

February 21, 2021

The First Sunday of Lent



If you are an online guest today, please leave a record of your visit, below. Thank you!

[Online Guest Form](#)

Messiah Lutheran Church

7740 Hwy 72 West, Madison, AL 35758
(256)721-0041 / www.mlutheran.org

SERVICE of WORD and PRAYER

from *With One Voice*

THE PRELUDE: *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION

HYMN: "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" vs 1,2,4

315

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to earth come
2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it In - to ev - 'ry trou - bled
3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; Let us all thy life re -
4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, Pure and spot - less let us

down! Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, All thy faith - ful
breast; Let us all in thee in - her - it; Let us find thy
ceive; Sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, Nev - er - more thy
be; Let us see thy great sal - va - tion Per - fect - ly re -

mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
stored in thee! Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry.

Pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; Vis - it us with
Al - pha and O - me - ga be; End of faith, as
Serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, Pray, and praise thee
Till in heav'n we take our place, Till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion, En - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
its be - gin - ning, Set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
with - out ceas - ing, Glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
crowns be - fore thee, Lost in won - der, love, and praise!

THE GREETING & DIALOG

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.

The word is near you,
on your lips and in your heart.

If you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord,
and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

Faith comes from what is heard,
and what is heard comes through the word of Christ.

SCRIPTURE SONG

Refrain



☐ Sal - va - tion be - longs to our God and to



Christ the Lamb for - ev - er and ev - er.



☐ Great and won - der - ful are your deeds, O God of the u - ni - verse;



just and true are your ways, O Rul - er of all the na - tions.



Refrain

Who can fail to hon - or you, Lord, and sing the glo - ry of your name?



☐ For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One. All



na - tions will draw near and wor - ship be - fore you,



Refrain

for your just and ho - ly works have been re - vealed.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O Lord God, you led your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide now the people of your Church, that, following our Savior, we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

TEMPLE TALK: *Davidson Farms Cottage Homes*

VOCAL SOLO: *The Gift of Love*

Randall Fields

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 43:1-7

43 But now thus says the LORD,
he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are mine.

²When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.

³For I am the LORD your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

I give Egypt as your ransom,
Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.

⁴Because you are precious in my sight,
and honored, and I love you,

I give people in return for you,
nations in exchange for your life.

⁵Do not fear, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you;

⁶I will say to the north, "Give them up,"
and to the south, "Do not withhold;

bring my sons from far away
and my daughters from the end of the earth—

⁷everyone who is called by my name,

whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made.”

THE PSALM

Psalm 36:5-10

⁵Your love, O LORD, reaches to the heavens,
and your faithfulness to the clouds.

**⁶Your righteousness is like the strong mountains,
your justice like the great deep;
you save both man and beast, O LORD.**

⁷How priceless is your love, O God!
your people take refuge
under the shadow of your wings.

**⁸They feast upon the abundance of your house;
you give them drink
from the river of your delights.**

⁹For with you is the well of life,
and in your light we see light.

**¹⁰Continue your lovingkindness to those who know you,
and your favor to those who are true of heart.**

THE SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 13

13 If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ² And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. ³ If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

⁴ Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant ⁵ or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶ it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. ⁷ It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

⁸ Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. ⁹ For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; ¹⁰ but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. ¹¹ When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. ¹² For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. ¹³ And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: "Word of Life"

Word of life, Je - sus Christ, all glo - ry to you!

Word of life, Je - sus Christ, all praise to you!

Our hearts burn with - in us while you o - pen to us the Scrip-tures.

Word of life, Je - sus Christ, all glo - ry to you!

Word of life, Je - sus Christ, all praise to you!

The musical notation consists of five staves of music in G major (one sharp). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff begins with a square symbol. The music concludes with a double bar line.

THE GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 10th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

THE GOSPEL

John 10:11-18

¹¹“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

One There Is, above All Others

1 One there is, a - bove all oth - ers, Well de - serves the name of friend;
 2 Which of all our friends, to save us, Could or would have shed his blood?
 3 When he lived on earth, they scorned him; "Friend of sin - ners" was his name.

His is love be - yond a broth - er's, Cost - ly, free, and knows no end;
 But this Sav - ior died to have us Rec - on - ciled in him to God;
 Though the an - gels have a - dored him, Still he an - swers to that claim;

They who once his kind - ness prove Find it ev - er - last - ing love.
 This was bound - less love in - deed; Je - sus is the friend we need.
 Still he calls them dear - est friends And to all their needs at - tends.

THE SERMON

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary,
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father,
He will come again to judge the living and the 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**

Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;
pray in the Holy Spirit.
Keep yourselves in the love of God;
look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.
If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:
**Everything old has passed away;
behold, everything has become new!**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

God has given us the ministry of reconciliation.
Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

(silence for reflection and self examination.)

Gracious God,

**Have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown, things done and left undone.
Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and
serve you in newness of life,
To the honor and glory of your holy name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through
our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power
of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another,
Agree with one another, live in peace.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

THE OFFERING

THE OFFERTORY: "Glory to You, God" vs. 2



☐ *(Advent to Transfiguration)* Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
(Lent to Pentecost) Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
(Season after Pentecost) Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;



yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.
yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.
yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.



Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;
Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;
Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;



ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.



Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;



yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray.

Gracious God,

In the abundance of your steadfast love, you call us from death to life, from silence to speech, from idleness to action. With these gifts we offer ourselves to you, and with the Church through all the ages we give thanks for your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

As God's people called to love one another,
let us pray for the needs of the Church, the human family, and all the
world.

God of mercy,
Hear our prayer.

All these things and whatever else you see that we need, grant us, O God,
for the sake of Christ who died and rose again, and now lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**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**

THE BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

Amen

We All Are One in Mission

755

1 We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,
 2 We all are called to ser - vice, to wit - ness in God's name.
 3 Now let us be u - nit - ed, and let our song be heard.

our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.
 Our min - is - tries are dif - f'rent; our pur - pose is the same:
 Now let us be a ves - sel for God's re - deem - ing Word.

A sin - gle great com - mis - sion com - pels us from a - bove
 to touch the lives of oth - ers with God's sur - pris - ing grace,
 We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,

to plan and work to - geth - er that all may know Christ's love.
 so ev - 'ry folk and na - tion may feel God's warm em - brace.
 our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.

THE DISMISSAL

THE POSTLUDE: *Reflection on Wondrous Love*