

**Mount
Pleasant
Lutheran
Church**

ELCA

1700 South
Green Bay Road
Racine, WI
53406
262/634-6704

**First Sunday in
Lent**



Sunday,
March 5,
2017

8:30 a.m.
& 11:00 a.m.

**Holy
Communion**

Prelude

GATHERING

Confession and Forgiveness

In the words of a reformation hymn, let us confess our sin before God.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Out of the depths I cry to you;

O Lord God, hear me calling. Incline your ear to my distress in spite of my rebelling. Do not regard my sinful deeds. Send me the grace my spirit needs. Without it I am nothing. Amen.

In God alone, in God we hope, and not in our own merit. We hope as Israel in the Lord, who sends redemption through the ☩ Word. Praise God for grace and mercy!

Amen.

Gathering Hymn

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

Hymn No. 504

Greeting

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

Kyrie

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Prayer of the Day

(Together) **Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us 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.**

WORD

Teaching Moment

Children’s Sermon

First Lesson

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

¹⁵The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. ¹⁶And the LORD God commanded the man, “You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; ¹⁷but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.” ^{3:1}Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God say, ‘You shall not eat from any tree in the

(Continued on next page)

garden'?" ²The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; ³but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; ⁵for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

(After the reading) The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 32 (*Responsively, Lector and People*)

¹Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!

²**Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes
no guilt, and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

³While I held my tongue, my bones withered
away, because of my groaning all day long.

⁴**For your hand was heavy upon me day and night;
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**

⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt.

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD."

Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

⁶Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers
to you in time of trouble; when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.

⁷**You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.**

⁸"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go;
I will guide you with my eye.

⁹**Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding;
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."**

¹⁰Great are the tribulations of the wicked;
but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.

¹¹**Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD;
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.**

Second Lesson**Romans 5:12-19**

¹²Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned—¹³sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. ¹⁴Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come. ¹⁵But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. ¹⁶And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. ¹⁷If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ. ¹⁸Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. ¹⁹For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

(After the reading) The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

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**Return to the Lord, your God,
for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger,
and abounding in steadfast love.**

Holy Gospel**Matthew 4:1-11**

(Spoken after the announcement) **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ²He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. ³The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." ⁴But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" ⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" ⁷Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" ⁸Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; ⁹and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." ¹⁰Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" ¹¹Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

(Spoken after the reading) **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor David Echelbarger

Hymn of the Day

“Jesus, Still Lead On”

Hymn No. 624

Apostles Creed

(Together) **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our LORD. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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

Lifting our voices and turning toward God, let us pray for the church, the earth, and all who are in need.

(After each petition) Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Into your hands, merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your steadfast love; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Peace

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

MEAL

Choir Anthem

“Lonesome Valley”

arr. Jay Althouse

(8:30 am)

Offering

Great Thanksgiving

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Eucharistic Prayer

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord...

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again ...

...be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

Invitation

Return to God with all your heart. Receive bread for the journey, drink for the desert. All are welcome.

Lamb of God**Distribution**

We invite all baptized Christians and visitors of all denominations, even the youngest, to the table of the Lord. Children who desire a blessing rather than receiving the bread and the wine should stand with folded hands to indicate their preference. Please follow the ushers' directions to one of several communion stations in the sanctuary. If you need to have the sacrament brought to your pew, please inform an usher. Receive the wine or indicate a preference for grape juice by asking the server or pointing to the center of the tray. *Gluten free wafers available upon request.*

Distribution Hymns

“The Glory of These Forty Days”

Hymn No. 320

“Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery”

Hymn No. 334

(Vs 1-3 & Lent 1)

Blessing

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

Amen.

Prayer after Communion

(Together) **Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice, our alms, a making of peace, and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts; through Christ our Lord.**

Amen.

Benediction

May God who has called us forth from the dust of the earth, and claimed us as children of the light, strengthen you on your journey into life renewed. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you ☩ peace.

Amen.

Sending Hymn

“Bless Now, O God, the Journey”

Hymn No. 326

Dismissal

Marked with the cross of Christ, go forth to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude



Today's gospel tells of Jesus' temptation in the desert. His forty-day fast becomes the basis of our Lenten pilgrimage. In the early church Lent was a time of intense preparation for those to be baptized at the Easter Vigil. This catechetical focus on the meaning of faith is at the heart of our Lenten journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. Hungry for God's mercy, we receive the bread of life to nourish us for the days ahead.