

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH EVENING PRAYER

WEDNESDAYS AT 5:15 PM

ELCA 2020- Midweek Lenten Prayer "By Faith"

What is faith? The text from Hebrews 11:1 defines it in this way: "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." This series focuses on the book of Hebrews, especially the eleventh chapter. The first four weeks provide a journey through the faith of the Old Testament figures, especially Noah, Abraham, Moses, and the Israelites. The fifth week brings us to Jesus, "the perfecter of our faith," and his path to the cross.

HYMN OF LIGHT (EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP, #231)

O GRACIOUS LIGHT

C O Gracious Light

Pure Brightness of the Everliving Father in Heaven,
O Jesus Christ, Holy and Blessed!
Now as We come to the Setting of the Sun
And our Eyes Behold the Vesper Light,
We Sing Your Praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
You Are worthy at All Times to be Praised by Happy Voices,
O Son of God, O Giver of Life,
And to be Glorified through all the Worlds.

OPENING PROCLAMATION

Week of Lent 1: The Faith of Noah

P By faith, Noah built the ark, gathered the animals, watched the waters rise, and received the rainbow promise. How do we have faith in things not yet seen?

Week of Lent 2: The Faith of Abraham

P By faith, Abraham journeyed to an unknown land, trusted in God's promise of a son, and offered up that son as a sacrifice. When faith means taking a risk, how do we respond?

Week of Lent 3: The Faith of Moses

P By faith, Moses chose the hard path to follow God's call. How does our faith affect the choices we must make?

Week of Lent 4: The Faith of the Israelites

P By faith, generations of Israelites wandered the wilderness, entered the promised land, heard the words of the prophets, and suffered persecution. Amid life's joys and difficulties, how do we persevere in our faith?

Week of Lent 5: Jesus, the Perfecter of Our Faith

P Enduring the cross, Jesus became "the pioneer and perfecter of our faith." How does the way of the cross define our faith?

Opening Dialogue

- P Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways, by the prophets,
- C but in these last days God has spoken to us by the Son.
- P He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being,
- C and he sustains all things by his powerful word.
- P Since we have confidence by the new and living way opened for us by Jesus,
- C let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith.

Reading

Week of Lent 1: Hebrews 11:1, 17-21 Week of Lent 2: Hebrews 11:1, 8-22 Week of Lent 3: Hebrews 11:1, 23-28 Week of Lent 4: Hebrews 11:1, 29-40 Week of Lent 5: Hebrews 12:1-2

Reflection

- P The reflection may conclude: Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for,
- C the conviction of things not seen.

Prayers

P Surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

- P Faithful God, shower the world with your lovingkindness,
- C that all may know your peace.
- P Open our eyes to the needs of our neighbors,
- C that all may know your love.
- P Comfort the sick and dying,
- C that all may know your mercy.
- P Guide our leaders in the way of truth,
- C that all may know your justice.
- P Focus our hearts on the way of the cross,
- C that all may have faith in you.
- P Let us pray in the words of Martin Luther:
- C Behold, Lord, an empty vessel that needs to be filled. My Lord, fill it. I am weak in the faith; strengthen me. I am cold in love; warm me and make me fervent, that my love may go out to my neighbor. I do not have a strong and firm faith; at times I doubt and am unable to trust you altogether. O Lord, help me. Strengthen my faith and trust in you. In you I have sealed the treasure of all I have. I am poor; you are rich and came to be merciful to the poor. I am a sinner; you are upright. With me, there is an abundance of sin; in you is the fullness of righteousness. Therefore, I will remain with you, of whom I can receive, but to whom I may not give. Amen. (Evangelical Lutheran Worship, p. 87)

Lord's Prayer

- P Finally, let us pray with the words our Savior gave us:
- C 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,

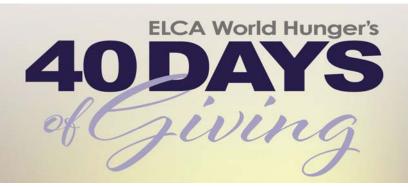
and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Blessing

- P The God of peace, who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, make you complete in everything good so that you may do God's will, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever.
- C Amen.

Closing Dialogue (Evangelical Lutheran Worship, #598)

- P Lord Jesus, think on me.
- C And purge away my sin; from selfish passions set me free and make me pure within.
- P Lord Jesus, think on me.
- C Anxious thoughts oppressed; let me your loving servant be and taste your promised rest.
- P Lord Jesus, think on me.
- C Nor let me go astray; through darkness and perplexity point out your chosen way.
- P Lord Jesus, think on me.
- C Amen.
- P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the Love of God, and the fellow-ship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore.
- C Amen.



What is our hope? What is your hope?

Even in challenging times, we believe in God, and we hope in the work God is doing in the world. Safety and stability for refugees and migrants. The renewal of the earth. Sufficient livelihood for all.

These are just a few of the things of which we dream, fueled by the Holy Spirit. This Lent, join ELCA World Hunger as we journey with our neighbors in hope for a just world where all are fed. Invest in hope.

HOW TO GIVE

ONLINE

ELCA.org/40Days

BY MAIL

ELCA, P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009 Please make checks payable to "ELCA World Hunger" and write "40 Days of Giving" on the check's memo line.





Rebellious Bibles

From Waldo to Luther: Translating the Bible and How It Changed Our Faith

During Lent, our Lenten Study will look at the efforts of Reformers during the Middle Ages to translate the Bible into the people's language. As Lutherans, we know the story of Martin Luther's Bible, but Luther was not the first. Luther looked to examples set by Peter Waldo in Italy, Jan Huss in Prague, and William Tyndale in England for inspiration and courage in setting a path for the church where all the people of the world could read the Bible in their native tongue.

The Lenten Study will be on Wednesday evenings starting with Evening Prayer at 5:15 pm in the sanctuary. After Prayer, we will move downstairs for the study. Please bring a snack item (chips, cookies, etc.) to share while we learn. See you there!

Lenten Midweek Study Dates
March 11
March 18
March 25
April 1



The mission of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church is to

- •worship God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
- •serve those in need, and
- •reach out to share the Good News of salvation through Jesus Christ!

 ${f T}$ ogether in Community \cdot ${f L}$ iving with Christ \cdot ${f C}$ aring for Neighbors

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

725 SW Buchanan St. • Topeka, Kansas 66606 Phone: 785-233-0767 • Email: office@topekatlc.org Website: trinitylutherantopeka.org

OFFICE HOURS

10:00AM-3:30PM, Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday Noon to 5:00 PM Wednesday Telephone: (785) 233-0767

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