

Faith and Rock Creek Lutheran Churches  
Sunday, February 21<sup>st</sup> 10:30AM  
1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent  
Facebook Live @faithandrockcreek  
WRDN 1430AM / 107.3FM  
Intern Pastor Bethany Walker



Today's radio broadcast is sponsored by Val Cataract

Prelude

What Kind of Music Does a Rainbow Make

Sung by the children of the Philippine Montessori Center Instrumental Ensemble  
Manhasset, New York

Welcome

**Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, the keeper of the covenant,  
the source of steadfast love, our rock and our redeemer. Amen.

God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the  
one who is full of compassion.

*Silence is kept for reflection*

Fountain of living water, **pour out your mercy over us. Our sin is heavy, and we  
long to be free. Rebuild what we have ruined and mend what we have torn.**

**Wash us in your cleansing flood. Make us alive in the Spirit to follow in the way  
of Jesus, as healers and restorers of the world you so love. Amen.**

Beloved, God's word never fails. The promise rests on grace:  
by the saving love of Jesus Christ, the wisdom and power of God,  
your sins are ✠ forgiven, and God remembers them no more.  
Journey in the way of Jesus. **Amen.**

### **Opening Hymn**

### **The Glory of These Forty Days**

The glory of these forty days, we celebrate with songs of praise; For Christ,  
through Whom all things were made, himself has fasted and has prayed.

Alone and fasting Moses saw, the loving God who gave the law;  
and to Elijah, fasting came the steeds and chariots of flame.

So Daniel trained his mystic sight, Delivered from the lion's might;  
And John, the bride groom's friend, became the herald of Messiah's name.

Then grant O God, that we may too, Return in fast and prayer to you  
Our spirits strengthen with your grace, and give us joy to see your face.

### **Greeting**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the  
Holy Spirit be with you all.

### **Prayer of the Day**

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.**

### **Children's Message**

### **Invitation to Lent**

On Ash Wednesday we began our 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.

**We begin this holy season by acknowledging our need for repentance, a turning around of our lives, and for God's mercy.**

We are created to experience joy in communion with God, living in the covenant we have in our baptism, we are called to love one another and to live in harmony with creation.

**But our sinful rebellion keeps us from fully experiencing communion with God, our neighbors and creation, so that we do not enjoy the life our Creator intended.**

As disciples of Jesus, we are called into spiritual disciplines that contend against evil and resist whatever leads us away from love of God and love of neighbor. I invite you therefore to the discipline of Lent as we rediscover the spiritual practices that transform us.

**Let us continue our journey together through these forty days to the great Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection.**

### **New Testament Reading**

**1 Peter 3:18-22**

<sup>18</sup>Christ 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, <sup>19</sup>in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup>who 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. <sup>21</sup>And 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, <sup>22</sup>who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

### **Psalm**

**Psalm 25:1-10**

To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul. **My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

Let none who look to you be put to shame; rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous. **Show me your ways, O LORD, and teach me your paths.**

Lead me in your truth and teach me,

for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

**Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.**  
Remember 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.  
**You are gracious and upright, O LORD; therefore you teach sinners in your way.**  
You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.  
**All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.**

### **Gospel**

**Mark 1:9-15**

<sup>9</sup>In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup>And 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. <sup>11</sup>And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased." <sup>12</sup>And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. <sup>13</sup>He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him. <sup>14</sup>Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, <sup>15</sup>and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

### **Hebrew Scripture Reading**

**Genesis 9:8-17**

<sup>8</sup>God said to Noah and to his sons with him, <sup>9</sup>"As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, <sup>10</sup>and 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. <sup>11</sup>I 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." <sup>12</sup>God 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: <sup>13</sup>I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. <sup>14</sup>When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, <sup>15</sup>I 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. <sup>16</sup>When 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." <sup>17</sup>God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."

## **Sermon**

### **Hymn of the Day**

### **We Were Baptized in Christ Jesus**

We were baptized in Christ Jesus, we were baptized in his death; that as Christ was raised victorious we might live a brand new life. And if we have been united in a dreadful death like his, we will all be reunited for he lives.

In the water and the witness, in the breaking of the bread, in the waiting arms of Jesus who is risen from the dead, God has made a new beginning, from the ashes of our past; in the losing and the winning we hold fast.

Glory be to God the Father, glory be to Christ the Son, glory to the Holy Spirit, ever three and ever one; as it was in the beginning, glory now resounds again in a song that has no ending. Amen.

### **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. 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**

#### **Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you**

### **Offering**

### **Offering Prayer**

Generous God, **You free us at the font and feed us at the table. You provide for our every need. Receive our gifts of time, talents and treasures and transform them into a feast that welcomes all, in Jesus Christ, our host and our guest. Amen.**

### **Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below  
Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### **Holy Communion**

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you send to us Jesus, your Son, who reaches out to heal the sick and suffering, who preaches good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opens his arms to all.

### **Song Before Communion**

### **Let Us Break Bread Together**

Let us break bread together on our knees, Let us break bread together on our knees. When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.

Let us drink wine together on our knees. Let us drink wine together on our knees  
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me

Let us praise God together on our knees. Let us praise God together on our knees  
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me

### **Words of Institution**

On the night...remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

Let us pray with confidence the prayer our savior gave us.

**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.**

## **Communion Distribution**

### **Post Communion Prayer**

God of Promises, at your feast you have fed us with your grace, filling us with hope to sustain us on this Lenten journey. May we carry the promises we have received out into the world who needs to know your love and tender care. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen

## **Benediction**

### **Sending Hymn**

### **Have No Fear Little Flock**

Have no fear little flock; have no fear little flock, for the Father has chosen to give you the kingdom have no fear little flock.

Have good cheer little flock, have good cheer little flock, for the Father will keep you in his love forever; have good cheer, little flock.

Praise the Lord high above; praise the Lord high above, for he stoops down to heal you, uplift and restore you; praise the Lord high above

Thankful hearts raise to God; thankful hearts raise to God, for he stays close beside you, in all things works with you; thankful hearts raise to God.

**Dismissal** Go forth knowing God keeps God's promises. Thanks be to God!

