

Home Bulletin February 21st, 2021 First Sunday in Lent



<u>Prelude</u>

Welcome and Announcements

Lenten Devotional Series

Throughout the season of Lent, you will be invited daily to pray with a passage from Scripture and prompted to reflect on what it discloses to you about movement toward God and movement away from God in your life. As part of this you will be invited to keep a journal in which you briefly note what surfaces in your prayer time, so that you can track the movements of God's Spirit in your midst. In addition, each week, a hymn will be suggested in order for you to reflect on the truths the text reveals t you. This devotional series will be available online on our FB Page and Group or through your email. You can also make an appointment to come by the church and pick up a packet on the table inside the church door or in the "Clear Plastic Container" outside the door. A short video will be available on our Youtube channel, CTC Saginaw, on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. on which the pastor will be sharing some of his insights from the week's scripture readings.

Lenten Book Study on Zoom

- Zoom Lenten Book Study Tuesdays, starting February 23 at 3 PM for 4 weeks.
- Join us for a four-week study on ZOOM with a study book and a small book to help understand what really occurred as we delve into these issues in "A Case for Easter". This study is written by Lee Stroebel, a journalist who was an atheist turned Christian, as he probes into these questions regarding the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Join us for discussion and to further understand what Christ went through for your sake. Questions?
- The cost of the two books is \$9.00. Some homework may be required with discussion time during class. Call the church office to sign up for the 4-week session that you can receive your Zoom invitation and to make an appointment to purchase your books before the class starts.

Easter Gift Cards

- We are asking for your help in the way of donations to provide gift cards to needy area families for Easter.
- Anything you can give would be greatly appreciated.
- We hope to be able to provide ten families from Weiss Elementary School with a \$50.00 food gift card to enable them to purchase the fixings for their Easter meal.
- You can mail or drop off your donations at the church. Please be sure to label your envelope Easter Food Donation so we know where to designate the gift.
- Thanks for your continued help and support.

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One Great Hour of Sharing

On Palm Sunday, March 28th, we will be collecting the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering. Each gift given through this offering helps to improve the lives of the suffering and the vulnerable throughout the world. It is collected by both the PCUSA and the UCC and focuses on three main ministries, providing relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed.

Throughout the season of Lent you will have the opportunity to learn more about this offering and the situations into which it brings signs of God's love to those in need. If fasting is part of your Lenten Disciplines, please consider putting any money you might save by giving something up into your piggy bank or cookie jar that it might be part of your offering on that date.

Call To Worship

Invocation

<u>Hymn #166</u>

"Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days" GTG All Verses

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you. We desire earthly kingdoms and dismiss your heavenly realm. We seek to provide for ourselves and spurn the bread of life you offer. Forgive us, God of grace. Teach us to rely on your saving word, to trust in your sustaining care, and to worship and serve you alone; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Time of Silence for Personal Prayers of Confession

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<u>Gloria</u>

Prayer for Illumination

<u>1st Scripture Reading</u> Genesis 9:8-17

Then 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

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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."

Special Music

2nd Scripture Reading Mark 1:9-15

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. 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. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

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

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

Sermon

Getting Lost

The Apostles' Creed

Rev. Brant Piper

Affirmation of Faith

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 Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Call to Offering	
Prayer of Dedication	
<u>Doxology</u>	
<u>Hymn #695</u>	<i>"Change My Heart, O God"</i> Refrain, Verse and Refrain
Charge and Benediction	
Postlude	

Andy Glynn

GTG

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JESUS CHRIST: LIFE Lord, Who throughout These 166 Forty Days 1 Lord, who through-out these for - ty days for did fast and us you with Sa - tan did con-tend and 2 As did the vic-tory 3 And through these days of pen - i - tence, and through this Pas-sion-4 A - bide with us, till when this life of suf - fering shall be pray, teach us with you to mourn our sins and close by you to stay. win, O give us strength to per - se - vere, in you to con-quer sin. tide, yes, ev - er - more, in life and death, O Lord, with us a - bide. past, an Eas-ter of un - end - ing joy we may at - tain at last.

Like many of this author's hymns, this text was written primarily for children but works equally well in reminding adults how Lent connects us with Christ's temptation in the wilderness and prepares us for Easter. The 16th-century English psalm tune provides sturdy support.

TEXT: Claudia F. I. Hernaman, 1873, alt. MUSIC: Day's *Psalter*, 1562

ST. FLAVIAN CM

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