Lord of the Valley Lutheran Church

PO Box 843 Granby, CO 80446 (970)887-9252

Ministers: All God's People Pastor: Brian Bergum

LOTV Worship with Holy Communion

Sunday, February 25th Second Sunday in Lent

Welcome to Worship at Lord of the Valley

We welcome you to worship at Lord of the Valley. We gather as members of the church who live in the area full and part-time, as people vacationing in the area for a few days or weeks, as people searching for a church that is welcoming. We gather as a community, as sisters and brothers in Christ, all part of God's family, and we pray that God's Spirit might be known and felt within your heart as we worship together. We invite your participation in the life of Lord of the Valley. If you are interested in becoming a regular member or a parish partner, please talk with our pastor today. We are Glad that You are Here, Worshipping God with Us!

Announcements

Gathering

Leader: We worship as we live: in the name of God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All: Amen

Leader: God calls us to be honest with ourselves, with God and each other, as God renews us and our life's purposes. Come apart from the busyness of family, school and work, and dwell in the presence of God, the source and ground of our being.

All: We come in praise of God and in affirmation of Jesus Christ as the truth and center of our lives. We celebrate the places where love is found, and we give thanks for the gift of new life.

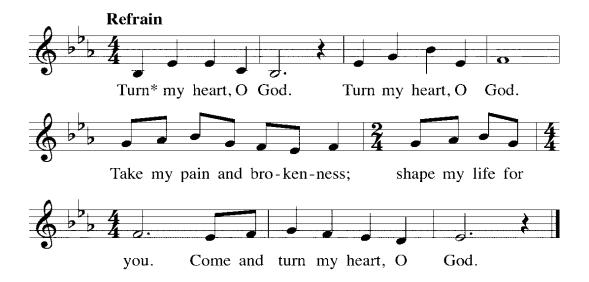
Leader: O God, the struggles of relationships, the pressure of making ends meet or of keeping up with our peers, the fear of losing, our health, our job, our home, the ones we love, over time dry up our lives, and then take the very breath from our being.

All: Raise us up O God. Breathe your Spirit into our dry bones. Call us out of the tombs we have created in our lives, that we might embrace and celebrate the gift of life you have given us this very day. Amen

Leader: Sisters and Brothers: God created us to experience joy in communion with God, to love all humanity, and to live in harmony with all of creation. But sin separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation. As we move through this season of Lent we acknowledge our need for repentance; that is, our need to re-focus and re-prioritize our lives, our need to turn our lives back toward God and our neighbors. Let us continue our Lenten journey by together confessing our sins and seeking the forgiveness and new life that is promised to us in Christ Jesus.

"Turn My Heart O God"

The Congregation sings the refrain along with the verse response.

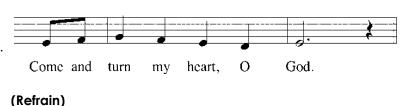


From all the leads to death to seek the way of life From all that leads to sin, to holiness and grace.... From all despair and grief, to hope of life renewed...



(Refrain)

O let your Spirit come, and cleanse my inmost heart... Give back to me the joy of walking in your way... O fill me with your grace that I might sing your praise...



Leader: God of Love and Life.

All: We confess that we have sinned against you and each other, by what we have done and said, and by what we have failed to do and say. We confess that we are wounded, and those wounds affect how we treat ourselves and how we treat others. We come seeking forgiveness and healing. We come seeking a sense of wholeness in our lives. Help us to forgive the people who have wounded us, as we come seeking forgiveness for the wounds we have caused other people. Have mercy on us, O God. Help us to live differently. Help us to forgive graciously. Help us to love abundantly. Amen

Leader: God is faithful, even when we are not. God's promises are true, even when we break our promises. Our lives change but one thing does not change: God has loved you, loves you now, and will love you always. And it is in and through this love that in Jesus Christ God forgives you of all your sins. This is the good news that brings us new life.

All: Amen – Thanks be to God!

Song of Praise:

"Arise. Shine Out!"



Leader: The Lord is with you. **All: And also with you.**

Leader: O God,

All: by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Bible Readings

Genesis 17: 1-7, 15-16

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, 'I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.' Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, 'As for

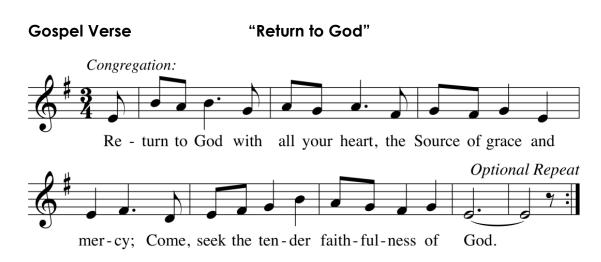
me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.

God said to Abraham, 'As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.'

Romans 4: 13-25

The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations')—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become 'the father of many nations', according to what was said, 'So numerous shall your descendants be.' He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith 'was reckoned to him as righteousness.' Now the words, 'it was reckoned to him', were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.



Gospel Reading

Mark 8: 31-38

[Jesus] 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. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But 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.'

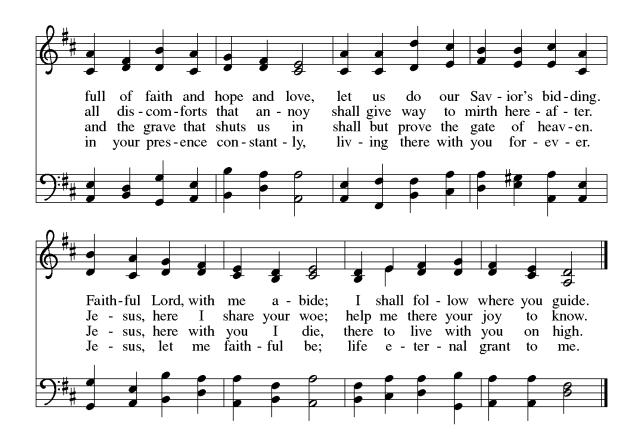
He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those 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.'

Sunday School Dismissal

Sermon



Continues on Next Page...



Affirmation of Faith "Apostles Creed"

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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 People

Leader: Hear us, O God. **All: Your mercy is great.**

Offering

Offering Response (sung)

For your generous providing, which sustains us all our days, For your Spirit here residing, we proclaim our heartfelt praise. In the depths of joy and sorrow, though the road be smooth or rough, Fearless, we can face tomorrow for your grace will be enough.

'Round your table, through your giving, show us how to live and pray Till your kingdom's way of living is the bread we share each day; Bread for us and for our neighbor; bread for body, mind and soul, Bread of heav'n and human labor – broken bread that makes us whole.

Leader: All good gifts around us come from you, O God.

All: You have given us new life in Christ! Therefore we offer our gifts that we may be gifts to one another. Amen

Leader: The Lord be with you.

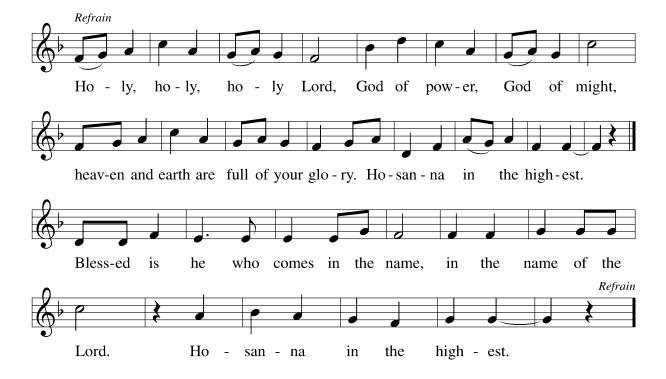
All: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts. **All: We lift them to God.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

All: It is right to give God our thanks and praise.

Leader: Eternal God, who has created the heavens and the earth ... With all the prophets of old and new, the saints and sinner, and all the company of heaven, we glorify your name and join in the endless song of all creation:



Leader: Lord, remember us in your love and teach us to pray.

ALL: 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 and ever. Amen.

Distribution of Holy Communion

Song During Communion "By Your Hand You Feed Your People"



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

All: Amen

Leader: Life-giving God, in this meal you have bound us to yourself, at this table we have received the very presence of Jesus Christ. Send us now to be what we have received, that all creation might know your love and sing your praise now and always.

All: Amen

Benediction / Sending

Leader: Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!!!

[&]quot;Turn My Heart" Words and Music by Marty Haugen. GIA Publishing. "Arise, Shine Out!" Words and Music by David Haas. GIA Publishing. "Return to God" Traditional text, music by Marty Haugen GIA Publishing. "Holy, Holy, Holy Lord" Traditional text adapted by Ray Makeever. Tune by Ray Makeever. Augsburg Fortress. Copied with permission under onelicense.net #A705-815.