

St Paul Ev. Lutheran Church-Blue Point

Lenten Midweek Service March 11, 2020

Welcome to St Paul Ev. Lutheran Church!!

Prayer before the Service-O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Opening Hymn439 vs 1-8

Order of Service-Vespers.....pg 229

Psalm 121 (responsively whole verse by whole verse)

Old Testament Lesson-Genesis 12:1-9

Now the LORD had said to Abram:

“Get out of your country, From your family
And from your father’s house,
To a land that I will show you.

I will make you a great nation; I will bless you
And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing.

I will bless those who bless you,
And I will curse him who curses you;
And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

So Abram departed as the LORD had spoken to him, and Lot went with him. And Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. Then Abram took Sarai his wife and Lot his brother’s son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people whom they had acquired in Haran, and they departed to go to the land of Canaan. So they came to the land of Canaan. Abram passed through the land to the place of Shechem, as far as the terebinth tree of Moreh. And the Canaanites were then in the land.

Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, “To your descendants I will give this land.” And there he built an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. And he moved from there to the mountain east of Bethel, and he pitched his tent with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; there he built an altar to the LORD and called on the name of the LORD. So Abram journeyed, going on still toward the South.

Epistle Lesson-Romans 4:1-17

What then shall we say that Abraham our father has found 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 accounted to him for righteousness.” Now to him who works, the wages are not counted as grace but as debt.

But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness, just as David also describes the blessedness of the man to whom God imputes righteousness apart from works:

“Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven,
And whose sins are covered;
Blessed is the man to whom the LORD shall not impute
sin.”

Does this blessedness then come upon the circumcised only, or upon the uncircumcised also? For we say that faith was accounted to Abraham for righteousness. How then was it accounted? While he was circumcised, or uncircumcised? Not while circumcised, but while uncircumcised. And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had while still uncircumcised, that he might be the father of all those who believe, though they are uncircumcised, that righteousness might be imputed to them also, and the father of circumcision to those who not only are of the circumcision, but who also walk in the steps of the faith which our father Abraham had while still uncircumcised.

For the promise that he would be the heir of the world was not to Abraham or to his seed through the law, but through the righteousness of faith. For if those who are of the law are heirs, faith is made void and the promise made of no effect, because the law brings about wrath; for where there is no law there is no transgression.

Therefore it is of faith that it might be according to grace, so that the promise might be sure to all the seed, not only to those who are of the law, but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all (as it is written, “I have made you a father of many nations”) in the presence of Him whom he believed—God, who gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did;

Gospel Lesson-John 3:1-17

There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, “Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him.”

Jesus answered and said to him, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”

Nicodemus said to Him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?”

Jesus answered, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.

That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, “You must be born again.” The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

Nicodemus answered and said to Him, “How can these things be?”

Jesus answered and said to him, “Are you the teacher of Israel, and do not know these things? Most assuredly, I say to you, We speak what We know and testify what We have seen, and you do not receive Our witness. If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you heavenly things? No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, that is, the Son of Man who is in heaven. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

Hymn.....567

Sermon

Text: Romans 4, Genesis 12

Theme: The Saints of Old faithfully walked on the path with eyes fixed on the Cross

I. Abram, exalted father, whose name was later changed to Abraham, Father of many nations, discovered that life could not be established by keeping the law

II. Abraham believed God

III. His faith was accounted as Righteousness

Canticle.....422

Prayer

Benediction

Closing Hymn.....431

Lenten Midweek Services will take place at 12 Noon and 7 PM through the end of the Wednesday Services on April 1st.

Lenten Midweek Services —The theme will be **Walking with Paul to the Cross and Beyond**. The lessons will be the Epistle lessons from the previous Sunday;

Lenten Midweek 2, March 11th-Romans 4, Theme-The Saints of Old faithfully walked on the path with eyes fixed on the Cross

Lenten Midweek 3, March 18th-Romans 5:1-11, Theme-The journey to the Cross leads through trials and tribulations

Lenten Midweek 4, March 25th-Ephesians 5:8-14, Theme-The Lord provides light for the saints on the way to the Cross

Lenten Midweek 5, April 1st-Roman 8:1-11, Theme-The Lord provides pilgrims on their way to the Cross with the Spirit

Palm Sunday, April 4th-Philippians 2:5-11, Theme-The mind of Christ enables us to follow Christ to the Cross humility and faith
Maundy Thursday-1 Corinthians 11:23ff, The Lord richly feeds His children, as they make their way to the Cross
Good Friday-Isaiah 53; John 19, Theme-We have arrived at the Cross and ponder what this means for us!
Easter Sunrise-1 Corinthians 15:1-11, Theme-The Lord is Risen!

Ladies Aid has placed flower order forms in your mailbox. They have to be returned to the Ladies Aid mailbox, with a check made out to the Ladies Aid, by March 22.

Thrivent Dollar decisions are due soon. If you have not made your choices, (eg Blue Point or ALIS), please call your agent or log in online.

ALIS Auction tickets are available from the church office. \$25 per ticket.

Central Illinois District 75th Annual LWML Convention will be held on April 30th – May 2nd at Bethel Lutheran Church, 325 E. Queenwood Rd., Morton, IL 61550. This will be a celebration of our District's 75th Anniversary. Our theme is "Proclaiming Jesus... 75 years of Serving the Lord with Gladness". Our theme verse is Psalm 71:17 O God, from my youth you have taught me, and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds. For our anniversary celebration, there will be some extra activities planned. Starting on Thursday evening there will be an opening worship starting at 7:00pm. All are invited to attend. Friday will begin with registration starting at 8:00 am followed with Bible Study beginning at 9:00 am followed by lunch then servant events from 1:00pm to 4:00pm. There will be an 75th Anniversary Banquet on Friday evening starting at 6:00pm. That will be at Countryside Banquet Facility, Washington, IL. Guest Speaker for Friday and Saturday will be Jan Struck. The Convention will conclude on Saturday May 2nd at Bethel Lutheran Church. More detailed information regarding breakout session, servant events and registration forms are on the Bulletin Board. Please consider coming for just a day or the whole convention to Celebrate LWML CID 75 years of Serving the Lord with Gladness. If there are any questions you can contact Annie Guerrettaz, Jo Ellyn Tappendorf or Elaine Stuckemeyer.

The Ladies Aid/LWML, Immanuel Lutheran Church Augsburg (Shobonier) will host their annual Soup Luncheon on Sunday March 22nd. Serving from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Menu: Chili, Chicken Noodle Soup, Chicken Salad and Peanut Butter sandwiches, grilled hot dogs, homemade desserts and beverage. Free will donation. Carry out available

Those participating-

Pastor-Rev. David Speers

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Organist-Faith Kemme

www.stpaulbluepoint.org

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