



Salem Lutheran Church
401 S. Lake St. Lake Mills IA 50450

Welcome to the House of the Lord

Midweek Lenten Service
March 3, 2021 – 7:00pm

CREATED FOR COMMUNITY



A Midweek Lenten Series

OVERVIEW

The invitation to Lent spoken on Ash Wednesday reminds us that we enter this season together “with the whole church” It goes on to state that “we are created for communion with God, to love one another, and to live in harmony with creation.” Though many common Lenten practices rightly invite us to individual acts of “repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love,” Lent is also a time for deepening of community.

In the early church, the weeks before Easter were a time in which the whole community took responsibility for the training of catechumens. Not only were the catechumens enriched by this formation, but those already within the community were strengthened in their faith along with them.

Using readings from Mark’s gospel, this series invites the assembly to reflect on what it means to be in community with one another, with the world, with creation, and with God.

OPENING PRAYER

Timeless One, you renew your promises in every generation. Deepen our awareness of the communion of saints who have gone before us, the saints in our own time, and the saints who will carry on your message of grace after us. In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

WEEK TWO*In community with all the saints*

The Sunday readings for Lent 2, year B highlight God's promise to many generations; the passage from Romans reminds us that our faith is intertwined with those who have gone before us. The understanding of community expressed in our creeds extends beyond the present time to include those whose faith has influenced our own and those we influence after us. We hear this connection to what has been established before us echoed in Mark 9:2-8, the account of the transfiguration.

SCRIPTURE

Mark 9:2-8

Jesus is in conversation with those who have gone before him

²Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, ³and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. ⁵Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ⁶He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved listen to him!" ⁸Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

We engage the scripture together in a prayerful way, reading the texts three times.

Reading the first time: Listen for a word or short phrase that stands out to you.

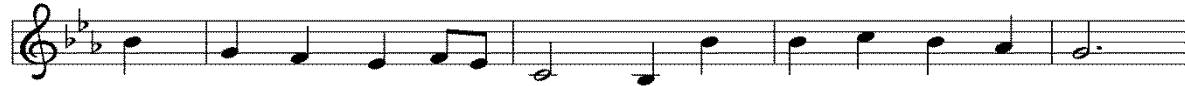
Reading the second time: Listen for a way in which God is speaking to you personally.

Reading the third time: Listen for a way in which God is speaking to the community/communities of which you are a part.

SUNG RESPONSE

By All Your Saints

ELW #421



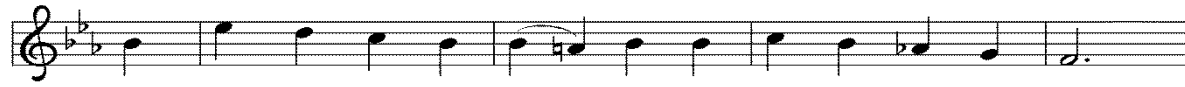
1 By all your saints still striv - ing, for all your saints at rest,
Insert appointed stanza or this general stanza 2:

2 A - pos - tles, proph - ets, mar - tyrs, and all the no - ble thron -
Last Give praise to God Al - might - y, and wor - ship God the Son,



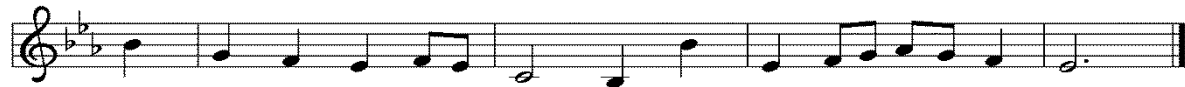
your ho - ly name, O Je - sus, for - ev - er - more be blessed!

who wear the spot - less rai - ment and raise the cease - less song -
and sing to God the Spir - it, e - ter - nal Three in One,



For you a - rose vic - to - rious that they might wear the crown

for these passed on be - fore us, we sing our praise a - new
till all the ran - somed num - ber fall down be - fore the throne,



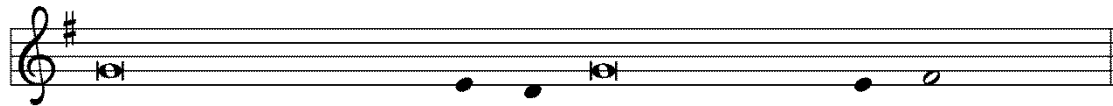
and share the light of glo - ry re - flect - ed from your throne.

and, walk - ing in their foot - steps, would live our lives for you.
and hon - or, pow'r, and glo - ry as - cribe to God a - lone.

OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING

PRAYERS



Almighty God grant us a qui - et night and peace at the last.



A - men.

We pray in thanksgiving for God's provision, protection and mercy, and for the needs of our community and our world. Prayers may be spoken or offered in silence. We will conclude this time of silent and spoke prayer with the sung response.



Be present, merciful God, and protect us through the hours of this night,



so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of life may



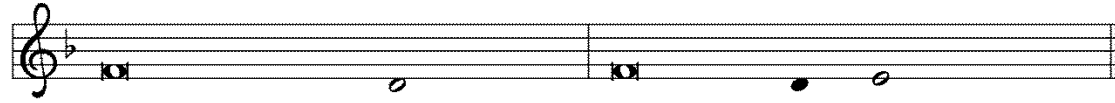
find our rest in you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **A - men.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.

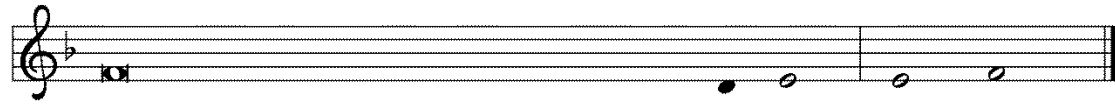
Amen.

BLESSING

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



Almighty and merciful God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,



bless, preserve, and keep us, this night and forev-er - more. **A - men.**

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