

Second Sunday in Lent

25 February 2024

HIGHWOOD LUTHERAN CHURCH
419 Northmount Drive NW
Calgary, Alberta T2K 3H7
Telephone: 403-289-8206

Pastor: Rev. Michael Wellman

Email: pastorhlc@outlook.com

Office Email: secretaryhlc@outlook.com

Online



Web Site: www.highwoodlutheran.com

Facebook: @HighwoodLutheran

Zoom: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/4111340591>

PW: highwood

Zoom by Telephone Dial 1-587-328-1099

Meeting ID: 411 134 0591 # Passcode: 592794 #

Organist's Blog:

<https://highwoodorganist.wordpress.com>

Organist: Rick VanderWoude Secretary: Liz Northam

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+ **HOLY COMMUNION – SETTING 7** +

**ORGAN PRELUDE**

**GATHERING**

Pg. 175

P Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;

**C His mercy endures for ever.**

**CATECHETIC MOMENT**

**DISMISSAL TO SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Pg. 321

**GATHERING HYMN** In the Cross of Christ I Glory **No. 324**

**GREETING** Pg. 175

**KYRIE** Pg. 175

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P** O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

**FIRST LESSON** **Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16**

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. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.” Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, “As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. 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. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. 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.”

God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. 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.”

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM** *Sung* **Psalm 22:23-31** See Hymnal

You who fear the Lord, give praise! All you of Jacob’s |  
line, give glory.

Stand in awe of the Lord, all you off- | spring of  
Israel.

For the Lord does not despise nor abhor the poor in their  
poverty; neither is the Lord’s face hid- | den from them;  
but when they cry out, | the Lord hears them.

From you comes my praise in the | great assembly;  
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who | fear  
the Lord.

The poor shall eat | and be satisfied,

Let those who seek the Lord give praise! May your  
hearts | live forever!

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the  
Lord;

all the families of nations shall bow | before God.

For dominion belongs | to the Lord,  
who rules o- | ver the nations.

Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow | down in  
worship;

all who go down to the dust, though they be dead,  
shall kneel

be- | fore the Lord.

Their descendants shall | serve the Lord,

whom they shall proclaim to genera- | tions to come.

They shall proclaim God’s deliverance to a people | yet  
unborn,

saying to them, “The | Lord has acted!”

### *Psalm Prayer*

P God, that are the source of mercy, who for us did descend into the womb of the Virgin; was nailed to the cross; did behold your garments divided; did rise Victor from hell; we ask you that you, remembering this your conversation among us, would free your people from the mouth of the lion, as you did once deliver our fathers that hoped in you; who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

### **SECOND LESSON Romans 4:13-25**

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

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, 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. 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.” 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. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he

grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith “was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now the words, “it was reckoned to him,” were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

A The word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** Turn back to the Lord... Pg. 179  
*Please stand as you are able.*

**THE HOLY GOSPEL Mark 8:31-38**

[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. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. 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.”

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. 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. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? 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.”

P The gospel of the Lord.

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

*Please be seated.*

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said

No. 667

APOSTLES CREED

Inside Hymnal Front Cover

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Please stand as you are able.*

The response to the intentions this week is “hear our prayer.”

We pray for the church. Make us bold to proclaim your love. Give us courage to carry the cross that confronts us each day and follow Christ. Strengthen pastors, bishops, deacons, and all who minister in your name.

Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

God of compassion, your Son came among us not to be served but to serve. We give you thanks for those whom you have called to the diaconal ministry of word and service, especially David Wong. Give David faith to serve you with gladness; sustain him with a living hope, especially in the time of despair; and kindle in him your love, so that through him we may see in every neighbour the face of Jesus Christ our Lord, Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

We pray for the world. For flowing streams and still waters. For urban parks and wilderness reserves. For pastures and forests. Instill within us a reverence for the earth as your creation and our fragile home. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

For peace and justice throughout the world, for Ukraine, and all countries experiencing the terror of war, for all rulers of the earth in local, regional, national, and international offices, that you give them courage to

work for the protection of all people and act as servants of all, Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those in need. For people whose struggles we fail to acknowledge. For those who leave their homes and families in search of safety or employment. For those who grieve, and for all who are ill. We lift up Bruce Beamer, Anna Berwanger, June Chadwick, Chrystine Cuch, Mariette Erasmus, Adeline Erick, Norma Gummo, Dolores Hollowell, Donna Harbor, Eleanora Lahoda, Fay Larson, Jean McCowan, Mark Mutschlechner, Bruce and Judith Nagel, Ruby Panser, Joyce Rasmussen, David Sr. and Joan Richardson, Laurena Schnell, Vern Schnell, Rose Sinclair, Sam Skogen, those we name aloud... and those we carry in our hearts. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for this assembly. For those who prepare this space for worship. For ministries of fellowship and hospitality. For those preparing for baptism or confirmation, and for all who provide care and support to those who are homebound. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We remember with thanksgiving John VanderWoude and those who have gone before us in the faith. Bring them to the fullness of their inheritance in Christ and into the joy of eternal life with you. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who serve in the holy catholic Church:

- for the National Church Council and national committee members
- for the West Central Area Leadership Team pastors, people, and the Dean, Rev. Matt Lyseng

- for national and synodical archivists and those who keep available the work of church history and leaders of the past
- for Trinity Lutheran, Calgary, and Bethel Lutheran, Camrose
- for Strong Castle Congregation, Barrio Codito, Bogota, Colombia
- for all who work toward building interfaith relationships
- for the pastors and people of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Chile
- for the bishops, priests, and people of the Roman Catholic Church in Canada
- for our Anglican and Moravian partners

For all these, Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For all virtually gathered for this service, those attending to the care of others and to beneficial endeavours that keep them away from worshiping, Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

P Trusting in your covenant of mercy, O God, we lift our prayers to you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour. **Amen.**

## THE PEACE

Pg. 180

*Please be seated.*

## OFFERING

### OFFERTORY HYMN

*Setting of the altar from the credence table.*

*Reception of Offerings*

OFFERING PRAYER *Please stand as you are able.*

A We pray. God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us



and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**THE MEAL**

Pg. 180

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

*Spoken*

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

Pg. 181

**EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER I**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER (II)**

Pg. 182

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

**THE FRACTION**

**P** This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Happy are those who are called to his supper.

**C** **We do not presume to come to your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and so to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him and he in us. Amen.**

**Lamb of God** *Sung*

Pg. 182

*Please be seated.*

**THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE SACRAMENT**

*Assistants and those in special need commune first.*

*It is customary to kneel as you are able during Lent.*

**COMMUNION HYMNS**

Lord Jesus, You Shall be My Song

**No. 808**

How Firm a Foundation

**No. 796**

**TABLE BLESSING** *Please stand as you are able.*

**POST COMMUNION THANKSGIVING PRAYER**

A We pray. 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; Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**THE SENDING FORTH OF THE COMMUNITY**

*Please stand as you are able.*

**THE BENEDICTION (I)**

**C Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN** The God of Abraham Praise **No. 831**

**THE DISMISSAL**

P Go in peace and serve the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God!**

**ORGAN POSTLUDE**

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WELCOME to all gathered here today, especially all guests and visitors. We are blessed to have you worship with us. You are invited to sign our guest book in the Narthex (lobby). Join us for refreshments and conversation downstairs after worship, Questions? Ask one of today's servants or speak with the pastor. Online worship is provided for those unable to attend in-person.

WE THANK TODAY'S SERVANTS

Usher:	Art Wildeman
Lector:	Art Wildeman
Assistant Minister:	Cam Schneider
Altar Guild:	Ruth Gummo, Linda Schnell
Refreshments:	Shannon Friesen, Clarice Rasmuson
Zoom Host:	Phil Tang, Ahmed Conteh

OFFERING AND ATTENDANCE

	14 Feb Ash Wed	18 February	Budget 2024
Current	\$ 220	\$ 925	\$ 2,655
Benevolence	\$ 0	\$ 20	
Building Fund	\$ 0	\$ 15	
Other	\$ 0	\$ 480	
Attendance	26	41	

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

Today	25 Feb	11:45 PM	Fellowship & Refreshments
		2:00 PM	CFMA Worship
Monday	26 Feb	7:00 PM	12 Step Program
Tuesday	27 Feb	7:00 PM	NAPS
Wednesday	28 Feb	9:30 AM	12 Step Program
Thursday	29 Feb	10:00 AM	Knitting Circle
		1:00 PM	K.S.G.
		4:30 PM	Organ Lessons
Friday	1 Mar	7:00 PM	12 Step Program
Saturday	2 Mar	9:00 AM	House of Hope Worship
		1:00 PM	K.S.G.
Sunday	3 Mar	10:30 AM	Third Sunday in Lent

ETERNITY FOR TODAY – Reminder that the booklets have arrived, and everyone is welcome to take a copy from the table in the narthex. Donations are gratefully accepted towards the subscription cost which is only \$13.25 per copy.

LAUDATE COMMUNITY SINGERS are performing today Sunday 25 February at 7:00 PM at Brentview Baptist Church (3512 Charleswood Dr. NW.) Admission is free.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE for the March newsletter is Tuesday, 27 February 2024. Either place the item in the

Highwood Highlights mailbox downstairs or email to secretaryhlc@outlook.com

THE KNITTING CIRCLE will meet on Thursday, 29 February at 10:00 AM. We'll help you learn to knit or crochet. All are welcome to visit with us.

SYNOD CONVENTION – there is a call for youth delegates to attend the convention. They attend at no cost. Deadline is Friday, 1 March 2024. Interested youth may talk with Pr. Mike.

BACH TO JESUS: A UKRAINIAN PASTOR IN THE VOLGA VALLEY – on 3 March 2024 7:00 – 10:00 PM at Highwood Lutheran Church. Free will offering. Family & friends are invited. Details on poster downstairs.

LUTHERAN HOSPITAL MINISTRIES SAS – AGM Saturday, 16 March 2024 at 10:00 am. St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Parish Hall 66-7 Street NE, Calgary. Poster is downstairs.

NEED A RIDE TO CHURCH? Contact Elizabeth Anderson 587 897 0548 or Bill Strand 403 239 9894

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS	Third Sunday in Lent
Exodus 20:1-17	Psalm 19
1 Corinthians 1:18-25	John 2:13-22

LENTEN SERVICES SCHEDULE

HOLY WEEK

24 March Palm Sunday	10:30 AM
27 March Spy Wednesday	7:00 PM
The Triduum	
28 March Holy Thursday	7:00 PM
29 March Good Friday	10:30 AM
30 March Easter Sunday	10:30 AM