

First Sunday of Lent

February 21, 2021 9:30 am ~ **Bulletin Responses**



Worship with Communion: Sunday 9:30 am

Worship Online through Haven's Facebook Page

(Go to www.havenlc.org and click the  to access Haven's FB page.)

Traditionally Lent is a period of 40 days of intentional prayer, fasting and charity --- a time for deepening our relationship with God in a variety of faith-filled expressions. It is a time of truth-telling ---- a journey into the core of who we are and how we express it in word and action. Trusting in the love and mercy of God, we risk to face what weighs us down and distracts us from God and our neighbor, that we might draw closer to God and the fullness of who we were created to be. Be bold. Be brave. Through Christ we are set free from the fear of sin and death and set free to be transformed by the boundless, eternal love of God. Welcome to the gift of Lent.

GATHERING

GATHERING HYMN

“Oh, Love, How Deep”

(vs. 1) #322

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

A: Return to the Lord, your God, with all your heart.

C: **Return to the LORD who is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.**

(Joel 2: 12, 13)

PRELUDE

“Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart”

setting, Joe Utterback
attr. J.S. Bach

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

(Lent is a traditional time for self-examination and reflection. Assured of God's love and forgiveness we can dare to face ourselves and the ways we hurt God, others and ourselves. We make our confession trusting in our Lord whose love is eternal and whose grace is unfailing.)

P: Now is the acceptable time, now is the day of salvation! (2 Cor. 6: 2b)

We gather in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen!**

D GM⁷ Bm/F# Em⁷ A A/G F#m⁷

Oh, let the Son of God en - fold you with his Spir - it and his

Bm⁷ Em⁷ A⁷ DM⁷

love, let him fill your heart and sat - is - fy your soul.

Em⁷ F#m⁷ GM⁷ Bm/F# Em⁷ A A/G F#m⁷

Oh, let him have the things that hold you, and his Spir - it like a

Bm⁷ Em⁷ Em⁷/A G/A A D C/E D/F#

dove will de - scend up - on your life and make you whole.

Refrain

GM⁷ A/G F#m⁷ Bm⁷ Em⁷

Je - sus, O Je - sus, come and

A DM⁷ C/E D/F# GM⁷ A A/G

fill your lambs. Je - sus, O

F#m⁷ Bm⁷ Em⁷ Asus⁷ A⁷ D

Je - sus, come and fill your lambs.

P: With honesty of heart and trusting in the steadfast, sure love of God,

C: **We confess, to you, Lord, and to one another,
our sin and our need for healing.**

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

P: Gracious God,

C: **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.**

Sin separates us from You and our brothers and sisters.

Sin ties us up in knots and confuses us.

Sin sours our attitudes and destroys right priorities.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

What separates or distracts you from your love of God and your neighbor?

We are in need of a Savior. We want to live in Your love.

We want to better listen to Your words of truth and guidance.

We want to know Your power in our lives,

so that we can be faithful servants in Your world.

Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, Lord,

so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways,

to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

*A silence is kept to sit with our Lord,
humbly awake to our sin but also keenly aware
of God's forgiveness and unceasing love for us.*

P: We are reconciled to God through Christ;

For his sake, God does not count our trespasses against us.

Once dead in sin, we are now alive to God.

Once lost, we now are found.

In the mercy of almighty God, receive the entire forgiveness of all your sins,

In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

HYMN

“Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am”

(sing three times) #814

THE GREETING

C: **And also with you.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

“This is the Feast”

p. 122

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

C: **Amen.**

WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

“Jesus Loves Me”

(vs. 1, refrain) #595

FIRST READING Genesis 9: 8-17

(after the reading)

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

“Return to the Lord”

p. 151

GOSPEL Mark 1:9-15

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter. C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

(after the reading)

P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

THE SERMON

Pastor Linda M. Alessandri

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word”

(vs. 1-3) #517

THE PRAYERS *Each prayer ends, "let us pray." Response: "Have mercy, O God."*

... for those sent in harm's way for the sake of peace especially **Gavin** Anderson, **Ben** Asbury, **Richard** Collins, **Cole** Conrad, **Nick** Graham, **Michael** McKenzie III, **Gabe** Seilhamer, **Nathan** Snell, and **Hunter** Wiles...

... Give healing and strength to all who suffer, especially,

Carol Shull
***Virginia** White
***Sandy** Brandon
***Raven** Lucas
***Edward** Staley
***Helen** VanderHamm
***Nasrin** Sotoudeh
***Courtney** Belmont
***Caitlyn** Battoo
***Debora** Daniels
Sharon & Larry
Hartsock
***Teresa** Hoover
***Lindsey** Hoover
***Johnny** Wright
***Cheryl** Nathan

***Sarah** Duckwall
***William** Burkley
***Monica** McDonald
***Mary & Family**
***John** Libo
***Ethan** Sussman
Pat Pile
Irene Giffin
***Jennifer** McCleaf
***Joyce** Bossinger
***Dave** Burkholder
***Nevin** Smith
***Tally** Uchima
John Britton, Jr.
***Bradley** Palmer
***Lulie** Family

Harold Rice
***Robert** and **Thelma**
Miller
Kathy Amos
***Baby** Joey
***Carla** Charles &
Family
Beth Johns
***Bob** Powell
***Ron**
***Larry** Ball
***Christina & family**
***Keith & family**
***Eric** Mills

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us safely offer one another a sign of God's peace.

THE MEAL

THE OFFERING

P: It's Offering Time.

C: Praise God!

(Thank you for your faithful generosity. May God bless what we give and use it to bring wholeness, healing and hope to God's world. Amen.)

THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Holy and generous host, you set a table where we feast as friends.

C: **Prepare us to witness to your goodness
with every gift you have given us to share,
that all people may know your peace
through Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING AND EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
in the beginning you formed the heavens and earth
and created us in your likeness.

You made us guardians of your good creation and left the earth in our care.

All through our weary years and our silent tears,
you did not abandon us to ourselves, but sought us out in love.

When we were captives in Egypt, you did not abandon us.

When we wandered in the wilderness, you did not abandon us.

When we turned to false gods, you did not abandon us.

Through your holy prophets you called us to return
to your graciousness, to your mercy, and to your steadfast love.

In the crowning act of love you gave your only Son,
that whoever believes in him will have eternal life.

For you sent Jesus not to condemn the world,
but to save the world from sin.

Through his death on the cross, we who were once far off,
have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: With this bread and cup, we remember Christ's life among us;
his association with outcasts, his eating with sinners,
his healing of the sick, his care for the poor.

Send, we pray, your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and wine,
that we who share this meal may become a holy communion,
the body of Christ in the world.

**C: Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.**

THE LORDS PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in your Kingdom and teach us to pray:

C: 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: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, (John 1:29b)
happy are those who are called to your supper.

C: Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed. (Matthew 8: 8)

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION for those communing in their home

Please have your communion set(s) ready. Pastor will ask you to remove the film over the host and take it in hand. Pastor will then say, "Body of Christ, given for you." Please consume the host. Pastor will then ask you to remove the protective film from the grape juice. Pastor will say, "Blood of Christ, shed for you." Please drink the grape juice. When all at home and in the church have received communion, Pastor will offer a blessing on all who have shared in this gift of holy communion.

HYMNS DURING COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

"Lamb of God"

"Change My Heart, O God"

"Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling"

p. 135

#801

#608

TABLE BLESSING **C: Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: O God, in this holy meal you have embraced us and gathered us into your arms of compassion and protection.

C: Send us now to go on our way this Lenten season, ready to see our work as prayer, ready to fast from complacency, and ready to share with those in need.

A: Through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

SENDING

THE BLESSING

P: May God ✠, who has forgiven and fed us, now make us strong for these days ahead.

C: Amen!

P: May Jesus lead us, and we be found faithful to follow.

C: Amen!

P: May the Spirit drive us into the wilderness,
burning away the chaff of our lives,
and purifying our hearts for all to see and be blessed.

C: **Amen!**

SENDING HYMN “Bless Now, O God, the Journey” (vs 1, 2) #326

POSTLUDE “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” setting by Joel Raney

DISMISSAL **C: We will! Thanks be to God!**

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SERVING IN TODAY’S WORSHIP:

Presiding Minister	Pastor Linda Alessandri	Assisting Minister	Danny Kiblinger
Music Director/Organist	Stephen Pastena	Guitarist	Bill Byers
Acolyte	Maddie Haupt		
Music Leaders	Charlotte Loveless, Margaret McKee		
Ushers	Marge Cunningham, Elaine Michael, Bob Snyder		

We also Remember in Prayer:

Our homebound members: *Sari Killeffer, Phyllis Meyers, Inez Winebrenner and Dorothy Zinkand.*

Military personnel serving in harm’s way: *Gavin Anderson, Ben Asbury, Richard Collins, Cole Conrad, Nick Graham, Michael McKenzie III, Gabe Seilhammer, Nathan Snell, Hunter Wiles.*

Hospital Admissions: Due to the recent COVID surge, Meritus has discontinued in-person pastoral visitation at this time. However, Meritus can make it possible for a clergy to offer prayer via phone, zoom or outside the patient’s room. The patient or family must request this by contacting Spiritual Care, 301-790-8479.

PLEASE call Haven’s church office or Pastor Alessandri if you or a loved one have a planned or emergency admission so she can provide support as permitted. We also want to add that person to our prayer list so our congregation can hold you or your loved one in prayer.

*Prayers for all those who mourn the loss of **Kendra Sellers** (daughter of Sharon Sellers who passed away in 2019), **Doris Pittinger** and **Betty Calvert** (Dick Hess’ aunt).*

Readings next week: Second Sunday of Lent, Feb. 28, 2021 – Gen. 17:1-7, 15-16, Ps. 22:23-31, Mk. 8:31-38

	Year To Date Actual	Year to Date	Year To Date
	ending Jan. 2021	Budget	(over/behind budget)
	\$ 11,813.20	\$16,663	(\$4,849.80)

Serving God’s People next Sunday morning: February 28, 2021

Presiding Minister	Pastor Linda Alessandri	Assisting Minister	Terry Trovinger
Organist	Stephen Pastena	Guitarist	Bill Byers
Music Leaders	Charlotte Loveless, Bill Clark		Acolyte
Ushers	Amy Mason, Dave Resh, Susan Strobl		

ANNOUNCEMENTS

For up-to-date information about church events and worship visit www.havenlc.org.

Announcements this week:

- Feb. 24 10:00** **Adult Bible Study** (*Enter by Big Brothers Big Sister's office & follow signs*)
7:00 **Midweek Lenten Worship** (Live stream on Facebook)
Order of Service: Holden Evening Prayer
Reflection: "*Living into our Baptism: To Live Among God's Faithful People*"
- Feb. 28 9:30** **Worship** (In person and Live on Facebook)
10:30 **Haven's Annual Meeting** (In Person and via ZOOM)

HAVEN ANNUAL MEETING ON ZOOM

FEBRUARY 28, 2021 10:30 AM

Again, we need a quorum of 50 to elect new Council members
(Can I lure you with a chance to win a bucket of ACT chicken or homemade dessert?)

Join Zoom Meeting on your computer click (or copy & paste in your browser)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89944487001?pwd=VnhkYm8xNXZTaE5CR0RzYjRVemM0QT09>

Meeting ID: 899 4448 7001 Passcode: 481006

Join ZOOM Meeting on your phone, dial +1 301 715 8592 Meeting ID: 899 4448 7001 Passcode: 481006

BOOK CLUB RESCHEDULED Because of the snow predicted last week our Book Club meeting was postponed. We are now meeting this **Thursday, Feb. 25 at 2:00 pm**. We hope you can make it then. It's such a good book to discuss. - Joan

CANCELLATION OF CHURCH EVENTS – Any cancellations of worship service will be noted on the church's phone system in the special events/cancellation voicemail. When calling the church, after the main greeting, press the (*) key. This is where we will record all weather-related information.

LENT 2021 - A SEASON OF RENEWAL AND REFRESHMENT

DO YOU HAVE YOUR LENTEN WORSHIP BAG?

WE'VE PACKED A BAG FOR YOUR LENTEN ADVENTURE

For those who are regularly worshipping in the sanctuary, you can pick up your bag today in the narthex. **It will contain** a Lenten Devotional booklet for your household, blessed communion elements for Maundy Thursday (for one person,) a bar of soap with instructions and a copy of Holden Evening Prayer for our Midweek Lenten services. Please add an extra baggie of communion elements and copy of Holden Evening Prayer for each additional person in your household.

For those who are worshipping at home, you may pick up your bag at the parsonage back porch. They will be in large covered bins to protect them from the weather. **It will contain** a Lenten Devotional booklet for your household, blessed communion elements for all the Sundays of Lent, Maundy Thursday and Easter (for one person,) a bar of soap with instructions and a copy of Holden Evening Prayer for our Midweek Lenten services. Please add a baggie of 8 blessed communion elements and an extra Holden Evening Prayer for each additional person in your household.

WEDNESDAY LIVE-STREAMED LENTEN WORSHIP 7:00 pm

Our music and order of worship will be the lovely Holden Evening Prayer,
with brief meditations on Living into our Baptismal Promises.

Lord, Your Servant Is Listening
DISCIPLESHIP OPPORTUNITIES

HELPING THE RESIDENTS OF HOLLY PLACE On the third Sunday of the month we collect an offering to support the ministry of Holly Place among the elders that call it home.

GOOD NEWS – MICAH’S BACKPACKS TO RESUME As children return to the classroom at Fountaindale Elementary, we will be providing weekend meals for four of those students. We hope to serve even more in the near future. Please keep our schools --- students, teachers and staff --- in prayer!

Haven Mission Statement:

*“To honor God, to reach out with love to our members and the community
and to share the gospel of Jesus Christ.”*

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

*Doug Wright, President Stephen Kauffman, Vice President
Dick Hess, Treasurer Susan Strobl, Secretary
Amy Mason, Immediate Past President
Jon Bracken, Jim Cannon, Marge Cunningham, Kris Fignar,
Elaine Michael, Scott Rhodes, Ned Strange, Ed Yelinek*

ASSISTING CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

*Terry Trovinger, Assistant Treasure
Doug Wright, Restricted Funds/Special Gifts Treasurer*

STAFF

*Pastor Linda M. Alessandri, Pastor
Mary Grabill, Administrative Assistant
Stephen Pastena, Organist, Choir & Chimes Director
Nancy Newkirk, Bell Choir Director*