

Second Sunday in Lent

March 8, 2020



GOLD HILL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A CONGREGATION OF THE MONTANA SYNOD OF

THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (ELCA)

Welcome to Gold Hill Evangelical Lutheran Church, and a special welcome to our guests and those returning after a time away. We're gathered as a Christian community to worship the Lord!

Thank you for worshipping with us this morning!

Please let us know if there are other ways we can be of service.

Guests are invited to fill out the small green contact card in the rack in front of you and hand it to the Pastor or other worship leaders or place it in the offering plate.

We promise not to 'stalk' anyone – we're just trying to let you know we care.

Our Congregation's Mission Statement:

EMPOWERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT, UNITED TO SERVE

The Guiding Principles of God's People at Gold Hill Lutheran

Principle 1: Jesus Christ is our Lord & Savior

Principle 2: The Holy Spirit & worship strengthen us

Principle 3: We are a welcoming & inviting community in Christ

Principle 4: We share the Word with confidence and courage

Principle 5: Our faith leads us to serve joyfully

Principle 6: We are generous with our gifts

www.Facebook.com/GoldHillLutheranChurch.ELCA.ButteMT

Check out our GROWING website at www.GoldHillLutheran.org

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Today's Worship Leaders

Worship Leaders: Pastor Trina Johnsten, Interim

Assisting Minister: Curt Quist

Music Minister: Susan Repola

Communion Ministers: Chris Ketchum, Annette Lawson

Ushers: Alan & Lynn Aniksdal

Roving Greeter: Patti Chain

Additional Servant Ministers: Tavia Broudy & Ruschelle Tyvand

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*Indicates that congregation stands.
Bolded texts are said in unison.

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

***Invocation**

We gather in the name of the Father,
and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

***Confession and Forgiveness**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hid:
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves,
and the truth is not in us.
But if we confess our sins,
God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins
and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Most merciful God,
**we confess that we are in bondage to sin
and cannot free ourselves.**
**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.**
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**

Almighty God, in mercy, has given the Son to die for us,
and for his sake, forgives us all our sins.
As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ,
and by Christ's authority,
I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins,
in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen

- *Gathering Hymn** *Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways #772*
***Greeting** page 147
***Kyrie** page 147
***Glory to God** page 148

***Prayer of the Day**

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

**O God, our leader and guide,
in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth
to live as your children.
Strengthen our faith in your promises,
that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world
through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen**

Word

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.
Lessons may be found at the back of the bulletin.*

- Old Testament** Genesis 12:1-4a
Psalm Psalm 121
Epistle Romans 4:1-5, 13-17
***Gospel Acclamation** page 151
***Gospel** John 3:1-17

As the gospel is announced:

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 3rd chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

As the gospel is concluded:
The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Trina Johnsten

***Hymn of the Day**

Lead Me, Guide Me #768

***Apostles' Creed**

back inside cover of hymnal

***Prayers of the People**

Each portion of the prayer concludes:

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

***Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering

Take My Life, That I May Be #685
(verses 1,4,5)

Offering Prayer

***Great Thanksgiving**

page 152

Holy, Holy, Holy

page 153

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

page 154

Lamb of God

page 154

Distribution

All are welcome at this Table – members, guests, children, friends.

Communion will be served continuously today.

Come forward by the center aisle, find an open spot, and return to your seat by the outside aisle.

If you are unable to come forward, we will bring Communion to you.

Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available.

Please let the communion servers know if you need these.

Communion Hymn

Just a Closer Walk with Thee #697

***Blessing and Prayer**

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

***Benediction**

Announcements

***Sending Hymn**

Amazing Grace #779

***Dismissal**

Go in peace. Share the Good News.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 121

I lift up my eyes to the hills;
from where is my help to come?

**My help comes from the LORD,
the maker of heaven and earth.**

The LORD will not let your foot be moved
nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

**Behold, the keeper of Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.**

The LORD watches over you;
the LORD is your shade at your right hand.

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

The LORD will preserve you from all evil
and will keep your life.

**The LORD will watch over your going out
and your coming in,
from this time forth forevermore.**

Genesis 12:1-4a

¹The LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. ²I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

^{4a}So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

¹What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? ²For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God.

³For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” ⁴Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. ⁵But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

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.

John 3:1-17

¹Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ²He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.”

³Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.”

⁴Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?”

⁵Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ ⁸The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

⁹Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?”

¹⁰Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

¹¹“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”