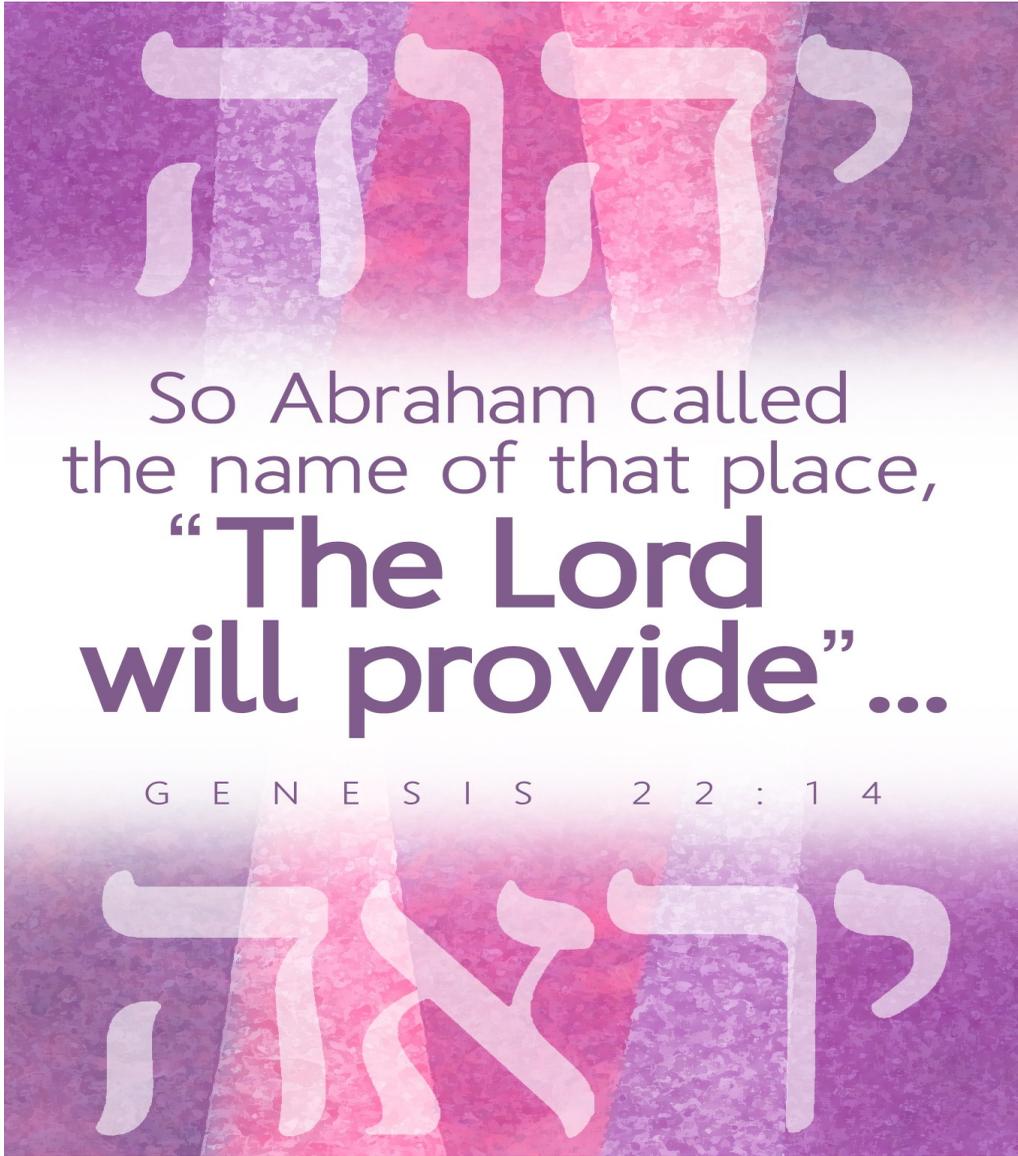


St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School
624 Jennings St. Sioux City, Iowa 51101
Church: (712)252-0338 School: (712) 258-6325
www.siouxcitystpauls.org



FIRST SUNDAY IN
LENT

6 p.m. Sat., Feb. 20 & 8:15 a.m. Sun., Feb. 21, 2021
Sermon: "When Something is Drastically Wrong"
Genesis 22:1-18



St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School

- a Family to Whom You Belong -

Our Mission is to: **Make More & Better Disciples**

THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

(6 p.m. Sat., Feb. 20 & 8:15 a.m. Sun. Feb. 21, 20221)

Servants of God's House Today:

Pastor: Rev. Kenny Hsu **DCE Intern:** Grace Wolfgram

Organists: 6 p.m. Sat., Joyce Seymour; 8:15 a.m. Sun. Mabel Huldeen

Ushers: Doug Lehr

Missionaries: Rev. Shauen & Krista Trump, Rev. Tim & Lisa Beckendorf,
Rev. Paul Flo, Rev. Charles Cortwright

Elders: 6 p.m. Sat., Bob Greene 8:15 a.m. Sun. Daryl Heimgartner

Readers: 6 p.m. Sat. Marlis Hilden; 8:15 a.m. Sun. Dallas Schulz

WELCOME! We are glad that you are here worshipping God with us. We pray for God's blessings to you and invite you to come back again soon.

AS WE GATHER By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, of whom it was said, 'Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.' He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back" (Hebrews 11:17–19). The writer to the Hebrews makes such a beautiful statement about something that must have been literally gut-wrenching for Abraham. Losing a loved one is hard. Losing a child is incredibly hard. But being asked to sacrifice your one and only son? It seems unfathomable. Yet, this presents a poignant truth for us—when everything looks so wrong, God provides by keeping His promises for us and by being with us.

HOLY COMMUNION The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod believes the Biblical teaching that in communion we receive not the symbolic but the true body and blood of Jesus Christ with the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins. If you are a baptized Christian who has been instructed in the same Biblical teaching, and if you agree with the announcement on our communion card and the confession of our faith, please join us to receive the gifts that Jesus Christ has prepared for us in communion. If you have any questions or uncertainties, please feel free to make an appointment to talk with the pastor during the week before communing with us.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the Promised Land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(The congregation is invited to respond in the words written in **bold**.)

The Ringing of the Bells

The Wave of Fellowship

Hymn of Invocation

“My Faith Looks Up to Thee”
(stand as you are able for the last verse)

LSB 702

(The sign of the cross + may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.)

The Invocation

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Opening Sentences *Mark 14:38; 1 Peter 5:8; 1 Corinthians 10:12–13*

P: Jesus said, “Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

C: Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

P: Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man.

C: God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

Confession and Absolution

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth.

P: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C: But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P: Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C: Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Service of the Word

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The Kyrie “Lord, Have Mercy” (Sung)

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

P: 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.

C: Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

P: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

The Salutation and Collect of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

C: You promised Abraham that his descendants would be as numerous as the stars in the sky, and then you asked him to sacrifice his only son. You provided a ram as a substitute sacrifice. Open our eyes to how You provide for us, especially in tough times when everything looks so wrong. Amen.

The Old Testament Reading Genesis 22:1–18 (God tested Abraham.)

¹After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here am I.” ²He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.”

³So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. ⁴On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. ⁵Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; I

and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you.”

⁶And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together.

⁷And Isaac said to his father Abraham, “My father!” And he said, “Here am I, my son.” He said, “Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” ⁸Abraham said, “God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So they went both of them together.

⁹When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound

Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. ¹⁰Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son.

¹¹But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here am I." ¹²He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." ¹³And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son.

¹⁴So Abraham called the name of that

place, "The LORD will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."

¹⁵And the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven ¹⁶and said, "By myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son,

¹⁷I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, ¹⁸and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice."

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Gradual We praise God together in the words of the Gradual.

Hebrews 12:2

C: O come, let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

The Epistle Lesson James 1:12–18 (The path temptation treads)

¹²Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. ¹³Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. ¹⁴But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. ¹⁵Then desire when it has

conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

¹⁶Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. ¹⁷Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

¹⁸Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand for the Gospel and the Catechism)

The Holy Gospel Mark 1:9–15 (Jesus is baptized and sent to be tempted.)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 1st chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens opening and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.” ¹²The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³And he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. And he was with the wild animals, and the angels were ministering to him. ¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, ¹⁵and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

Catechism *The Sixth Petition and Explanation*

P: And lead us not into temptation. What does this mean?

C: God tempts no one. We pray in this petition that God would guard and keep us so that the devil, the world, and our sinful nature may not deceive us or mislead us into false belief, despair, and other great shame and vice. Although we are attacked by these things, we pray that we may finally overcome them and win the victory.

(Please be seated)

Children’s Message

Hymn of the Day

"The God of Abraham Praise"

LSB 798

Sermon “When Something is Drastically Wrong” Genesis 22:1–18

The Prayer of the Church *Psalm 25:4–6, adapted*

P: Friends in Christ, I urge you to lift up your souls to our God in whom we trust, as Christ, our Lord, promises to hear us.

Lord Jesus, You are the Lord of the Church.

C: Bless the work of our congregation and all who bear Your name.

P: Remember Your mercy, O LORD,

C: and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

- P: Lord Jesus, the government is on Your shoulders.
- C: Watch over all in this world. Guide the world's leaders with Your wisdom, as well as our elected officials—our president, our governor, and our local authorities—that we may live peaceful and quiet lives.**
- P: Remember Your mercy, O LORD,
- C: and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.**
- P: Lord Jesus, You are our Teacher.
- C: Make us to know Your ways, O LORD; teach us Your paths. Lead us in Your truth and teach us, for You are the God of our salvation; for You we wait all the day long.**
- P: Remember Your mercy, O LORD,
- C: and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.**
- P: Lord Jesus, You are the God of our salvation.
- C: Guide us, Lord, in living lives that bear witness to Your truth. Lead us to connect with those who are wandering or who do not know You.**
- P: Remember Your mercy, O LORD,
- C: and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.**
- P: Lord Jesus, You are the Great Physician.
- C: Bind up the brokenhearted, give sight to the blind, make the lame to walk and the deaf to hear.**
- P: We name before You those who are struggling in body, mind, and spirit and ask You to heal them: especially Joyce Haines, Carolyn Stuhr, Joseph Hood, Joyce Segebart and Mary Kay Holiday.
Remember Your mercy, O LORD,
- C: and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.**
- P: Lord Jesus, for those celebrating their baptismal anniversaries that they remain faithful to your Word including; Richard Hinrichsen, Grant Haller, Brad Figge, Nick Wingert, Travin Babers, Brian Halma, Fred Sulzbach and Zach Swearingen.
Remember Your mercy, O LORD,
- C: and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.**
- P: Into Your hands, Lord Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your great mercy to hear and answer us.
- C: Amen.**

Offering of God's People to their Beloved Savior

We honor God with the gifts He has given to us.

St. Paul's members have pledged to support our ministry in their tithes and offerings.

Please place your offerings in the box upfront.

To our guest: Thank you for joining us today and please do not feel that you are obligated to participate. We invite you to come back again.

Please put your **Welcome Card and Communion Card** in the box at the back of the church.

Matthew 25:40—And the King will answer them, "Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these My brothers, you did it to Me."

Offertory Hymn

"Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word"

LSB 655

(Stand as you are able)

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

Page 208

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

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

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord our God, who keeps His promises from generation to generation. As You talked with Your servants over the centuries, in these last days You have spoken to us by Your Son, whom You appointed the heir of all things, through whom also You created the world. Strengthen our faith, give us the courage to follow where You lead, and remind us of Your faithful promises. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus Holy, Holy, Holy (*Sung*)

Page 208

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

Lord's Prayer

Words of our Lord

Pax Domini

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

C: Amen.

Agnus Dei Lamb of God (*Sung*)

Page 210

**O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.**

**O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.**

Reading of the Communion Announcement Card

(Please be seated)

The Distribution Hymns

“Just as I Am, without One Plea” LSB 570

“I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table” LSB 618

(Stand as you are able)

The Post Communion Collect

P: O God, our Father, the One who fulfills His promises and gives the crown of life to those who believe, we thank You for keeping Your promises, even when it meant the death of Your one and only Son, Jesus. We thank You that in spite of all of our wrongs, You give us forgiveness freely in this sacred Meal. Guide us on our pilgrimage through this life to the life You have promised, so that together with all of Your saints we may celebrate the feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Benedicamus & Benediction

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P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C: Amen.

The Closing Hymn “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

LSB 657

Silent Prayer

Postlude

+ + + + +

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Something Is Drastically Wrong!”

Text: Genesis 22:1–18

Date: 02/21/21

Verse to Remember:

Abraham said, “God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering.”
Genesis 22:8

Points to Ponder:

1. If God told you to sacrifice your son, would you do it?
 - How can a loving God ask Abraham to do such a thing?
 - What went through Abraham’s mind?
 - What’s going through your mind now?
 - What went through God’s mind when He said that?
2. What goes through your mind when you see children die in the world today?
 - What goes through God’s mind when He sees that?
 - How could a loving God let this happen?
3. Does God listen to our prayers? Is God with us?