

First Sunday in Lent



February 18, 2024 | 10:30 a.m.

*Kviteseid Lutheran Church
308 North Third Street
Milan, Minnesota*

ORDER OF SERVICE

Welcome to Kviteseid Lutheran Church... During the season of Lent, may we look to Jesus, “the pioneer and perfecter of faith” (Hebrews 12:2), and grow in love toward God and one another. Welcome to worship.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN

“Bless Now, O God, the Journey”

ELW #326

(Alt. tune: ELW #805)

INTRODUCTION FOR THE DAY

On Ash Wednesday the church began its journey toward baptismal immersion in the death and resurrection of Christ. This year, the Sundays in Lent lead us to focus on five covenants God makes in the Hebrew Scriptures and to use them as lenses through which to view baptism. First Peter connects the way God saved Noah’s family in the flood with the way God saves us through the water of baptism. The baptismal covenant is made with us individually, but the new life we are given in baptism is for the sake of the whole world.

CALL TO WORSHIP

P John baptized Jesus in the waters of the Jordan.

C **God said: You are my Son, the Beloved. With you I am well pleased.**

P We are washed by the waters of our baptism.

C **God says: You are my beloved children. With you I am well pleased.**

P We gather as God’s beloved children to worship and to serve.

C **Let us tell the good news of God’s love!**

OPENING PRAYER

C **God of the covenant, you are ever faithful.
Your love never ends. Teach us your ways.
And guide us in your paths of love and forgiveness,
that we may witness to your grace and salvation. Amen.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who writes the law on our hearts,
who draws all people together through Jesus.

C **Amen.**

P Held in God’s mercy, let us confess our sin
in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Holy God,
C **we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free.
We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold.
We speak in ways that silence others.
We are silent when we should speak up.
We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred.
For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.**

P Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world,
God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs,
and restores the promise of life through † Jesus Christ.

C **Amen.**

SUFFRAGES

P Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,

C **have mercy on us.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

C **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.**

APOSTLES' CREED

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C **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 Pilot,
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.**

SUFFRAGES

P O Lord, I cry to you for help.

C In the morning my prayer comes before you.

P Let my mouth be full of your praise

C and your glory all the day long.

P Every day will I bless you,

C and praise your name forever and ever.

P Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness,
O God of our salvation,

C O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the seas that are far away.

P Bless the Lord, O my soul,

C and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

P You redeem my life from the grave,

C and crown me with mercy and steadfast love.

P Lord, hear my prayer,

C and let my cry come before you.

GREETING

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

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

C Holy God, heavenly Father, in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin. Renew us in the gift of baptism. May your holy angels be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

HYMN

“Thy Holy Wings”

(vs. 1 & 3) ELW #613

LESSON: Genesis 9:8-17

Today's reading is the conclusion to the flood story. Because of human sin, God destroys the earth by flood, saving only Noah, his family, and the animals on the ark.

Yet divine destruction gives way to divine commitment. As in the first creation, God blesses humanity and establishes a covenant with all creatures.

PSALM 25:1-10

L ¹To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

C ²**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

L ³Let none who look to you be put to shame; rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

C ⁴**Show me your ways, O LORD, and teach me your paths.**

L ⁵Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

C ⁶**Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.**

L ⁷Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

C ⁸**You are gracious and upright, O LORD; therefore you teach sinners in your way.**

L ⁹You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.

C ¹⁰**All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.**

LESSON: 1 Peter 3:18-22

As God acted through Christ's suffering and death to bring us to God, so God acts through baptism to save us from a sinful existence. This spiritual cleansing marks our new life in Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

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

GOSPEL: Mark 1:9-15

The Spirit that comes upon Jesus at his baptism sustains him when he is tested by Satan so that he might proclaim the good news of God's reign.

P The Gospel of our Lord.

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

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word"

ELW #517

OFFERING

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

“Create in Me a Clean Heart”

ELW #186

****OFFERING PRAYER**

P God of steadfast love and faithfulness,
we are humbled as we try to do what is right and to walk in your ways. *Ps. 25:9*
Receive, we ask, these offerings, and use them for your own good purposes
in the church and in all creation. We pray in Jesus Christ.

C **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Each portion of the prayers ends with these words:

P Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

The prayers are concluded with these words:

P Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our
hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C **Amen.**

****CHARGE**

P Emerging from the waters of baptism, Jesus became the first citizen of God’s
new realm. We, who are baptized into Christ, now live under God’s rule.
In this season of Lent, practice the way of life to which we have been called—
the way of Jesus Christ.

****BLESSING**

P May the God of covenant faithfulness enfold you; the beloved Son encourage
you; and the Holy Spirit descend upon you in blessing; this day and forever.

C **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

“Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer”

ELW #618

DISMISSAL

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

C **Thanks be to God.**

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