

† FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT †
February 18, 2024

Service of Holy Communion 9:00 & 10:45 a.m.
--

PRELUDE

Southwell

Sam Eatherton

OPENING HYMN (*Congregation rising*)

LSB **Hymn 424**

O Christ, You Walked the Road

INVOCATION and CONFESSION

P In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

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, let us first 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 us, and for His sake forgives us all our 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.

INTROIT (from Psalm 25)

A To You, O Lord, I lift up my soul. O my God, in You I trust;

C do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me.

A Make me to know Your ways, O Lord; teach me Your paths.

C Lead me in Your truth, and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation; for You I wait all day long.

A Be mindful of Your mercy, O Lord, and of Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

C Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions;

A according to Your steadfast love remember me, for Your goodness' sake, O Lord!

C Good and upright is the Lord; therefore He instructs sinners in the way.

A He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble His way.
C **All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep His covenant and His decrees.**

✠KYRIE

(LSB Page 204)

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray:

C **O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide Your people throughout the earth, that 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.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Genesis 9:8-17

⁸Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, ⁹"As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, ¹⁰and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. ¹¹I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." ¹²God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: ¹³I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." ¹⁷God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

1 Peter 3:18-22

¹⁸For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you – not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven

and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

VERSE (*Congregation rising*)

P Turn us again, O God of our salvation, that the light of Your face may shine on us.

C The Lord delivers us from the power of darkness, and leads us into the kingdom of His Son.

GOSPEL

Mark 1:9-15

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 just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased." ¹²And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him. ¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

LSB Hymn 761

SERMON

"Prequel"

Deacon Dr. Anton DeRosa

THE APOSTLES' CREED (*Congregation rising*)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING/VOLUNTARY

Deep River

Ann Buys

OFFERING HYMN (*Congregation rising*)

(LSB Hymn 763, v. 1)

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way; when sorrows, like sea billows, roll;
whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say, It is well, it is well with my soul.
It is well with my soul; it is well, it is well with my soul.

† HOLY COMMUNION †

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up 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, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many, that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the Paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

C Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might; heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION and SIGN OF PEACE

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

AGNUS DEI

(LSB Page 210, adapted)

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.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It

LSB Hymn 594

As you come forward, you will receive the bread in your hand (please ask for "gluten-free" if desired); then take the wine in the individual cup from the tray. White grape juice is available in the center of the tray. After drinking, place empty cups in the second tray.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (Congregation rising)

A Compassionate God, You have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage, that our fasting may reflect a hunger for justice, our acts of kindness promote peace, and our prayers ascend from grateful hearts; through Jesus Christ, Your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

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.**

CLOSING HYMN

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

LSB Hymn 922

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace to serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

It is Well

Craig Phillips

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COMMUNION STATEMENT

Village Lutheran Church welcomes to Holy Communion those baptized Christians who: †Know Jesus Christ as their Savior (*John 20:31*); †Recognize that the body and blood of Christ are truly present in the bread and wine (*1 Cor. 11:29*); †Are able to examine themselves and repent of their sins (*1 Cor. 11:28*); and †Look to God's Holy Spirit for help in living the Christian life (*Col. 1:10*). Persons not receiving Communion may come forward to receive a blessing.

Participants in the Services:

	9:00	10:45
Lector	Maria Gitter	Ralph Schoene
Asst. Minister	Janet George	Ralph Schoene
Youth Asst.	Braydon Giordano	
Altar Care	Janet George, Maria Gitter	
Usher Team	Bill Vogt Warren Wong Lilann Skeckowski	Georgine Read Ilse Koerper
Sexton	Audrey Heath	
Refreshments	Story Family	

Stewardship Reflection

Offering received last week: \$4,689
Offering needed weekly to meet budget: \$6,860
Offering received to date: \$218,138
Offering needed to date: \$226,380

News and Notes:

LENTEN DEVOTION BOOKLETS for personal use are available in the tract rack at the church entrance. The focus of these daily devotions is the "Lamb of God," including a brief reflection for each day from Ash Wednesday to Easter. Copies are available in English and Spanish. If you need additional copies, please contact Kim Zwisdak at 914-337-0207, x1040 or KZwisdak@TheChapelSchool.org

SOUP KITCHEN – Prepare food in aluminum trays (available at the Reception desk) and drop-off in the parking lot from 12:00-1:00. Please go to our church web site in advance to sign up and indicate what food you will prepare. The next date is **Wednesday, February 21**. Contact Katie Bukofzer at etakwhit@aol.com.

Midweek Lenten worship continues each **Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.** with a service of evening prayer. On February 21, we will consider "The Second Commandment: What's in a Name?"

Prayer Conference Call – We are continuing with our monthly prayer service on the last Tuesday of the month. There is a brief liturgy with prayers for the needs of our community and the world. To join in, simply dial (1) 732-434-3982. The next service is **February 27 at 6:00 p.m.**

1st Communion Classes: Open to youth in the 5th grade and above who have not had their 1st Holy Communion. Classes meet 6:00 p.m. on **Wednesdays February 28, March 6 and 13**. A lock-in will be held Friday, March 1, from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m., and 1st Holy Communion will be celebrated on St. Patrick's Day (Sunday, March 17, 2024) at 10:45 a.m. Register on-line at www.VLC-NY.ORG under the Forms tab. If you have any questions, please feel free to call 914-337-0207 x1003.

The Saturday service will resume on **March 2** at 5:30 p.m. and continue through the end of June.

The Lunch Bunch Spring Luncheon will be on **Tuesday, March 12**, featuring music by local artist Jeannie Claire. Arrival time is 11:30 a.m., with lunch at noon followed by the program. In order to plan for food and set-up, **please RSVP** no later than Sunday, March 10. Make a note on the back of the Attendance Form or contact the church office at 914-337-0207, x1003 or KRapillo@VLC-NY.org

Gathering of Friends – Our annual gala in support of VLC/TCS is **Friday, March 15**, at Lake Isle Country Club in Eastchester. This year's co-chairs are school secretary Maura Condolff and music teacher/drama director Kate Marino, who have planned *Le Jardin des Rêves* (Garden of Dreams) to complement our overall theme of "Hope in the Lord." Cocktails at 7:00 p.m., followed by a live auction and dinner at 8:00 p.m. Get your tickets now! Go to Gathering-of-Friends.com or call 914-337-0207 x1040.

- ❖ **The Garden of Dreams Raffle** is \$200 each and only 50 tickets will be sold. One winner will take home \$3,000. This is a great way to share in the event, even if you cannot attend. Tickets available during coffee hour February 4 through March 3 or online.
- ❖ **Children's Jardin**, with games, crafts and prizes on **Saturday, March 9**

Festival of Workshops: This Atlantic District event for church workers and lay leaders was hosted by us last year. Offering over 30 workshops for many kinds of ministry areas, this year's festival will be at SUNY Maritime College in the Bronx on **Saturday, March 16**, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:10 p.m. Registration is \$35/person (or \$40 after March 3), including lunch. Explore the offerings and register yourself at AD-LCMS.org

MUSIC MINISTRY – Our choirs are off this week for the winter break. We will resume as follows:

- **High School Choir** rehearse Sunday, February 25, at 10:15 a.m.
- **Village Bells** rehearse Wednesday, February 28
- **Youth Choir** rehearse Thursday, February 29, at 7:00 p.m.
- **Chancel Choir** warm-up Sunday, February 25, at 8:40 a.m.; rehearse Thursday, February 29, at 7:30 p.m.

For more information, contact Minister of Music Deb Reiss at DReiss@VLC-NY.org or 914-337-0207, x1018.

Youth News: Voyagers (Grades 3-6) meet **Thursday, Feb. 29**, at 6:00 p.m.; **Lifers** (Grades 7-8) Confirmation class will not meet on Feb. 18; rescheduled for Sunday, **Feb. 25**; **Crusaders** (Grades 9-12) Donuts & Discussion at 10:30 a.m. on **Feb 25**.

Wednesday Bible Study – On February 21 we will begin the final chapter of Romans.

Prayer Line: We pray for the sick and those experiencing any kind of difficulty: Robert Barney, Maxine Britt, Tabatha Clark, Zack Comeford, Tracie Davenport, Joan Deery, Nicholas DePierro, Rev. Rudy DeRosa, Bennett Dimarza, Eleanor Escherich, Faith Forliano, Nancy Hylton, Eleanor James, Carver Kroeger, Ralph Kuhn, Merline Leon, Joseph Leonard, Margo McKay, Katiana Michalski, David Mullen, Isaiah Nieves, Anita & Vincent Palmese, Jose Pedrosa, Steven Perotto, Sunnaria Pettinati, Louise Podszus, Chloe Runge, Irmgard Schoene, Joseph Silvestri, Eugene Siren, Chris Siren, Marian Terenzio, Diane Wade, Stephen Walsh

Bereavement Prayer Line: We pray for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one.

- † **Dan Bolles**, graduate of Concordia-NY and friend to many in the community, passed away on February 8, 2024
- † **Helen Britz**, our oldest VLC member, passed away on February 4, 2024, just shy of her 105th birthday

Village Lutheran Church and The Chapel School
172 White Plains Road, Bronxville, NY 10708
914-337-0207 + www.VLC-NY.ORG
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