



Second Sunday of Lent

Hope Lutheran Church Worship Service

March 16, 2025

10:00 a.m.

Live streaming on Facebook at [HopeLutheranChurchCbus](https://www.facebook.com/HopeLutheranChurchCbus)

Zoom info:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85155547308?pwd=NFV4WWsvOUpZd1RyT3FINy9sY3FUZz09>

Call-In Number: 1-929-205-6099 Meeting ID: 851 5554 7308. Passcode: 729980

WELCOME

Though we sometimes doubt and often resist God's desire to protect and save us, our God persists. In holy baptism, God's people have been called and gathered into a God-initiated relationship that will endure. Lent provides the church with a time and a tradition in which to seek God's face again. Lent provides another occasion to behold the God of our salvation in the face of the Blessed One who "comes in the name of the Lord."

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

A: Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

A: Compassionate One,

C: You are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world. We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us. We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people. We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again. We squander the abundant gifts of the earth. Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross. Amen.

P: Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home. In † Christ your sins are forgiven. You have a place in God's house forever.

C: Amen.

OPENING HYMN

On Eagles Wings

(ELW 787)

Please turn to 787 of your ELW hymnal.

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

KYRIE *(TFF pg. 26)*

A: In peace let us pray to the Lord,

C: Lord, have mercy.

A: For peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

A: For peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

A: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

A: Help, save comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

A: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

A: God of the covenant,

C: In the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING**Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18**

After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness. Then he said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." But he said, "O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away. As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him. When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates."

R: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God

PSALM 27*Read responsively*

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

**When evildoers close in against me to devour my flesh,
they, my foes and my enemies, will stumble and fall.**

Though an army encamp against me, my heart will not fear.

Though war rise up against me, my trust will not be shaken.

**One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD
all the days of my life; to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God in the
temple.**

For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter,
hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high upon a rock.

Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me. Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make music to the LORD.

Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call;
have mercy on me and answer me.

My heart speaks your message— “Seek my face.”

Your face, O LORD, I will seek.

Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger. Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of my salvation.

**Though my father and my mother forsake me,
the LORD will take me in.**

Teach me your way, O LORD;
lead me on a level path, because of my oppressors.

**Subject me not to the will of my foes,
for they rise up against me, false witnesses breathing violence.**

This I believe—that I will see the goodness of the LORD
in the land of the living!

Wait for the LORD and be strong.

Take heart and wait for the LORD!

SECOND READING

Philippians 3:17-4:1

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

R: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Spirit Of The Living God

(TFF 101)

Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the thirteenth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus,] “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” He said to them, “Go and tell that fox for me, ‘Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.’ Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

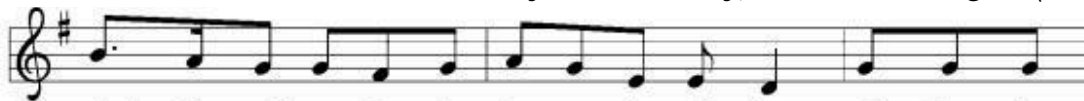
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

YOUNG PEOPLE SERMON

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

Softly and Tenderly, Jesus is Calling (ELW 608)



1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for
 2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for
 3 Oh, for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for



you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,
 you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,
 you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,

Refrain



watch - ing for you and for me.
 mer - cies for you and for me? “Come home, come home!”
 par - don for you and for me.



You who are wea - ry, come home.” Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,



Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, “O sin - ner, come home!”

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day, he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A: God, in your mercy,

C: Receive our prayer.

WE SHARE PEACE

A: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OFFERING

QUIET TIME

OFFERTORY

Let The Vineyards

(TFF pg. 36)

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest of seeds that were sown, that we may be fed the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and dreams of all, unite them with the prayers we offer.
Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Gracious Provider,

C: You set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

SANCTUS

Holy, Holy, Holy

(TFF pg. 38)

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, Lord God of power and might.

Heaven and Earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, now and forever. Amen

SHARING THE MEAL

COMMUNION HYMNS

**I Am The Bread of Life
Eat This Bread**

(ELW 485)

(ELW 472)

BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

CANTICLE

Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise

(TFF pg. 41)

Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell everyone what God has done.

Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and bear Christ's holy name

Send us with your promises O God;

and lead us forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving, with shouts of thanksgiving,

With shouts of thanksgiving, Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A: Gracious host,

C: You have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BENEDICTION

P: God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit, ✠ bless you now and forever.

C: AMEN.

SENDING SONG**Beneath the Cross of Jesus***(ELW 338)*

1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I long to take my stand;
 2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus, my eye at times can see
 3 I take, O cross, your shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place;



the shad - ow of a might - y rock with - in a wea - ry land,
 the ver - y dy - ing form of one who suf - fered there for me.
 I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of his face;



a home with - in a wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,
 And from my con - trite heart, with tears, two won - ders I con - fess:
 con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,



from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat and bur - dens of the day.
 the . . . won - der of his glo - rious love and my un - wor - thi - ness.
 my . . . sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all, the cross.

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

C: Thanks be to God!

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Worship Participants this Week

Preaching: Deacon Nick Bates

Presiding: Pastor Kurt Keljo

Ministers: All worshippers

Bassist: Dan Abell **Guitar:** Kurt Keljo **Drummer:** Seth Daily

Reader: Muriel Scruggs

Worship Assistant: Janet Ligon

Acolyte: Darren McDaniel

Usher: Kim Fedrick

Worship Leaders Next Week

Reader: Gay Steele

Worship Assistant: Beverly Chavis

Acolyte: Deven McDaniel

Usher: Barbara McDaniel

Phone Numbers

Pr. Smeck: cell 734.972.6126

Hope Office: 614.258.6634

PRAYER REQUESTS Francene Travis, Billy Gillyard, Alan Strahler and family, Bill Alsnauer, Grace Winfrey, Edward Ligon, Alice Ligon, Doris Nelson, Morris Scruggs, Danielle Carpenter, Gloria Jones, Tracy Snow, Rosa Campbell, Margaret Belcher, Monica Price

BIRTHDAYS: Alfrieda Watts (16th) Ruthanne Elencovf (20th) Karen Asmus-Alsnauer (22nd)
ANNIVERSARIES: Peter and Ruthanne Elencovf (20th)

NELSON LECTURE Vance Blackfox will be this year's lecturer. The event takes place on March 18 and March 20 in varying venues. He will be at Trinity Seminary at 10:00 a.m. Chapel service, and at 7:00 pm in the Koinonia Center on the first floor of the seminary. That evening, he will lead the Blanket Exercise. It is "an interactive journey through 500+ years of Indigenous history. Ages 15+ are welcome. No admittance after the exercise begins." The March 20 lecture at Capital will be in the Convergent Media Center at 7:00. A reception will follow.

SYNOD ASSEMBLY 2025 Southern Ohio Synod Assembly will be on June 6-7, held at the African Event Center Columbus Zoo and Aquarium. This year we will be electing a bishop! Bishop Dillahunt will be standing for re-election; other candidates have yet to be named. It will be an important time to be the church together! Let Pres. Vince Hendrix know if you are interested.

FOOD GIVEAWAY Food giveaway next Saturday! Help needed: 11:30 Friday, starting at 8:00 a.m. for set-up on Saturday.

NELSON TROUT LECTURE Rev. Dr. Teresa Smallwood will be speaking on Thursday, April 3: 1:00 pm registration opens, 2:00 pm lectures start, 5:45 pm dinner, 7:00 pm worship. Friday, April 4: 8:00 am meet and greet, 9:30 am lecture followed by student panel, 11:45 am closing luncheon. Register online at <https://www.capconnect.org/2025-nelson-w-trout-lectures> or search "Trinity Trout Lectures 2025"

LENTEN SEASON SERVICE PROJECT Hope again is making Personal Care Kits as a Lenten project. The simple items included in a Personal Care Kit provide much-needed self-care, critical germ-fighting, and the chance to regain dignity amidst situations of fear and uncertainty. Include the following items in each Personal Care Kit:

- One lightweight cotton or cotton blend bath-sized towel (20'x40' to 27'x52"). Dark colors recommended
- Two or three bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz in original wrapping
- One adult-size toothbrush in original packaging
- One sturdy comb. Remove packaging
- One metal nail clipper. Remove packaging

Wrap all items in the towel and secure them with ribbon or yarn.

The box in the back of the church labeled LWR is for the collection of Kits and supplies to make kits.

EASTER FLOWERS Let's decorate the sanctuary for Easter with flowers. You may order flowers now through Sunday, March 30. The cost for Lilies is \$13.00 each, Azaleas are \$14.00 each, and Hyacinths or Tulips

are \$8.00 each. Please fill out an order form and place it in the special envelope along with your payment and place it in the offering plate. Thank you all as we prepare for our Easter Celebration.

MUSICIAN SEARCH The Church Council has appointed a search committee for the Lead Musician position; recruitment activities are underway. Any questions or suggestions may be addressed to Pastor Smeck.

PROPERTY CONCERNS Please send emails to [hopelutheranchurchproperty@gmail.com](mailto:hopolutheranchurchproperty@gmail.com). You will be contacted quickly.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL IS BACK You are invited to join other members for conversation after service.

CALENDAR

March 18 and 20 - Nelson Lecture at Capital, 7:00. Led by Vance Black Fox

March 19 - HOPE hosts EFM Lent Worship 7:00 pm. Meal at 6:00

March 26 - EFM Lent Worship at Bethany Presbyterian 7:00 p.m. preceded by meal at 6:00

March 30 - Easter flowers are due

April 3 -4. Nelson Trout Lecture at Trinity Lutheran Seminary

GIVE WITH THE VENMO APP

To give offerings and tithes via Venmo:

*Download the Venmo app

*Set up bank account info, or debit card info

*Touch “Pay” or “Request” at the bottom

*Enter the church cell phone number. (614) 907-3869

***Church user name — @HopeLilley-820**

***Enter offering amount**

Note: When setting up an account, select “Private: mode for transactions.



General Offerings

Received: \$27,618

Anticipated: \$26,392

Over / (Short): \$1,226

Capital Improvements: \$1,798



We welcome all people into our community of faith and invite them to join us as we seek to understand God's love for us and strive to be faithful messengers of that love.