

*And he was there in
the wilderness forty
days, tempted of
Satan; and was with
the wild beasts; and
the angels ministered
unto him.*

~Mark 1:13



First Sunday in Lent

February 18, 2024

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Setting Three

On Ash Wednesday the church began its journey toward baptismal immersion in the death and resurrection of Christ. This year, the Sundays in Lent lead us to focus on five covenants God makes in the Hebrew Scriptures and to use them as lenses through which to view baptism. First Peter connects the way God saved Noah's family in the flood with the way God saves us through the water of baptism. The baptismal covenant is made with us individually, but the new life we are given in baptism is for the sake of the whole world.

Jays & Concerns

Prelude

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

~ William Runyan

Confession and Forgiveness

P. Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who writes the law on our hearts,
who draws all people together through Jesus.

C. Amen

P. Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P. Holy God,

C. we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard
resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence
others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts.
We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us,
Lord. Amen.

P. Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks
every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through
☩ Jesus Christ.

C. Amen

Gathering Hymn

Jesus, Still Lead On

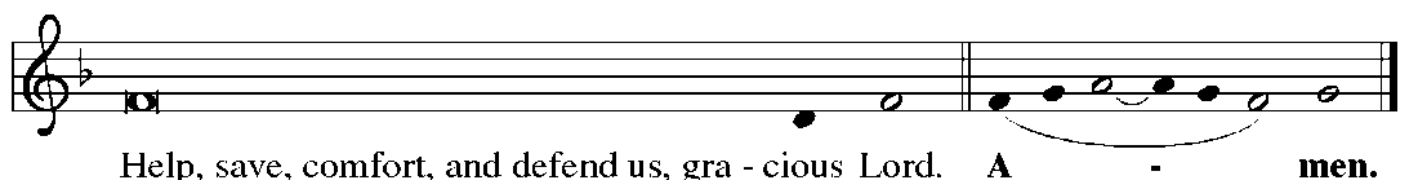
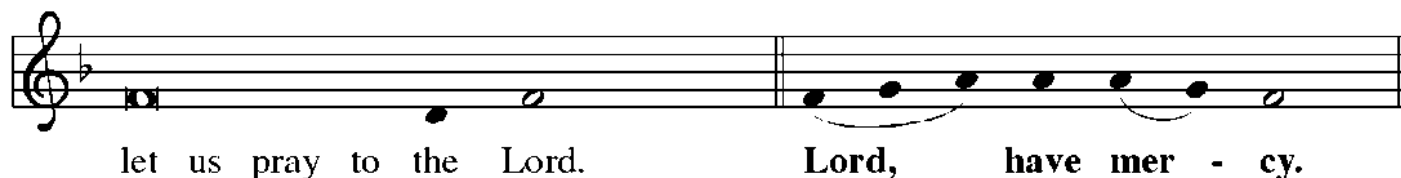
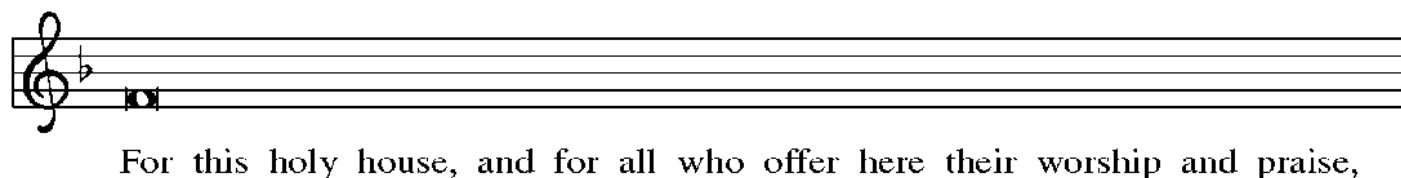
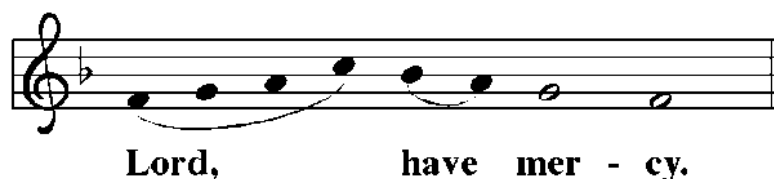
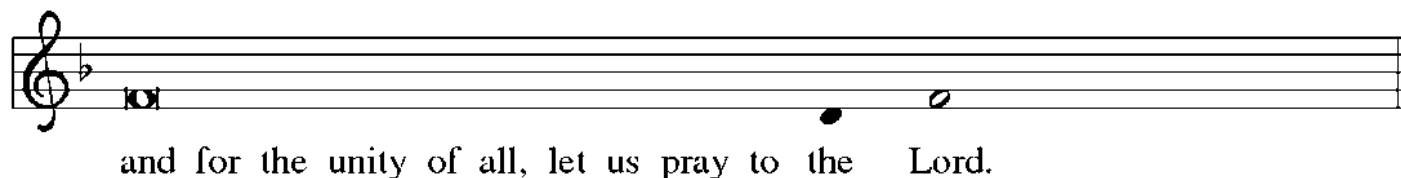
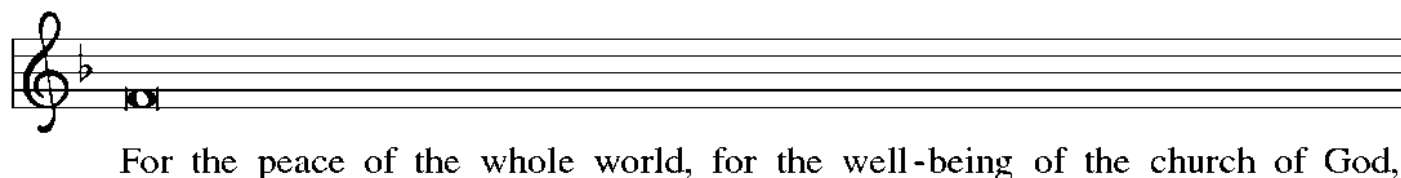
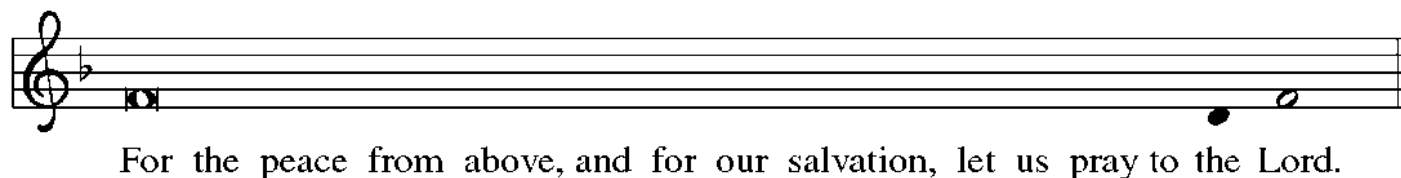
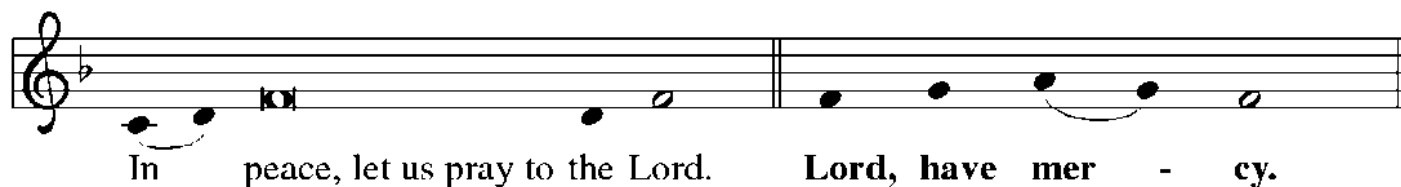
ELW 624

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



This is the feast . . .

Refrain



All: This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was

Men



slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain



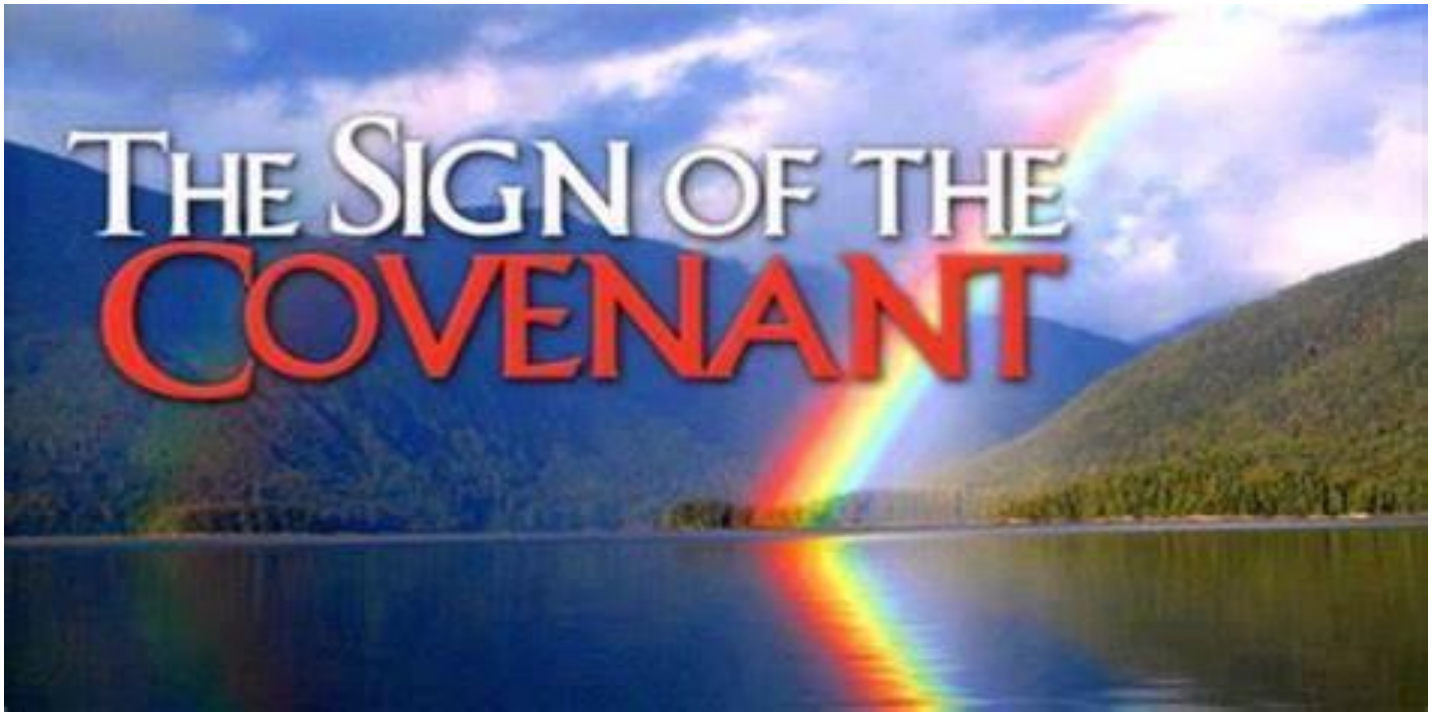
All: This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day

- A. Let us pray
- C. Holy God, heavenly Father, in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin. Renew us in the gift of baptism. May your holy angels be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us, through 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 9:8-17

Today's reading is the conclusion to the flood story. Because of human sin, God destroys the earth by flood, saving only Noah, his family, and the animals on the ark. Yet divine destruction gives way to divine commitment. As in the first creation, God blesses humanity and establishes a covenant with all creatures.

⁸God said to Noah and to his sons with him, ⁹"As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, ¹⁰and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. ¹¹I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." ¹²God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: ¹³I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." ¹⁷God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."

L. Word of God, word of life.

C. Thanks be to God.

¹To you, O LORD,
I lift up my soul.

²**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

³Let none who look to you be put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

⁴**Show me your ways, O LORD,
and teach me your paths.**

⁵Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

⁶**Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.**

⁷Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

⁸**You are gracious and up-right, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners in your way.**

⁹You lead the lowly in justice
and teach the lowly your way.

¹⁰**All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness
to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.**

Second Reading

1 Peter 3:18-22

As God acted through Christ's suffering and death to bring us to God, so God acts through baptism to save us from a sinful existence. This spiritual cleansing marks our new life in Christ.

¹⁸Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

L. Word of God, word of life.

C. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation



P. The holy gospel according to Mark, the first chapter.

C. Glory to you, O Lord.

Mark 1:9-15

The Spirit that comes upon Jesus at his baptism sustains him when he is tested by Satan so that he might proclaim the good news of God's reign.

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.

¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

¹²And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

P. The gospel of the Lord.

C. Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon

John Petry, Interim Pastor

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.** Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

A brief silence.

God our truth, the ark of your church has room for many expressions of faith. We give thanks for voices that challenge and awaken your people (*especially that of Martin Luther, renewer of the church, whom we commemorate today*). Hear us, O God.

C. Your mercy is great.

- A.** God our maker, you remember your covenant with the earth and its inhabitants. Rescue communities and creatures hurting from natural disasters. Preserve species and habitats endangered by human carelessness and disregard. Hear us, O God.

C. Your mercy is great.

Other prayers

- P.** Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, 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.

Anthem

Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross

Choir

Let the Vineyards...

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

The musical notation is written on five staves in a single system. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is composed of eighth and quarter notes, with some rests. The lyrics are placed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Offertory Prayer

A. Jesus,

C. you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

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.

The musical notation for 'The Great Thanksgiving' consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, using quarter and eighth notes with various rests and slurs. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes.

P. It is indeed right....

The Sanctus

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. Ho -
san-na. 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.

The musical notation for 'The Sanctus' consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is more complex than the previous section, featuring eighth and sixteenth notes, as well as rests. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes.

Eucharistic 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 and ever. Amen

Invitation to Communion

P. Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come! Everyone is invited, no exceptions.

C. Amen

Jesus, Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Communion Hymns

All Are Welcome

ELW 641

For the Bread Which You Have Broken

ELW 494

Post Communion Cantic

Lord, Listen to Your children Praying (sing 3 times)

Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;

Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass clef, in the key of D major (two sharps). The melody is in the Treble clef, and the bass line is in the Bass clef. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first system covers the first line of lyrics, and the second system covers the second line. The music is in 4/4 time.

Post Communion Prayer

A. Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.

C. Amen

Blessing

P. Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and ☩ give you peace.

C. Amen

Sending Hymn

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

ELW 504

Dismissal

A. Go in peace. Share your bread.

C. Thanks be to God.

Postlude

The Power of Your Love

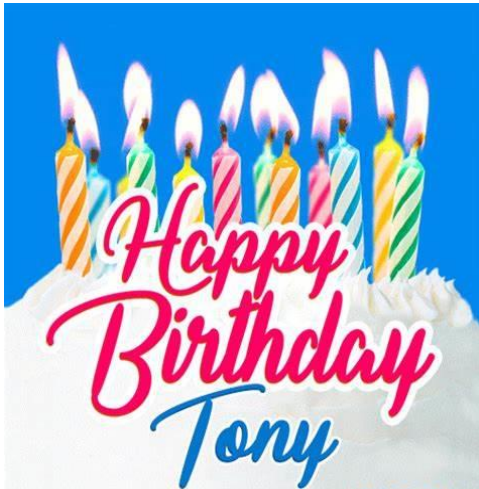
~ Geoff Bullock

Servers for Sunday, February 18th:

Assisting Minister..... Alecia Harrison
Reader Sylvia Lambert
Altar Guild Helen Holderman
Greeters / Counters Terry Barnes / Neil Brennecke
Acolyte Antonio Smith
Guest Musician Conrad Lentz



Sign-up sheets for the various worship assistant slots are on the board in the hallway. Please consider spending time giving glory to God by filling one of these positions on a Sunday.



After Worship Fellowship today is provided by Thomas & Gale Isaacs in celebration of Tony's Birthday.



Midweek Lenten Worship at 7 pm

Holden Evening Prayer

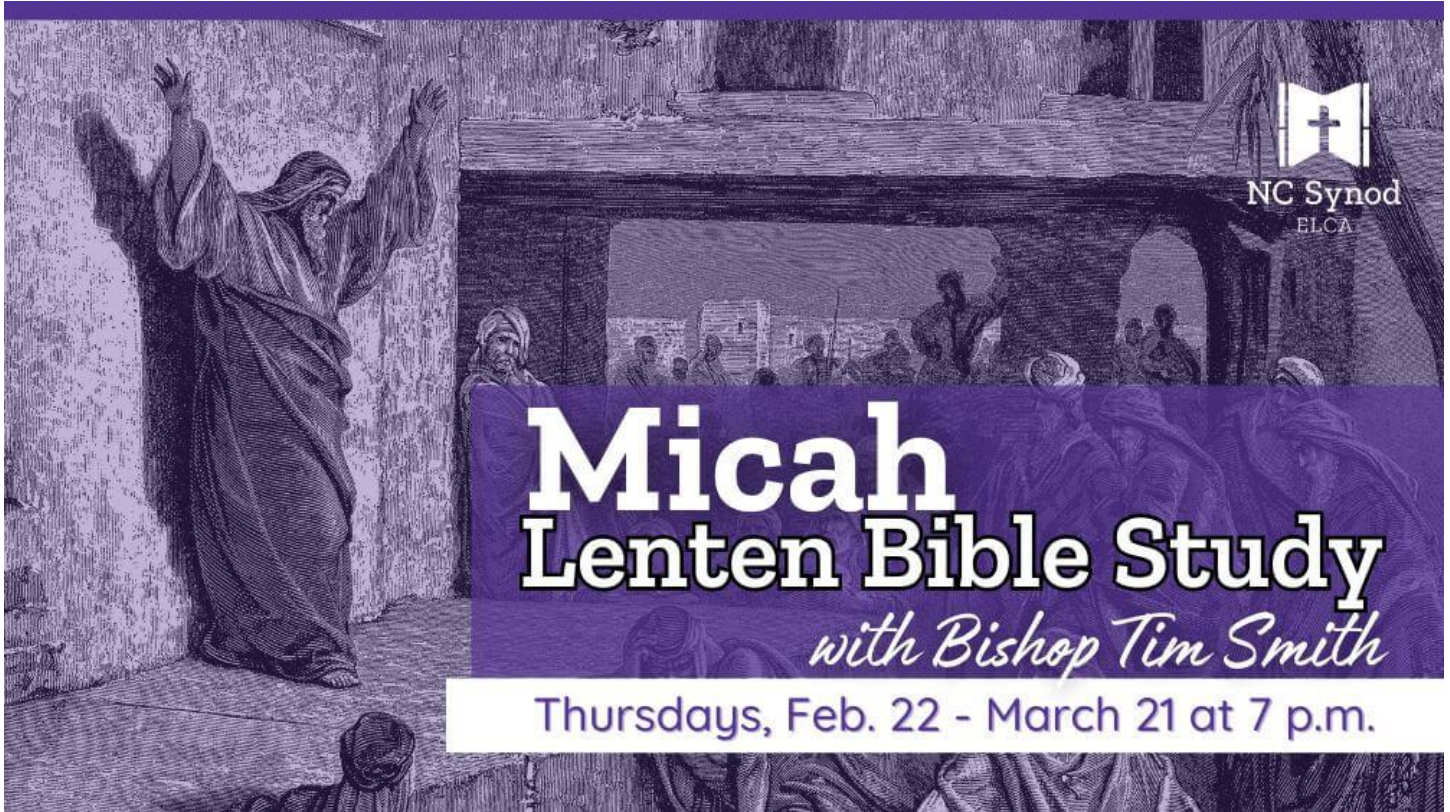
February 21, 28, March 6, 13, & 20

Lent

First Sunday in Lent - February 18
Second Sunday in Lent - February 25
Third Sunday in Lent - March 3
Fourth Sunday in Lent - March 10
Fifth Sunday in Lent - March 17

Holy Week

Palm Sunday - March 24
Maundy Thursday - March 28
Good Friday - March 29
Easter - March 31



Micah

Lenten Bible Study

with Bishop Tim Smith

Thursdays, Feb. 22 - March 21 at 7 p.m.

Bishop Tim Smith will offer an online Bible study on the book of Micah during Lent—specifically, the five Thursdays **beginning February 22 and concluding March 21**—from 7 to 8 pm via Zoom. You can register to receive the Zoom link at nclutheran.org and click on “Events & Communications / Bishop’s Bible Study”

Don’t miss this opportunity to study Micah with other Lutherans across the synod!