

Second Sunday in Lent

March 5th, 2023



MEMORIAL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

Second Sunday in Lent

March 5th, 2023

Memorial Lutheran Church | Nevada, Iowa

Prelude

Cello solo by Private 1st Class US Marine, Fox Henson.

Fox graduated this past Friday, March 3, from Marine Basic Training, Camp Pendleton, San Diego, CA.

Welcome

Gathering Hymn: "Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters" ELW #445



- 1 Wash, O God, our sons and daugh-ters, where your cleans-ing wa-ters flow.
- 2 We who bring them long for nur-ture; by your milk may we be fed.
- 3 Oh, how deep your ho-ly wis-dom! Un-im-ag-ined, all your ways!



Num-ber them a-mong your peo-ple; bless as Christ blessed long a-go.
Let us join your feast, par-tak-ing cup of bless-ing, liv-ing bread.
To your name be glo-ry, hon-or! With our lives we wor-ship, praise!



Weave them gar-ments bright and spark-ling; com-pass them with love and light.
God, re-new us, guide our foot-steps; free from sin and all its snares,
We your peo-ple stand be-fore you, wa-ter-washed and Spir-it-born.



Fill, a-noint them; send your Spir-it, ho-ly dove and heart's de-light.
one with Christ in liv-ing, dy-ing, by your Spir-it, chil-dren, heirs.
By your grace, our lives we of-fer. Re-cre-ate us; God, trans-form!

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844

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Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
who journeys with us these forty days,
and sustains us with the gift of grace.

Amen.

Let us acknowledge before God and one another
our need for repentance and God's mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,

we confess to you our faults and failings.

Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word;

we take for ourselves instead of giving to others;

we spoil rather than steward your creation;

we cause hurt though you call us to heal;

we choose fear over compassion.

Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,

as we seek to follow in your way of life.

Amen.

Hear the good news:

God so loved the world that God gave the only Son,
so that all may receive life.

This promise is for you!

God embraces you with divine mercy,

+ forgives you in Christ's name,

and revives you in the Spirit's power.

Amen.

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

Dave Lekwa, Assisting Minister



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well - being of the church of God,

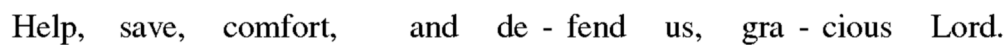
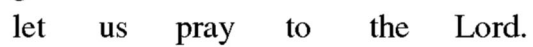
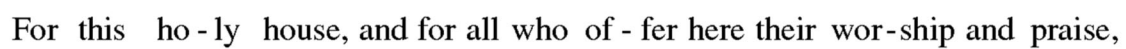


and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.





Glory to God

Dave Lekwa, Assisting Minister

Assisting minister

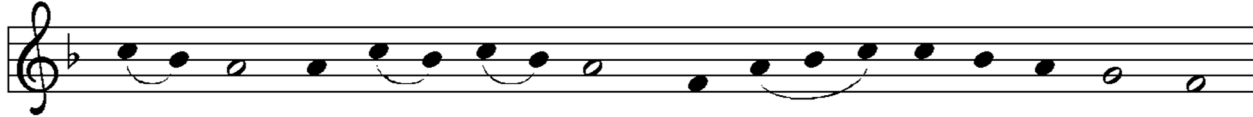


Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav'n-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa - ther, we wor -



ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, O Lord God,



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world: have



mer-cy on us; you are seat - ed at the right hand of the



Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer. For you a - lone are the



Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone



are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Prayer of the Day

O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

First Reading: Genesis 12:1-4a

Lector: Jim Stage

1The Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. 2I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. 3I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

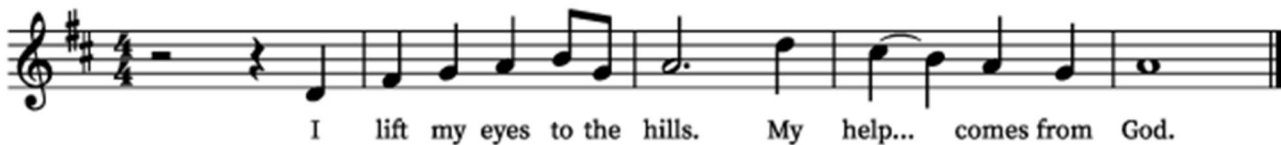
4aSo Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

The Word of the Lord,
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 121

All sing refrain; verses spoken by Steve Lekwa

Refrain



- ¹I lift up my eyes to the hills;
from where is my help to come?
- ²My help comes from the Lord,
the maker of heaven and earth.
- ³The Lord will not let your foot be moved
nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.
- ⁴Behold, the keeper of Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep; **REFRAIN**
- ⁵the Lord watches over you;
the Lord is your shade at your right hand;
- ⁶the sun will not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.
- ⁷The Lord will preserve you from all evil
and will keep your life.
- ⁸The Lord will watch over your going out and your coming in,
from this time forth forevermore. **REFRAIN**

Second Reading: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

Lector: Jim Stage

¹What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? ²For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God.

³For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." ⁴Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. ⁵But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

¹³For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

¹⁶For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations")—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

The Word of the Lord,
Thanks be to God.

Children at heart sermon

Gospel Acclamation

All sing Acclamation; Assisting Minister sings Proper Verse

Acclamation



Proper Verse

The Son of Man must be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

Repeat Acclamation

Gospel Reading: John 3:1-17

The Gospel according to John

Glory to You, O Lord

¹Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ²He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." ³Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." ⁴Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" ⁵Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶What

is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' ⁸The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." ⁹Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" ¹⁰Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?"

¹¹"Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: "God Loved the World" ELW #323



1 God loved the world so that he gave his on - ly
 2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, who was made
 3 If you are ill, if death draws near, this truth your
 4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son, for - gives all
 5 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly



Son the lost to save, that all who would in
 flesh and suf - fered death; all who con - fide in
 trou - bled heart can cheer: Christ Je - sus res - cues
 sins that you have done, and jus - ti - fied by
 Spir - it, Three in One! To you, O bless - ed



him be - lieve should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
 Christ a - lone are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.
 us from death; that is the firm - est ground of faith.
 Je - sus' blood, your bap - tism grants the high - est good.
 Trin - i - ty, be praise now and e - ter - nal - ly!

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 power of 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

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

Offering

Music Voluntary: *"God's Got the Whole World"* - Mark Miller
Memorial Choir

Offering Prayer

God of good gifts,
receive these and all our offerings
as we present them in faithful service
for the sake of your gospel.
Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal
as you pour out your very presence
through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life.
Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Detailed description: This block contains four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple, using quarter and half notes with slurs. The lyrics are printed below each staff, aligned with the notes. The first staff has a double bar line after the first measure. The fourth staff ends with a double bar line.

Holy, Holy, Holy

It is indeed right... ..we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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 in the high - est.

Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Detailed description: This block contains five staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple, using quarter and half notes with slurs. The lyrics are printed below each staff, aligned with the notes. The first staff has a repeat sign at the end. The fifth staff ends with a double bar line.

Words of Institution

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

Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.

Hymns during Communion

"Lamb of God" ELW Setting 5

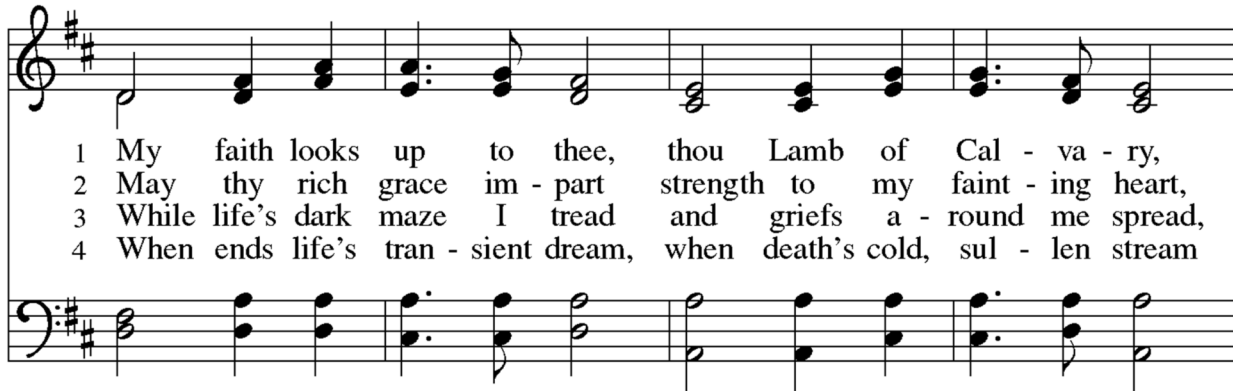
"My Faith Looks Up to Thee" ELW #759

Lamb of God

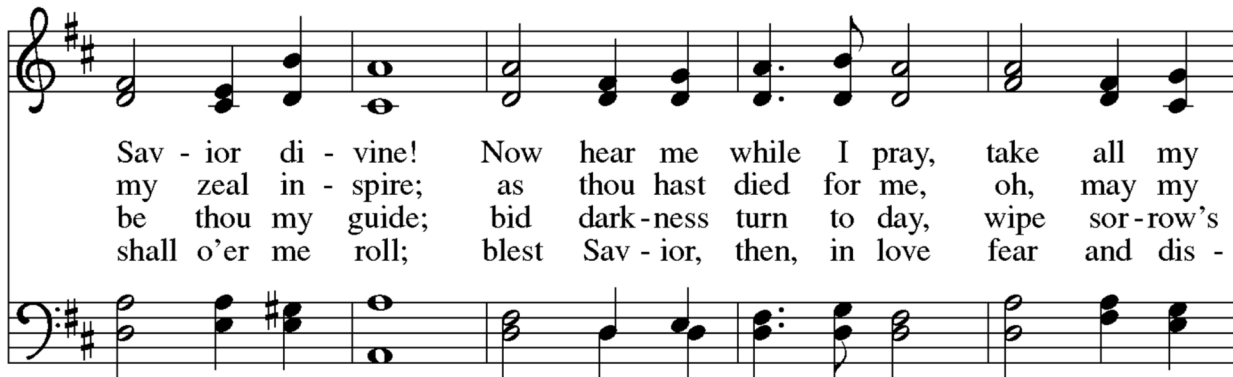
The musical score for the hymn "Lamb of God" is written on five staves of music. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The melody is written in a soprano voice part. The lyrics are: "Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - 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. A - men." The music features various note values including quarter, eighth, and half notes, with some notes beamed together. There are also rests and a final double bar line at the end of the fifth staff.

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. A - men.

My Faith Looks Up to Thee



1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
 2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,
 3 While life's dark maze I tread and griefs a - round me spread,
 4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, when death's cold, sul - len stream



Sav - ior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my
 my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, oh, may my
 be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day, wipe sor - row's
 shall o'er me roll; blest Sav - ior, then, in love fear and dis -



guilt a - way, oh, let me from this day be whol - ly thine!
 love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire!
 tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.
 trust re - move; oh, bear me safe a - bove, a ran - somed soul!

Text: Ray Palmer, 1808–1887
 Music: OLIVET, Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

Prayer after Communion

God who welcomes us back,
at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus.
With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise,
empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors
and touch the world with your love.

Amen.

Announcements

Blessing

God, the giver of love,
+ Christ, the resurrection and the life,
and the Holy Spirit of rebirth
bless you in this Lenten journey.

Amen.

Sending Hymn: "We Are Baptized in Christ Jesus" ELW #451



1 We are bap-tized in Christ Je - sus, we are bap - tized in his death;
2 In the wa - ter and the wit - ness, in the break - ing of the bread,
3 Glo - ry be to God the Fa - ther, glo - ry be to Christ the Son,



that as Christ is raised vic - to - rious, we might live a brand new life.
in the wait - ing arms of Je - sus who is ris - en from the dead,
glo - ry to the Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er three and ev - er one;



And if we have been u - nit - ed in a dread - ful death like his,
God has made a new be - gin - ning from the ash - es of our past;
as it was in the be - gin - ning, glo - ry now re - sounds a - gain



we will all be re - u - nit - ed, for he lives.
in the los - ing and the win - ning we hold fast.
in a song that has no end - ing. . . . A - men.

Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937
Music: OUIMETTE, John C. Ylvisaker
Text and music © 1985 John C. Ylvisaker

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Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve in love.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude: *“All Who Believe and re Baptized”* - Stephen Johnson
Lois Theesfield, organ

Prayers for Healing

If you have a prayer request, please email pastorkathleen@mlcnevada.org or emily@mlcnevada.org, or call the church office at 515-382-6509.

Prayers for Donna See and family following the death of her husband, Bill See.

Prayers for Betty Runge and family following the death of her husband, Leo Runge

Prayers for Judy and Kip Farthing following the death of their son, Wade Farthing

Prayers for Susan Radke and family following the death of her husband, Jerry Radke

*Prayers for Betty Davis, Dan Bappe, and Shari Dobson
following the death of their brother Larry Bappe*

Prayers for the family of Rev. Don Rothweiler following his death

*Prayers for Teresa Krebs and family and friends
following the death of Teresa's husband, Kim Krebs*

Jeanie & Jerry Gibson	Annette Dalthorp	Norma Dannan
Marsha Kane	Ellie Lynch	<i>friend of Betty Runge</i>
Pr. Marcia Kisner	Ernie Ruhde	Michael Neal
Marlene Waddell	Sierra Parr	Jami Tharp
<i>friend of Virginia Palmisano-Goettsch</i>	<i>cousin of Kim Stieler</i>	Fred Samuelson
Sandy Muesburger	Janet Jacques	Larry Christian
<i>friend of Virginia Palmisano-Goettsch</i>	Easton Farrington	Jaylee Bartleson
John Bass	Janice Hartz	Sheila Collingwood
<i>son-in-law of Ron & Gloria Jacobson</i>	Jim Dalthorp	<i>mother of Lyndsey De Vos</i>
Denise Rehor	Connie Krupp	Judy Coverdale
Carol Vincent	Randy Matthews	Family and friends of +James Stephens
Cassie Harrell	<i>friend of Mike Coverdale</i>	George Forsyth
Jean Smith	Jackie Byers	Janeen Driscoll
Ken Borwick	<i>daughter of Shellie Black</i>	Lynn Harris
Maddie Dunham	Donna See	Julie Sutherland
Judy Johnson	Katie Brockmeier	Jan Cook
	<i>granddaughter-in-law of Ruth Brockmeier</i>	

Announcements

40-40-40 Lent Challenge

Did you know? The Grand Canyon Synod and the Southeastern Iowa Synod are partner synods and in 2023, the two synods are challenging one another to raise money for ELCA World Hunger for Lent. Participate in the challenge by pledging to take part in some spiritual and physical practices during the 40 days of Lent while raising money for ELCA World Hunger. The synod with the most people to participate wins! To learn more and to sign up, visit the challenge website here: <https://bit.ly/3lrvvOF>

Lawn Care Proposals Due Friday, March 17th at noon

It's hard to imagine, but Spring will be here before we know it and Memorial is now accepting lawn care proposals from companies and individuals. If you or someone you know are interested, please contact the church office. ***Please note: proposals are due Friday, March 17th at noon***

Join us for National Quilting Day on March 18th

Quilters (or aspiring quilters!): you're invited to a day of assembling quilts to be donated to Lutheran World Relief. Not comfortable with a sewing machine? No problem! We need help with all steps of quilt making: counting blocks, layering quilts, and tying quilts. We'll meet in the Fellowship Hall from 9:00 - 2:00 on Saturday, March 18th. Lunch and snacks will be provided. Bring a friend!

Greeter and Usher Training - March 26th after worship

Are you interested in serving as a greeter and/or usher? As you may realize, these roles play an important part in us living out our shared congregational value of being a "welcome place in Christ." We want to gather anyone who currently serves from time to time as an usher or greeter along with anyone who may be curious about what serving in this ministry entails. We will refresh ourselves on the expectations of serving in this ministry and hopefully answer any questions you may have! Please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the Narthex or email pastorkathleen@mlcnevada.org if you will be joining us on the 26th!

Holy Communion Workshop—Saturday, April 1st, 9-11am

Are you curious to learn more about the special meal Jesus shares with us? If you are looking forward to receiving Holy Communion for the first time, or have already been receiving and want to learn just a little bit more about this meal and why it's so important to us as Christians, please email pastorkathleen@mlcnevada.org to sign up. We will also have a time of special recognition for participants receiving Holy Communion for the first time at the Maundy Thursday worship service on April 6 at 7 PM.

Online Giving with Tithe.ly

Thank you for joining us for worship today! If you would like to support our ministries, online gifts can be made using <http://tithe.ly/give> or by scanning the QR code.



Do you get our newsletters and other email notices?

Make sure you email emily@mlcnevada.org to sign up to receive communications online. If you believe you are already on our list and are not receiving emails, please check your spam or "promotions" inboxes.

Save the Date

LWR Quilt Workshop (National Quilting Day)

All are invited to help assemble quilts for Lutheran World Relief on National Quilting Day!

When: Saturday, March 18th, 9:00 - 2:00

Greeter and Usher Training

When: Sunday, March 26th, following worship

Camping Committee Meeting

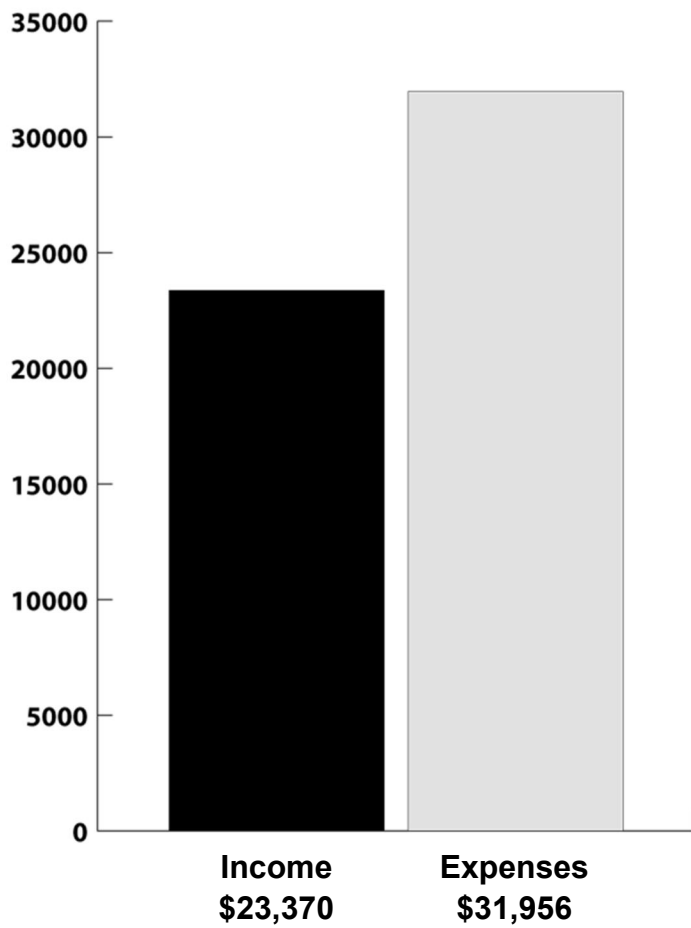
Help us plan activities and logistics for our upcoming camping outing

When: Tuesday, March 28th, 5:30pm

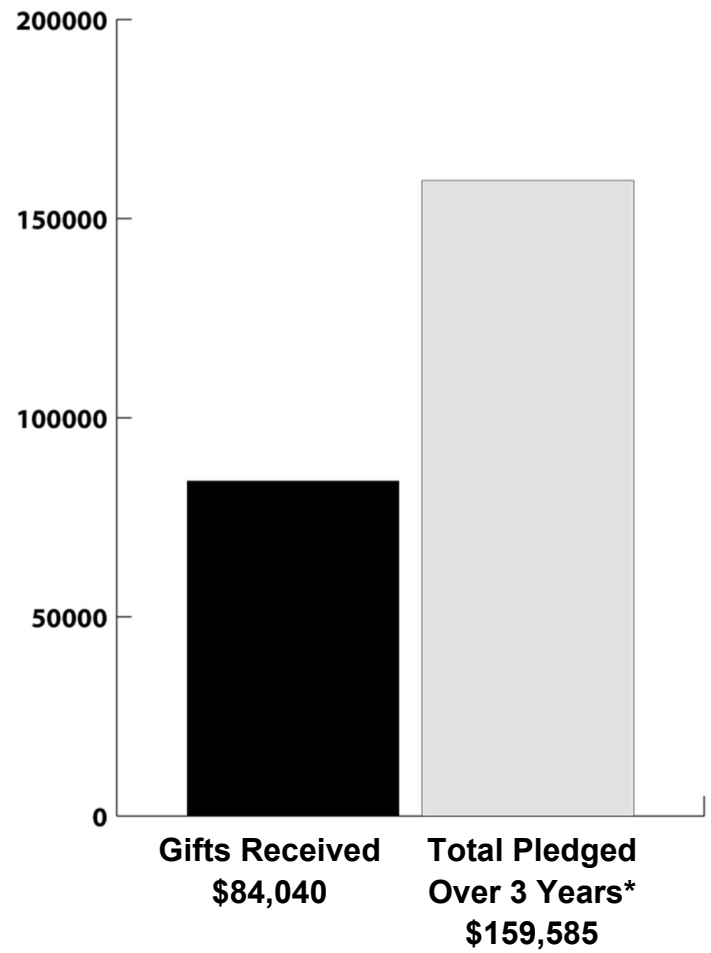
Holy Communion Workshop

When: Saturday, April 1st, 9-11am

**General Fund Income / Expenses
January 2023**




**A Welcoming Space = A Welcoming Place
Current Gifts / Pledges**



*Includes gifts received

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Kathleen Lotz, Pastor | Lois Theesfield, Director of Music Ministry
Emily Dalthorp, Parish Administrator for Outreach & Engagement
Mike Coverdale, Custodian

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