



As We Gather First Sunday in Lent February 21, 2021

Today we hear of God testing Abraham and of Satan tempting Jesus. James reminds us that God tempts no one. So, how can we know whether God is testing us or Satan is tempting us? James reminds us that “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change” (James 1:17). As we go through life, striving to live out our calling as God’s people, we will hit obstacles and face tests to our faith and to how we live that faith. God can work through these tests to draw us closer to Him. On the other hand, Satan wants to lure and entice us away from the path God would have us walk.

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Please meet with an usher for prayer requests.
Ask us about Associate Memberships for Lutherans who are part-time residents.

A Gentle Reminder to turn off cell phones. Thank You.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP & HOLY COMMUNION



As Lutheran Christians, we believe that our Lord's Body and Blood are truly present (not symbolic) in the Bread and Wine and received by all who attend. Since our Lord reminds us that thoughtless or faithless reception of the Sacrament can incur His judgment, all are encouraged to examine themselves that they may receive it worthily.
(1 Corinthians 11:27-32)

Please use the following questions and LSB p. 329 as a personal guide before partaking of this Holy Sacrament:

- *Do I renounce sin, Satan and my own flesh, and seek true forgiveness and reconciliation with God and my neighbor?**
- *Do I believe that Jesus Christ is my Savior from sin, death, and the power of the devil?**
- *Do I believe that Christ's own words, this is my body and this is my blood shed for you for the forgiveness of sins (Mt. 26:28), mean exactly what they say for us today?**
- *Do I earnestly desire to live a Godly life by the power of the Holy Spirit and in thanksgiving to Christ?**

Because attendance at Communion is also a testimony to this faith in the Triune God confessed and taught here, and to unity in belief as brothers and sisters in Christ (1 Corinthians 10:16-17), we ask that any visitors not yet instructed, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation, and who desire to receive the Sacrament introduce themselves to the Pastor or Elder beforehand if possible.

Please Note

An invitation for children not confirmed in the Lutheran church can come and receive a blessing at the altar.

We offer a traditional communion wafer,
Off-White Color Wafers are Gluten Free.

While communing, please point to the bread meeting your preference.
Clear Color Wine is Alcohol Free

PRELUDE
WELCOME

PREPARATION

OPENING HYMN #424 “ O Christ, You Walked the Road”

INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES Mark 14:38; 1 Peter 5:8; 1 Corinthians 10:12–13

- P** Jesus said, “Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”
- C** **Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.**

- P** Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man.
- C** **God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION Romans 6:20, 22–23, adapted; Mark 1:15

- P** God’s Word reminds us that when we were slaves of sin, we were free in regard to righteousness.
- C** **But now that we have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit we get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life.**
- P** For the wages of sin is death,
- C** **but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

- P** Let us confess our sins to God, who has brought us out of slavery and promises to lead us to the promised land of heaven.

A moment for silent confession.

- P** Heavenly Father, we know we are blessed when we remain steadfast under trial, yet we fall prey to the devil’s schemes and give in to temptation. We are lured

and enticed by our own evil desires—desires that contradict your good and gracious will.

C For Jesus' sake, forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P As Jesus began His ministry, He said, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel." As you have repented of your sins, believe these words as if Jesus was standing here speaking them to you: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

WORD

INTROIT Psalm 91:9–13; antiphon: vv. 15–16

P When he calls to Me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him. With long life I will satisfy him and show him My salvation.

C Because you have made the LORD your dwelling place—the Most High, who is my refuge—no evil shall be allowed to befall you, no plague come near your tent.

P For He will command His angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.

C On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.

P You will tread on the lion and the adder; the young lion and the serpent you will trample underfoot.

C When he calls to Me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him. With long life I will satisfy him and show him My salvation.

KYRIE James 1:18; Psalm 102:1, adapted

P Lord, have mercy.

C Christ, have mercy.

P Lord, have mercy.

C Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures.

P O LORD, hear our prayer.

C And let our cry come to You!

SALUTATION

- P** The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** Let us pray.
O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide 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 Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING Genesis 22:1–18

¹After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here am I.” ²He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.” ³So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. ⁴On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. ⁵Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you.” ⁶And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. ⁷And Isaac said to his father Abraham, “My father!” And he said, “Here am I, my son.” He said, “Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” ⁸Abraham said, “God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So they went both of them together. ⁹When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. ¹⁰Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. ¹¹But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here am I.” ¹²He said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.” ¹³And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴So Abraham called the name of that place, “The LORD will provide”; as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided.” ¹⁵And the angel of the

LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven ¹⁶and said, “By myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, ¹⁸and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING James 1:12–18

¹²Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. ¹³Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am being tempted by God,” for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. ¹⁴But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. ¹⁵Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death. ¹⁶Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. ¹⁷Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

VERSE Ephesians 6:11

P Put on the whole armor of God,

C that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

HOLY GOSPEL Mark 1:9–15

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens opening and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.” ¹²The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³And he was in the wilderness forty

days, being tempted by Satan. And he was with the wild animals, and the angels were ministering to him. ¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, ¹⁵and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY #657 “ A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

SERMON “Our Spiritual Gestation” James 1:12–18

APOSTLES’ CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH Psalm 25:4–6, adapted

P Friends in Christ, I urge you to lift up your souls to our God in whom we trust, as Christ, our Lord, promises to hear us.

Lord Jesus, You are the Lord of the Church.

C Bless the work of our congregation and all who bear Your name.

P Remember Your mercy, O Lord,

C and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

P Lord Jesus, the government is on Your shoulders.

C Watch over all in this world. Guide the world’s leaders with Your wisdom, as well as our elected officials—our president, our governor, and our local authorities—that we may live peaceful and quiet lives.

P Remember Your mercy, O Lord,

C and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

P Lord Jesus, You are our Teacher.

C Make us to know Your ways, O Lord; teach us Your paths. Lead us in Your truth and teach us, for You are the God of our salvation; for You we wait all the day long.

P Remember Your mercy, O Lord,

C and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

P Lord Jesus, You are the God of our salvation.

C Guide us, Lord, in living lives that bear witness to Your truth. Lead us to connect with those who are wandering or who do not know You.

P Remember Your mercy, O Lord,

C and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

P Lord Jesus, You are the Great Physician.

C Bind up the brokenhearted, give sight to the blind, make the lame to walk and the deaf to hear.

P We name before You those who are struggling in body, mind, and spirit and ask You to heal them: [*names*]. Remember Your mercy, O Lord,

C and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

P Into Your hands, Lord Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your great mercy to hear and answer us.

C Amen.

SACRAMENT

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS LSB 208

- C** Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

WORDS OF OUR LORD

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.

PAX DOMINI

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

AGNUS DEI LSB 180

- C** Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

- #547 The Lamb # 570 Just as I Am, without One Plea
#809 Great Is Thy Faithfulness

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE Nunc Dimittis LSB 211



1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, we thank You for pouring out Your body and blood and serving it to us in this Meal in bread and wine. In Your mercy, strengthen and lead us as we face temptations and testing in this life on our way to the life to come, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
- G** Amen.

CLOSING HYMN #918 “Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

+ + + + +

PRAYER LIST Roger Crouch, healing; Renee Havener, healing; Jim Arney, healing; Reina Love Ramirez, hospital (infant daughter of Sindia Renteria, Preschool teacher); Marcy West (Daughter-in-Law of DeAnn & Phillip West), cancer treatments; John Jamieson, cancer treatments; Mary Webster, cancer treatments; Marlen Flamig, brother of Anita Burkhalter, cancer; Deedee Halterman, lung cancer, sister-in-law of Maggie Halterman; Lucy Brookshire, cancer, sister of Nancy Schleiger; Lyle Powelson, kidney cancer; Harold Holtz, cancer treatments; Karen Droubay, cancer, friend of Reeds; Tom Stettler, Southern Utah Veterans Home; the homebound.

CALENDAR THIS WEEK

Monday	Feb. 22	10:00 a.m.	Women’s Bible Study
Wednesday	Feb. 24	9:00 a.m.	God Connects – Lutheran Faith Basics Class
Wednesday	Feb. 24	11:00 a.m.	Bible Study
Wednesday	Feb. 24	1-4- p.m.	Ceramics
Saturday	Feb. 27	9 a.m.	Outdoor Clean-up

THANK YOU!

Thank you to our “Milkman”, Fritz, for providing milk to our childcare children.

BIRTHDAYS

Feb. 21 James Tritchler
Feb. 22 Carol VanLente

Feb. 22 Sam Aslin
Feb. 26 Maggie Halterman

ANNIVERSARIES

Feb. 22 Gary & Maureen Smith

The Preschool and Childcare Board invites the congregation to HELP US RECOGNIZE OUR CHILDCARE STAFF FOR FAITHFULLY PERFORMING THEIR JOB DUTIES DURING THIS PAST PANDEMIC YEAR. March 5th is Employee Appreciation Day and we would like to shower the staff with our appreciation by giving them a “thank you” card party. There are a variety of cards on the table in the Narthex, so please write a note, sign a card to say “thank you”. Please place your completed card(s) in the basket provided by February 28th. See Barbara Coverdale with questions. Thank you for your support!

For the good of others, please observe 6’ social distancing. Masks are required (provide your own). Hand sanitizer is available in the entryway. For those at greatest risk with additional health problems, we urge to remain at home and view services online until Covid is no longer a threat. If you are feeling ill in any way, please remain at home.

8:30 a.m. & 10 a.m. service available online at our Facebook page (live and recorded - @MesquiteLCC). You do not need a Facebook account to view. Go to facebook.com/MesquiteLCC/live.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

More people are needed to help **clean the church** each week. Bob Sennett coordinates this. Please call him at 801-414-8324 for more information.

Acknowledgments

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