

## February 21, 2021 - First SUNDAY IN LENT

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**Prelude:** Brian Crane: Song for Sienna; Long Play Thanksgiving Track 1 “He Has Made Me Glad” Blue Hymnal p214

### Welcome & Announcements

- Masking and 6-foot distancing observed at all services for your health and safety.
- Regular worship: Every **Sunday @ 9:30 AM**
- Confirmation March 14 @ 11:00 AM
- **Wednesday** Lenten Services @ 11:00 AM & @ 6:30 PM, Feb. 17 to Mar 24.
- **Holy Week** Maundy Thursday, April 1; at 6:30PM & Good Friday, April 2, at 6:30PM
- Palm Sunday March 28 @ 9:30 AM
- Easter Sunday April 4 @9:30 AM
- Services accessible on FB and YouTube at <hopelutheranfosston.org> on cable TV and Fosston Radio.

### Invocation

#### Prayer of Confession

P: Let us pray...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, empowered by Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

P: 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. (brief silence)

L: Most merciful God **C: 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**

**Absolution:** Jesus' Words of Comfort & Forgiveness

Hymn of Thanksgiving & Praise: Long Play Thanksgiving Track 2 “O God, Our Help in Ages Past” Blue Hymnal p686

**PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 25 A Prayer for Guidance and for Deliverance; Of David** (please read responsively)

To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul. <sup>2</sup> **O my God, in You I trust;**

do not let me be put to shame; **do not let my enemies exult over me.**

<sup>3</sup> Do not let those who wait for You be put to shame; **let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.**

<sup>4</sup> Make me to know Your ways, O LORD; **teach me Your paths.**

<sup>5</sup> Lead me in Your truth, and teach me, **for You are the God of my salvation; for You I wait all day long.**

<sup>6</sup> Be mindful of Your mercy, O LORD, **and of Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.**

<sup>7</sup> Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; **according to Your steadfast love remember me, for Your goodness' sake, O LORD!**

<sup>8</sup> Good and upright is the LORD; **therefore He instructs sinners in the way.**

<sup>9</sup> He leads the humble in what is right, **and teaches the humble His way.**

<sup>10</sup> All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, **for those who keep His covenant and His decrees.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY: Holy God, heavenly Father, in the waters of the flood You saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation You protected Your Son. Renew us in the gifts of word and sacrament, that we may cherish the promises received in our baptism. May Your holy angels be with us, that the wicked may have no power over us. We pray through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Invitation to participate in the **Prayers of the Church:**

L: “Forgiven through grace and led by Christ through our 40-day Lenten journey of Repentance, let us join the whole people of God in Christ Jesus by praying for the church, our nation, the world, those in need, and all of God’s creation. Let us bring our

hopes and needs to the God who listens.” (brief silence)

*Lord God*, thank You for pouring out Your life on the cross for the sake of the people of this world. Pour out Your love through us, Your church, and make us a community of welcome, encouragement, and grace to all. Lord in Your mercy, C: Hear our prayer.

*Great Creator*, You stretched out Your hand and created everything we know, out of nothing more than Your Holy Word. We praise You for the sun, moon, and stars that mark our days and fill us with amazement. Help us to count our days as precious and spend our time in service to You. Lord in your mercy, C: **Hear our prayer.**

*Ruler of the Nations*, uphold the workers of international and local mission and relief organizations. Strengthen all who suffer in striving to bring Your Word of Peace to troubled regions, especially our missionaries, all health-care workers, all who teach, peace officers and soldiers, elected and appointed officials, food service workers, farmers, gardeners, child-care givers, technicians and businesses of all disciplines, who serve You in their vocational callings. We especially pray for those in our church family: Dennis & Ilene Sistad, Gene & Kay Sistad, Julie Sistad, Carol Smeby, and Mike & Michelle Solsten. Lord in Your mercy, C: **Hear our prayer.**

*Healer of Our Every Ill*, draw near to all who call on Your name for help and comfort, open our eyes and hearts to the needs of our neighbors and help us to respond faithfully. We especially pray for (list.) Lord in Your mercy, C: **Hear our prayer.**

*Inspiration of the Heavenly Chorus*, we thank and praise You for blessing your church with singers, instrumentalists, composers of melody and hymn texts. Lift our spirits as we raise our muffled voices in praise to You. Lord in Your mercy, C: **Hear our prayer.**

*Faithful God*, remember Your covenant You made with us in our baptism, keep us faithful to our promises until we join with You, and all those who have gone before us. Help us to remember that You see us all. Into Your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

Hymn to prepare to hear the Word: Best Loved Hymns CD 2 Track 9: “**Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart**” Blue Hymnal p390

### **First Lesson: Genesis 9:8-17**

Then 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 (*Heb adds every animal 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.”

### **Second Lesson: 1 Peter 3:18-22**

For **Christ also suffered** (*Other ancient authorities translate ‘died.’*) **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, (*as confessed in the Apostles Creed*) <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 (*a pledge*) 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.

**Thy Word** is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.” Ps. 119:105 Songs 4 Worship #2 Blue Hymnal p184

Gospel: **Matthew 25:34-46** NIV

“Then the King will say to those on His right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by My Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat, I was thirsty, and you gave Me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited Me in, I needed clothes and you clothed Me, I was sick, and you looked after Me, I was in prison, and you came to visit Me.’

“Then the righteous will answer Him, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You something to drink? When did we see You a stranger and invite You in, or needing clothes and clothe You? When did we see You sick or in prison and go to visit You?’

"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of Mine, you did for Me.'

"Then He will say to those on His left, 'Depart from Me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry, and you gave Me nothing to eat, I was thirsty, and you gave Me nothing to drink, I was a stranger, and you did not invite Me in; I needed clothes, and you did not clothe Me; I was sick and in prison and you did not look after Me.'

"They also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help You?'

"He will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for Me.' "Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."

**Mark 1:14-15 The Beginning of the Galilean Ministry** (after Jesus' baptism & forty days of testing in the wilderness)

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news (*the gospel*) of (*the kingdom*) of God, <sup>15</sup> and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; (*is at hand*) repent, and believe in the good news (*gospel*.)"

**Footnotes:** Mark 1:11 Or *my beloved Son*

The Word of the Lord: **C: Thanks be to God**

**Thy Word** is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path." (Psalm 119: 105)

## SERMON/CHILDREN'S SERMON

**Hymn of Faith:** Shine Your Light CD Track 12 "Jesus Sees"

**Chorus: When you do it to the least of these Jesus sees, Jesus sees.**

*When you help your mother with your little baby brother. Chorus*

*When you share your favorite toy, when you give your pennies to those who don't have any. Chorus*

*When you help a widow or an orphan who is little. Chorus.*

*Then your heart will be filled with joy when you share your bread, and the hungry ones are fed. Chorus*

*And no one else is looking and no one seems to care. He is there with you and me. Jesus sees. Chorus*

## Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. (1 Peter 3:19) On the third day, He rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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**

P: THE PEACE OF THE LORD BE WITH YOU. C: **AND ALSO WITH YOU.**

## 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.**

## Benediction

P: God calls us into His covenant to be His own beloved ones. C: **And that makes all the difference.**

**Closing Hymn:** Best Loved Hymns CD 2 Track 20 "Onward, Christian Soldiers" Blue Hymnal p731

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

Recessional: Songs of Faith by Andy Williams Track 10 "You'll Never Walk Alone"; Song for Sienna

*When you walk through a storm; hold your head up high, and don't be afraid of the dark;*

*At the end of a storm is a golden sky and the sweet silver song of a lark.*

*Walk on through the wind. Walk on through the rain. Tho' your dreams be tossed and blown.*

*Walk on; Walk on; With hope in your heart; And you'll never walk alone. You'll never walk alone.*

*Repeat*