



CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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480 MONTEREY AVE.
MORRO BAY, CALIFORNIA
Pastor Brian Stein-Webber

March 5, 2023
Second Sunday of Lent



WORSHIP BOOKLET

PRELUDE - I Lift My Eyes to the Hills - Lani Smith

John Cribb

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Brian Stein-Webber

Order for Confession and Forgiveness

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who makes all things new,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One, source of our renewal,
**we confess that we are wrapped up in sin,
and cannot free ourselves.
We have not practiced your righteousness.
Our hearts have turned away from you.
For the sake of the world you so love,
forgive us,
that we may be reconciled to one another
for the glory of your holy name.**

Amen.

Thus says our God:

"The former things have come to pass
and new things I now declare."

God's mercy makes us new.

We are forgiven in the name of † Christ our Savior.

Amen.

GATHERING

God is My Refuge

CHORUS

**God is my refuge and my strength, a present help in time of need;
He is my fortress, my deliverer, my Father my friend indeed.**

**Lord, You're my shepherd, I shall not want, You make me lie down in peace:
You lead me beside the still waters of life, my soul is restored at Your feet.**

CHORUS

**Yea, though I walk through the valley of death, I will not fear any harm;
Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me, and You will not leave me alone.**

CHORUS

GREETING

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

And also with you.

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

For the reign of God, and for peace throughout the world,
for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

For your people here who have come to give you praise,
for the strength to live your word, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, and defend us, O God.

A---men.

NOW THE FEAST AND CELEBRATION

REFRAIN

**Now the feast and celebration, all of creation sings for joy
to the God of life and love and freedom;
praise and glory forevermore!**

**Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain,
whose blood has freed and united us
to be one great people of God.**

REFRAIN

**Power and riches, wisdom and might,
all honor and glory to Christ, forever.**

REFRAIN

**For God has come to dwell with us,
to make us people of God;
to make all things new.**

REFRAIN

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you!
And also with you!

Let us pray together... **O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

FIRST LESSON: Genesis 12:1-4a

God said to Abram and Sarai,

“Go from your country and your kindred and your parents’ house
to the land that I will show you.

I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great,
so that you will be a blessing.

I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse;
and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

So Abram and Sarai went, as God had told him;
and Lot and his wife went with them.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 121 (the congregation responds with the bold words)

I lift up my eyes to the hills;
from where is my help to come?

**My help comes from God,
the maker of heaven and earth.**

God will not let your foot be moved
nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

**Behold, the keeper of Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep;**

God watches over you;
God is your shade at your right hand;

**the sun will not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.**

God will preserve you from all evil
and will keep your life.

**God will watch over your going out and your coming in,
from this time forth forevermore.**

Second Reading: Romans 4:1-5; 13-17

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham and Sarah,
our ancestors according to the flesh?

For if Abraham and Sarah were justified by works, they have something to boast about,
but not before God.

For what does the scripture say?

“Abraham and Sarah believed God, and it was reckoned to them as righteousness.”

Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due.

But to one who without works trusts God who justifies the ungodly,

such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

For the promise that they would inherit the world
did not come to Abraham and Sarah or to their descendants through the law
but through the righteousness of faith.

If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs,
faith is null and the promise is void.

For the law brings wrath;
but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith,
in order that the promise may rest on grace
and be guaranteed to all their descendants,
not only to the adherents of the law
but also to those who share the faith of Abraham and Sarah
(for they are the father and mother of all of us,
as it is written,
"I have made you the father and mother of many nations") –
in the presence of the God in whom they believed,
who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S CONVERSATION

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION #174 (red hymnal, rear section)

**Alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia, alleluia.**

Gospel Lesson: **John 3:1-17**

The gospel passage for today is from the book of John, the 3rd chapter, beginning with the 1st verse.

Glory be to you, Oh Lord.

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews.

He came to Jesus by night and said to him,

"Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God;
for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God."

Jesus answered him,

"Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God
without being born from above."

Nicodemus said to him,

"How can anyone be born after having grown old?
Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?"

Jesus answered,

"Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God

without being born of water and Spirit.

What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit.

Do not be astonished that I said to you,

‘You must be born from above.’

The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it,

but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes.

So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?”

Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?”

“Very truly, I tell you,

we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen;

yet you do not receive our testimony.

If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe,

how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things?

No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven,

the Son of Man.

And just 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 as to give the only Son,

so that everyone who believes in him may not perish

but may have eternal life.

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world,

but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

This is the gospel indeed.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Brian Stein-Webber

SERMON HYMN

Lamb of God #336

(red hymnal, rear section)

**Your only Son, no sin to hide, but you have sent him from your side
to walk upon this guilty sod and to become the Lamb of God.**

REFRAIN

O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God.

O, wash me in your precious blood, my Jesus Christ the Lamb of God.

Your gift of love we crucified.

We laughed and scorned him as he died.

The humble king we named a fraud and sacrificed the Lamb of God.

REFRAIN

**I was so lost, I should have died, but you have brought me to your side
to be led by your staff and rod and to be called a lamb of God.**

REFRAIN

APOSTLE'S CREED

Let us confess our faith in the words of the Apostle's Creed.

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 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 THE PEOPLE

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

O God, you so love your church. Raise up leaders who care for your people. Bless lay theologians, seminary and college professors, and all who are called to the ministry of teaching, that they form and inspire us for the work of the gospel. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

O God, you so love your creation. Breathe new life into our planetary home. Guide the work of researchers, scientists, and activists who love your earth and who inspire us to care for the natural world. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

O God, you so love the world. Uphold leaders who resist tyranny and oppression. Strengthen organizations that promote peace and harmony, especially Bright Stars of Bethlehem. Direct their work to alleviate human suffering and to address its root causes. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

O God, you so love your people. Draw near to all who live with mental illness, depression, or addiction, and accompany them in healing and recovery. Hear the cries of those who look to you in their distress, especially...

- Ben - Kathie and Dan Sperow's grandson recovering from a brutal beating
- Diane Williams, recovering from intestinal issues
- John Cribb - death of his father in South Carolina
- The Aparicio and Padilla families of Rebecca Aparicio who passed this week
- Gary & Eileen Orback whose home was damaged in the storm
- Betty Johnson - recovering from infection and blood clot while undergoing chemotherapy
- Jennifer Kurrle - adjusting to new medications
- Ina Davenport - Healing of her arm

- Aaron Brochtrup - still unable to return to work - neck pain, headaches, neurological trauma
- Janelle Muff -Healing after surgery and blood clot
- Joanne Kulczyk – recovering from a fall
- Sally Mingo, Jennifer Kurrle's mother - knee injury
- Denise Kenealy, daughter-in-law of Robin Karas - continuing to make progress in recovery
- Linda Luke - to gain weight and strength
- Jim Luke - supporting Linda's recovery
- Becky Padilla- responding well to treatment for cancer
- Marcia Shep, Jennifer Kurrle's grandmother
- James Hecker- ongoing abdominal pain
- Christopher Buckles, Kate Anderson's son
- Marcia and Rick Walt, friends of Cindy Haener
- Darel and Betty Sorenson - Betty remains in nursing care on Hospice
- Mercedes Stevens, Katie Edson's mother
- Iglesia Santa Cruz, Pastor Esteban and Angie- for our support of their ministry
- For those who are contracting the new COVID-19 omicron variants
- For the people of Ukraine, for strength, healing and protection, and changes of heart for those attacking them
- For Sophia Lorenzo who celebrates her birthday today, and Gary & Eileen Orback who celebrate their wedding anniversaries this week

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

O God, you so love your children. Bless the young in our midst, and delight us with their joy, wonder, and curiosity. Continue to nurture our ministries with children and youth and equip us all for faithful discipleship. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

O God, we respond to your love by praying for others in your loving care. So we lift these others in prayer and love...

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

O God, you so love your saints. As our ancestors in the faith have been a blessing to us, so inspire us by their example of holy living to be a blessing to those who come after us. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior.
Amen.

PEACE

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

Let us share that peace with one another.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together.... **God of good gifts,
receive these and all our offerings
as we present them in faithful service
for the sake of your gospel.
Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal
as you pour out your very presence
through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life.
Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also 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.

PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY #191 (red hymnal, rear section)

**Holy, holy, holy are you, God of power and might;
heaven and earth are filled with your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in your name.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

On the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it
and gave it to his disciples saying,
"Take and eat, this is my body given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me."

Again after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it to his disciples, saying,
"Drink this, all of you. It is the new covenant of my blood,
shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

Let us pray the prayer that our Lord Jesus taught us:

**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.

TAKING OF HOLY COMMUNION

[All who desire may come forward to take the body and blood of Christ. Gluten-free bread is available if you ask for it, and alcohol-free grape juice is in the center ring of the tray. During the distribution of Communion, you may also seek prayers of healing at the chair by the baptismal font.]

COMMUNION MEDITATION - Meditation in B Minor - Oreste Ravanello

John Cribb

COMMUNION BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

PRAISE TO YOU, O GOD OF MERCY #208 (red hymnal, rear section)

**Praise to you, O God of mercy: thanks be to you forever!
Raising high the weak and lowly: thanks be to you forever!**

**From of old you loved and sought us: thanks be to you forever!
Truth and justice you have taught us: thanks be to you forever!**

**Strong is your faithfulness, strong is your love,
rememb'ring your covenant of life with us.**

**Praise to you, O God of mercy: thanks be to you forever!
Raising high the weak and lowly: thanks be to you forever!
Thanks be to you forever!**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together:
**Embodied God,
at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus.
With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise,
empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors
and touch the world with your love.
AMEN.**

BLESSING

God, the giver of love,
✠ Christ, the resurrection and the life,
and the Holy Spirit of rebirth
bless you in this Lenten journey.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN To God Be the Glory

**To God be the glory, great things He hath done,
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son.
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,
And opened the life-gate that all may go in.**

REFRAIN

**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord.
Let the people rejoice!
O Come to the Father, thro' Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory, great things He hath done.**

**O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
To ev'ry believer the promise of God;
The vilest offender who truly believes,
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.**

REFRAIN

**Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done,
And great our rejoicing thro' Jesus the Son;
But purer, and higher, and greater will be
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.**

REFRAIN

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve in love.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE - Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley - Hugh S. Livingston, Jr.

John Cribb

Thank you to:

- **Cindy Haener** for assisting in worship.
- **Sandy McMillan and others** for counting the offering.
- **John Cribb** for accompanying worship.
- **Janet Lorenzo** and others for streaming worship.

- **Janet Lorenzo** for editing and assembling worship bulletins and the newsletter.
- **Nancy Padilla**, for setting up and welcoming.
- **Gary and Mark Orback**, for tending to our outside property.
- **Sophia and Janet Lorenzo**, for tending to our inside property.
- **Ken Brocks and Gary Brochtrup** for their handyman work.

Events this week:

- Today we are continuing our **Lent Collection for the people served by Iglesia Luterana de Santa Cruz**. You may place food and other donations in the “beach bags” for the disciples to take down south at the end of the season!
- **Thanks to all** who contributed to and served the brunch last Sunday. The next brunch will be on Palm Sunday, April 2nd, after worship.
- **The Preaching Congregation group** will meet next with Professor Hannan on Tuesday night, March 13th starting at 5:30 pm for about twenty minutes. We will also be meeting as a group on Monday evening, March 13th on Zoom at 6:00 pm to organize ourselves.
- **The Chosen discussion group** will meet tonight, March 5th at 7:00 pm on Zoom. Watch for the invite!
- **Coffee Club** will meet tomorrow morning, Monday, starting at 9:00 am at the Sea Pines Golf Resort Restaurant.
- **The Men’s Group** will meet tomorrow, Monday, March 6th, 1:00 to 2:30 pm at the Stein-Webber house (1302 17th St., Los Osos).
- **Bible Study** will take place on Wednesday, March 8th at 10:00 am in the fellowship hall.
- The second of our **Lenten soup suppers** will be this Wednesday night, with supper starting at 5:30 pm and a brief worship at 6:15 pm.
- The **Church Council** will be meeting on Thursday, March 9th starting at 5:00 pm in the fellowship hall.
- Remember that **Daylight Savings** will begin the early morning of Sunday, March 12th. Also remember, then, that we are “springing” forward one hour, and we will lose an hour.
- **IMPORTANT:** There will be a special **congregational meeting** on Sunday, March 19th after worship to **discuss the proposal to welcome another congregation** to worship and fellowship in our building. This meeting is for discussion and not for voting. Everybody will be provided a **document** later next week that will have **the particulars of the proposal, as well as arguments for and against the proposal**. The voting is scheduled to take place at a **subsequent congregational meeting** after worship on the following Sunday, March 26th.
- Let Pastor Brian know if you would like to **start receiving his weekly emails**.
(bsteinwebber@gmail.com)

**Don't forget to check the Calendar website page for upcoming events:
morrobaylutherans.org**