



# Central Lutheran Church

First Sunday of Lent  
February 18, 2024

**The Rev. Veronika Czutor, Pastor**  
**Harold Knight, PhD, Music Director**  
**Rachel Brown, Administrative Assistant**

# Central Lutheran Church, ELCA

1000 Easton Rd., Dallas, Texas

**God calls us to proclaim the Gospel and demonstrate Christ's love for all.**

*Please turn off your cell phone.*

*This service is being livestreamed to our neighbors near and far on Facebook.*

*Most of the sanctuary- including all leaders and worshippers- is on camera.*

**BELL PEAL (10:30 am)**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**MUSICAL MEDITATION**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus.

**C Amen.**

P Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P Holy God,

**C we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.**

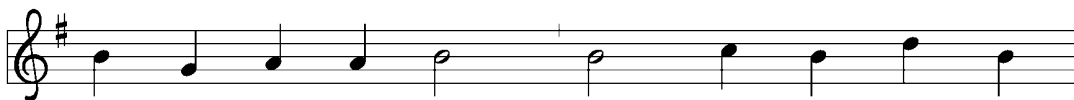
P Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through † Jesus Christ.

**C Amen.**

The Glory of These Forty Days



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.

**GREETING**

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God sent from heaven above, be with you all.

**C And also with you.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P 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.**

## FIRST LESSON: Genesis 9:8-17

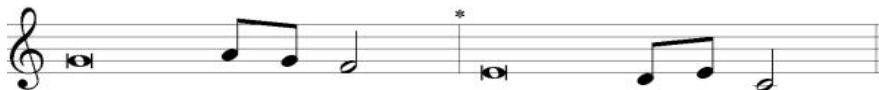
<sup>8</sup>God said to Noah and to his sons with him, <sup>9</sup>“As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, <sup>10</sup>and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. <sup>11</sup>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.” <sup>12</sup>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: <sup>13</sup>I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. <sup>14</sup>When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, <sup>15</sup>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. <sup>16</sup>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.” <sup>17</sup>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 25:1-10

*Sung responsively.*



<sup>1</sup>To | you, O LORD,

I lift | up my soul.

<sup>2</sup>**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be | put to shame,  
nor let my enemies triumph | over me.**

<sup>3</sup>Let none who look to you be | put to shame;  
rather let those be put to shame | who are treacherous.

<sup>4</sup>**Show me your | ways, O LORD,  
and teach | me your paths.**

<sup>5</sup>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.

<sup>6</sup>**Remember, O LORD, your compas- | sion and love,  
for they are from | everlasting.**

<sup>7</sup>Remember not the sins of my youth and | my transgressions;  
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your

good- | ness, O LORD.

<sup>8</sup>**You are gracious and up- | right, O LORD;  
therefore you teach sinners | in your way.**

<sup>9</sup>You lead the low- | ly in justice  
and teach the low- | ly your way.

<sup>10</sup>**All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast | love and faithfulness  
to those who keep your covenant and your | testimonies.**

## SECOND LESSON: 1 Peter 3:18-22

<sup>18</sup>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, <sup>19</sup>in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup>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. <sup>21</sup>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, <sup>22</sup>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

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor Veronika

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



☒ 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, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

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

**C Glory to you, O Lord**

**READING OF THE GOSPEL: Mark 1:9-15**

<sup>9</sup>In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

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

<sup>14</sup>Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, <sup>15</sup>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**

**SERMON**

*Silence for reflection follows the sermon.*

**Pastor Veronika**

## When Jesus Came to Jordan



1 When Je - sus came to Jor - dan to be bap-tized by John,  
 2 He came to share temp - ta - tion, our ut - most woe and loss,  
 3 Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, aid us to keep the vows we make;



he did not come for par - don but as the Sin - less One.  
 for us and our sal - va - tion to die up - on the cross.  
 this ver - y day in - vade us, and ev - 'ry bond - age break.



He came to share re - pen - tance with all who mourn their sins,  
 So when the dove de - scend - ed on him, the Son of Man,  
 Come, give our lives di - rec - tion, the gift we cov - et most:



to speak the vi - tal sen - tence with which good news be - gins.  
 the hid - den years had end - ed, the age of grace be - gan.  
 to share the res - ur - rec - tion that leads to Pen - te - cost.

## 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 PRAYERS

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

*Please sit or kneel for prayer.*

*The response to each spoken petition is:*

P God of grace,

**C Receive our prayer.**

People with prayer needs: **Lydia** Landfair, **Selena** Dybdahl, **Paul** Chambers, **Linda** Gourley, and **Ylva** Wolfgang.

*The prayers conclude:*

P ...through your son Jesus Christ, our Lord

**C Amen.**

## THE PEACE

*The peace we share is a sign of God's mission of reconciliation among us and the reconciliation we have with one another in Christ Jesus. Please offer a symbol of reconciliation to one another.*

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C And also with you.**

## THE OFFERING

*We give thanks for what God has first given us. Our ministry to the people of East Dallas is supported by your offering. An offering plate is available in the narthex after worship. You may also use our online giving through **Vanco, PayPal, or Givelify** (available in the App Store) or continue to mail your offerings to our office.*

## MUSICAL OFFERING: Out of the Depths Have I Cried Unto Thee

*Sung by the choir*

Out of the depths have I cried unto Thee, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who shall stand?

But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be feared.

I wait for the Lord, my soul does wait, and in his word do I hope;

My soul waits for the Lord more than they who watch for the morning,

Let Israel hope in the Lord, for with the Lord there is mercy

And with Him is redemption, and He shall redeem Israel



From all his iniquities.  
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
And to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning,  
Is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

## OFFERING PRAYER

P Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name.

**C Amen.**

## THE 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 our thanks and praise.**

## PREFACE

It is indeed our duty and our joy . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. 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.

## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

P Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age....

...With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

P O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

**C Come, Holy Spirit.**

P Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

**C Come, Holy Spirit.**

P With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## **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.**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come!

**C Thanks be to God**

## COMMUNION

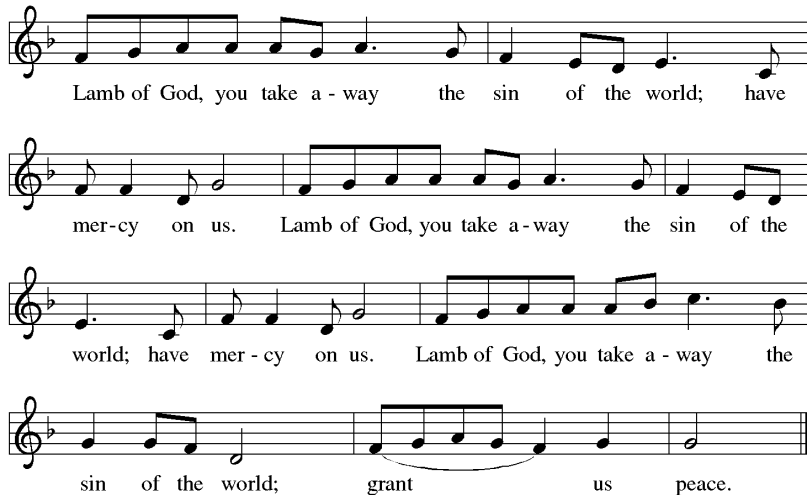
Communion will be served at the altar rail, and you have the option to kneel or stand. The consecrated host will be immersed in the chalice and then placed in your hand. If your preference is to receive only the host, please communicate that to the ministers. We have gluten-free options available. Alternatively, if you'd prefer a blessing, simply fold your arms in front of your chest. Currently, there is no consecrated grape juice available.

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

**Amen.**

## LAMB OF GOD

Follow the guidance of the ushers if you decide to walk up to the Altar to receive the Sacraments.



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.

## DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

Meditative organ music is played as the congregation receives the Holy Communion.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## BLESSING

P Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and ✠ give you peace.

**C Amen.**

## Abide, O Dearest Jesus



- 1 A - bide, O dear - est Je - sus, a - mong us with your grace,
- 2 A - bide, O dear Re - deem - er, a - mong us with your word
- 3 A - bide with heav'n-ly bright - ness a - mong us, pre - cious Light;
- 4 A - bide with rich - est bless - ings a - mong us, boun - teous Lord;
- 5 A - bide, O faith - ful Sav - ior, a - mong us with your love;



that e - vil may not harm us nor we to sin give place.  
 and thus now and here - af - ter true peace and joy af - ford.  
 your truth di - rect and keep us from er - ror's gloom - y night.  
 let us in grace and wis - dom grow dai - ly through your word.  
 grant stead-fast-ness and help us to reach our home a - bove.

**DISMISSAL**

**P** Go in peace. Share your bread.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE**

## Acknowledgments:

Liturgy from sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Gathering Hymn: *The Glory of These Forty Days*

Text: Latin hymn, 11<sup>th</sup> cent.; tr. Maurice F. Bell, 1862-1947, alt.

Music: ERHALT UNS HERR, J. Klug, Geistliche Lieder, 1543

Outside USA: Text from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906, All rights reserved.

Hymn of the Day: *When Jesus Came to Jordan*

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000

Music: KING'S LYNN, English folk tune

Text © 1980 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188

Musical Offering: *Out of the Depths Have I Cried Unto Thee*

Text & Music: Paul Manz

Sending Hymn: Abide, O Dearest Jesus

Text: Josua Stegmann, 1588-1632; tr. August Crull, 1846-1923

Music: CHRISTUS, DER IST MEIN LEIBEN, Melchior Vulpius, 1570-1615

<h2>Central Lutheran Church</h2>	
	
<h3>Evangelical Lutheran Church in America</h3>	
<p><b>Pastor:</b> The Rev. Veronika Czutor 972-904-0245   reverend.veronika@gmail.com</p> <p><b>Music Director:</b> Harold Knight, PhD harchie74@gmail.com</p> <p><b>Administrative Assistant:</b> Rachel Brown 214-327-2222   central.lutheran.dallas@gmail.com</p>	<p>1000 Easton Rd. Dallas, TX 75218</p> <p><a href="http://www.CentralLutheran.org">www.CentralLutheran.org</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.facebook.com/CentralLutheranDallas">www.facebook.com/CentralLutheranDallas</a></p>

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Visitors, we are glad to have you with us and invite you to come again!**

**Pastor Veronika's Office Hours:** Tuesday – Friday 10 am - 2 pm; other days/times by appointment

**Serving in Worship today:** Ushers: Judy Koble and Amy Brown; Lector: Jeff Lowry

**Annual Congregational Meeting:** The annual congregational meeting is **today, right after the worship service**. This is a crucial gathering where we come together as a community to hear the 2023 reports from our dedicated council leaders and to vote for our new council members and the budget for 2024. After the meeting, let's continue the fellowship with our much-anticipated annual **Chili Cook-Off and Dessert Bake-Off!** Voting will be done by placing cash in the envelope of the cook who you think made the best Chili and Dessert. Winners will be determined by who gets the most cash. All proceeds will benefit the Church.

**Midweek Lenten Worship & Supper:** We will joyfully join together with our siblings at Emmanuel Lutheran for our midweek Lenten worship at Central. **We will meet at 6:00pm for a supper of soup and sandwiches. Then at 7:00pm we will worship using *Holden Evening Prayer*. We will meet every Wednesday until March 20.** Pastor Veronika will turn our focus to the Psalms- a source of depth and wonder used in worship for over 3,000 years. All are welcome!

**Volunteers Needed** to help with New Horizons After School Reading and Tutoring program at Central. Duties will include helping with homework and reading stories to children ages 5 to 11. You will be security screened prior to beginning. The schedule is 3-6 pm Monday through Thursday. You can do one day a week or one day a month. The kids are adorable. The staff is great. You will receive far more than you give! If you are interested, contact Anne Monson at 214-264-8078 or [annemonson@sbcglobal.net](mailto:annemonson@sbcglobal.net).

**Worship Service Recordings:** The church office is looking rehome an archive of weekly Sunday worship services currently saved on CD's. The recordings were made between May 22, 2011 and March 15, 2020. If you would like any of the CD's please contact the church office ([central.lutheran.dallas@gmail.com](mailto:central.lutheran.dallas@gmail.com) or 214-327-2222).



Scan this QR code (or go to [linktr.ee/centrallutheranchurch](https://linktr.ee/centrallutheranchurch)) to connect with us, join our mailing list, or donate online.

**Our Prayer List:** Please submit your prayer requests to the church office via email ([central.lutheran.dallas@gmail.com](mailto:central.lutheran.dallas@gmail.com)) or via phone (214-327-2222).

### PRAYERS FOR HEALING & COMFORT

#### **For healing**

Irisz Gonda  
Frank Seuberling  
Linda Gourley  
Sara Navarro Ruiz  
Erik Rojas Cobo  
Karen Sabattis  
Selena Dybdahl

#### **Relationship**

Friend of Pastor Veronika  
Friend of Harold Knight  
Sister of Julie Atkins  
Friend of Victor Chacon  
Friend of Victor Chacon  
Sister of Janet Rashbaum  
Sister of Mary Glenn

#### **Church Members**

Lydia Landfair  
Don Smith  
Mario Montejo  
Ylva Wolfgang

Kris McDowell  
Yuvonne Muirhead  
Paul Chambers