte: Saige Scheele Lay Reader: Jeff Wellman Organist: Pat Koch**

**THIS WEEK**

SUNDAY (03-14)	9:00 AM	Worship online and in person
	10:30 AM	Bible Study online and in person Sunday School in person
	6:00 PM	Junior High Youth Group
	7:30 PM	Senior High Youth Group
MONDAY (03-15)	-----	NO SCHOOL
	-----	NO Bible Study 8th Grade Servant Event
TUESDAY (03-16)	1:30 PM	Nimble Thimbles
WEDNESDAY (03-17)	8:20 AM	Chapel
	3:45 PM	Midweek Class
	6:00 PM	Women's Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall
	7:00 PM	Lent Worship Service
THURSDAY (03-18)	-----	
FRIDAY (03-19)	6:00 AM	Men's Bible Study
SATURDAY (03-20)	-----	
SUNDAY (03-21)	9:00 AM	Worship w/Communion online and in person
	10:30 AM	Bible Study online and in person/Sunday School in person
	6:00 PM	Junior High Youth Group
	7:30 PM	Senior High Youth Group

As of 03-01-21	Amount received 02-28-21	Needed each week	Received YTD 2021	YTD Amount needed to cover 2021 budget	Difference
General Fund	\$10,499.00		\$110,613.00		
Thrivent Choice	\$0.00		\$0.00		
School Tuition	\$0.00		\$7,702.00		
<b>Total</b>	\$10,499.00	\$15,814.00	\$118,316.00	\$138,174.00	-\$19,858.00
Building Fund	\$0.00		\$250.00	Bldg Fund**	\$46,917.00
Teacherage Fund	\$50.00		\$225.00	Teacherage Fund	\$125.00
Restricted Funds (other than bldg)	\$0.00		\$1,055.00		
Mekasha Mission (9/20-8/21) 5k goal	\$140.00	\$86.00	\$2,755.00	\$2,500.00	\$255.00

Current Operating Note: \$0.00 (debt limit is \$90,000) \*\*Insurance Proceeds Received

**Prayer Vigil Wednesday March 31st, 2021** Join us for our annual prayer vigil Wednesday March 31st from 7am until 7pm. We are looking for people to keep vigil in prayer in our St. Paul sanctuary. You may sign up for hour or half hour intervals on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Let's lift up our church, community and world in prayerful devotion together. Thank you!

The family of Emil Lampe wishes to say thank you for all of the sympathy cards, memorial gifts and kindness after Emil's death.

**Lenten Devotion Booklets Available** These booklets are short daily devotions for your family to use Ash Wednesday through Easter Sunday. They are based around our worship theme, "Return to the Lord" (Joel 2:13), and are available at the Welcome Center.

**Lutheran Basics Class** Pastor Dunbar is teaching a six-week class on Lutheran teaching (based on the Small Catechism) started on Sunday, February 21st. This class is open to anyone interested in church membership or as a refresher course for current members. We will meet in the choir room (next to the sanctuary) during the Sunday School hour.

**NEW Women's Bible Study Group**

Here is an opportunity for women in our congregation to have a midweek refocus on their faith during this season of Lent. A group will be meeting in the fellowship hall every Wednesday 6:00-7:00pm. No homework or prep necessary! Just come and enjoy the blessing of Christian fellowship and time in God's Word. If you have any questions, please contact Lana Hoffschneider.

**Main Street Living offers special Palm Sunday programming** Main Street Living will be airing an actual tour of the Holy Land on Palm Sunday. The tour visits sites in the Holy Land that are significant in the life and ministry Jesus Christ. This tour will be an hour long program and will replace both the "This is the Life" segment and the worship service. It is the hope of Main Street Living that this tour will bring everyone a new understanding of Jesus and where He taught. Come and see the sights on The Eternal Rock Tour - Palm Sunday March 28, 2021. From His triumphal entry into Jerusalem, the Last Supper, Mount of Olives, betrayal in the Garden of Gethsemane, Via Dolorosa, Crucifixion, to His Resurrection on Easter Sunday. This tour will also be accessed through the MSL web site: [www.mainstreetliving.com](http://www.mainstreetliving.com).