

Grant the abandoned and the forgotten the comfort of their hand in yours.

Heal the body, mind, and spirit of all.

Tonight, we pause to remember... *Silence for reflection*

These things, Holy God, we ask in the name of Jesus, our wilderness wandering Savior.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

BLESSING

Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,
keep our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

"Tree of Life & Awesome Mystery"

ELW#334, Verses 1-3, Lent 1

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran
Church

*A Lenten Journey to
the Easter Vigil*

March 1, 2023

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

In the name of the Father
and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Behold, now is the acceptable time;
Now is the day of salvation.
Turn us again, O God of our salvation,
That the light of your face may shine on us.
May your justice shine like the sun;
And may the poor be lifted up.

HYMN OF LIGHT

Joyous Light of Heavenly Glory

ELW #561

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

THANKSGIVING FOR LIGHT

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us give thanks to the Lord of God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you called light into being, and you set lights in the sky to govern night and day. In a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night you led your people into freedom. Enlighten our

make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies,¹⁸ and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice."

SERMON

Pastor Brad Lindberg

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets,
But in these last days God has spoken to us by the Son.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Spirit of Gentleness"

ELW #396

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

God of suffering and healing, hope and hurt, hear the prayers from our mouths and hearts.
Bless those who are not among us now, that they may sense your abiding presence.

Protect and energize those who work this night, especially those whose jobs put them in danger.
Comfort those in hospitals and nursing homes, those recovering and those dying.

Awaken those who have let go of your hand and have wandered away from you.
Strengthen and give rest to caregivers, teachers, and all who are worn down.

Wrap in your comforting embrace all who grieve.
Give purpose and goals to those who wander aimlessly.

Give voice and heed to your prophets.
May students find strength and joy in learning.

one of the mountains that I shall show you." ³So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. ⁴On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. ⁵Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you." ⁶Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. ⁷Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" ⁸Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So the two of them walked on together.

⁹When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. ¹⁰Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. ¹¹But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." ¹²He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." ¹³And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴So Abraham called that place "The LORD will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."

¹⁵The angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven, ¹⁶and said, "By myself I have sworn, says the LORD: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷I will indeed bless you, and I will

darkness by the light of your Christ; may your Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for you are merciful, and you love your whole creation, and with all your creatures we give you glory, through your Son Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord Jesus, we are here tonight to join you, as we might, on your Lenten Journey. These weeks we will hear the stories of your creating and redeeming work through all human history. Show us again, your great love for all, and how even we fit into this story. Thank you, loving Jesus. **Amen.**

PSALM 121

¹ I lift up my eyes to the hills—
from where will my help come?

² **My help comes from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.**

³ He will not let your foot be moved;
he who keeps you will not slumber.

⁴ **He who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.**

⁵ The LORD is your keeper;
the LORD is your shade at your right hand.

⁶ **The sun shall not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.**

⁷ The LORD will keep you from all evil;
he will keep your life.

⁸ **The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in
from this time on and for evermore.**

SCRIPTURE

Genesis 22:1-18

¹After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." 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