



## **\*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

As disciples of Christ, we are born of the Spirit and offered a heritage that no one can take away. Share the joy and peace of life in Christ by greeting those around you in the name of the one who came to save us in holy love.

### **OLD TESTAMENT: Genesis 12:1-4a (NIV)**

The Lord had said to Abram, “Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you.

“I will make you into a great nation,  
and I will bless you;  
I will make your name great,  
and you will be a blessing.  
I will bless those who bless you,  
and whoever curses you I will curse;  
and all peoples on earth  
will be blessed through you.”

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Harran.

### **SCRIPTURE RESPONSE**

This is the Word of God, for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM: 121 (NIV)**

I lift up my eyes to the mountains— where does my help come from?

**My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.**

He will not let your foot slip—he who watches over you will not slumber;

**indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.**

The Lord watches over you—

**the Lord is your shade at your right hand;**

the sun will not harm you by day,

**nor the moon by night.**

The Lord will keep you from all harm—he will watch over your life;

**the Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore.**

### **EPISTLE: Romans 4:5,13-17 (NIV)**

However, to the one who does not work but trusts God who justifies the ungodly, their faith is credited as righteousness.

It was not through the law that Abraham and his offspring received the promise that he would be heir of the world, but through the righteousness that comes by faith. For if those who depend on the law are heirs, faith means nothing and the promise is worthless, because the law brings wrath. And where there is no law there is no transgression.

Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham’s offspring—not only to those who are of the law but also to those who have the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all. As it is written: “I have made you a father of many nations.” He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed—the God who gives life to the dead and calls into being things that were not.

## SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

This is the Word of God, for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **\*GOSPEL: John 3:1-17 (NIV)**

The gospel according to John.

Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. He came to Jesus at night and said, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him."

Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again."

"How can someone be born when they are old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother's womb to be born!"

Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit."

"How can this be?" Nicodemus asked.

"You are Israel's teacher," said Jesus, "and do you not understand these things? Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man. Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him."

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

## SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

This is the Word of God, for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

## REFLECTIONS ON GOD'S WORD

*Pastor Rob Odum*

**HYMN: 389**

*"Freely, Freely"*

*vs 1-2*

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

Gracious God, just as you blessed the saints of old when they ventured forth in faith, so now bless us in our living and in our giving. Transform our gifts and offerings into blessings for a weak and weary world, that all may touch your great love.

**Amen.**

**OFFERTORY MUSIC:**

*"My Faith Looks Up To Thee"*

*By Lowell Mason*

**\*DOXOLOGY: 94**

*"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"*

## PASTORAL 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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen**

## SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. You brought all things into being and called them good. From the dust of the earth you formed us into your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. When rain fell upon the earth for forty days and forty nights, you bore up the ark on the waters, saved Noah and his family, and made covenant with every living creature on earth. When you led your people to Mount Sinai for forty days and forty nights, you gave us your commandments and made us your covenant people. When your people forsook your covenant, your prophet Elijah fasted for forty days and forty nights; and on your holy mountain, he heard your still small voice.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy 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.**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. When you gave him to save us from our sin, your Spirit led him into the wilderness, where he fasted forty days and forty nights to prepare for his ministry. When he suffered and died on a cross for our sin, you raised him to life, presented him alive to the apostles during forty days, and exalted him at your right hand.

By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. Now, when we your people prepare for the yearly feast of Easter, you lead us to repentance for sin and the cleansing of our hearts, that during these forty days of Lent we may be gifted and graced to reaffirm the covenant you made with us through Christ.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."





**EASTER FLOWERS**

Help decorate the Chancel with flowers for Easter! Order forms can be found in the narthex. **The last day to turn in your order is TODAY!**

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY:** Sunday, 9:15am  
**CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL:**  
 Sunday, 10:30am  
**CONFIRMATION CLASSES:**  
 Saturday 2/14 – Saturday 5/16  
 Confirmation classes will be held each Saturday from 9-10:30am.  
**CERAMICS:** Mondays, 1-9pm  
**CHANCEL CHOIR:** Thursday, 6:30-7:25pm  
**JOYFUL BELLS:** Thursday, 7:30-8:30pm  
**SASSY SOWERS:** 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday & 3<sup>rd</sup>, Thursday, 10am-1pm  
**2<sup>nd</sup> SATURDAY SUPPER:** on March 14<sup>th</sup>, 5pm at The Open Flame Restaurant  
 5081 S 108th St, Greenfield, WI 53228  
<http://www.openflamerestaurant.com/>  
**WOMEN'S BREAKFAST:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday, 9am at Pallas Restaurant, 1657 S. 108<sup>th</sup> St, West Allis, WI  
**MEN'S BREAKFAST:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, 8:30am at Meyers, 4260 S 76th St, Greenfield, WI  
**EASTER LILLY/CHRYSANTHEMUM ORDERS:** Order forms are on the table, by the bulletin board. **Orders due by 3/1/26.**  
**PALM SUNDAY BRUNCH:** March 29th, 11:30am-1pm after church, in the fellowship hall. \$5 donation per person.

**Memorial UMC**

**General Information & Staff**  
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