

Harrold Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

February 25th 8 & 10:30 AM

Second Sunday in Lent 2024



WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP!

- **It is a joy to welcome our visitors!** Please sign the guest book in the Communication Center at the rear of the church, to the right as you exit, and take a Welcome Packet which is filled with information about Harrold Zion. Please introduce yourself to the pastor as you leave worship. We hope you return soon! Follow us on social media!
- **Children's bags** are available in the Narthex.
- **There is a prayer request book** on a podium in the Welcome Center. Please write name(s) in the book prior to the service to have names included in the prayers.
- **Large print bulletins** are available from any usher for those needing them.
- **Hearing devices** are available from any usher for those needing them.
- **An AED machine** can be found on the wall after the Ladies Room on the left.
- **Receiving Holy Communion** - We believe the body and blood of Christ to be present in the bread and wine. All who are baptized are invited to share in this meal. Please come forward at the usher's direction. Non-communicating children may come forward for a blessing. If you desire communion in the pew, please inform one of the ushers so that you may receive communion there.

Our MISSION

***To Worship and Serve God,
Grow Disciples and Love our Neighbors***

Our Vision

***Building Faith that's Open, Affirming, Authentic,
Positive, Inviting, and that Serves Others.***

GATHERING – *We are brought together to remember who and whose we are.*

Welcome and Announcements – Joys and Concerns

Prelude *Ten Thousand Angels* Overholt

Please stand, as able

Call to Worship

God welcomes the dreamers and the doubters,

the courageous and the fearful,

the hungry and the hopeful,

the impatient and the reserved.

God welcomes the young and the old,

the poets and the prophets,

the faithful and the tired,

the curious and the convicted.

Wherever you are on your journey,

wherever your boat is at sea,

there is room for all to gather here.

This is God's house.

Let us worship the one whom even the seas obey.

Call to Confession

In our scripture passage for today, Peter is out on a boat with the disciples when a storm hits. Instead of cowering in fear, Peter spots Jesus on the water and bravely crawls out of the boat to move closer to Christ. Friends, I think the prayer of confession is one way that we do the same; it's one way that we can crawl out of our boats.

And here's what I mean: In the prayer of confession, we are honest about the storms that rage within and around us. In this prayer, we speak with honesty in an effort to move closer to God. This is our moment to crawl out of the boat.

So friends, let's be like Peter.

Join me in being courageous. Join me in truth-telling. Join me in prayer. It's time to get our feet wet. You may kneel or stand.

Pause for everyone to get settled and reflection.

Let us pray together:

Gracious God, there are days that threaten to swallow us, days when

the storms of life feel too big. In those moments, we often cling to the sides of our ships in fear, spending more energy hiding from storms than looking for you. Forgive us for doubting ourselves. Forgive us for doubting you. Rescue us from the storms of today and from the fears that trap us.

With hope in our hearts we pray, Amen.

Family of faith, You could get out of the boat and walk on water like Peter, or fall to your knees and stay in one place. No matter what you do, Christ's love for you is unchanging. Fearful or brave, faithful or doubting, Christ is always walking toward you. So, hear and believe this good news: God's love is stronger than any storms. On our best days, and on our worst days, we are seen, forgiven, and loved. God is always walking toward you.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

You are invited to stand, as able.

Prayer for Illumination

Holy God,

There are days where the wind is loud.

**There are days where the rain tears through the trees
and the storms of life beg for our attention.**

**So just as you stilled the wind and the sea, still our wandering hearts.
Quiet our restless minds.**

**Reach out your hand to us and pull us into your Word
so that we might hear, really hear, your message to us today.**

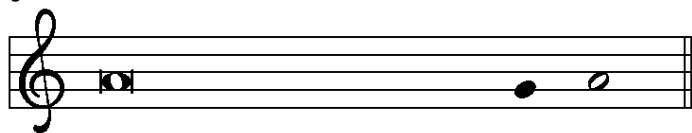
With one foot out of the boat, we pray, Amen.

Gathering Hymn #796 How Firm a Foundation

Apostolic Greeting

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

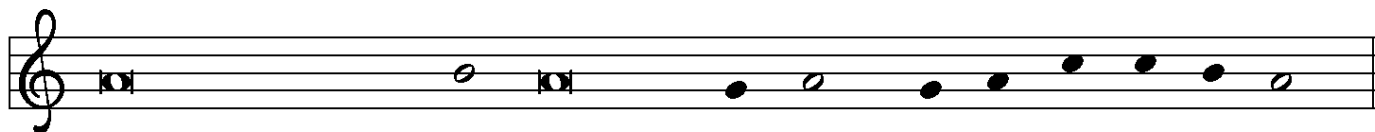
Kyrie



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



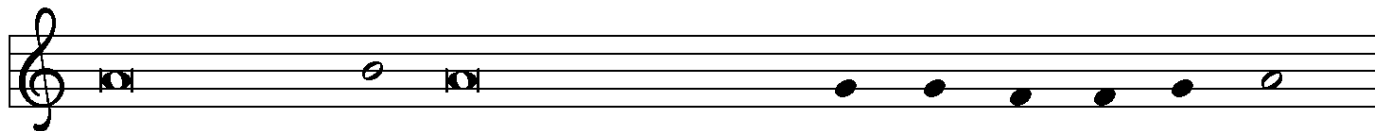
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

WORD – *We hear God’s teachings to guide our path of serving.*

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray together. **O God, 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.**

Please be seated.

First Reading: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

¹When 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. ²And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.” ³Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, ⁴“As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁵No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁶I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. ⁷I 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.”

¹⁵God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶I 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.” The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

(10:30) Handbell Anthem *Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross* -Arr. Stokes

Psalm: 22:23-31 *Read Responsively*

²³You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob’s line, give glory.

Stand in awe of the LORD, all you offspring of Israel.

²⁴**For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty;
neither is the LORD’s face hidden from them;
but when they cry out, the LORD hears them.**

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

²⁶**The poor shall eat and be satisfied,**

Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live for ever!

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;

all the families of nations shall bow before God.

²⁸**For dominion belongs to the LORD,
who rules over the nations.**

²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship;

all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the LORD.

³⁰**Their descendants shall serve the LORD,**

whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.

³¹They shall proclaim God’s deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying to them, “The LORD has acted!”

Second Reading: Romans 4:13-25

¹³The 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. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

¹⁶For 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, ¹⁷as 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. ¹⁸Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become “the father of many nations,” according to what was said, “So numerous shall your descendants be.” ¹⁹He 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. ²⁰No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²Therefore his faith “was reckoned to him as righteousness.” ²³Now the words, “it was reckoned to him,” were written not for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand, as able

Gospel Acclamation



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,
slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

Holy Gospel: Matthew 14:22-33

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourteenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²² Immediately he made the disciples get into a boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³ And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴ but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. ²⁵ And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. ²⁶ But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, “It is a ghost!” And they cried out in

fear. ²⁷ But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, “Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.”

²⁸ Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” ²⁹ He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. ³⁰ But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and, beginning to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!” ³¹ Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?” ³² When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³ And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.” The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Children’s Time

Sermon

Please stand, as able

Hymn of the Day #756 *Eternal Father, Strong to Save*

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

(petitions)...Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

(prayer concludes)... **Amen.**

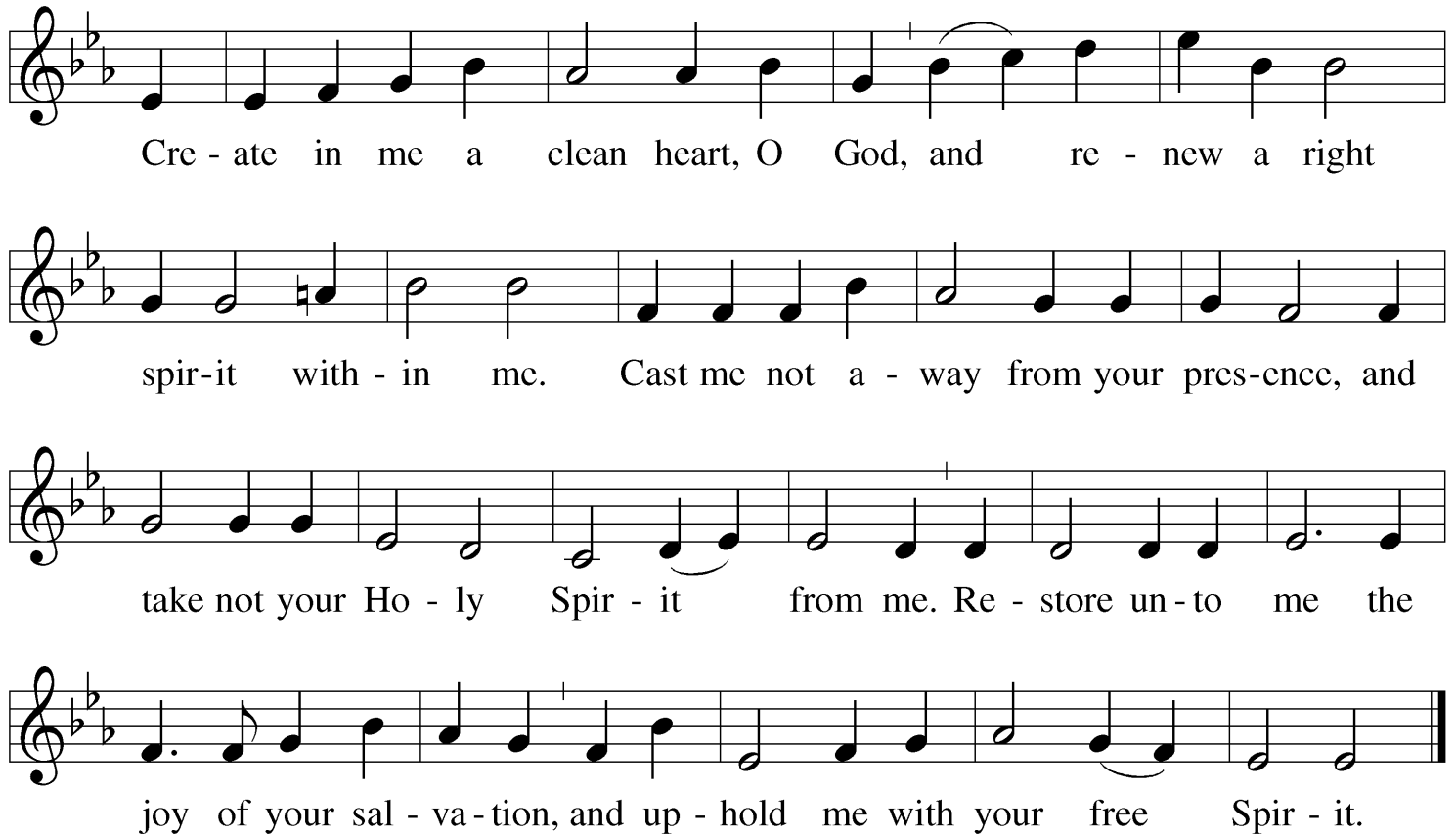
Sharing of the Peace

Offering

Prayer from “Stradella”

Flowtow, Arr. Blake

Offertory *Create in Me a Clean Heart* (from WOV #732)



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir-it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres-ence, and
take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store un - to me the
joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Text: Psalm 51:10-12

Music: FRANCKE, J.A. Freylinghausen, 1670-1739

Offering prayer

Let us pray together. **Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

The Lord's 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.

SENDING – *We are set out to share hope and make disciples.*

Benediction

Beloved wanderer, as you leave this place, may you carry your curious heart on your sleeve. May you look for God in every face. May you find the courage to get out of the boat, to run to the tomb, and to speak of your faith. And when the world falls apart, may you hear God's voice deep within, saying, "Take heart, it is I, be not afraid." You are called. You are blessed. In both your ups and your downs, you always belong to God. Go now in peace. Go trusting that good news.

Amen.

Sending Hymn # 802 *Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus*

Quiet Meditation

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

Thanks be to God. We will!

Postlude *Psalm XX*

Young

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WE THANK TODAY'S SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Lectors: 8:00 AM TBD

10:30 AM Melissa Houston

Acolytes: 8:00 AM Grace Dansak

10:30 AM Ben Hayes

Ushers: 8:00 AM Bob Eicher

10:30 AM David Cronin, Mel Veverka & Cindy Veverka

Altar Guild: Mary Lou Millward

THIS WEEK....

OFFICE HOURS ARE: 9AM-2PM MONDAY-THURSDAY AND 9AM-NOON ON FRIDAY

On Call for pastoral care emergencies:

Pastor Caroline

SUNDAY

9:15 AM Sunday School

8 AM 10:30 AM Worship

MONDAY

10:30 AM Quilting Ministry

1:00 PM Quilting Ministry

6:30 PM Property Committee

TUESDAY

9:30 AM PS Library Speech

10:00 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry

WEDNESDAY

10:00 AM Newsletter Mailing

11:30 AM PS Library

6:00 PM Soup & Study

6:30PM Discussion, Fellowship /Handbells

7:00 PM Evening Prayer /Youth Bells

7:30 PM Adult Choir

THURSDAY

11:30 AM Speech PS Library

7:00 PM Boy Scouts

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

5:00 PM Worship with Communion

SUNDAY

8:00 & 10:30 AM Worship with Communion

LOOKING AHEAD:

- Holy Week begins on March 24, 2024, with Palm Sunday, with services on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter, March 31, 2024.
- Palm Sunday breakfast on March 24, 2024, between services.
- Easter Egg hunt on Palm Sunday at 12:00 PM.,
- Shoe collection for Lent.
- Jigsaw Puzzle night – April 12

LENT--The theme for this year is “Wandering Heart: Figuring Out Faith with Peter.” Each Sunday we will follow the path of (Simon) Peter as he works out what it means to follow Jesus. Special Gospel readings have been chosen that line up this journey and with the typical lectionary appointed Psalm. There is a special devotional for wandering farther.

On Wednesdays we will follow the path of caretaking and caregiving for matters of the heart and faith with special studies. Each week we will visit a “Stewards of...” set of Bible texts and related questions. We will share in the study while we

share some soup and bread (or crackers). ***Please sign up in the Communication Center if you would like to provide some soup.*** We will then have a time of discussion, fellowship and clean up before a simple Evening prayer.

Wednesdays in Lent:

6:00pm Soup & Study -Soup and Bread Meal with a Bible study

6:30pm Discussion, Fellowship, Clean-up, and Adult Bell Practice and Midweek Lenten Kids Gathering

7:00pm Evening Prayer and Youth Handbells

7:30pm Adult Choir Practice

Midweek Lenten Kids Gathering

Sheri Anderson will lead a gathering for elementary-age children during the Midweek Lenten services. While the adults gather for bible studies and worship, children will come to the large Sunday school room for fun, lessons, snacks, and more each Wednesday during Lent. If you have any questions, please contact Sheri at 724-837-7327 or hzlcyouth@gmail.com. The start time is 6:30 pm until the end of Worship. Kids Gathering dates: February 21st, February 28th, March 6th, March 13th, & March 20th.

Lenten Youth Bell Choir

Lenten Youth Bell Choir will be taking place during our 2024 Midweek Lenten Services! All ages welcome. No experience needed! Youth Bells will play during the Palm Sunday weekend services!

Easter Instrumentalists Needed!!!

Wanted: instrumentalists of all ages and skill levels to play for the Easter Sunday 2024 services! If you or your children play an instrument, email Laurie at lracculia@yahoo.com to be part of the most joyous celebration of our year!

“Messy Communion” March 17th 3:30 – Bring a covered dish to share. This is an all-ages Holy Communion Congregational event. If your little one is showing interest in receiving Holy Communion, plan to come to this event as a First Communion Instruction. If you aren’t a little one and love to know that there is a place for you at Jesus’ table, then come. If you just like to have fun, then come. We will share in some activities and then dinner. Sign up!

Palm Sunday Breakfast

Sunday March 24th will be the annual Palm Sunday Breakfast from 8:15–10:00 AM. Please sign-up in the communication center for donations of breakfast casseroles, pastries, and donuts. There will also be a sign-up for those attending the event. Fellowship committee will be providing breads, bagels, cream cheese, Jellies, coffee, juice, and other drinks.

Easter Egg Hunt

Please donate candy for our Easter egg hunt. The hunt will be on Sunday March 24th at 12 noon. Place donations in the bin marked “Egg Hunt” located in the Communication Center

Classic Movie Night, Friday, March 15th at 6:00 PM. THE VOTES ARE

IN...Charlie and The Chocolate Factory- 1971, is the winning movie. Grab a comfy camp chair, pillows, and blankets, and join us in the Social Hall for a classic movie with some favorite concession items. This is an all ages event. Sign up in the Communication Center.

Trash and Treasure Yard Sale - First Planning meeting will be on Sunday March 3rd at 9:15 AM in the church sanctuary. Anyone interested in helping out at the event or has ideas to share are encouraged to attend.

ITEMS AVAILABLE FOR SPONSORSHIP:

Altar Flowers -March 2,3 (1 Vase), March 9,10 (2 Vases)

Bulletin & Eternal candle –March 2,3 (bulletin), March 9,10 (Bulletin & Candle)

Church Staff Information

Rev. Andrew Fitch, Senior Pastor - 570-768-8455, pastorfitch@outlook.com

Rev. Caroline Clifford, PhD, Asst. Pastor – 814-769-5662

pastorcarolinehzlc@gmail.com

Sheri Anderson, Coordinator of Family Ministries - hzlc youth@gmail.com

Laurie Racculia, Director of Music Ministries - lracculia@yahoo.com

Robyn Henry, Secretary, robynhzlc@gmail.com

Debby Schlegel, Custodian

Joanne Gebhardt, Sunday Organist

Melanie Altman, Saturday Organist