

**FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT**  
God will Provide the Lamb  
February 17 & 18, 2018

**AS WE GATHER**

“Here am I.” This is the simple, yet faith-filled, response of Abraham as the Lord calls him. Not knowing what the Lord will call him to do, but simply trusting the Word of the Lord, Abraham says, “Here am I.” As we look through the pages of Scripture those same three little words, “Here am I,” are echoed by others: Jacob, Moses, and Samuel—to name just a few. As people who the Lord has called in Baptism, may we also answer with the same faith-filled response, “Here am I!” We may not always know where God will lead, but we do know that the One who has called us will be with us as we follow where He guides.

**WELCOME**

“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 to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.”  
(Psalm 51:10-12, ESV)

**HANDSHAKES & HUGS**

**✠ PREPARATION ✠**

**OPENING HYMN # 655 “Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word”**

Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word; Curb those who by deceit or sword  
Would wrest the kingdom from Your Son And bring to naught all He has done.  
Lord Jesus Christ, Your pow’r make known, For You are Lord of lords alone;  
Defend Your holy Church that we May sing Your praise eternally.  
O Comforter of priceless worth, Send peace and unity on earth;  
Support us in our final strife And lead us out of death to life.  
(Rise)

**OPENING SENTENCES**

Pastor: O Lord, throughout these forty days  
**People: You prayed and kept the fast;**  
Pastor: Inspire repentance for our sin,  
**People: And free us from our past. Amen.**

**INVOCATION**

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**People: Amen.**

**CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION**

Pastor: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.

**People: The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. Amen.**  
**People: I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.**

Pastor: The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

**HYMN OF CONFESSION #611 “Chief of Sinners Though I Be”** Sts. 1, 5

Chief of sinners though I be, Jesus shed His blood for me,  
Died that I might live on high, Lives that I might never die  
As the branch is to the vine, I am His, and He is mine.  
O my Savior, help afford By Your Spirit and Your word!  
When my wayward heart would stray, Keep me in the narrow way;  
Grace in time of need supply While I live and when I die.

**SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.  
**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray, O Lord God, you led your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the Promised Land.

**People: Guide the people of your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come;**

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

(Be seated)

✠ WORD ✠

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** Genesis 22:1–18 (Abraham prepares to offer Isaac as a sacrifice.) After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.” So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you.” And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. And Isaac said to his father Abraham, “My father!” And he said, “Here I am, my son.” He said, “Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” Abraham said, “God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So they went both of them together. When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” He said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.” And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his

horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called the name of that place, “The LORD will provide”; as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided.” And the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven and said, “By myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice.”

**EPISTLE** James 1:12–18 (God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He tempt anyone.) Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am being tempted by God,” for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death. Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

**CHOIR ANTHEM (5:00)** *“At the Name of Jesus”*

(Rise)

**HOLY GOSPEL** *Mark 1:9–15* (Jesus is tempted by Satan.) In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.” The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. And he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. And he was with the wild animals, and the angels were ministering to him. Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”

(Be seated)

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### SERMON HYMN #707 "Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways"

Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep His statutes still!  
Oh, that my God grant me grace To know and do His will!

Order my footsteps by Thy Word And make my heart sincere;  
Let sin have no dominion, Lord, But keep my conscience clear.

Assist my soul, too apt to stray, A stricter watch to keep;  
And should I e'er forget Thy way, Restore Thy wand'ring sheep.

Make me to walk in Thy commands 'Tis a delightful road-  
Nor let my head of heart or hands Offend against my God.

### SERMON "God Will Provide the Lamb" Genesis 22:1-18

(Rise)

**NICENE CREED** *found on the inside back cover of the hymnal*

(Be seated)

**OFFERING** As your offering is collected, **please sign our attendance book** located at the end of the pew. If you are a visitor, please leave your address and phone. After you are finished, please pass the book along to others in your pew, and return the book to the center aisle. You may check the register to see the names of those to greet after the service.

(Rise)

### PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, for He is merciful and full of compassion. Heavenly Father, your Son knew hunger in the wilderness and yet His reliance on you did not fail. Give to your baptized people a steady trust in your promises and hope in your final deliverance. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lover of mankind, you send your Gospel into all the world, that people might be delivered from the power of the evil one. Pour out your Spirit continually upon all pastors and servants of your Church, that they might proclaim your Word with grace and boldness. Bless Pastor Ferry and family as they serve in Indonesia and Asia; bless also Rachel Meyer as she begins her teaching ministry in Uganda. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lord of the Church, you place your servants in various ministries in your Church. Bless Karen Trench as she prayerfully considers the call to serve as our Early Childhood Director. Bless our Voters' Assembly as they ponder candidates for our next Associate Pastor, and guide the Board of Assignments with wisdom as they place men into their first calls as pastors. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Ruler of the nations, you call us to honor those whom you have set in authority over us. Look in kindness on our president, our public servants and all who serve in our armed forces. Enable them to pursue policies that will bless this nation and make us a blessing to the nations of the world. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Bountiful Provider of all our needs, you warn your people not to be ensnared in the love of riches or to seek lives of ease, but call your children to live as servants in this world. Remember all those who can find no gainful employment. Keep them from despair, and hear their prayers. Remember all who are tempted to think that life really does consist of the abundance of possessions, and lift their hearts to the things that truly matter. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Fountain of mercy, into your gracious and loving arms we commend all who are sick or suffering, the hospitalized, the persecuted, the lonely, the afflicted, the grieving and the dying especially your servants Dorothy, Joyce, Sue, Janet, Donna, Dolores, Pat, Cliff, Jerry, Dee, Manley, Debbie, Pat, Charles, Ruth, Shirley, Gladys, Herb, Matthew, Russ, Arlene, Dorothy, John, Arlene, LuEva, Jean, Jack, Shirley, Jonathan, Helen, Leonard and Sarah. Bring the comfort of your Spirit to each broken body, troubled mind or hurting soul. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lord of the angelic hosts, your angels ministered to your Son after His time of testing and brought Him refreshment. May your angels surround us as we partake of the refreshment of His body and blood for our forgiveness, that we might join them eternally in singing His praises. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Giver of the life that never ends, we offer today our praise and thanks for all whom you have brought through the many trials and temptations of this life and ushered into your nearer presence. Comfort Fred and Merle as they mourn the passing of their son, Harold. Bless them with hope and peace through faith in Christ. Bring us all to share with the faithfully departed in the joys of the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom to come. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: All of these things, and whatever else your wisdom knows us to need, grant to us, in your bountiful love, for the sake of Him who triumphed over the foe and rose in victory, and who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, even Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

## THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

## THE PEACE OF THE LORD

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

**People: Amen.**

## AGNUS DEI #434 "Lamb of God, Pure and Holy"

Lamb of God, pure and holy, Who on the cross didst suffer,  
Ever patient and lowly, thyself to scorn didst offer.  
All sins Thou borest for us, Else had despair reigned o'er us:  
Have mercy on us, O Jesus! O Jesus!

(Be seated)

**DISTRIBUTION** Those guests who desire to commune who are members of another LCMS congregation may do so; if you are coming from another church background, please see the pastor or an elder first.

## HYMN #809 "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;  
There is no shadow of turning with Thee. Thou changest not:  
Thy compassions, they fail not; As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be.

**Refrain: Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;  
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,  
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above  
Join with all nature in manifold witness  
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. **Refrain**  
Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! **Refrain**

## HYMN #535 "How Wide the Love of Christ"

How wide the love of Christ! It knows not class or race  
But holds our one humanity Within its broad embrace.  
How long the love of Christ! Its patience will not cease  
Until this broken world is bound In everlasting peace.  
How high the love of Christ! Beyond all thought it soars,  
And yet upon our passing lives Unmeasured mercy pours.  
How deep the love of Christ, Descending to a cross!  
He bears within His wounded hands All human pain and loss.  
All praise to You, O Christ, For love whose depth and height,  
Whose length and breadth fill time and space With endless life and light!

### **HYMN #438 “A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth”**

A Lamb goes uncomplaining forth, The guilt of sinners bearing  
And, laden with the sins of earth, None else the burden sharing;  
Goes patient on, grows weak and faint,  
To slaughter led without complaint, That spotless life to offer,  
He bears the stripes, the wounds, the lies,  
The mockery, and yet replies, “All this I gladly suffer.”

This Lamb is Christ, the soul’s great friend, The Lamb of God, our Savior,  
Whom God the Father chose to send To gain for us His favor.

“Go forth, My Son,” The Father said,  
“And free My children from their dread Of guilt and condemnation.  
The wrath and stripes are hard to bear,  
But by Your passion they will share The fruit of Your salvation.”

“Yes, Father, yes, most willingly I’ll bear what You command Me.  
My will conforms to Your decree, I’ll do what You have asked Me.”

O wondrous Love, what have You done!  
The Father offers up His Son, Desiring our salvation.  
O Love, how strong You are to save!  
You lay the One into the grace Who built the earth’s foundation.

Lord, when Your glory I shall see And taste Your kingdom’s pleasure,  
Your blood my royal robe shall be, My joy beyond all measure!  
When I appear before Your Throne,  
Your righteousness shall be my crown; With these I need not hide me.  
And there, in garments richly wrought,  
As Your own bride shall we be brought To stand in joy beside You.

### **COMMON DISMISSAL**

(Rise)

### **POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: Let us pray. We give thanks to you, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore you that of your mercy you would strengthen us through the same in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

### **CLOSING SENTENCES**

Pastor: Be with us through this season, Lord,

**People: And all our earthly days,**

Pastor: That when the final Easter dawns,

**People: We join in heaven’s praise. Amen.**

### **BENEDICTION**

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and  
✠ give you peace.

**People: Amen.**

### **CLOSING HYMN #547**

### **“The Lamb”**

Stanzas 1-4

The Lamb, the Lamb, O Father, where’s the sacrifice?  
Faith sees, believes God will provide the Lamb of price!

**Refrain: Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!  
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!**

The Lamb, the Lamb, One perfect final offering.  
The Lamb, the Lamb, Let earth join heav’n His praise to sing. **Refrain**

The Lamb, the Lamb, As wayward sheep their shepherd kill  
So still, His will On our behalf the Law to fill. **Refrain**

He sighs, He dies, He takes my sin and wretchedness.  
He lives, forgives, He gives me His own righteousness. **Refrain**

Preacher

Pastor Gregg Stanton

Liturgist

Pastor Harold Bender

Lectors

Nik Mueller, Grant Gundersen, Bob Reynolds

Acolytes

Emma Harper, Aubrey Kadolph, Caden Gibbs

Organist & 5-8 Grade Choir Director

Michelle Prince

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