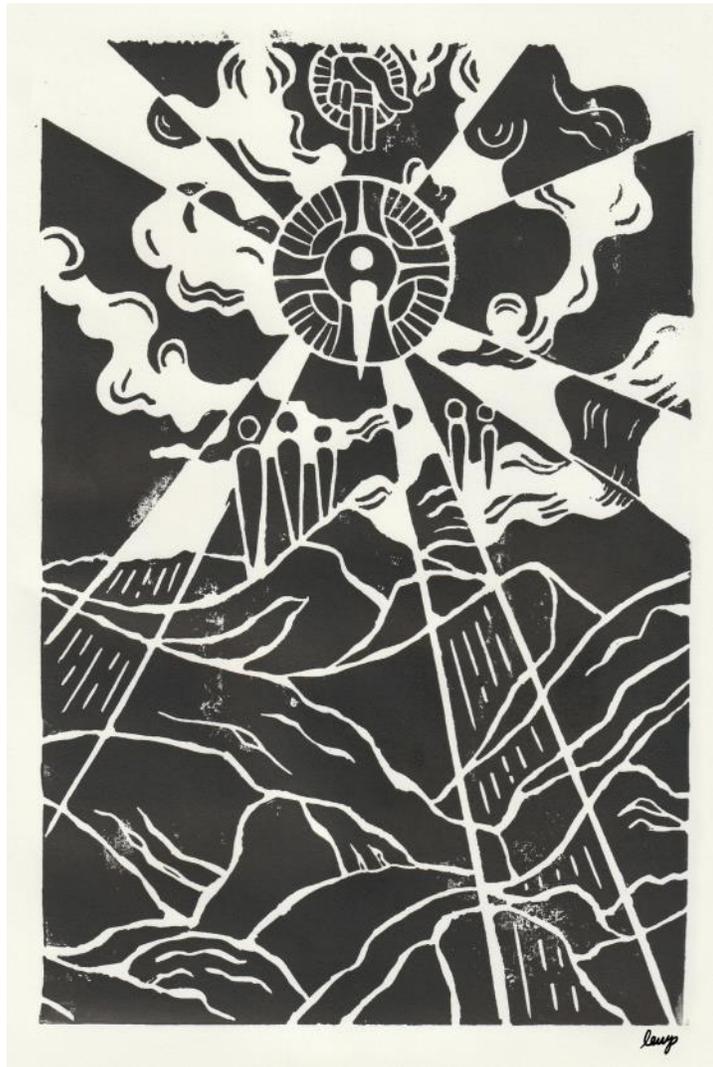


*Second Sunday
in Lent*

St. Timothy Lutheran Church

Sharing God's Love Together



If you are a visitor with us today, we welcome you in the name of Christ.
We encourage our guests to join us in the communion meal because Jesus welcomes all to his table of grace, uniting and filling us for love and service. Christ is our host and our food, bearing to us God's forgiveness and grace through this harvest of field and vineyard.

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

FEBRUARY 28, 2021

Hard truths trouble the waters of our understanding and challenge notions of what is real. For Peter, hearing Jesus foretell his agonizing death and resurrection must have made no sense. Peter wants to quiet Jesus. Jesus would instead quiet him. At Jesus' transfiguration, a sight that may have been more in line with Peter's Messianic imagination, he wants to build altars to mark the event. But again, Peter is quieted. He is told to listen.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*You may respond with the parts printed in **bold print**.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, the keeper of the covenant, the source of steadfast love, our rock and our redeemer.

Amen.

Often the first step to change is listening. We have to listen to those we've hurt. We have to listen to creation as she cries. We have to listen to the voice of the oppressed, if we ever hope to make things right. So today as we begin our prayer of confession, we will start with a moment of silence—a moment to listen. And then we will pray together trusting that God is always listening to us, and that God's ears listen with love. So let us confess...

Silence for reflection.

Listening God,

Take what is closed in us and open it. Take what is distracted in us and settle it. Take what is hurting in us and hold it. Take any and all parts of us that create distance from you. For we are like Peter, O God. We argue what we don't know. We fear what we cannot see. And we almost always speak sooner than we listen. So open us, settle us, hold us, and forgive us. We long to hear you more clearly. We long to know you more fully. With hope we pray, and with gratitude we confess.
Amen.

Siblings in Christ, we confess with gratitude because we know that God already has heard and forgiven us. No matter what we have done or left undone, we are held in God's hand. So rest in this good news:

God invites us in. God meets us where we are. God hears our prayers. God forgives us. Thanks be to God for a love like that. Amen.

- 1 Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey;
I'll tell ev'rybody about you wherever I go:
you alone are our life and our peace and our love.
Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey.
- 2 Lord Jesus, I'll praise you as long as I journey.
May all of my joy be a faithful reflection of you.
May the earth and the sea and the sky join my song.
Lord Jesus, I'll praise you as long as I journey.
- 3 As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant,
to carry your cross and to share all your burdens and tears.
For you saved me by giving your body and blood.
As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant.

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **All: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray. Creator God,

All: we cannot hear the trees growing—seeds pushing up through the dirt into the sun. And we cannot hear a single drop of rain, missing one in the many. We cannot hear the weight of people's grief, a burden that so often is silent. And we cannot hear when hearts are changed, but you can. You hear it all. So once again, we come to you with bowed heads and hopeful hearts, asking that you would lend us your ears. Help us to hear as you hear so that we can live as you lived. Amen.

KYRIE



A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **G** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord. have mer - cy:



A Chri - ste e - le - i - son: **G** Christ, have mer - cy.
Christ. have mer - cy:

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: Lord, have mer - cy.
 Lord, have mer - cy:

WORD

CHILDREN'S WORD

Pastor Clark Brown

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 22:23-31

²³You who fear the LORD, give praise!
 All you of Jacob's line, give glory. Stand
 in awe of the LORD, all you offspring of
 Israel.

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall
 remember and turn to the LORD; all the
 families of nations shall bow before God.

²⁴**For the LORD does not despise nor
 abhor the poor in their poverty; neither
 is the LORD's face hidden from them;
 but when they cry out, the LORD hears
 them.**

²⁸**For dominion belongs to the LORD,
 who rules over the nations.**

²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall
 bow down in worship; all who go down to
 the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel
 before the LORD.

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great
 assembly; I will perform my vows in the
 sight of those who fear the LORD.

³⁰**Their descendants shall serve the
 LORD, whom they shall proclaim to
 generations to come.**

²⁶**The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
 Let those who seek the LORD give
 praise! May your hearts live forever!**

³¹They shall proclaim God's deliverance
 to a people yet unborn, saying to them,
 "The LORD has acted!"

All: All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Re - turn to the Lord, your God, re - turn to the Lord, your
 God, who is grac - ious and mer - ci - ful, slow to
 an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

GOSPEL

Mark 8:31-9:8

The Lenten journey calls us to examine the things in which our hearts are invested. Are we willing to listen to hard truths and be changed by them?

Pastor: The holy gospel according to Mark. **All: Glory to you, O Lord.**

³¹Jesus began to teach them 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."

¹And he said to them, "Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see that the kingdom of God has come with power."

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.

Pastor: The gospel of the Lord. **All: Praise to you, O Christ.**

MESSAGE

Pastor Clark Brown

HYMN OF THE DAY *Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart* #800 vs. 1, 3, & 4

- 1 Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;
wean it from earth, through all its pulses move;
stoop to my weakness, strength to me impart,
and make me love you as I ought to love.
- 3 Have you not bid me love you, God and King;
all, all your own, soul, heart, and strength, and mind?
I see your cross; there teach my heart to cling.
Oh, let me seek you and, oh, let me find!

- 4 Teach me to love you as your angels love,
one holy passion filling all my frame:
the baptism of the heav'n-descended dove,
my heart an altar, and your love the flame.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe.

Sometimes our belief is confident, like a child on a dance floor—unashamed and wildly genuine. Sometimes our belief is distant, flickering and calling out to us like a lighthouse on the sea. We believe.

Sometimes our belief shows up as passion, guiding the way we vote, shop, give, live, trust, and hope. We believe.

Sometimes our belief is like a shadow—faith stitched to our heels, unmoveable, unloseable, A gift for winding journeys. We believe.

Sometimes our belief exists like growing pains. We step forward. We fall back. But again and again, Jesus invites us to listen, to grow, and to take another step.

So again and again, we speak these truths out loud: we believe. Again and again, we believe. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need, responding to each petition with **“Your mercy is great.”**

Your gift of grace is for all people. Give all the baptized confident faith; give new believers joy in your promises; give hope and courage to those who suffer for their faith. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You preserve creation, from galaxies to microorganisms. Teach humanity to wonder at your works and to join you in tending to creation’s well-being. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You rule over the nations. Give life where hope seems dead; raise up advocates for peace and justice within and between nations. Vindicate victims of exploitation and oppression. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You reveal the depth of your love in Jesus suffering and death. Accompany all who suffer and restore all who are sick, especially Ed, Stacey, Grace, Bill, Glenda, Sandy, David, Colbie, Dawn, and Grant, and those who are grieving, especially the families and friends of George Silva and Philip Caniglia. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We await the day of Christ’s coming in glory. Lead us by the example of all the saints whom you have called to take up their cross and follow you, that together we may find our lives in you. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ.
Amen.

MEAL

PEACE

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you always.

All: And also with you.

You are welcome to share the peace using the comment section on YouTube or with anyone sheltering in peace with you.

GATHERING OF THE GIFTS

Let us remember to offer ourselves—our time, our abilities, our possessions—for the ongoing ministry of St. Timothy and the wider church. You may continue to send in your offering by postal mail or use our online giving option at www.sttim.org.

Create in Me

#185

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore unto me the joy of your
salvation,
and uphold me with your free Spirit.

OFFERING PRAYER

Assisting Minister: Let us pray. Faithful God,

All: you walk beside us in desert places, and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven. Accompany us in this meal, that we may pass over from death to life with Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: God calls us to follow—

All: to give our lives in order to save it.

Pastor: But first Christ gives us himself—

All: that we may taste the Reign of God.

Pastor: Christ calls us to follow—

All: and we gather at this table to listen and receive the life of God.

Pastor: Praise to you... ..now and forever.

All: Amen

Pastor: 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.**

or **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;**

**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**

**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**

Pastor: Jesus draws the whole world to himself. Come to this meal and be fed.

*As we share communion in our homes, we remember that we are indeed surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses, sharing in communion with the saints of every time and place. We receive the body and blood of Christ and share in the life of God as we accept the bread and wine or grape juice, and hear the words: “**The body of Christ given for you**” and “**the blood of Christ shed for you.**”*

COMMUNION SONG

Around You, O Lord Jesus

#468 vs. 1 & 2

1 Around you, O Lord Jesus,
your own you gather still
to share the feast you give us
with grace our lives to fill.
You say to us so lovingly,
“Take, eat! This is my body!
Take, drink! This is my blood!”

2 We hear your invitation,
and heed, O Lord, your call;
your word of consolation
is spoken here to all.
It draws us to your loving heart;
it brings to us your blessing,
which never will depart.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Assisting Minister: Let us pray. God of steadfast love, at this table you gather your people into one body for the sake of the world. Send us in the power of your Spirit, that our lives bear witness to the love that has made us new in Jesus Christ, our Savior.

All: Amen.

SENDING

BENEDICTION

Pastor: You are what God made you to be: created in Christ Jesus for good works, chosen as holy and beloved, freed to serve your neighbor.

God bless you ☩ that you may be a blessing,
in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity.

All: Amen

SENDING SONG

Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus

#802 vs. 1, 3, & 4

- 1 Let us ever walk with Jesus,
follow his example pure,
through a world that would deceive us
and to sin our spirits lure.
Onward in his footsteps treading,
trav'lers here, our home above,
full of faith and hope and love,
let us do our Savior's bidding.
Faithful Lord, with me abide;
I shall follow where you guide.
- 3 Let us gladly die with Jesus.
Since by death he conquered death,
he will free us from destruction,
give to us immortal breath.
Let us mortify all passion
- that would lead us into sin;
and the grave that shuts us in
shall but prove the gate of heaven.
Jesus, here with you I die,
there to live with you on high.
- 4 Let us also live with Jesus.
He has risen from the dead
that to life we may awaken.
Jesus, you are now our head,
we are your own living members;
where you live, there we shall be
in your presence constantly,
living there with you forever.
Jesus, let me faithful be;
life eternal grant to me.

DISMISSAL

Assisting Minister:

As you leave this space,
May your mouth speak of God's goodness.
May your arms hold those in need.
May your feet walk toward justice.
May your heart trust its worth.
May your soul dance in God's grace.
And may this be your rhythm—
Again and again and again,
Until God's promised day.
In the name of the Lover, the Beloved, and Love itself,
Go with courage, go with heart, go in peace.

All: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Presiding Minister—Pastor Clark Brown
Assisting Minister—Matt Schulz
Musician—Desma Johnson
Cantor—Jon Gerdes
Altar Care—Lynn Wagner
Audio—Jim Helgason
Streaming Video—Jody Emerson

Upcoming Commemorations

George Herbert, hymnwriter, died 1633

Monday, March 1, 2021

An excellent scholar, Herbert served briefly in the English parliament, then became a parish priest. He was known for devoted care of his parishioners, as well as for writing poetry and hymns, including "Come, my way, my truth, my life." He died at age 40.

John Wesley, died 1791; Charles Wesley, died 1788; renewers of the church

Tuesday, March 2, 2021

These brothers led a revival originally intended to remain within the Church of England, one that involved frequent communion and advocacy for the poor. Except for a brief time in America, they worked in England. Charles was also a prolific hymn writer. After their deaths, their work led to the formation of the Methodist Church.

Gospel Message

Second Sunday in Lent

February 28, 2021

A Love That Lets Go

Sometimes we are just not to be trusted with the task of loving. When we really, really love someone or something, our fingers can grasp too tightly, and our fists clench a little too firmly. For fear of losing what we love, we can squeeze the life out of what we were trying to protect.

Today, Jesus announces the trajectory of his mission: he is going to be put to death after great suffering and rejection, and he is going to be raised from the dead on the third day. This announcement sends Peter's hands reaching out to hold onto Jesus with fierce firmness. Peter doesn't want to lose the one he loves, and he goes so far as to shame and criticize Jesus for his words.

Have you ever acted like Peter, letting fear of losing someone you love thwart your ability to actually love them?

When Jesus says that those who try to save their lives are going to lose their lives, he is talking about our instinct to hold on too tightly to the things that we love. Somewhere in this move, our love actually becomes control. In the moment when the instinct to control takes hold, love and life are lost.

Jesus' words invite us to back up. We acknowledge our tight grip on God, on each other, on our own hearts. We let a little air in to those places where our tight grip has been suffocating life. We gather to worship a God who loves this world so deeply that God would rather die at our hands than coerce us into reciprocating that love. Today, we come to know God's love, which never seeks to control or pin us down, but which breathes life into the world.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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PRAYER CONCERNS

Please remember in your prayers:

Michael Grace, Barbara Grace's son, has ME/CFS pray he regains his strength.
Shelley Grace, Barbara Grace's daughter-in-law, in ICU with Covid 19
Ed Olson, undergoing cancer treatment .
Stacey Himenes, undergoing cancer treatment.
Grace Cinke, a friend of Lynn Wagner, who has Covid 19.
Bill Dugger, friend of Pastor Clark, following emergency heart surgery.
Glenda Tankersley, Ia Bolter's niece, in a nursing home on dialysis.
The family and friends of George Silva, brother of Pastor Clark's brother in law.
The family of Philip Caniglia, father of Steve Solomon's friend Phyllis.
Sandy Hoskin, undergoing cancer treatment again.
David Holland, husband of Dee Holland and brother of Lucille Pires, undergoing chemo therapy for prostate and bone cancer.
Colbie Schueneman, grandniece of Adrian, 17^{1/2} months old diagnosed with a neuro-degenerative disease.
Dawn Stallings, daughter of Dolores, who has suffered a stroke.
Grant Hobson, grandnephew of Matt Schulz, being treated for leukemia, and his parents Claire and Luke.
Healthcare workers on the front line of the pandemic and essential workers facing daily risk of disease.
All service members, fire fighters, and police officers (and their families).
For those living in war-torn regions and all refugees.
For the mission of this congregation, the Monterey Bay Conference, and the entire Sierra Pacific Synod, and for our leaders and for the leaders throughout the world.

Please continue to pray for the ongoing concerns of these listed here.

Torie Hamilton

Rodger Marty

Bonnie Bennett

Jim McMullins

Bill Reynolds

Mary Lee Slater

Marjonie Gabriel

Tom Brown

Aaron Grieg

Byron Heppert

Jacqueline Graham

Gloria Llenaresas

Riley Ann Holland

Ronnie Lyons

Irene McCloud

Thomas Ansley

Jackie Rullman

Linda Henderson

Beverly Schneideman

Justice Gaudoin

Peter Kracht

Isabella Silva

Randy Hoch

Don Butler

Mark Northcutt

Helen Leikam

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Saint Timothy Lutheran Church, ELCA

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Sharing God's Love Together

February 28, 2021

Notes and announcements

- **Study, pray, and discuss during the week:** Join Pastors Clark and Tony: Wednesday 2 PM **Bible Study**, **Holden Evening Prayer** on Wednesday at 6:30 PM, and Sunday 11:15 AM **Pastors' Forum** and **Compline with Father Jon**, Sunday at 8 PM. Email Pastor Clark for info: pastorclark@sttim.org.
- **"Stories of Faith in Action"** Visit now to learn how your offering sustains and enhances ministries that lift up God's people at LivingLutheran.org/SOFIA.
- **"Online Worship:** All services are posted online to YouTube. If you have internet access, our YouTube Channel is at: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCHP8hutt19neqHHHpbQPcDA> Please subscribe to our channel. Sunday live-streams are at 10 AM Pacific Time.
- **Social Hour:** We have a social hour on Zoom Sunday at 10:45 am. Information for worship and the social hour will be emailed each week. **If you want to be on our email list or have questions**, email/call/text Pastor Clark at pastorclark@sttim.org or 831-521-1818.
- **Preparing for communion.** Our online Sunday worship will include communion. As you feel called, prepare to share in communion by setting aside some bread or crackers, and some wine or juice, as you have them available. If you need any of these items, please contact Ida Barber.
- **Prayer Concerns:** Please call Dorothy Kirk with any new or changed prayer concerns at 375-1043.
- **Shopping etc.:** Do you need help with shopping or other needs or can volunteer to help? Please contact Pastor Clark at 831-521-1818 or pastorclark@sttim.org.
- **Hymnals:** Would you like to borrow a hymnal while we are "sheltering in peace?" Please contact the office and we will make arrangements.
- **Offering:** Please remember your offerings to St. Timothy as our expenses continue and we experience loss of income from outside groups. Offering can be mailed to the church office, sent automatically using your bank, or online by visiting our website www.sttim.org.