

† SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT †
February 25, 2024

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

Yigdal

Donald Rotermund

OPENING HYMN (*Congregation rising*)

LSB Hymn **798**

The God of Abraham Praise (v. 1-4)

INVOCATION and CONFESSION

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

C **Amen.**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy name. 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.**

HYMN

(LSB Hymn 798, v. 7)

There dwells the Lord our king, the Lord our righteousness,
triumphant o'er the world and sin, the Prince of Peace.

On Zion's sacred height His kingdom He maintains
and glorious with His saints in light forever reigns.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray:

C **O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; 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 LESSON

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

¹When 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. ²And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." ³Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, ⁴"As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁵No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁶I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. ⁷I 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..." ¹⁵God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶I 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."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

Romans 4:13-25

¹³For 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. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. ¹⁶For 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, ¹⁷as 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. ¹⁸Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." ¹⁹He 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. ²⁰No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." ²³Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

(9:00) CHANCEL CHOIR

Jesus, Lead Thou On

Healey Willan

*Jesus, lead Thou on till our rest is won;
and although the way be cheerless, we will follow calm and fearless.
Guide us by Thy hand to our fatherland.
If the way be drear, if the foe be near,
let not faithless fears o'ertake us; let not faith and hope forsake us;
for through many a woe to our home we go.
Jesus, lead Thou on till our rest is won.
Heav'nly Leader, still direct us, still support, control, protect us,
till we safely stand in our fatherland. Amen.*

VERSE (*Congregation rising*)

P Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful,
C **slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

GOSPEL

Mark 8:31-38

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 8th chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

³¹Then Jesus began to teach his disciples 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. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But 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." ³⁴He 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. ³⁵For 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. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those 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 This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

(9:00) **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

HYMN OF THE DAY

I Leave All Things to God's Direction

LSB Hymn 719

SERMON

"When My Will and God's Don't Match"

Rev. Dr. Robert Hartwell

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

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

Lavawan Riley

OFFERING HYMN (*Congregation rising*)

(LSB Hymn 770, v. 1)

What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!

What a privilege to carry ev'rything to God in prayer!

Oh, what peace we often forfeit; oh, what needless pain we bear –

all because we do not carry ev'rything to God in prayer!

† 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:

♪SANCTUS

(LSB Page 161)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might: Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. 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 163)

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

There is a Balm in Gilead
God Moves in a Mysterious Way

LSB **Hymn 749**
LSB **Hymn 765**

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

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

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

LSB **Hymn 427**

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace to serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Rathbun

Charles Cooke

* * * * *

Participants in the Service:

Lector	9:00 Chris Clark	10:45 Philip Auman Godlewski
Assisting Minister	Chris Gleason	Philip Auman Godlewski
Altar Care	Pastor Hartwell	
Usher Team	Richard Graham Joe Wilkinson	Ralph Schoene Jessica Weston
Sexton	Zachary Gleason	
Refreshments	George & DeRosa Families	

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.

News and Notes:

Flowers in the Chancel are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Herb Kollmann on his 12th anniversary in heaven, from Marcia Kollmann.

- ❖ Flowers may be given for use in worship and taken home after the 10:45 service if desired. They may also be given in honor of a person or occasion. The current cost for one arrangement is \$55. Please sign up on the flower chart in the church entrance or contact Kim Rapillo in the church office, 914-337-0207 x1003 or KRapillo@VLC-NY.org

Prayer Conference Call – Our monthly prayer service by phone takes place 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.** Please note that there will be no conference call in March (during Holy Week).

Midweek Lenten worship is offered each Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. with a service of evening prayer. On **February 28**, we will focus on "The Third Commandment: The Day That Makes a Difference."

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.

Lutheran Schools Sunday will be celebrated next weekend (March 2-3). The Chapel School Select Choir will sing at the 9:00 service and the beginning of the 10:45 service, and we will present The Chapel School Award at 9:00 to Dr. Elizabeth (Betty) Geiling. Faculty and staff will be hosting coffee hour.

Easter Baskets – This annual service project for community children will run from **March 2/3 through March 16/17**. A table will be set up in the back of the sanctuary. Please pick up an empty basket, fill it with some of the suggested items, wrap it in cellophane, and return to the church for delivery. Filled baskets must be returned no later than Sunday, March 17.

Organ Recital – At The Reformed Church of Bronxville (180 Pondfield Road) on Friday, **March 8, at 7:00 p.m.** The pipe organ has just been restored, and the public is invited to enjoy a performance by NYC organist David Enlow, including a live improvisation on a theme submitted by an audience member. There is a freewill offering, with a suggested donation of \$20.

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 *Petite Jardin*, with games, crafts and prizes on **Saturday, March 9**, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

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

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, March 20**. Contact Katie Bukofzer at etakwhit@aol.com.

MUSIC MINISTRY – Rehearsals this week are as follows:

- High School Choir rehearse Sunday, February 25, at 10:15 a.m.
- Village Bells rehearse Wednesday, February 28, at 6:00 p.m.
- Youth Choir rehearse Thursday, February 29, at 7:00 p.m.
- Chancel Choir rehearse Thursday, February 29, at 7:30 p.m. (off Sunday, March 3)

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 on Sunday, Feb. 25; Crusaders (Grades 9-12) Donuts & Discussion at 10:30 a.m. on Feb 25.

Wednesday Bible Study – On February 28 we will close out the epistle to the Romans. Our next topic will be the parables of Jesus, beginning March 6.

Prayer Line: We pray for the sick and those experiencing any kind of difficulty:
Robert Barney, Maxine Britt, Tabatha Clark, Zack Comeford, Sonya Davenport, Nicholas DePierro, Rev. Rudy DeRosa, Eleanor Escherich, Faith Forliano, Tracie Hill, Elijah Hylton, Nancy Hylton, Eleanor James, Carver Kroeger, Ralph Kuhn, Merline Leon, Joseph Leonard, David Mullen, Rev. Roberto Munoz, Isaiah Nieves, Steven Perotto, Sunny Pettinati, Louise Podszus, Mason Rebuquiao, Reese Rebuquiao, Chloe Runge, Irmgard Schoene, Joseph Silvestri, 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
- † **Margo McKay**, sister of Sonya Davenport, passed away on February 6, 2024
- † **Helen Britz**, our oldest VLC member, passed away on February 4, 2024, just shy of her 105th birthday

Stewardship Reflection

Offering received last week: \$13,809
Offering needed weekly to meet budget: \$6,860

Offering received to date: \$231,947
Offering needed to date: \$233,240

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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