



Jesus said
"I tell you the truth
no-one can enter
the Kingdom of
God unless he is
born of water and
the Spirit."

John 3 :5

Second Sunday in Lent

March 5, 2023

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Setting Five

During Lent we journey with all those around the world who will be baptized at the Easter Vigil. In today's gospel Jesus tells Nicodemus that he must be born of water and Spirit. At the font we are given a new birth as children of God.

As God made a covenant with Abraham, in baptism God promises to raise us up with Christ to new life. From worship we are sent forth to proclaim God's love for all the world.

Welcome

Joys & Concerns

Prelude

Confession and forgiveness

- P. Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace. .
- C. Amen.
- P. Let us acknowledge before God and one another our need for repentance and God's mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection. You may sit, stand or kneel for the Confession.

Holy God,

- C. **we confess to you our faults and failings. Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word; we take for ourselves instead of giving to others; we spoil rather than steward your creation; we cause hurt though you call us to heal; we choose fear over compassion. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, as we seek to follow in your way of life. Amen**

- P. Hear the good news: God so loved the world that God gave the only Son, so that all may receive life. This promise is for you! God embraces you with divine mercy, † forgives you in Christ's name, and revives you in the Spirit's power.

C. Amen.

Gathering Hymn

Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters

ELW 445

The Greeting

- P. The grace of Jesus Christ our Savior, the reconciling love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C. **And also with you.**

Kyrie

A musical score for the Kyrie in G clef, common time. The lyrics are in English, and the music consists of eight staves of music with corresponding lyrics below each staff.

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.
For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.
For the 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.
Lord, have mercy.
For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor - ship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.
Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.
A - men.

Prayer of the Day

- A. Let us pray
C. O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world through 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 12:1-4a

The Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

L. Word of God, word of life.

C. Thanks be to God.



Psalmody

Psalm 121

(ELW Tone 8)

chanted responsively

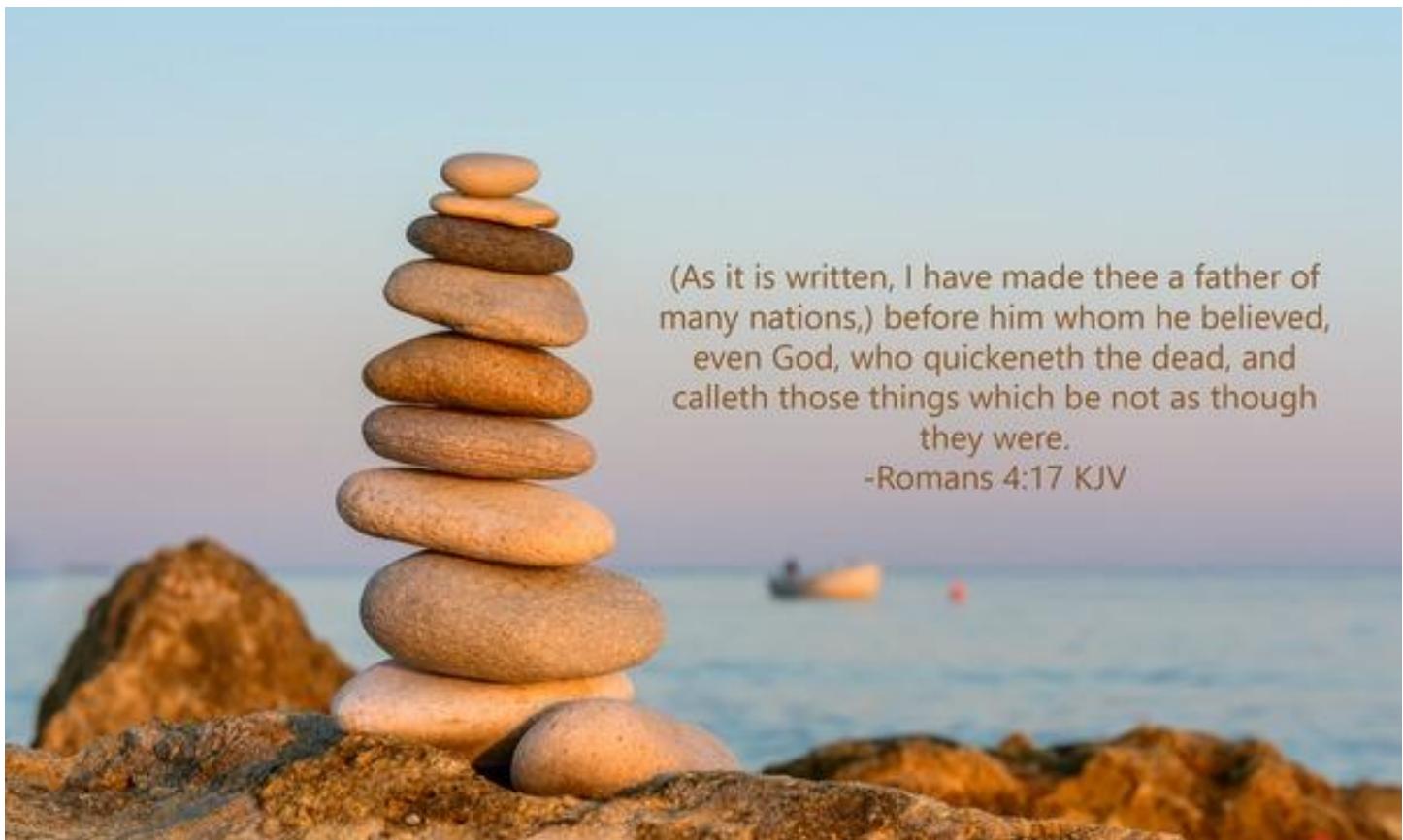
I lift up my eyes ¹ to the hills;
from where is my ¹ help to come?
My help comes ¹ from the LORD,
the maker of heav- ¹ en and earth.

The LORD will not let your ¹ foot be moved
nor will the one who watches over you ¹ fall asleep.

Behold, the keep- ¹ er of Israel
will neither slum- ¹ ber nor sleep;
the LORD watches ¹ over you;
the LORD is your shade at ¹ your right hand;
the sun will not strike ¹ you by day,
nor the ¹ moon by night.

The LORD will preserve you ¹ from all evil
and will ¹ keep your life.

The LORD will watch over your going out and your ¹ coming in,
from this time forth for- ¹ evermore.



(As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were.

-Romans 4:17 KJV

Second Reading

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

For 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.

L. Word of God, word of life.

C. Thanks be to God.

Lenten Acclamation

Glo - ry and praise to you, O Lord Je - sus Christ.

P. The holy gospel according to John, chapter three.

C. Glory to you, O Lord.

John 3:1-17

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

"Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

P. The gospel of the Lord.

C. Praise to you O Christ.

Sermon

John Petry, Interim Pastor

Reception into Membership

Brian Stone

Amanda Hempel-Stone

The 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 Intercession

- A.** Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence

O God, you so love your church. Raise up leaders who care for your people. Bless lay theologians, seminary and college professors, and all who are called to the ministry of teaching, that they form and inspire us for the work of the gospel. Merciful God,

C. receive our prayer.

- P.** We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C. Amen.

The Peace

- P.** Jesus said: Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled. May His peace be with you always.

C. And also with you.

The Offering

Anthem

God So Loved the World
~ A.D. Miller

Choir

Offertory

As the Deer Runs to the River



- 1 As the deer runs to the riv - er, parched and wea - ry from the chase,
- 2 When your Is - rael crossed the des - ert where no stream or spring was seen,
- 3 "Come and drink," I - sa - iah sum-moned, "all who for God's mer - cy plead!
- 4 Christ, we come from des - ert plac - es, deep - est thirst un - sat - is - fied.



we have come from hurt and hur - ry, thirst - ing for your heal - ing grace.
Mo - ses struck the rock, and wa - ter flowed for them, re - fresh - ing, clean.
God's for - give - ness, like a foun-tain, flows to sat - is - fy your need."
Lead us to the wa - ters flow - ing from the cross on which you died.

Refrain

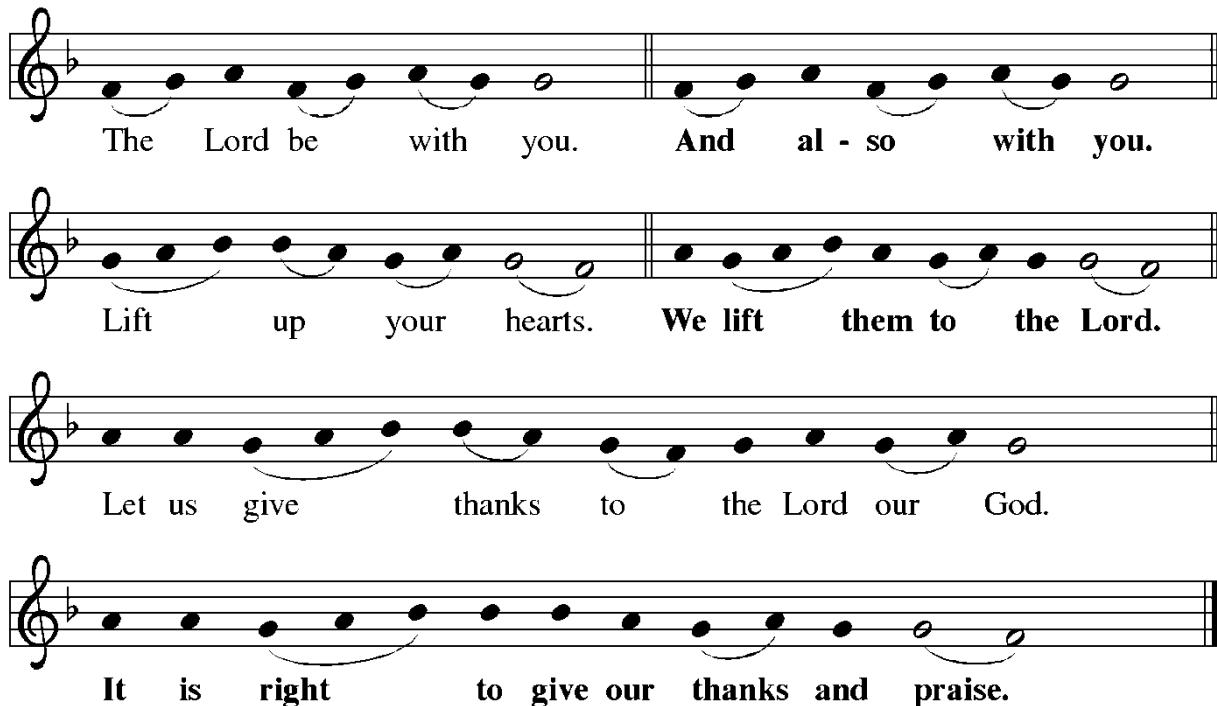


Je - sus, source of liv-ing wa - ter, may we drink of you and live!

Offertory Prayer

- A. God of good gifts, receive these all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life.
- C. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving



The musical notation consists of five staves of music in G clef and common time, with a key signature of one flat. The lyrics are integrated into the music, with vertical bar lines separating different sections. The lyrics are:

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

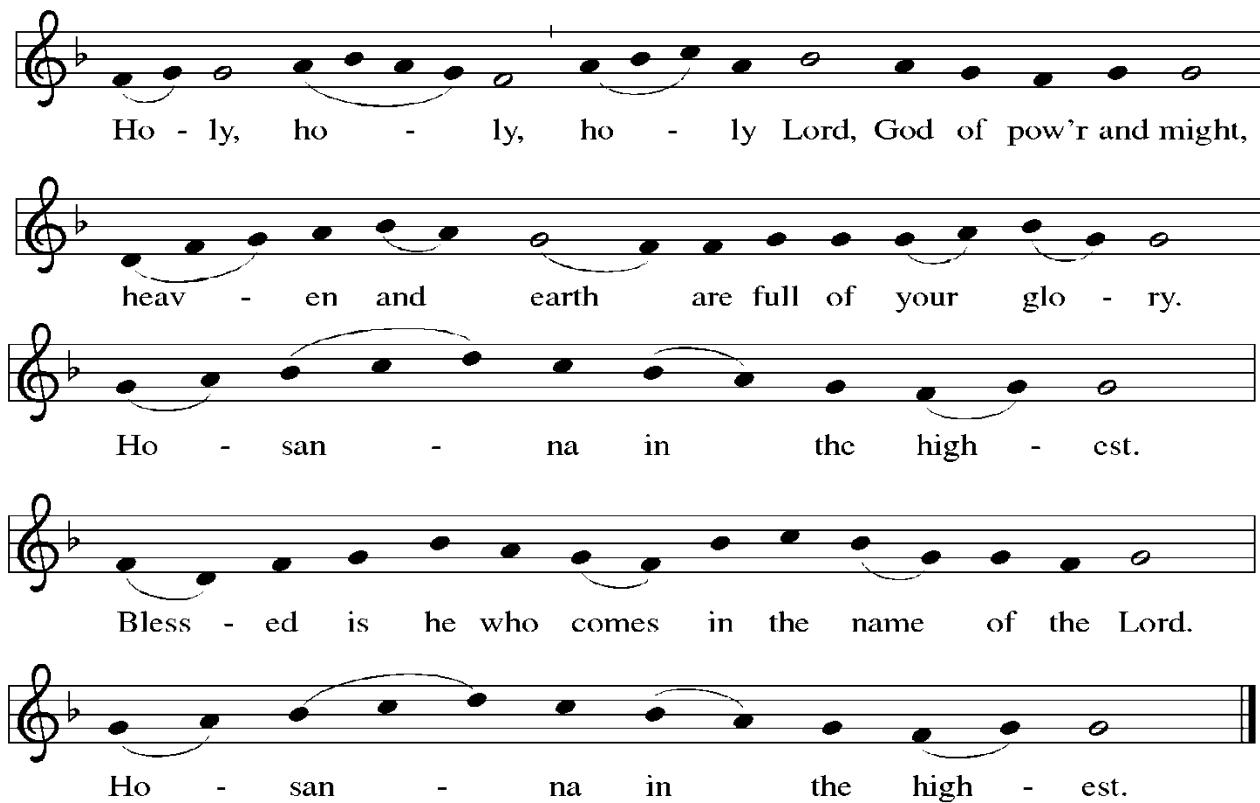
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P. It is indeed.....

The Sanctus



The musical notation consists of six staves of music in G clef and common time, with a key signature of one flat. The lyrics are integrated into the music, with vertical bar lines separating different sections. The lyrics are:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,

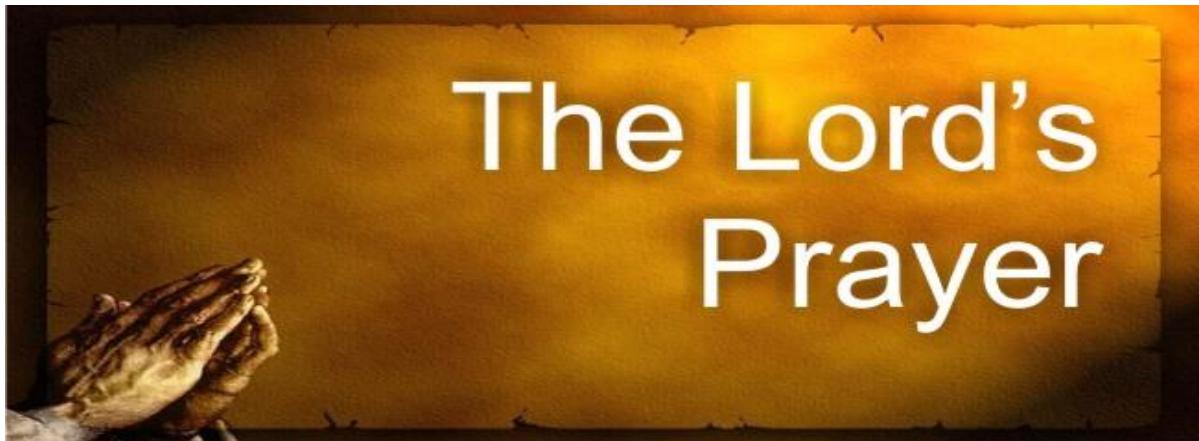
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer



Our Father, which 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 debts as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever.
Amen

Invitation to Communion

- P. Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.
C. Amen.

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace. Amen.

Communion Hymns

Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth

ELW 735

Restore in Us, O God

ELW 328

Baptized in Water

ELW 456



Post Communion Blessing and Canticle

- P. The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
C. Amen.

Come with Us, O Blessed Jesus

A musical score for a hymn. It consists of four staves of music in G clef, common time, and a key signature of one flat. The lyrics are integrated into the music, appearing below each staff. The first staff's lyrics are "Come with us, O bless - ed Je-sus, with us ev - er - more to be." The second staff's lyrics are "And, in leav - ing now thine al-tar, let us nev - er - more leave thee!" The third staff's lyrics are "Let thy bright ce - les - tial cho-rus nev - er cease the heav'n-ly strain;" The fourth staff's lyrics are "but in us, thy lov-ing chil-dren, come with peace, good will to reign."

Come with us, O bless - ed Je-sus, with us ev - er - more to be.

And, in leav - ing now thine al-tar, let us nev - er - more leave thee!

Let thy bright ce - les - tial cho-rus nev - er cease the heav'n-ly strain;

but in us, thy lov-ing chil-dren, come with peace, good will to reign.

Post Communion Prayer

- A. Embodied God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love.
- C. Amen.

The Blessing

- P. God, the giver of love, † Christ, the resurrection and the life, and the Holy Spirit of rebirth bless you in this Lenten journey.
- C. Amen.

Sending Hymn

How Firm a Foundation

ELW 796

Dismissal

- A. Go in peace. Serve in love.
- C. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Brad Hunnicutt

Servers for Sunday, March 5th

Assisting Minister Shannon Thomsen
Reader Gale Isaacs
Altar Guild Grace Barnes
Acolyte Antonio Smith



Candles for the month of March are given by Sheryll Albert in honor of Harry and his family.



Mar 5 9:00 am Adult Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall
 10:00 am Worship Service – 2nd Sunday in Lent
 11:30 am Social Concerns Meeting

Mar 8 6:00 pm Simple Supper
 7:00 pm Lenten Worship
 7:30 pm Choir Practice



Don't Forget to Spring Forward This Sunday

March 12



- Mar 12 9:00 am Adult Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall
 10:00 am Worship Service – 3rd Sunday in Lent
 11:30 am Council Meeting

- Mar 15 6:00 pm Simple Supper
 7:00 pm Lenten Worship
 7:30 pm Choir Practice



- Mar 18 9 am – 2:30 NC SWO Ladies 1-Day Retreat
 – Becoming a Butterfly

- Mar 19 9:00 am Adult Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall
 10:00 am Worship Service – 4th Sunday in Lent

- Mar 22 6:00 pm Simple Supper
 7:00 pm Lenten Worship
 7:30 pm Choir Practice



- Mar 26 9:00 am Adult Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall
 10:00 am Worship Service – 5th Sunday in Lent

- Mar 29 6:00 pm Simple Supper
 7:00 pm Lenten Worship
 7:30 pm Choir Practice



NCSWO

One-Day Retreat

Becoming a Butterfly



Saturday
March 18, 2023
Snow Date: 3/25/23

March 18, 2023
Snow Date: 3/25/23

Check-in/Fellowship – 9:00am

Program - 9:30 am until around 2:30 pm.

\$10 Registration Fee - Includes:
Continental breakfast, lunch, and the
program materials

*Women do not have to be Lutheran to
enjoy this retreat, so bring friends,
family, and neighbors. Encourage
teens and young women too.*

Please bring your Bible!

Registration Deadline:
March 8, 2023