BETHANY
Lutheran Church

The First Sunday in Lent
February 21, 2021
PRELUDE: Reflection on “Bryn Calfaria”
For the Bread Which You Have Broken

We stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS
P  In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
C  Amen.

P  God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people,
turning us from our sin to live for you alone.
Give us the power of your Holy Spirit
that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness,
and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
C  Amen.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

P  Gracious God,
C  have mercy on us.
  We confess that we have turned from you
  and given ourselves into the power of sin.
  We are truly sorry and humbly repent.
  In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown,
things we have done and things we have failed to do.
  Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit,
  so that we may live and serve you in newness of life
  through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P  God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin,
and made us alive together with Christ.
  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 the Holy Spirit.
C  Amen.

APOSTOLIC GREETING
P  The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
    and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
C  And also with you.
KYRIE (LORD HAVE MERCY)

The choir sings the Kyrie once; the congregation repeats and joins in singing twice each time thereafter.

L For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all, Lord we pray.

L That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor;
   That we may live out truth, justice and grace, Lord we pray.

L For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family, Lord we pray.

L For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in word and sacrament, Lord we pray.
PRAYER OF THE DAY
P  The Lord be with you.
C  And also with you.
P  Let us pray.
    Holy God, heavenly Father,
in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen,
and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin.
Renew us in the gift of baptism.
May your holy angels be with us,
that the wicked foe may have no power over us,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.
C  Amen.

We sit.

+ WORD +

FIRST READING: Genesis 9:8–17
God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."
L  Word of God, word of life.
C  Thanks be to God.
PSALM 25:1–9

ANTIPHON: Your paths, O Lord, are steadfast love and faithfulness.

L  To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my | trust in you;*
    let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph | over me.

C  Let none who look to you be | put to shame;*
    let the treacherous be disappointed | in their schemes.

L  Show me your | ways, O Lord,*
    and teach | me your paths.

C  Lead me in your | truth and teach me,*
    for you are the God of my salvation;
    in you have I trusted all | the day long.

L  Remember, O Lord, your compas- | sion and love,*
    for they are from | everlasting.

C  Remember not the sins of my youth and | my transgressions;*
    remember me according to your love
    and for the sake of your good- | ness, O Lord.

L  Gracious and upright | is the Lord;*
    therefore he teaches sinners | in his way.

C  He guides the humble in | doing right*
    and teaches his way | to the lowly.

L  All the paths of the Lord are | love and faithfulness*
    to those who keep his covenant and his | testimonies.

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 3:18–22

Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, 19 in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, 20 who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. 21 And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you — not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, 22 who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

L  Word of God, word of life.

C  Thanks be to God.
**We stand.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.

Save us as you promised; we will trust your word.

**HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 1:9–15**

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

**C** Glory to you, O Lord.

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.  
10 And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. 11 And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

12 And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. 13 He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

14 Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, 15 and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near, repent, and believe in the good news.”

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to you, O Christ.

**We sit.**

**SERMON**

Pastor Jeffrey Mikyska  
Mark 1:9–15
1 O Lord, throughout these forty days you
2 You strove with Satan, and you won; your
3 Though parched and hungry, yet you prayed and
4 Be with us through this season, Lord, and

prayed and kept the fast; inspire repentance
faithfulness endured; lend us your nerve, your
fixed your mind above; so teach us to de-
all our earthly days, that when the final

for our sin, and free us from our past.
skill and trust in God’s eternal word.
ny ourselves that we may know God’s love.
Easter dawns, we join in heaven’s praise.

Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davison, Kentucky Harmony, 1816
Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress
PRAYER IN A TIME OF PANDEMIC

P God of all mercy and compassion, life and death are in your hands. Hear our prayers in this time of illness and infection, of isolation, fear, and uncertainty: for the sick, and those weighed down by pain, distress, loneliness, and anxiety; for all who care for them, conscious of the risks they bear; and for those who have responsibility for public health and social order. Hear the cry of the afflicted and let them be comforted, so that all who suffer may come to know that they are joined to the sufferings of Christ, who gave his life for the salvation of the world; and by your blessing on them and those who care for them, may they be restored, according to your will, to soundness of body and mind, and offer you joyful thanks in your Church. Through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever.

C Amen.

NICENE CREED

P Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:

C We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.
Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole:
peace to all people, hope for each soul.
God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.

Each petition concludes:
L  Hear us, O God.
C  Your mercy is great.

The prayers conclude:
P  According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we commend them to you; through Christ our Lord.
C  Amen.

+ MEAL +

OFFERTORY: Lord Jesus, Think on Me
arr. Thompson

We stand.
OFFERTORY PRAYER
P  Let us pray. God our provider,
C  you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
GREAT THANKSGIVING
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 God thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places
offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord.
You bid your people cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast.
Renew our zeal in faith and life, and bring us to the fullness of grace that belongs
to the children of God. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

\[\text{Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:}\
\text{Heavn'and earth are full of your glory.}\
\text{Ho-san-na in the high-est. Bless-ed is he who comes}\
\text{in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.}\

P Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth,
for you have had mercy on us and given your only-begotten Son
that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.
We give you thanks for the priceless grace you have bestowed upon us
through Jesus Christ, who died upon the tree of Calvary
and rose again to make us living branches,
drawing our life from him and bearing fruit in all the world.
In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Send your Holy Spirit, the Spirit of truth and power,
to renew our faith as we receive our crucified and risen Lord
who comes to us in his body and blood.

All honor and glory are yours, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church, now and forever.

C  Amen.

P  Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

C  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.

P  The gifts of God for the people of God.

C  Thanks be to God.

P  Come, for all is now ready.
We sit.

AGNUS DEI

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.

COMMUNION

Our Lord Jesus Christ welcomes you to this meal of the baptized. The crucified and risen Christ is present in the Lord's Supper, giving us his true body and blood as food and drink.

White grape juice, a non-alcoholic alternative, and gluten-FREE rice wafers are available upon request.
1 Bless now, O God, the journey that all your people make,
   the path through noise and silence, the way of give and take.
   The trail is found in desert and winds the mountain round,
   then leads beside still waters, the road where faith is found.

2 Bless sojourners and pilgrims who share this winding way;
   your hope burns through the terrors, your love sustains the day.
   We yearn for holy freedom while often we are bound;
   to gather we are seeking the road where faith is found.

3 Divine eternal lover, you meet us on the road.
   We wait for lands of promise where milk and honey flow,
   but waiting not for places, you meet us all around.
   Our covenant is written on roads, as faith is found.

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Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993
Music: LLANGLOFFAN, Welsh tune, 19th cent.
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We stand.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

L Let us pray.

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen

+ SENDING +

BENEDICTION

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

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN: Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing  

1 Lord, dis-miss us with your bless-ing, fill our hearts with joy and peace;
2 Thanks we give and ad-o-ra-tion for your gos-pel’s joy-ful sound.
3 Sav-i-or, when your love shall call us from our strug-gling pil-grim way,

let us each, your love pos-sess-ing, tri-umph in re-deem-ing grace.
May the fruits of your sal-va-tion in our hearts and lives a-bound.
let no fear of death ap-pall us, glad your sum-mons to o bey.

Oh, re-fresh us; oh, re-fresh us, trav’ling through this wil-der-ness.
Ev - er faith-ful, ev - er faith-ful to your truth may we be found.
May we ev - er, may we ev - er reign with you in end-less day.

Music: SICILIAN MARINERS, Sicilian, 18th cent.
DISMISSAL
L Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

We sit.
(The live-stream continues until the postlude is completed. It has been our custom during live-streamed worship to sit for
the postlude. If you choose to leave the sanctuary, please leave in silence to preserve the integrity of the video streaming.)

POSTLUDE: Lift Every Voice and Sing  Rosamond Johnson

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY
The Rev. Jeffrey Mikyska, Presiding Minister
Mark Waldron, Assisting Minister
Alan Spear, Organist
Jon Hagede, Bob Novy, Ushers
Ryan Pieratt, Fred Holch, A/V

LET US PRAY...
We pray to all who are hospitalized in our greater community and for those who are serving them.

Congratulations on the birth of Leighton Gloria on February 2nd. Proud grandma and grandpa Pastor Jeff and Gail Mikyska, Aunt Ali Mikyska, mom and dad James and Hannah Mikyska

Please pray for those who are part of the life of Bethany who struggle with illness and other concerns:

Please pray for those homebound:
Lois Elfstrom

Please pray for those in care facilities:
Helen Anderson
Dorothy & John Carlson
Nancy Carlson
Nita Chevalier
Marilyn Georgezon
Wanda Krentz
Walt Meinert
Mildred Miller
Joan Olson
Pat Quast
Michaelson Health Center, Holmstad
Harry J. Ekstam, Holmstad
Michealsen Health Center, Holmstad
Apt 105A, Holmstad
Park Manor, Holmstad
Harry J. Ekstam, Holmstad
Harry J. Ekstam, Holmstad
Reserve of Geneva, Geneva
Michealsen Health Center, Holmstad
Heritage Woods, Batavia
Shirley Searles
Judy Spear
Joyce Stran
Irma Swanson
Marion Youngquist

Town Center, Holmstad
Arden Courts of Geneva, Geneva
GreenFields of Geneva, Geneva
Harry J. Ekstam, Holmstad
Plum Landing, Aurora

Please pray for those in military service:
Emily Couperus
Xander Couperus
Brandon Jakub
Steven Surdyński

Laurie Pederson’s Daughter-in-Law
Pastor Scott’s Son
Friend of Marsha Habegger

Please pray for our family and friends:
Linda Bauer
Brad Blue
Megan Campbell
Joan Downs
Caley Galeski and Family
Diane Ekstam Johnson
Tammy English
Keri, Alex, Claire and Julia Kalinsky
Janet Knechp
Josephine Lawniczak Family
Mark Lewis
Jan McGowen
Pam Paszotta
Teri Prokes
Tony Prokes
Ed Stahl
Linda Stumpful
Bonnie
Breckin
Carole W.
DeAnne & Gary
Deirdre
Ed
John
Laura
Sally

Sister in law of Chuck Bauer
Friend of Lois Benson
Granddaughter of Scotty & Maureen Scollon
Daughter of Jan Meling
Mother of Mick (Katie) Galeski
Mother of Mary Helen Ekstam
Daughter of Shirley Streidl
Sister and her children of Ed McQuillan
Friend of Kathy Richmond
Family of Beth Lawniczak
Friend of Lois Benson
Friend of Ann Holch
Sister of Dee Schuman
Sister of Sue & Bob Novy
Brother-in-law of Bob & Sue Novy
Father of Dan Stahl
Cousin of Jackie Page
Friend of Pastor Jeff
Nephew of Associate Bishop
Friend of Ann & Fred Holch
Niece & Nephew of Shirley Grant
Friend of Eleanor Schuman
Cousin’s husband of John Olsen
Friend of Beth Lawniczak
Friend of Pastor Jeff
Friend of Ruth Beck & Sandi Christianson

Please pray for those who mourn the passing of:
Caley Galeski

Mother of Mick and mother in law of Katie Boland Galeski