

**MESSIAH**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
MADISON, ALABAMA  
*God's People. Reaching Out*

**March 5, 2023**

*The Second Sunday in Lent*



*Good Morning and Welcome!*

Guests, we are so glad you are here.  
Please fill out the yellow "Connection Card" in the pew and place in the offering basket or give to the usher or the pastor as you leave.

*Sound Assistance and staffed nursery available.*

[Online Guest Form](#)

**Messiah Lutheran Church**

7740 Hwy 72 West, Madison, AL 35758 | (256)721-0041 | [www.mlutheran.org](http://www.mlutheran.org)

**SERVICE of WORSHIP**  
***LBW Setting Two with the Lord's Supper***  
*\* Please stand as you are able*

THE PRELUDE: "Spirit of the Living God/Spirit of God Descend"

Miriam Conrad,  
Guest Pianist

ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

**If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*(silence for reflection and self examination)*

Most merciful God,

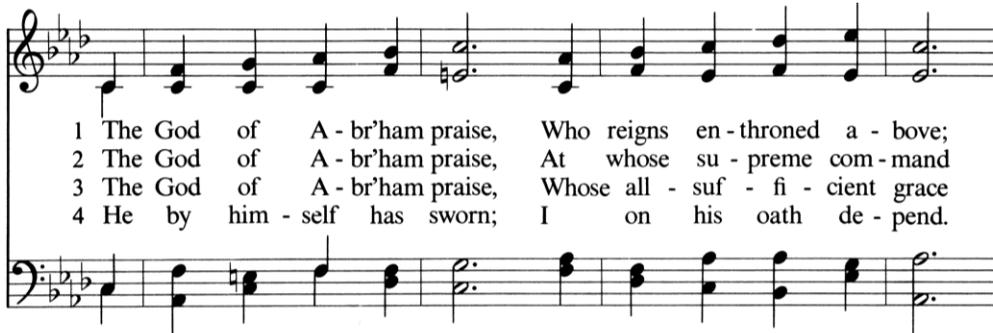
**We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

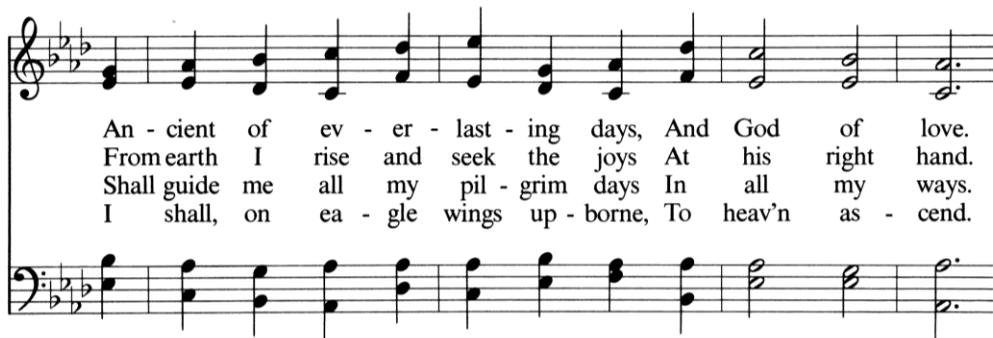
**Amen**

\*HYMN: "The God of Abraham Praise"

LBW 544



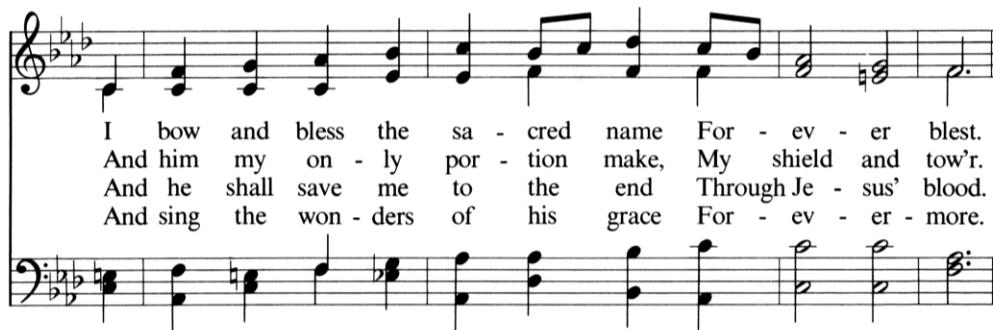
1 The God of A - br'ham praise, Who reigns en - throned a - bove;  
2 The God of A - br'ham praise, At whose su - preme com - mand  
3 The God of A - br'ham praise, Whose all - suf - fi - cient grace  
4 He by him - self has sworn; I on his oath de - pend.



An - cient of ev - er - last - ing days, And God of love.  
From earth I rise and seek the joys At his right hand.  
Shall guide me all my pil - grim days In all my ways.  
I shall, on ea - gle wings up - borne, To heav'n as - cend.



Je - ho - vah, great I Am! By earth and heav'n con - fessed;  
I all on earth for-sake— Its wis - dom, fame, and pow'r—  
He deigns to call me friend; He calls him - self my God!  
I shall be - hold his face; I shall his pow'r a - dore,

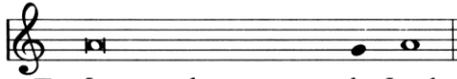


I bow and bless the sa - cred name For - ev - er blest.  
And him my on - ly por - tion make, My shield and tow'r.  
And he shall save me to the end Through Je - sus' blood.  
And sing the won - ders of his grace For - ev - er - more.

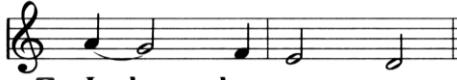
**\*THE GREETING**

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.

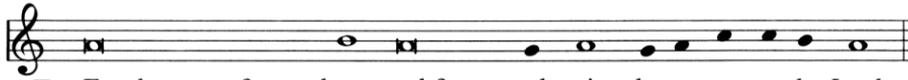
**\*THE KYRIE**



**A** In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



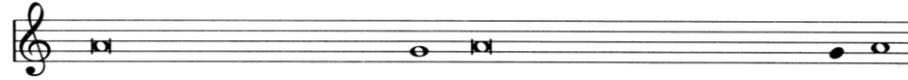
**G** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord.



**G** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the uni-ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



**G** Lord, have mer - cy.



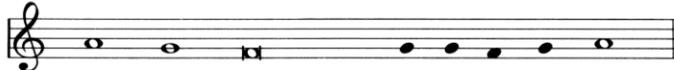
**A** For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



**G** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord.



**G** A - men

#### \*THE SALUTATION



**P** The Lord be with you.



**G** And al - so with you.

#### \*THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

TEMPLE TALK

Jeanne Vinson, Huntsville Assistance Program

HANDBELL ANTHEM: “The Gift of Grace” (Sherman)

Notabella Handbell Choir

#### THE FIRST LESSON

Genesis 12:1-4a

<sup>1</sup>Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>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.”

<sup>4</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

- <sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes to the hills,  
**from where is my help to come?**
- <sup>2</sup>My help comes from the LORD,  
**the maker of heaven and earth.**
- <sup>3</sup>He will not let your foot be moved;  
**and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.**
- <sup>4</sup>Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel  
**shall neither slumber nor sleep;**
- <sup>5</sup>the Lord himself watches over you;  
**the LORD is your shade at your right hand,**
- <sup>6</sup>so that the sun shall not strike you by day,  
**nor the moon by night.**
- <sup>7</sup>The LORD shall preserve you from all evil;  
**it is he who shall keep you safe.**
- <sup>8</sup>The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in,  
**from this time forth forevermore.**

## THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

<sup>1</sup>What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? <sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” <sup>4</sup>Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup>But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. <sup>13</sup>For 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. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. <sup>16</sup>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, <sup>17</sup>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.

## CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Chris Berry

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: “Return to the Lord””

Re-turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra-cious and mer-ci-ful,  
 slow to an - ger, and a-bound - ing in stead - fast love.

## \*THE GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter.



## \*THE GOSPEL

John 3:1-17

<sup>1</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>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.” <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” <sup>4</sup>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?” <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ <sup>8</sup>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.” <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? <sup>11</sup>“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. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. <sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. <sup>17</sup>“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.

The Gospel of the Lord.



## THE SERMON

1 God loved the world so that he gave his on - ly  
 2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, who was made  
 3 If you are ill, if death draws near, this truth your  
 4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son for - gives all  
 5 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly

Son the lost to save, that all who would in  
 flesh and suf - fered death; all who con - fide in  
 trou - bled heart can cheer: Christ Je - sus res - cues  
 sins that you have done, and jus - ti - fied by  
 Spir - it, Three in One! To you, O bless - ed

him be - lieve should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.  
 Christ a - lone are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.  
 us from death; that is the firm - est ground of faith.  
 Je - sus' blood, your bap - tism grants the high - est good.  
 Trin - i - ty, be praise now and e - ter - nal - ly!

**\*THE APOSTLES' 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 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

**\*THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

**\*THE SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**THE OFFERING**

Choir Anthem (8:30): "Gracious Spirit, Dwell With Me" (K. Lee Scott)

Piano Solo (11:00): "Jesus Loves Me/O The Deep, Deep Love of Jesus" (arr. Conrad)

**\*THE OFFERTORY**

LBW (green hymnal) pg. 86

*Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.*

**\*THE OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Blessed are you,

**O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

**\*THE 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 him thanks and praise.**

**\*THE PREFACE**

It is indeed right and salutary...we praise your name and join their unending hymn

## \*THE SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of  
pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name  
of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## \*THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### \*THE 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

### \*THE AGNUS DEI: "Lamb of God"



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the  
sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of  
God, you take a-way the sin of the world;  
grant us peace, grant us peace.

\*THE DISTRIBUTION

HYMN: "The Glory of These Forty Days"

WOV 657

1 The glo - ry of these for - ty days we cel - e -  
2 A - lone and fast - ing Mo - ses saw the lov - ing  
3 So Dan - iel trained his mys - tic sight, de - liv - ered  
4 Then grant, O God, that we may, too, re - turn in

brate with songs of praise; for Christ, through whom all  
God who gave the law; and to E - li - jah,  
from the li - ons' might; and John, the Bride - groom's  
fast and prayer to you. Our spir - its strength - en

things were made, him - self has fast - ed and has prayed.  
fast - ing, came the steeds and char - i - ots of flame.  
friend, be - came the her - ald of Mes - si - ah's name.  
with your grace, and give us joy to see your face.

1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won - der Con - sid - er  
 2 When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der, I hear the  
 3 But when I think that God, his Son not spar - ing, Sent him to  
 4 When Christ shall come, with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion, And take me

all the \*worlds thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the \*roll - ing  
 birds singsweet - ly in the trees; When I look down from loft - y moun - tain  
 die, I scarce can take it in, That on the cross my bur - den glad - ly  
 home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum - ble ad - o -

thun - der, Thy pow'r through - out the u - ni - verse dis - played;  
 gran - deur And hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze;  
 bear - ing He bled and died to take a - way my sin;  
 ra - tion And there pro - claim, "My God, how great thou art!"

*Refrain*

Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to thee, How great thou

art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to

thee, How great thou art! How great thou art!

**\*POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

**\*THE BENEDICTION & DISMISSAL**

**THE POSTLUDE: "Lead On, O King Eternal" (arr. Conrad)**

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**Lutheran Book of Worship** Setting Two

Lutheran Church in America

The American Lutheran Church

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada

The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

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## WE REMEMBER IN THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH TODAY

THE FLOWERS today are given to the glory of God by Val, Jeff, Hannah, & Nora Christensen in celebration of Linda Heideman's special milestone birthday, and Kevin & Debi Peterson in celebration of Shane's 23<sup>rd</sup> birthday.

THANK YOU to Pastor James Korzun for preaching and leading worship today and Miriam Conrad for Accompanying.

A NURSERY, staffed by Katrina Strand, is through the double doors in the Narthex leading to the Sunday School classrooms. Newborns, toddlers and children up to Pre-K are welcome.

ALL ARE INVITED to enjoy coffee, tea, and fellowship after worship in the Fellowship Hall.

AN INFORMATION SESSION on SERVING ON COUNCIL is today at 9:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Girl Scout Cookies will be served 😊. Come learn about what our Congregation Council Representatives do and bring your questions! Organized by Nomination Committee

TODAY IS GIRL SCOUT SUNDAY! Thank you to Girl Scout members serving in today's service of worship. We are so proud of you! It is also Women of the ELCA Bold Women's Day. This Wednesday, March 8 is International Women's Day.

LENTEN SERVICES OF WORSHIP continue this Wednesday March 8 at Noon and 7:00 p.m. and continue through March 29.

PASTORAL CARE continues to be provided by Pastor Diana Bottin for urgent matters that may arise until Pastor Kris officially starts on April 1. Please contact Claire or the Church Office.

SOUP MAKERS & KITCHEN LEADS needed for Lenten Soup Suppers this Wednesday. Sign up using the SignUP genius (see QR code) or at the Welcome Center. POC Debi Peterson

A CONGREGATION WELCOME BASKET FOR PASTOR KRIS & PASTOR BILL is being organized by MLC's Congregation Council. Members wishing to contribute can bring items to the church office by this Wednesday, March 8. Items may include shelf stable food items, gift certificates for area restaurants, home improvement centers, etc. Please see the welcome center for more details.

MLC RUMMAGE SALE IS SATURDAY, APRIL 22 - Please save the date, *and your no longer needed, but serviceable, household goods and clothing* to donate starting Wednesday eve. April 19. Volunteers and helpers are needed for set up and clean up. POC is Paulette McNamara.

KIT MINISTRY ITEM - Single Toothbrushes FOOD PANTRY Paper Towels

Director of Outreach Ministries Claire Strand

Communication & Tech Director Meredith Kilby Altar Guild

Office Managers

Bobbey Huwaldt

Meredith Kilby

Choir Director

Randall Fields

Nursery Attendant

Katrina Strand

Janell Zesinger (8:30)

Gretchen Perry(11:00)

Stream Team  
Flower Guild

Meredith Kilby, Craig Martin  
Jutta DeMarsh

## **\*\*CHURCH CALENDAR\*\***

### **Sunday, March 5 - Girl Scout Sunday**

8:10 a.m. - Choir Rehearsal

9:45 a.m. - Sunday School for All Ages

9:45 a.m. - Fellowship Coffee, Information Session on MLC Nominations

4:00 p.m. - 1<sup>st</sup> Year Confirmation

5:00 p.m. - Jr/Sr Youth

6:30 p.m. - Notabella

### **Monday, March 6**

4:45 p.m. - Owen's House Kitchen Duty

### **Tuesday, March 7**

9:00 a.m. - Comforters

### **Wednesday, March 8**

12:00 p.m. - Lenten Midweek Worship - *Service of the Word*

5:30 p.m. - Lenten Soup Supper

6:00 p.m. - Cherub Choir

6:00 p.m. - Seraph Choir

7:00 p.m. - Lenten Midweek Worship - *Holden Evening Prayer*

7:30 p.m. - Messiah Choir

### **Thursday, March 9**

7:00 p.m. - Kit Ministries

7:00 p.m. - Church Council Meeting

**Saturday, March 11** - *Daylight Savings tomorrow. Spring Ahead Before You Go to Bed!*

### **Sunday, March 12 Mission Sunday**

8:30 a.m. - Service of Worship: Service of the Word

9:45 a.m. - Sunday School for Adults /Mission Projects for Pre-K - Gr. 12

10:40 a.m. - Choir Rehearsal

11:00 a.m. - \*Service of Worship: Service of the Word

6:30 p.m. - Notabella

*\*These services are live streamed on [mlutheran.org](http://mlutheran.org)*

### **LOOKING AHEAD**

**March 13 - March 17** Madison City School Break - Modified MLC Schedule

**March 1 - March 29** Lenten Services at Noon and 7:00 p.m.

**March 18** - House of the Harvet Breakfast & Service

**March 23** Noon Organ Recital at MLC (American Guild of Organists)

**April 2** - Palm Sunday - Pastor Kris' First Sunday at MLC

**April 9** - Easter Sunday

**April 22** - Church Rummage Sale

**April 28** - Valley Consort Choral Concert at MLC

**April 30** - Installation of Pastor Kris Schroeder

### **Attendance:**

February 19 Online: - 90

February 26: 8:30 a.m. - 98, 11:00 a.m. - 65

### **Offerings Counted February 26, 2023**

Church Ministries

Current Mortgages

Weekend Food Program

Messiah Mugs

Lent

### **ONLINE GIVING**

Scan the QR code to give to MLC tday.



SignUp Genius

