



CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

**February 25, 2024**

**Second Sunday in Lent**



## PRELUDE

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Brian

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

**Amen.**

Held 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.  
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.**

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.  
**Amen.**

**GATHERING O Savior, Precious Savior #820 (red hymnal, rear section)**

**O Savior, precious Savior, whom yet unseen we love;  
O name of might and favor, all other names above:  
we worship thee; we bless thee to thee alone we sing;  
we praise thee and confess thee, our holy Lord and King.**

**O bringer of salvation, who wondrously hast wrought,  
thyself the revelation of love beyond our thought:  
we worship thee; we bless thee; to thee alone we sing;  
we praise thee and confess thee, our gracious Lord and King.**

**In thee all fulness dwelleth, all grace and pow'r divine;  
the glory that excelleth, O Son of God, is thine.  
We worship thee, we bless thee; to thee alone we sing;  
we praise thee and confess thee, our glorious Lord and King.**

**Oh, grant the consummation of this our song above,  
in endless adoration and everlasting love;  
then shall we praise and bless thee where perfect praises ring,  
and evermore confess thee, our Savior and our King.**

## **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.**

**GLORIA p. 204 (red hymnal, front section)**

**Glory be to God in heaven; peace, goodwill to all the earth.  
Mighty God of all creation, Maker of surpassing worth;  
we exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.  
Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.**

**Glory be to Christ forever, Lamb of God and Lord of love.  
Son of God and gracious Savior, you have come from heav'n above;  
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.  
Hear our prayer; restore, forgive us; in your promise firm we stand.**

**Holy One we now acclaim you; Lord alone, to you we call;  
Holy One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all;  
Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit, in the Maker's splendor bright.  
For the peace that we inherit, glory be to God on high!**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

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

Let us pray together.

**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. Amen.**

## **WORD**

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

### **FIRST LESSON: Genesis 9:8-17**

**When 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.  
And I will make my covenant between me and you,  
and will make you exceedingly numerous.”

**Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him,**

“As for me, this is my covenant with you:  
You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations.  
No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham;  
for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations.  
I will make you exceedingly fruitful;  
and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you.  
I 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.”

**God said to Abraham,**

“As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai,  
but Sarah shall be her name.  
I 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.”

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery #334 (red hymnal, rear section)**

**Tree of life and awesome myst'ry, in your death we are reborn;  
though you die in all of hist'ry, still you rise with ev'ry morn,  
still you rise with ev'ry morn.**

**We remember truth once spoken, love passed on through act and word;  
ev'ry person lost and broken wears the body of our Lord,  
wears the body of our Lord.**

**Christ, you lead and we shall follow, stumbling though our steps may be;  
one with you in joy and sorrow, we the river, you the sea,  
we the river, you the sea.**

**From the dawning of creation you have loved us as your own;  
stay with us through all temptation, make us turn to you alone,  
make us turn to you alone.**

Light of life beyond conceiving, mighty Spirit of our Lord;  
give new strength to our believing, give us faith to live your word,  
give us faith to live your word.

### **Second Reading: Romans 4:13-25**

The 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.

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 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, as 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.

**Hoping against hope,**  
**he believed that he would become “the father of many nations,”**  
**according to what was said, “So numerous shall your descendants be.”**

He 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.

No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God,  
but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God,  
being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised.

**Therefore his faith “was reckoned to him as righteousness.”**

Now the words, “it was reckoned to him,” were written not for his sake alone,  
but for ours also

It will be reckoned to us who believe in him  
who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead,  
who was handed over to death for our trespasses  
and was raised for our justification.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **CHILDREN’S CONVERSATION**

**Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word.  
Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred.  
Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.**

**Gospel Lesson:** Mark 8:31-38

The gospel lesson for this Second Sunday in Lent is from the 8<sup>th</sup> chapter of the Gospel of Mark, beginning with the 31<sup>st</sup> verse.

**Glory to you, O God.**

[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.

He said all this quite openly.

**And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.**

But 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.”

He 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.

For 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

**For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life?**

**Indeed, what can they give in return for their life?**

Those 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.”

This is the gospel indeed.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

**Pastor Brian Stein-Webber**

**SERMON HYMN**    **Softly and Tenderly #608** (red hymnal, rear section)

**Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling, calling for you and for me.  
See, on the portals he’s waiting and watching, watching for you and for me.**

**REFRAIN**

**“Come home, come home! You who are weary come home.”**

**Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling, calling “O sinner, come home!”**

**Why would we tarry when Jesus is pleading, pleading for you and for me?  
Why should we linger and heed not his mercies, mercies for you and for me.**

**REFRAIN**

**Oh, for the wonderful love God has promised, promised for you and for me!  
Though we have sinned God has mercy and pardon, pardon for you and for me!**

**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**

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.*

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.

**Your mercy is great.**

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.

**Your mercy is great.**

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.

**Your mercy is great.**

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,

- Kathie Sperow - pneumonia
- Jean Senter – recovering from knee problems
- Sean Cannoles, Nikki Rocha’s cousin – heart problems
- Dick Williams – general health issues
- Katie Edson and family who are grieving the loss of Mercedes
- Elaine Grawe – relocating to be near her son
- Nancy Padilla – going through multiple dental procedures
- Becky Padilla – dealing with recurrence of cancer
- Christian, Heidi Carney’s son – dealing with multiple health issues
- Barbara Stein, Tom Anello’s sister – dealing with resurfacing cancer
- Byron Nelson, friend of Jacoby's – dealing with cancer
- Mike Johnson – dealing with lymphatic cancer
- Chris Senter – frontotemporal lobe dementia, and starting a medication trial
- Heidi Carney – ongoing health issues
- Kate Anderson
- Ina Davenport – Eye surgery the end of the month
- Denise Kenealy, daughter-in-law of Robin Karas – dealing with health issues
- James Hecker- undergoing hyperbaric oxygen therapy for serious infection
- Iglesia San Juan Bautista, Pastor Esteban and Angie – support of their ministry
- Those who are contracting COVID
- An end to the war in Ukraine
- The peoples of Israel and Palestine
- Victims of senseless gun violence
- For Carly Muff who celebrates her birthdays this week

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

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.

**Your mercy is great.**

We turn to You for intercession. Please, we ask, that you tend to the needs of other people who we now name,

*[You may name out loud or in your heart, those who are on your hearts, this morning.]*

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

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.**

Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, 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.... **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.**

**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 p. 207**

**(red hymnal, front section)**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord.**

**God of pow'r and might,**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory,**

**hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of our Lord.**

**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.**

**LAMB OF GOD p. 208 (red hymnal, front section)**

**O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away  
you suffered death our lives to save; have mercy now, we pray.**

**O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mercy now, we pray.**

**O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;  
eternal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.**

### **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 BLESSING**

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

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray together:

**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.**

**AMEN.**

## BLESSING

Beloved,  
we are God's own people,  
holy, washed, renewed.  
God bless you and keep you,  
shower you with mercy,  
fill you with courage,  
and ✝ give you peace.  
Amen.

## SENDING HYMN

**In the Cross of Christ I Glory #324 (red hymnal, rear section)**

**In the cross of Christ I glory, tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time.  
All the light of sacred story, gathers round its head sublime.**

**When the woes of life o'ertake me, hopes deceive, and fears annoy,  
never shall the cross forsake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.**

**When the sun of bliss is beaming, light and love upon my way,  
from the cross the radiance streaming adds more luster to the day.**

**Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure, by the cross are sanctified;  
peace is there that knows no measure, joys that through all time abide.**

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share your bread.  
Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

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Thank you to:

- **Katie Edson**, for being assistant minister today.
- **Sandy McMillan and others** for counting the offering.
- **Joyce Bauer** for preparing communion.
- **Janet Lorenzo** and others for streaming worship.
- **Janet Lorenzo and Gail Brochtrup** for editing and assembling 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, Dan Sperow, Andrew Jacoby, and Gary Brochtrup** for their handyman work.
- **The Church Council**, for leading our congregation.

Events this week:

- **Today after worship**, there will be **brunch** after worship, provided by a team of folks. No need to bring anything to share! We will also have cake for February birthdays and for folks who have recently joined Calvary as members!
- **The discussion group on The Chosen** will meet tonight, 7:00 to 8:00 pm on Zoom, to talk about Season 3, Episode 5 from *The Chosen*, to prepare ourselves for the episodes of Season 4 which are coming.
- **The Confirmation Class** will meet on Monday, 6:00 to 7:00 pm in the fellowship hall. The subject will be *Stories of the Disciples in the Book of Acts After Jesus' Resurrection*.
- **The Sermon Feedback and Feedforward** will meet on Tuesday, February 27th, at 10:00 am. We will be discussing next week's lessons: Exodus 20:1-17, Psalm 19, 1 Corinthians 1:18-25, and John 2:13-22.
- The **Bible Study on the Parables of Grace** will take place on Tuesday, February 27th, 1:10 to 2:30 pm entirely on Zoom.
- **Wednesday Bible Study** will take place on February 28 at 10:00 am in the fellowship hall. The subject will be *Freedom and the Law in Paul's Letters*.
- There will be **soup supper and mid-week Lenten worship** on Wednesday, February 28 starting at 5:30 pm. You may sign up to provide soup today.
- 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](http://morrobaylutherans.org)**