

West St. Olaf Lutheran Church

70640 260th Avenue - Hayfield, MN

Third Sunday in Lent – March 7, 2010

Pastor: Darby Lawrence West Organist: Martha Jensen

Choir Director: Kim Jacobson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

(LBW p. 56)

HYMN #291 (green) *Jesus Sinners Will Receive*

GREETING AND KYRIE p. 57

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Eternal Lord, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son.

Help us to hear your Word and obey it, so that we become instruments of your redeeming love; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. (green)

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 55:1–9

To those who have experienced long years in exile, the return to their homeland is a celebration of abundant life. God calls them into an everlasting covenant of love. Those who return to the Lord will enjoy new life and forgiveness, because God's ways are not our ways.

Ho, everyone who thirsts,
come to the waters;
and you that have no money,
come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.

²Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,
and your labor for that which does not satisfy?
Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,

and delight yourselves in rich food.

³Incline your ear, and come to me;

listen, so that you may live.

I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.

⁴See, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.

⁵See, you shall call nations that you do not know,
and nations that do not know you shall run to you,
because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel,
for he has glorified you.

⁶Seek the LORD while he may be found,
call upon him while he is near;

⁷Let the wicked forsake their way,
and the unrighteous their thoughts;
let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on
them,

and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

⁸For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.

⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

PSALM: Psalm 63:1–8

O God, you are my God; eager-ly I seek you;*
**my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,
as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.**

²Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place,*
that I might behold your power and your glory.

³For your lovingkindness is better than life itself;*
my lips shall give you praise.

⁴So will I bless you as long as I live*
and lift up my hands in your name.

⁵My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness,*
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,

⁶when I remember you upon my bed,*
and meditate on you in the night watches.

⁷For you have been my helper,*
and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.

⁸My soul | clings to you; *
your right hand | holds me fast.

VERSE p. 63 *Return to the Lord, Your God*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION p. 63 *Glory to you, O Lord*

GOSPEL: Luke 13:1–9

Asked about current tragic events, Jesus turns a lesson about whether suffering is deserved into a hard call to obedience. He then tells a parable that holds out hope that the timeline for ultimate judgment will be tempered by patience.

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.

²He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? ³No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. ⁴Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them — do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? ⁵No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

⁶Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. ⁷So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' ⁸He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. ⁹If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

The Gospel of the Lord.

GOSPEL RESPONSE p. 63 *Praise to you, O Christ*

SERMON

HYMN #499 (green) *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

APOSTLES' CREED p. 65

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Prayer Response: Pastor: "Lord, in your mercy,"
Congregation: **hear our prayer."**

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY p. 75 *Create in me*

OFFERTORY PRAYER p. 67

GREAT THANKSGIVING p. 68

SANCTUS p. 69 *Holy, Holy, Holy*

THE LORD'S PRAYER p. 71

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

HYMN #197 (green) *O Living Bread from Heaven*

HYMN #501 (green) *He Leadeth Me: Oh, Blessed Thought!*

HYMN #343 (green) *Guide Me Ever Great Redeemer*

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER p. 74

BLESSING

HYMN #93 (green) *Jesus, Refuge of the Weary*

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2010 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #39935.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

West Prayer List: Jeff Mittelstadt, Marietta Fjerstad, Daniel West, Rev. Frezil Westerlund, Keith Morris, Alice Tiegen, Karen Hanson, Elina Senjem, Kent Fjerstad, Rev. Leon Holtan, Helen McEmber (sister of Ardean Bjornson), Darcy Jacobson, Helene Harper (mother of Sally West), Chris Woodwick (nephew of Ardean and Carma Bjornson), Sharon Larson, Leon Luker (Susie Thoe's brother)

East Prayer List: Aden Rud, Scharlene Schroeder (sister of Carol Mestad), Ludie Frey, Iva Sattre, Bev Brandt, Mary Ann Boelter, Helen Thompson, Alice Watson, Gayle Robinson, Marvin Brandt, Mildred Braaten, Bill Fritts, Monica McDonnough, Mya DeCook (daughter of Ryan and Jennifer)

Those with a long term need for our prayers: Laurine Gulbransen, Matt Miller (nephew of Carma Bjornson and Julie Boyum), Donnie Senjem

Thank You to those serving us today

Altar Guild Julie Boyum and Wendy Iverson
Acolytes: Trystin Kaehler and Kristofer Aasen
Reader: Diane Berge
Ushers: Don Alrick, Ben Horejsi, Neil Rabehl, Craig Steinfadt

O U R A P P O I N T M E N T S

MONDAY	7:00 PM	Church Council Meeting
TUESDAY	9:00 AM	Quilting with Potluck
WEDNESDAY	9:00 AM	Quilting with Potluck
	1:30 PM	WELCA Meeting
	6:00 PM	Soup Supper at East
	7:00 PM	Lenten Service at East
THURSDAY	9:00 AM	Pastor in Office till Noon
	10:00 AM	Bulletin Deadline
FRIDAY		Pastor's Day Off
SATURDAY	9:00 AM	Smorgasbord Planning Meeting
SUNDAY	9:00 AM	West Worship Service
	10:00 AM	Sunday School, both Churches
	11:00 AM	East Worship Service

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME – Set your clocks ahead one hour next Saturday or you will be late for Church.

WELCA will quilt Tuesday and Wednesday at 9 AM. The March meeting will be held Wednesday at 1:30 PM. Devotions will be led by Julie Boyum and the program will be a Bible Study. Hostesses are Julie Boyum and Roxanne Weinmann.

Lenten Worship services will continue at East on Wednesday at 7 PM. There will be a soup supper served at 6 PM. We will alternate between East and West each Wednesday through Lent.

WELCA will meet on Saturday at 9AM to plan the Smorgasbord which be held on April 21st.

The hearing devices are not working currently as the main unit has been sent out for repairs.

Pastor Frezil did well in surgery and has returned home to South Dakota to continue her recovery. Her address is Pr. Frezil Westerlund, P.O Box 196. Philip, SD 57567.

Parsonage Farmland Bids - We will be accepting sealed bids for the parsonage farmland. Bids are to be in the Church office by noon, Thursday, March 25th. The bids will be for the 2010, 2011, and 2012 season. The total acreage is 12.9 acres. Will take possession on April 1, 2010 - weather permitting the present corn to be harvested. Questions, contact Steve Senjem, 208-0034 or Pete Estby, 365-8808.

The time of Lent – the forty days before Easter – historically has been a time to teach and prepare new believers for baptism at Easter. Six local Lutheran pastors are teaming up to proclaim the story of Jesus in a powerful way over the next few weeks, each transforming him/herself into a Biblical character who was an eyewitness to Jesus' life, death and resurrection as part of a shared mid-week Lenten worship series. The schedules is as follows:

- Mar. 3 (**West**) – Judas – Pr. Gene Leiter, Red Oak Grove
- Mar. 10 (**East**) – Claudia (Pilate's wife), Pr. Lissa Kahl, Evanger
- Mar. 17 (**West**) – Dismas (thief on the cross), Pr. Glen Bickford, Bear Creek, Grand Meadow
- Mar. 24 (**East**) – Peter, Pr. Paul Hauschild, Trinity, Hayfield

Sue Hyland was appointed by the Church council to fill the term of Ralph Kylo who became the Congregation president.

Some information about our current financial status.

We started the year with a \$4,500 note at the bank. January 14th we borrowed \$2,000 bringing the total to \$6,500. January 25th we received a \$4,000 donation to pay toward the note which was greatly appreciated. In February we had to borrow another \$2,000

bringing the total again to \$4,500. I guess the bottom line is our income just isn't keeping up our expenses. Our expenses are pretty much fixed so there is very little room to cut down. Please keep this in mind in the months to come. Ralph.

BENEFIT BREAKFAST: There will be a benefit breakfast at the Hayfield American Legion today from 8 AM to 1 PM. Proceed will be used for the HONOR FLIGHT PROGRAM to send WWII veterans to Washington, DC to see the WWII veterans memorial. Menus: pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage links, rolls, muffins, coffee, juice, and milk.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST – Benefit for the American Cancer Society Relay for Life at St. John's Lutheran Church, Kasson on Saturday, March 20th from 8 to 11 AM. Bake sale, Quilt Raffle, Hand Made Note-cards, Luminaries for purchase. Free will donation.

Next week's acolytes: Julia Smith and Felicia McAndrews

Attendance and Collections: Attendance 46. Current: \$498.00, Coffee Hour: \$19.00.

PRAYERS FOR CONGREGATIONS - We are "Called into God's Marvelous Light" to be Christ-Centered Disciples. This week we are asking for prayers for the following:

Evangel Lutheran in Sargeant

Bricelyn Lutheran in Bricelyn

Dennison Lutheran in Dennison

Faith Lutheran in Janesville

San Marcos Lutheran in Church in Columbia

Issuna Lutheran Church in Tanzania

Pastor: Rev. Darby Lawrence 258-0381 revdarby@gmail.com

Secretary: Dennis Wendt: 507-365-8222 eastwest@kmtel.com

Home: 507-533-9365 or 273-3226 dennywen@prodigy.net

Web Site: weststolaf.org

Taking Faith Home . . . March 7, 2010

Readings:

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday. Try to take time each day to read the assigned Bible passage.

Sunday	Luke 13:1-9	Parable of the fig tree
Monday	Jeremiah 11:1-17	Judgment against the olive tree
Tuesday	Ezekiel 17:1-10,22-24	Two eagles and two cedar shoots
Wednesday	Ezekiel 18:25b-32	Repent and live!
Thursday	Hosea 14:1-7	Return to the Lord
Friday	Luke 3:1-9	The fruit of repentance
Saturday	Psalms 34:11-22	Turn from evil and do good
Sunday	Luke 15:1-3,11b-32	Parable of the forgiving father

Scripture Verses for the Week:

Turn to the Lord! He can still be found. Call out to God! He is near. Give up your crooked ways and your evil thoughts. Return to the Lord our God. He will be merciful and forgive your sins.
- Isaiah 55:6-7 (CEV)

Prayer for this Week:

Lord God, please keep me from falling away from you. Help me to stand firm. Amen. (1 Corinthians 10:12-13)

For Throughout the Day:

Lord God, I turn to you. Please show me mercy. Amen. (Isaiah 55:6-7)

A Blessing to Share:

May God satisfy your deepest needs. May he show you his kindness and be your helper. Amen. (Psalm 63:3-7)

Mealtime Refrain:

God's love is better than life: **Let us praise him.** (Psalm 63:3)

Mealtime Prayer:

Mealtime is here, O what a spread!

Thanks be to God, who gives us bread. Amen.

© 2010 The Youth & Family Institute. All rights reserved. Written by Pastor Greg Priebbenow, Australia

Faith Talk:

Discuss in your household or small group:

- *Are you a patient or an impatient person? What do you find it hard to be patient about?*
- *Read Jesus' parable about the fig tree (Luke 13:6-8). Where do you see patience shown in this story? How is God patient with us?*
- *How do you think God would like to see you grow or change in the next year of your life?*

Devotional Practices:

The theme of repentance runs through the Bible readings for March 11. God gives us the Ten Commandments to show us his will for us, and to lead us to examine our thoughts, words and actions. In your home devotion times this week, listen together to the Ten Commandments and talk about what they mean.

- *You shall have no other gods.*
- *You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.*
- *Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.*
- *Honor your father and your mother.*
- *You shall not kill.*
- *You shall not commit adultery.*
- *You shall not steal.*
- *You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.*
- *You shall not covet your neighbor's house.*
- *You shall not covet your neighbor's spouse, or their manservant, or their maidservant, or their cattle or anything that is your neighbor's*

Service:

Isaiah 55:1-2 says "Come all you who are thirsty, come to the waters." Commit to drinking only water at home this week. Estimate what you will save as a result and donate it to a worthy cause. Use this opportunity to reflect on God's gift of water and our new birth through the waters of baptism.

Rituals and Traditions:

Make crosses from bars of hand soap as a reminder of Jesus' sacrifice to cleanse us from our sins. Draw a cross shape on each bar of soap, then carefully carve away the excess soap using a table knife. Place soap crosses in your bathroom and kitchen soap dishes, or in the kids' baths. You could also place soap crosses in small gift bags to give away to friends and relatives.