First Sunday in Lent March 9, 2025, 9:00 a.m.



GATHERING: The Holy Spirit gathers us in unity on the first day of the week, the day of Christ's resurrection.

† Please stand as you are able

PRELUDE

WELCOME

TEMPLE TALK: Sari Kroschel, Program Director, Camp Onomia

†CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Whatever is wrong, God forgives. Whatever is wounded, God heals. Whatever is partial, God completes. Whatever is weak, God makes strong. My brothers and sisters, in the name of + Jesus Christ, you are forgiven and loved. Amen.

†GATHERING SONG

Sanctuary

Lord, pre-pare me to be a sanc-tu-a-ry, pure and ho-ly, tried and true; With thanks-giv-ing, I'll be a liv-ing sanc-tu-ar-y for you. (*repeat*) CCLI Song No. 24140, CCLI License No. 2970022

†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.**

†PRAYER OF THE DAY

Redeeming God, you come to us in Christ to rescue us from slavery and lead us out of captivity. Guide us by the wisdom of the cross, and show us how to live a life of justice, love, and blessedness. **Amen**.

HOLY BAPTISM: God brings those who are baptized out of death and into life.

Absalom Milo Oney and Theodrich Esmond Oney Parents – Julie & Jon Oney Sponsors – Jessie & Curt Goreham-Voss

In baptism our gracious heavenly Father frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church, the body of Christ. Living with Christ and in the communion of saints, we grow in faith, love and obedience to the will of God. Who presents Absalom Milo Oney and Theodrich Esmond Oney for baptism?

(Sponsors) We present Absalom Milo Oney and Theodrich Esmond Oney for baptism.

Julie and Jon, called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have Abe and Theo baptized into Christ? (Parents) We do.

As you bring Abe and Theo to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities: to live among God's faithful people, to come to the word of God and the holy supper, to teach and to learn the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, to receive the holy scriptures, and nurture one another in faith and prayer, so that each may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace. Do you promise to help one another grow in the Christian faith and life? (Parents) We do.

Sponsors, do you promise to nurture Abe and Theo in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help them live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

(Sponsors) We do.

People of God, do you promise to support Abe and Theo, their parents, and sponsors, and pray for them in their new life in Christ?

(Congregation) We do.

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church. Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God? **(All) I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God? **I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God? **I renounce them.**

Do you believe in God the Father? I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God? 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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the Jordan your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you. Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen**

Absalom Milo and Theodrich Esmond, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life. Sustain them with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen.**

Abe and Theo, children of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. **Amen.**

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

WORD: God speaks to us in Scriptures read,
sung and preached.

SPECIAL MUSIC	He's Got the Whole World in His Hand
	Chorister Choir

traditional

STORY TIME: Sari Kroschel, Program Director, Camp Onomia

LENTEN POEM: compassion, suffering alongside

Kate Bowler

†GOSPEL READING: Matthew 5:1-16 (pew Bible p. 785-786)

¹When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:
³"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
⁴"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
⁵"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
⁶"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
⁷"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
⁸"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
⁹"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
¹¹"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of

blessed are you when people revite you and persecule you and ulter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you. ¹³"You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. ¹⁴"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

SERMON: Pastor Jon Rhodes

SONG OF THE DAY

Blest Are They

ELW 728

 Blest are they, the poor in spir-it; theirs is the king-dom of God. Blest are they, full of sor-row; they shall be con-soled.
 Refrain: Re-joice and be glad! Bless-ed are you, ho-ly are you!

Re-joice and be glad! Yours is the king-dom of God!

(2) Blest are they, the low-ly ones; they shall in-her-it the earth. Blest are they who hun-ger and thirst; they shall have their fill. **Refrain**

(3) Blest are they who show mer-cy; mer-cy shall be theirs. Blest are they, the pure of heart; they shall see God. **Refrain**

(4) Blest are they who seek peace; they are the chil-dren of God. Blest are they who suf-fer in faith; the glo-ry of God is theirs. **Refrain** Permission to podcast/stream ELW 728 in this service obtained from OneLicense with license #A-733542.

†PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

May we join hand in hand, and walk this road together.

†SHARING THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

OFFERING

Children can bring their coins to the giraffe bank in the front. To make an electronic offering or setup a recurring contribution, please scan this QR code:



†OFFERTORY PRAYER

Our gracious and generous Creator, you have blessed us with abundance: this beautiful earth and all we enjoy, health and strength, family and friends, work and rest, home and belongings. We are blessed indeed to support this community and provide for those who serve us, to help those in need and extend our mission, in proportion to what we have earned and saved, in gratitude we now joyfully give. Amen.

†LORD'S PRAYER (Traditional)

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: The Triune God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

†SENDING BLESSING

May the love of God pursue you, the light of Christ enfold you, and the Holy Spirit keep you; as you dwell in the house of the Lord your whole life long. **Amen.**

†SENDING SONG

This Little Light of Mine

(1) This lit-tle light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine; this lit-tle light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine; this lit-tle light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

- (2) Ev-'ry-where I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;ev-'ry-where I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;ev-'ry-where I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine,let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
- (3) Je-sus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;Je-sus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;Je-sus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine,let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
- (4) This lit-tle light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;this lit-tle light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;this lit-tle light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine,let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

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†**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you. Thanks be to God.

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