



***Our Saviour's Lutheran Church
Worship Resources - Week of
February 28th - March 6th, 2021
Second Sunday in Lent***

Our Purpose: *Celebrate, cultivate and share God's love.*
Our Values: *Welcoming, Compassion, Serving, Respect.*

Announcements

WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY: We will be offering worship via live-stream on Facebook. On Sunday at 10:30am tune in to <https://www.facebook.com/oursavioursarlington>.

If you don't have a Facebook account, you can also watch the livestream on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkurr6FCzoyHjmcDQmHOIqw?>

You can comment, add prayers, and pass the peace, on either Facebook or YouTube if you're logged in. If you'd like to join communion have wine/juice and some form of bread on hand. Also feel free to light a candle as we begin. Even though we are not together in the sanctuary, truly this is communal worship

Have you had any interest in being a reader on Sunday mornings? It's really easy; Pastor Charis emails the entire order of service so you know what you'll be reading, then you simply click on a link on Sunday morning to join - it's more simple than zoom. To sign up, go here: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1bWepYp_d57IRrO8Z_vhoXP2oETv3LE7c5ltzCEJAtQg/edit?usp=sharing

WEDNESDAY EVENING LENT GATHERINGS ON ZOOM: Each Wednesday night in the season of Lent, Our Saviour's will join together on Zoom to listen to and sing with Holden Evening Prayer. We'll also have a time to talk with one another, to catch up, and reconnect. Holden Evening Prayer with the voices of Laurie, Steve, and Jen Ess, are recorded so we can sing along with better sound. So mark off 7pm each Wednesday evening in Lent (March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31) and join us for a time of meditation and fellowship.

<https://zoom.us/j/3515357565?pwd=bHNzMkdtOXZUT2hTMmVOOUFFRVJxdz09>

If you are not able to get online for the zoom, **you can CALL IN TO THE MEETING TO JOIN BY TELEPHONE.** Here are the steps:

1. Dial 1-253-215-8782, and wait for the next prompt
2. Type in the meeting code: 351 535 7565# and wait for the next prompt
3. Press # (there is no participant ID) and wait for the next prompt
4. Type in the meeting passcode: 1234# and you will now be joined in!

When you are admitted to the meeting, you will be muted (you won't be able to talk and be heard). If you want to talk you type *6 and then to mute yourself you type *6 again.

Mission Circle: Our group uses gently used sheets for our "quilt backs". We would appreciate the donation of lightly used sheets, fabric, towels, and/or financial contribution. Please drop them off at the church office. Thank you!

The Childcare Center is hiring. We are looking to fill one full time position and one part time position with the flexibility to fill in as needed. Experience preferred. Requirements: At least 18 years of age, high school diploma or GED, STARS Training, current DCYF background check, First Aid/CPR, Food Handlers Card, negative TB Test, HIV/AIDS Training (or willing to obtain). Hours of operation are M-F 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. If interested, please email us your resume to childcare@arlingtonwachurch.org, stating which position you are interested in, along with a phone number to contact you.

Announcements Continued

Outreach To The Vulnerable Team: How can we help with those who need shelter, warmth and food? By providing food items such as canned meat, peanut butter, energy bars, or other non-perishable items that take little or no preparation. As winter approaches warm clothing will be needed. You can drop off these items at church from 9am to 2pm Monday to Thursday and I will take them to the Arlington Community Resource Center. For questions or more suggestions on how you can help please call the church office. Thank you.

North Snohomish County Outreach (NSCO) Laundry Project: OSLC will be providing "Grab and Go" meals for the Laundry Project on March 9th. Amy Williams, Bob & Susan Maxwell and Sarah Amende are preparing the meals. The Laundry Project continues to support many people in our community. It allows each participant to wash and dry one large load of laundry with out cost. Access to other social services are also available at each location. The North Snohomish County Outreach is thankful for the dedicated OSLC volunteers who participate each month.

We have a cadre of volunteers who provide dinners at a local Laundromat on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. If you are interested in joining our team, or have questions, contact the church office.

Remember to support Our Saviour's as, even though we are not able to gather, all the usual expenses of our church continue each week. Please mail your check to the church or stop by when someone is in the office. Another option is to sign up for **Simply Giving**, which is an automated giving program designed to help you conveniently and consistently contribute to Our Saviour's. If you would like more information, please contact the church office.
Thank you for your giving!

News from the NW Washington Synod

Helping our Neighbors in Texas: Lutheran Disaster Response is communicating with the Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod, the Southwestern Texas Synod, the Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana Synod, and Lutheran Social Services Disaster Response. Congregations are already conducting relief efforts such as supplying water, food and generators to those in need and opening their doors to serve as shelters. Long-term recovery may include repairing water-damaged homes, disaster case management, and supporting vulnerable populations. Give here. Gifts to "U.S. Severe Storms" will be used in full (100%) to assist those affected by severe storms.

Church Anew: One Year Changed: Faith in Pandemic: Thursday, March 11, 5pm online

Church Anew Presents this free ready-made Lent retreat - open to all... We have been leading, parenting, learning, working, neighboring, and simply existing within a global health crisis for over a year. It has changed the way we live our lives, the ways we connect meaningfully with one another, and perhaps it has also changed our faith. In this evening virtual retreat format, gather with other people of faith to ponder how we might be moved into a different sort of spirituality this year.

What have we let fall that we will never pick up again? What practices have emerged that may be meaningful far into the future? If this is truly a humanity-defining moment, what have we learned about our species? About ourselves? About our spirits?

With seven-minute talks from faith leaders, activists, artists, and more, we will memorialize the way this moment has shaped us and will continue to influence us. We will spend time in prayer and reflection, considering how the Spirit might be moving all of humanity in this moment.

Learn more and get registered here: <https://churchanew.org/events/2021/3/11/one-year-changed-faith-in-pandemic>

NW Washington Synod-Nominating Committee Update: At our May 15 Synod Assembly, we will be holding elections for **synod council, consultation committee, committee on discipline, and voting members for the churchwide assembly**. We are seeking persons who are excellent listeners and thoughtful discerners. Perhaps that is YOU - or a person you know who is a member in the synod. **THANK YOU for prayerfully considering potential nominees for this role.** Learn more about these roles on our synod website: www.lutheransnw.org **Please have the nominee complete an online nomination form HERE by March 31.** If you have questions, please reach out to our committee via email at: office@lutheransnw.org

Notes from your Church Council

VOTING RESULTS OF THE 2021 ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING, FEB 11

Thank you for participating in our Annual Congregation meeting. Fifty-six ballots were cast at the church this week. The following were approved by majority vote.

Amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws: 49 Yes, 7 No

Council Members at Large: Karen Crone, Vance DeWard, Wayne Erickson, Ruth Gonzales, Bob Maxwell and Jeff Parris

Synod Assembly Representatives: Laurie Breon and Bob Campbell

Synod Assembly Alternate: Kathy Stuehrenberg

Bethany NW Representative: Bob Campbell

Josephine Home Representative: Toni Forsman

Josephine Home Alternate: Wayne Erickson

Lutherwood Center Representative, Position 1: Ellyn Erickson

Lutherwood Center Representative, Position 2: Wayne Erickson

Lutherwood Center Alternate: Ron Thordarson

Nominating Team: Kerry Graves and Greg Husted

Wayne Erickson, Council President.

Prayer of the Day

God, through your beloved Son you have shown us how to live. In the call to carry our cross to follow you may you provide courage, conviction, and compassion, 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.**

First Reading: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

As with Noah, God makes an everlasting covenant with Abraham and Sarah. God promises this old couple that they will be the ancestors of nations, though they have no child together. God will miraculously bring forth new life from Sarah's womb. The name changes emphasize the firmness of God's promise.

¹When 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. ²And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." ³Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, ⁴"As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁵No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁶I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. ⁷I 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."

¹⁵God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶I 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."

PSALM: Psalm 22:23-31

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD. (Ps. 22:27)

²³You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's | line, give glory.

Stand in awe of the LORD, all you off- | spring of Israel.

²⁴**For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the LORD's face hid- | den from them;**

but when they cry out, | the LORD hears them.

²⁵From you comes my praise in the | great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the sight of those who | fear the LORD.

²⁶**The poor shall eat | and be satisfied,**

Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts | live forever! R

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD;

all the families of nations shall bow | before God.

²⁸**For dominion belongs | to the LORD,**

who rules o- | ver the nations.

²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow | down in worship;

all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel be- | fore the LORD.

³⁰**Their descendants shall | serve the LORD,**

whom they shall proclaim to genera- | tions to come.

³¹They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people | yet unborn,

saying to them, "The | LORD has acted!" **R**

Second Reading: Romans 4:13-25

Paul presents Abraham as the example for how a person comes into a right relationship with God not through works of the law but through faith. Though Abraham and Sarah were far too old for bearing children, Abraham trusted that God would accomplish what God had promised to accomplish.

¹³The 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. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

¹⁶For 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, ¹⁷as 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. ¹⁸Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." ¹⁹He 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. ²⁰No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." ²³Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

Gospel: Mark 8:27-38

After Peter confesses his belief that Jesus is the Messiah, Jesus tells his disciples for the first time what is to come. Peter's response indicates that he does not yet understand the way of the cross that Jesus will travel.

²⁷ Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" ²⁸And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." ²⁹He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." ³⁰And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

³¹[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. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But 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."

³⁴He 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. ³⁵For 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. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those 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."

Pastor Charis' Message

Mark Twain noted, *"It ain't those parts of the Bible that I can't understand that bother me, it is the parts that I do understand."*

This week's gospel text is, in my opinion, one of the absolutely crucial texts for understanding the gospel, but it's not easy. The gospel isn't a mechanism whereby we gain personal salvation, it's the good news that God has come for all persons, to offer freedom and goodness. When life has already granted us freedoms, then it's our calling to usher in the good news of the reality of the goodness of God to those for whom it's denied.

I'm not sure why the previous passage in Mark was excluded by those who crafted the lectionary. The story of Mark 8:22-26 is not included anywhere in the three-year lectionary cycle. Right before our passage this week, this happened:

²²And they came to Bethsaida. And some people brought to him a blind man and begged him to touch him. ²³And he took the blind man by the hand and led him out of the village, and when he had spit on his eyes and laid his hands on him, he asked him, "Do you see anything?" ²⁴And he looked up and said, "I see men, but they look like trees, walking." ²⁵Then Jesus laid his hands on his eyes again; and he opened his eyes, his sight was restored, and he saw everything clearly. ²⁶And he sent him to his home, saying, "Do not even enter the village."

This is the only miracle of Jesus where he needs to get a second chance at it. The blind man had some sort of sight, but he couldn't see clearly enough, so Jesus touched him again.

I really, really wish this story were in our readings. How many times do we need multiple touches from God before we "get it"? Peter and the disciples in the gospel of Mark simply do not get it, and they still don't get it even at the end of the gospel. When I read tough passages that say I need to give up my life in order to gain it, I need multiple "touches" before I can accept it. Peter didn't want his Messiah to suffer, and, like Peter, I certainly don't want to suffer myself! And yet serving others, giving up some of my power, giving away some of my money, all of these things can be gospel work.

These are pretty clear truths in our text this week. Maybe the more times we hear it, the more "touches" we receive from Jesus, the more it'll sink in, the more we'll be faithful to respond.

Peace,
Pastor Charis

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Your gift of grace is for all people. Give confident faith to all the baptized, that they may follow you wholeheartedly. Give new believers joy in your promises; give hope and courage to those who suffer for their faith. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

All the ends of the earth worship you. From galaxies to microorganisms, preserve your creation. Teach humanity to wonder at your works and to join you in tending to creation's well-being. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You rule over the nations. Raise up advocates for peace and justice within and between nations. Give life where hope seems dead; call into existence new realities we cannot even imagine. (*Here specific places of need may be named.*) Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In Jesus you joined humanity in suffering and death. Reveal to all the depth of your love shown on the cross. Accompany all who suffer in body, mind, and spirit. Restore all who are sick or grieving. Bring vindication for victims of injustice, exploitation, and oppression (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You made Abraham and Sarah the ancestors of a multitude of nations. Bless grandparents, parents, and foster parents, and the children who look to them for care and guidance. Console those who deal with infertility, parents who have entrusted their children to adoption, and children longing to be adopted. Equip ministries and services to families. (*The congregation's ministries and community services may be named.*) Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We await the day of Christ's coming in glory. Lead us by the example of all the saints whom you have called to take up their cross and follow you, that together we may find our lives in you. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Prayers of Concern and Thanks

God of Resurrection you are our source of life and hope. We give thanks for your gifts of love and life; inspire us to be your hands and voice in your world; grant us courage to joyfully share your Good News. **We pray for our world, nation, and local communities.** We hold in prayer those who have contracted the COVID-19 virus, and the families of those who have died. We pray for medical workers, care providers, and first responders. We lift up those who feel anxious and worried.

Adult caregivers caring for loved ones

Anna Boortz - finished her last chemo treatment and is doing well (friend of Robin & Steve Barker)

Anna Mary Fischer - for healing from fractured bones (mother of Karen Crone)

Bob Campbell - has wounds that continue to not heal

Callee Steffler - on bed rest until due date of April 3rd (Laurie Breon's nephew's wife)

Corrine Christie - health challenges

Debbie Wold - prayers to remain cancer free (friend of Robin Barker)

Dennis Heaton - complications from kidney issues, prayers for healing

Diana Breon - health challenges

Faith Breon - prayers for pregnancy, bleeding & admitted to hospital for observation (daughter-in-law of Laurie Breon)

Frank Gonzales - prayers for vision in left eye to return, optical retinal vein occlusion

Jessica Knoepfle - diagnosed with a rare form of sarcoma (cancer) and has started treatment (daughter-in-law of Sharon & Howard Knoepfle)

Leslie Faxon - Intravenous Chemo stopped working and is now taking an oral chemo to maintain current levels (friend of Ruth Gonzales)

Margaret Larson - health challenges

Mike Tjoelker - tumor growing, pray for pain reduction & assurance of God's grace (nephew of Lyle & Laura Kellogg)

Patti Vincent - liver cancer, tumors are shrinking, continued prayers please (Liz & Steve Moore son's mother-in-law)

Paul Brower - stage IV pancreatic cancer, which has gone to his liver, spine and possibly his ribs (friend of Beth Husted)

Toddler Eli - battling terminal illness, waiting to start a medical trial for Alexander's disease (grandmother is friend of Ruth Gonzales)

Virgina Muniz - is in the healing process and learning a new lifestyle (friend of Amy Williams)

Those serving in uniform.





**Our Saviour's Lutheran
Church Childcare and
Preschool**

615 E Highland Drive
Arlington, WA 98223
360-435-8921
www.arlingtonwachurch.org

Ministers: All the baptized. We live out our ministry in our daily lives and in the Church.

**Our Saviour's
Office Hours**

**Monday-Thursday
9:00am - 2:30pm**

**Friday
by appointment**

Pastor	Charis Weathers	Email: pastor@arlingtonwachurch.org
Office Assistant	Tammy DeWard	Email: office@arlingtonwachurch.org

This Week at Our Saviour's March 1st - March 7th		
Monday		
Tuesday		
Wednesday	7:00pm	WEDNESDAY EVENING LENT GATHERINGS ON ZOOM
Thursday		
Friday		
Saturday		
Sunday	10:30am	Worship via Live-Stream on Facebook & YouTube