

# The Sunday Messenger

Memorial Lutheran Church, Nevada Iowa ♦ March 7, 2021

## Thanksgiving for the Word

Holy God,  
our living Water, our faithful Companion, our true Guide,  
by your Word you created a world with rivers and seas,  
wells and springs,  
and in mercy you provided water for your people in the wilderness.

For your Word with the water of baptism, we thank you, O God.

**We thank you, O God.**

We praise you for Christ, who joined us in our desert,  
calling us to righteousness, granting forgiveness,  
and walking with us into newness of life.

For Jesus, your gracious Word, we glorify you, O God.

**We glorify you, O God.**

Through these days of Lent we plead for your Spirit,  
that strengthened by your Word,  
we may care for others and for the world you made,  
and work for justice and peace for all.  
For your Word in our hearts and minds, we praise you, O God.

**We praise you, O God.**

Receive our thanksgiving, and grant us your blessing,  
Holy God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and  
the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## Kyrie

## Prayer of the Day

## First Lesson *Exodus 20:1-17*

<sup>1</sup>God spoke all these words:

<sup>2</sup>I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; <sup>3</sup>you shall have no other gods before me.

<sup>4</sup>You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. <sup>5</sup>You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, <sup>6</sup>but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

<sup>7</sup>You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

<sup>8</sup>Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. <sup>9</sup>Six days you shall labor and do all your work. <sup>10</sup>But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. <sup>11</sup>For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

<sup>12</sup>Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

<sup>13</sup>You shall not murder.

<sup>14</sup>You shall not commit adultery.

<sup>15</sup>You shall not steal.

<sup>16</sup>You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

<sup>17</sup>You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

## Psalm 19

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## Second Reading *1 Corinthians 1:18-25*

<sup>18</sup>The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup>For it is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

<sup>20</sup>Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup>For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup>For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, <sup>23</sup>but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup>but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup>For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

## Gospel *John 2:13-22*

<sup>13</sup>The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup>In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. <sup>15</sup>Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. <sup>16</sup>He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" <sup>17</sup>His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." <sup>18</sup>The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" <sup>19</sup>Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." <sup>20</sup>The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" <sup>21</sup>But he was speaking of the temple of his body. <sup>22</sup>After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

## Sermon



## 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.

## Prayers of Intercession

### Lord's Prayer

### Blessing

You are what God made you to be:  
created in Christ Jesus for good works,  
chosen as holy and beloved,  
freed to serve your neighbor.

God bless you + that you may be a blessing,  
in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity.  
Amen.

### Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the good news.  
Thanks be to God.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Don't Be Late for Church Next Week.** As the longer days remind us, it is time to set our clocks ahead one hour next Saturday, March 13, at bedtime.

**Devotions with Holy Communion Continue on Thursdays and Saturdays.** Call the church office at 382-6509 to reserve a slot or use the new Sign Up Genius: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E094CA8AC2EA20-weekly>

**In-Person Sunday School Continues.** Sunday School for ages 3 through 6th grade resumes in an All-Ages format Sundays at 10:00 am. Children will be masked and sit in family groups with physical distancing in place in fellowship hall. Children and volunteers are asked to sign up using the Sign Up Genius:  
Students  
[#](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4AAEA62FA5FB6-sunday)

Adult Volunteers  
[#](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4AAEA62FA5FB6-sunday1)

### NLC Virtual Hymn Festival: Hope Lives!

Join the National Lutheran Choir and guest artists, the Keith Hampton Singers, for a FREE virtual program blending spoken reflections, songs and familiar hymns of joy and hope with new music that speaks to our present time, inviting all people of faith to sing in joy *together!* **Sunday, March 14 @ 4pm (Central Daylight Time) @ [NLCA.com](https://www.nlca.com)**

**Add or Update Your Directory Picture.** Dan Stieler sent an email inviting you to add a picture to the online church directory if you have not done so or update your picture if you have. If you need assistance, please contact the church office.

**Fellowship and Adult Study Resume on Sundays.** We will use Zoom as a way to connect with each other after worship. The same link will be used each week: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83367838198> For those interested in the Book of Faith adult study, a break out room will be created after a little time of fellowship.

## FAITH AND LIFE TOGETHER

### Prayers for Healing

Rod Dirth *brother-in-law of Ron and Gloria Jacobson*, Fred Samuelson, Gary Kluever, Harlen Johnsen, Jim Pappas, Janeen Driscoll, Darren Kluever, Jaylee Bartleson, Larry Christian, Julie Sutherland, Sheila Collingwood *Lyndsey De Vos' mother*, Lynn Harris, George Forsyth, Cassie Harrell, Jeff Sebring *son-in-law of Ernie and Marlene Ruhde*, Norma Gandrup, Linda Horn, Tom Nervig, Glenda Day, Ginny Hausner, Ken Johnson, Camden Kelsey, Cooper Leeman, Jan Cook, Margie Nahnsen