

# HOLY COMMUNION



*The Second Sunday in Lent*  
March 8, 2009 + 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

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*Central - in the heart of the city, welcomes all people to celebrate, discover and share the love of Christ*

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*The Holy Spirit gathers  
us in unity  
on the first day  
of the week, the day of  
Christ's resurrection*

*Foote (1853 –1937) was an  
American classical composer  
and a member of the “Boston  
Six” that included George  
Whitefield Chadwick, Amy  
Beach, Edward MacDowell,  
John Knowles Paine, and  
Horatio Parker.*

*Swider (born 1930) is a  
leading Polish composer of  
choral music.*

## **Christ is the promise that we will never be lost**

*The second covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the one made with Abraham and Sarah: God's promise to make them the ancestors of many, with whom God will remain in everlasting covenant. Paul says this promise comes to all who share Abraham's faith in the God who brings life into being where there was no life. We receive this baptismal promise of resurrection life in faith. Sarah and Abraham receive new names as a sign of the covenant, and we too get new identities in baptism, as we put on Christ.*

## GATHERING

### PRELUDE

*“Intermezzo”*

*Arthur Foote*

*The carillon calls the assembly to worship.*

*The assembly stands to face the baptismal font (in the front) for the confession.*

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*As the presiding minister begins from the font,  
the sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism:*

**P** In the name of the Father,  
and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**All** Amen.

**P** If you record our sins, Lord, who could survive?

*Psalm 130:3-4*

**All** But because you forgive we stand in awe.

**P** Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another.  
*silence for reflection*

**Kyrie** *(sung by the choir)*

*“Kyrie” from Missa minima*

*Józef Swider*

*Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord have mercy.*

**P** Rock of our salvation,

**All** we confess that we live in opposition to your gracious will for us.

**We have failed to be a blessing to others  
by turning our backs on the needs of the poor.**

**We have exploited your creation  
without regard for those who come after us.**

**By our sin, we are exiled from your presence;  
our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost.**

**Breathe your Spirit on us, O God, that we may live.**

*God speaks to us in  
scripture reading,  
preaching,  
and song*

*As with Noah, God makes an everlasting covenant with Abraham and Sarah. God promises this old couple that they will be the ancestors of nations, though they have no child together. God will miraculously bring forth new life from Sarah's old womb. The name changes emphasize the firmness of God's promise.*

*Paul presents Abraham as the example for how a person comes into a right relationship with God not through works of the law but through faith. Though Abraham and Sarah were far too old for bearing children, Abraham trusted that God would accomplish what God had promised to accomplish.*

**P** God's love is shown to us in that while we still were sinners, Christ died for us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Your sin is washed away. In the waters of baptism you were joined with Christ, reborn as children of God, and anointed with the Holy Spirit. You are free to live as God's people in the world.

**A** Amen.

**GATHERING HYMN**

*(hymn) 456*

*"Baptized in Water"*

**GREETING**

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

**A** And also with you.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P** ...one God, now and forever.

**A** Amen.

**WORD**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

*Children are invited to come forward; parents are welcome to come with their children.*

**FIRST READING** *God blesses Abraham and Sarah* Genesis 17:1–7, 15–17a

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless.

<sup>2</sup>And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." <sup>3</sup>Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him,

<sup>4</sup>"As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. <sup>5</sup>No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations.

<sup>6</sup>I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. <sup>7</sup>I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you."

<sup>15</sup>God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. <sup>16</sup>I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

<sup>17</sup>Then Abraham fell on his face and laughed.

The word of the Lord.

**A** Thanks be to God.

**SECOND READING**

Romans 4:13–25

*The promise to those of Abraham's faith*

*Paul writes:*

For 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. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

<sup>16</sup>For 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, <sup>17</sup>as 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. <sup>18</sup>Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become “the father of many nations,” according to what was said, “So numerous shall your descendants be.” <sup>19</sup>He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. <sup>20</sup>No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, <sup>21</sup>being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. <sup>22</sup>Therefore his faith “was reckoned to him as righteousness.” <sup>23</sup>Now the words, “it was reckoned to him,” were written not for his sake alone, <sup>24</sup>but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, <sup>25</sup>who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

The word of the Lord.

**AI** Thanks be to God.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION FOR LENT



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind,  
 slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.  
 slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

Text: Gracia Grindal, based on Joel 2:13  
 Music: KAS DZIEDAJA, Latvian folk tune  
 Text © 1998 Augsburg Fortress

*After Peter confesses his belief that Jesus is the Messiah, Jesus tells his disciples for the first time what is to come. Peter’s response indicates that he does not yet understand the way of the cross that Jesus will travel.*



### GOSPEL

*The passion prediction*

Mark 8:31–38

The holy gospel according to Mark.

**AI** Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus] began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup>He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup>But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

<sup>34</sup>He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. <sup>36</sup>For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? <sup>37</sup>Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? <sup>38</sup>Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**AI** Praise to you, O Christ.

**SERMON**

Pastor Rick Nelson

“A 40-Day Journey: And Abraham Laughed”  
*silence for reflection*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

“Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus”

(hymn) 802  
*stanzas 2 & 3 in harmony*

**APOSTLES’ CREED**

**A** We have been made God’s people through our Baptism into Christ.  
Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**Al** **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**

**A** Led by Christ in our journey of repentance  
and moved by his compassion, let us pray for the church,  
those in need, and all of God’s creation.

*after each petition:*

Lord in your mercy,

**Al** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Into your hands, merciful God, we commend these  
and all for whom we pray,  
trusting in your guidance and your grace;  
through Jesus Christ our Savior.

**Al** **Amen.**

**MEAL**

**PEACE**

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Al** **And also with you.**

*The assembly is invited to share God’s peace with one another.*

**GATHERING OF GIFTS**

*While the collection is received lay ministers prepare the table.*

*The assembly stands as the procession reaches the chancel.*

*God feeds us  
with the presence  
of Jesus Christ*

Josquin (c. 1450 – 1521) is considered to be the first master of polyphonic writing in the High Renaissance. His compositions were applauded and loved by Martin Luther.

### “Tu pauperum refugium”

Josquin des Prez

*Thou refuge of the destitute, of the mourning and sorrowing;  
Thou comforter, giving courage to the laborer; helper of erring men,  
of truth, life giving. And now Redeemer, Lord, our God,  
I take refuge in Thee alone: Thou very God do I adore;  
Thou art my hope: my salvation, Jesus, Savior.  
Be Thou my help, for without thy watchful care, while slumbering,  
death would claim my soul.*

### Offertory Prayer

**A** Together let us pray.

**AD** Merciful Father,

**we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—  
our selves, our time, and our possessions,  
signs of your gracious love.**

**Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us,  
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### GREAT THANKSGIVING

**P** The Lord be with you.

**AD** And also with you.

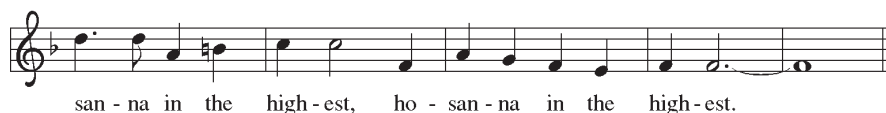
**P** Lift up your hearts.

**AD** We lift them to the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**AD** It is right to give our thanks and praise.

**P** It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ... join their unending hymn:



### Eucharistic Prayer

Lord's Prayer (1975)

**AD** Our Father in heaven,

**hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**



All are invited to receive these gifts of God.  
Grape juice is available upon request.  
Children are welcome to receive communion or a blessing.  
Communion at this service is served kneeling (as you are able) by individual chalices around the communion rail.

*God blesses and sends us in mission to the world*

Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.

### Breaking of the Bread and Invitation to the Table

#### Communion

"Lamb of God"

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, grant us peace.

#### Table Blessing and Prayer after Communion

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**A** Amen.

**A** Let us pray.

O God, our beginning and our end,  
you kept Abraham and Sarah in safety  
throughout the days of their pilgrimage,  
and you led the children of Israel through the midst of the sea.  
Protect and guide us in our journeys.  
Make our ways safe and our home-comings joyful,  
and bring us at last to our heavenly home,  
where you dwell in glory with our Lord Jesus Christ  
and the life-giving Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever.

**A** Amen.

## SENDING

#### BLESSING

**P** May the Lord turn his face toward us,  
and guide our feet into the way of peace.

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.

**A** Amen.

#### SENDING HYMN

"Blessed Be the God of Israel"

(hymn) 552

Schroeder (1904-1984) spent most of his life in the German city of Cologne where he taught music theory and composition. Most of his own compositions constitute music for the church.

## DISMISSAL

*Please face the entrance for the dismissal.*

**A** Go in peace. Christ goes with you.

**AD** **Thanks be to God.**

*The carillon sends the assembly into mission.*

## POSTLUDE

"Toccata"

Herman Schroeder

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## SERVING TODAY

Pastor Kristen Jacobson	<i>presiding</i>
Pastor Rick Nelson	<i>preaching</i>
Ross Murray	<i>assisting minister</i>
Mark Sedio	<i>cantor/organist</i>
Cantorei	<i>choir</i>
Zee Gregerson, Jamey Grafing	<i>readers, 8:30</i>
David Molvik	<i>sound operator, 8:30</i>
Mark Forsberg, Ann Oyen	<i>readers, 11:00</i>
Mark Brodin	<i>sound operator, 11:00</i>
Richard Stegall	<i>sacristan</i>
Debra Thelen	<i>radio announcer</i>
Robert Tufford, Jean Matheson, Bob Ylvisaker	<i>lead ushers</i>
Karin Lilleodden, Larry & Zee Gregerson, Leon & Deanne Tibben, Phil Ranheim, Ann Oyen, Barb Hoernemann, Allison Winblad	<i>communion ministers</i>
Pastor D. Foy Christopherson, Harris & Maryon Lee, Fred & Anne Stechmann	<i>hosts and greeters</i>

**Sunday worship** is broadcast locally on WDGY 740 AM at 11 a.m.; or listen online from anywhere at [wdgyradio.com](http://wdgyradio.com).

To sponsor a Sunday morning radio broadcast or refreshments in honor or memory of a loved one or a special occasion, contact Julie Pinomaki at 612.767-9212.



Large print service folders, assisted listening devices, and access seating are available to aid your participation in worship. Please inquire with an usher.



## WELCOME!



**Everyone is welcome.** As a community of the people of God, the members of Central Lutheran Church are called to welcome all people regardless of age, economic status, ethnic background, gender, physical or mental ability, race or sexual orientation. We affirm that in Christ “there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male or female” (Galatians 3:28). Christ has made us one.

**Guests are welcome.** We are pleased you are worshiping with us today. We invite guests to complete the “Welcome to Central” card found in the pew racks and leave it with an usher or place it in the offering plate. If you would like more information about Central, please speak to a staff member or call the church at 612-870-4416.

**Children are welcome** at all services. Worship bulletins for children and activity bags are available at Sanctuary entrances. If you would prefer to use Central’s nursery (available for children ages four and younger), you will find it on the second floor of the Education Building. An usher will be glad to assist you.

**Welcome to the Lord’s Table.** All are welcome at the Lord’s Table. Please follow the guidance of the ushers and instructions in the order of service. During communion, ministers will bring bread and wine to persons in designated access seating areas. If you are not in a designated access seating area and desire to commune where you are seated, please notify an usher who will direct communion ministers to come and serve you. Communion may be received in one kind (only bread or only wine) from any station if wheat bread or alcohol presents a health concern. Gluten-free breads and alcohol-free wine are available by request at most liturgies from most communion stations.

**We envision** becoming a thriving, vibrant model of urban Lutheran ministry for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. This lofty vision requires us to ask each day if our goals for worship, learning, and service are clearly reaching a diverse neighborhood and city in language and action that reflect the world as well as our heritage.

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**CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
*in the heart of the city, welcomes all people  
to celebrate, discover and share the love of Christ*  
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