

South Canyon Lutheran Church

700 44th Street Rapid City, SD 57702

Phone: 605.343.4887 www.sclc-rc.org

"Home of Friend-Ship Preschool"

March 15 & 16, 2025

2nd Sunday in Lent

5:30 pm & 9:00 am



everything [in] between

faith & works

Welcome to Worship

(9 am) PRELUDE

When in Our Music God Is Glorified

Anna Laura Page

Please take a moment to sign the friendship pads at the end of the pew by the aisle. Pass them down the aisle and send them back again. Thank you.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Note: Pastor Deb will end announcements with something like *"Let us take a moment to breath in and breath out as we center our hearts and minds for worship."*

(9 am) Let's Talk Camp!!!

Jamie Duprey, Outlaw Ranch Director

***INVOCATION**

We gather for worship in the name of the Triune God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Come as you are.

If you have deep faith or your faith has run dry,

if you know every scripture or none at all,

if you have calloused hands and live your faith through good works,

or if you kneel at God's feet, with a million hungry questions,

come as you are.

This is God's house.

None are turned away. All are welcome here

***GATHERING SONG**

Come and See

CCLI 121737

**1 Come and see the glory of the Lord, Come behold the Lamb
Come and see the mercy of the King, Bowing down before Him**

**2 Come and give thanks unto the Lord, Come behold the Lamb
Come and sing the praises of the King, Bowing down before Him**

Chorus

For He is Lord above the heavens, Lord in all the earth

Lord of all the angels, Worthy to be served

Alleluia, Alleluia Lord

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

The story of Mary and Martha is often painted as a story where one does right and one does wrong. We know that life is often more complicated than that. We know that faith is embodied through being present and taking action—and everything in between. Knowing this, like Mary and Martha, let us draw near to God. Let us be honest about our lives, our hopes, and our mistakes. For even in our messy middle, God meets us with grace.

Let us pray:

God of Grace,

We long to do the “right” thing. We long to make the “right” choice. We long to stand on the “right” side of the dividing line. In our earnestness, we sometimes miss the sacred right in front of us. In our earnestness, we sometimes miss opportunities to show love. Show us how to hold our heart’s desire for perfection loosely. Show us how to lead with grace and love, over anything else. For even more than our desire to be right, we desire to be close to you. Show us the way. Amen.

Faithful friends, God knows your heart. When you mean well and lose your way, God knows. When you try to do the right thing and miss the point, God knows. When you long to be close to God, and doubt your worth, God knows. You are seen. You are loved. Your sins are forgiven. You have been sent to serve. This is the good news of the gospel! Nothing can separate you from God’s love.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

***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.

Let us pray

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Loving God,

When our anxiety hovers close, when fear clings to our bones, when our stress rises like the tide, see us. Speak to us. Call us by name. See us in the kitchen, in the classroom, in the hospital waiting room. Speak to us in the quiet, in the crowd, in the inky black of night. Call us beloved. Call us by name. Call us your child. Whatever you do, speak to us, for we cannot live on bread alone. Amen.

(9AM) SANCTUARY CHOIR

The Lord is My Light

Craig Courtney, copyright 1999 by Beckenhorst Press
(Faith and Works)

SCRIPTURE READING

James 2:14-26(Pew Bible pg 931)

Turn to page 931 in the pew Bible for our first reading from the book of James, the second chapter beginning with the fourteenth verse.

What good is it, dear brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but don’t show it by your actions? Can that kind of faith save anyone? Suppose you see a brother or sister who has no food or clothing, and you say, “Good-bye and have a good day; stay warm and eat well”—but then you don’t give that person any food or clothing. What good does that do? So you see, faith by itself isn’t enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless.

Now someone may argue, “Some people have faith; others have good deeds.” But I say, “How can you show me your faith if you don’t have good deeds? I will show you my faith by my good deeds.” You say you have faith, for you believe that there is one God. Good for you! Even the demons believe this, and they tremble in terror. How foolish! Can’t you see that faith without good deeds is useless? Don’t you remember that our ancestor Abraham was shown to be right with God by his actions when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? You see, his faith and his actions worked together. His actions made his faith complete. And so it happened just as the Scriptures say: “Abraham believed God, and God counted him as righteous because of his faith.” He was even called the friend of God. So you see, we are shown to be right with God by what we do, not by faith alone.

Rahab the prostitute is another example. She was shown to be right with God by her actions when she hid those messengers and sent them safely away by a different road. Just as the body is dead without breath, so also faith is dead without good works.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 46

Join me in reading Psalm 46 responsively. Note to reader – Please don't read the dark print. That is for the congregation. Thank you.

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help it when the morning dawns.

The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts.

The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Come, behold the works of the LORD; see what desolations he has brought on the earth.

He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire.

“Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth.”

The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 10:38-42(Pew Bible pg 793)

Turn to page 793 in the pew Bible for reading - Luke, chapter 10, beginning with verse 38.

As Jesus and the disciples continued on their way to Jerusalem, they came to a certain village where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. Her sister, Mary, sat at the Lord's feet, listening to what he taught. But Martha was distracted by the big dinner she was preparing. She came to Jesus and said, "Lord, doesn't it seem unfair to you that my sister just sits here while I do all the work? Tell her to come and help me." But the Lord said to her, "My dear Martha, you are worried and upset over all these details! There is only one thing worth being concerned about. Mary has discovered it, and it will not be taken away from her."

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

(9am) GIZZY TIME WITH MS MONA AND FRIENDS

SERMON

“Faith & Works”

Pastor Deb Grismer

SONG OF THE DAY

Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song

ELW 808

- 1 Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey; I'll tell ev'rybody about you wherever I go: you alone are our life and our peace and our love. Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey.**
- 2 Lord Jesus, I'll praise you as long as I journey. May all of my joy be a faithful reflection of you. May the earth and the sea and the sky join my song. Lord Jesus, I'll praise you as long as I journey.**
- 3 As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant, to carry your cross and to share all your burdens and tears. For you saved me by giving your body and blood. As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant.**

(9 am) SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

Sophie Ann Sperlich

PRESENTATION - *Please change the names and gender pronouns throughout*

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word, God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

Parents, whom do you present for baptism?

We present Sophie Ann Sperlich for the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.

As you bring Sophie to receive the gift of baptism, all of you, as well as this community of faith, are entrusted with responsibilities:

*to live with her among God's faithful people,
bring her to the Word of God and the holy supper,
teach her the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,
place in her hands the Holy Scriptures,
and nurture her in faith and prayer,
so that Sophie 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.*

Parents, do you promise to help Sophie grow in the Christian faith and life and live in the covenant of her baptism and in communion with the church?

We do, with God's help and with the help of Sophie's Godparents, family and community of faith.

Godparents, do you promise to nurture Sophie in the Christian faith as you are empowered by the Holy Spirit, and to help her live in the covenant of her baptism and in communion with the church?

We do and we ask God to help and guide us.

(Please stand) People of God, do you promise to support and pray for Taylor and Emily as they raise Sophie in the Christian faith? Do you promise to walk with Sophie as you are able, support and pray for her and help her to fulfill the baptismal covenant I just named as she grows in life and faith?

We do and we ask God to help and guide us.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church, the faith in which we baptize.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in a Christ who teaches, sees, affirms, and celebrates all of who we are. We believe in a Christ who invites us to use our gifts for good and celebrates every step we take in that direction. We believe in a Christ who understands our anxieties and is gentle with our concerns. And we believe in a Christ who looks at us with undiluted love. The world will try to rank, rate, and declare winners, but we know love has no limit. So with God's help, may we nurture our faith and do good work. Amen.

BAPTISM

Sophie Ann Sperlich, 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 the water and the Holy Spirit you give your children new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life. Sustain Sophie 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.

Sophie, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. Amen.

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

Candle: Sophie, let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

WELCOME

Let us welcome Sophie into our family of faith.

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

(5:30pm) AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Please rise.

Journeying together with trust and hope, we affirm our faith.

We believe in a Christ who teaches, sees, affirms, and celebrates all of who we are. We believe in a Christ who invites us to use our gifts for good and celebrates every step we take in that direction. We believe in a Christ who understands our anxieties and is gentle with our concerns. And we believe in a Christ who looks at us with undiluted love. The world will try to rank, rate, and declare winners, but we know love has no limit. So with God’s help, may we nurture our faith and do good work. Amen.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

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

Let us share a sign of God’s peace with one another.

(9 am) OFFERING *Assisting Minister hands out offering plates*

As you are seated, we will gather our offering. Thank you for the generous ways you support the mission of this congregation as well as our Ministry of the Month – Cornerstone Veteran’s Ministry through your gifts of time, talents and resources.

(9 am) OFFERTORY If You But Trust in God to Guide You Gerald Patterson

(9 am) OFFERING RESPONSE *Pastor Deb will collect the offering plates* **Make Me a servant CCLI 3313**

Chorus

**Make me a servant humble and meek Lord let me lift up those who are weak
And may the prayer of my heart always be Make me a servant make me a servant
Make me a servant today**

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray...

God of grace,

your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

Our God, we give you thanks:

For those who have gone before us and from whose questions, struggles to know and wisdom we benefit.

Thank you for the Mary and Martha’s of our life and our church.

*God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.***

For the gifts of new possibilities that await ... just there ...in spite of our distraction

*God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.***

For those who see things we cannot because of our fear, our experience, our knowing ...

*God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.***

For those who wonder in ways that surprise us, invite us and challenge us

*God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.***

For those who work so hard and continue to do so even when we take them for granted, when we betray them, when we neglect to treat them with justice or respect, when we assume and presume and then are shocked at their rebellion

*God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.***

Our God, we give you thanks that it is not all about us, that you continue to care and to love and to create possibilities of redemption and new life not only here among us but throughout your world.

*God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.***

Help us get over ourselves enough to be able to sit in your presence, like Mary

*God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.***

Help us to have the humility and the courage to wonder, if only for a moment, if you are about something game changing

*God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.***

Help us to carry that same spirit or curiosity and discovery beyond these walls into the world in which we serve and which you love.

*God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.***

So let us, in your name, dare to hope

Let us dare to hope

For peace in war torn countries, including Ukraine and Russia. Be with those who are serving in our military, including Yohannes, Sheridan, Haylee, Tyler, Brooke, Thad, & Joe.

*God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.***

That no child will go to sleep hungry and none will find shelter under a piece of cardboard. That violence will be absent from families.

*God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.***

Let us dare to hope that you have not forgotten even us, even at this place and time in our lives. Touch with your healing hands those who are ill, hospitalized or recovering from surgery, including Mary, Danny, Ken, Don, Kris, Les, Tatum Lee, Mar, Cindi, Amanda, Tom, Deb _____ . Bring peace and comfort to those who are mourning losses of all kinds, including the family and friends of Donna, Garey, Leighton, Jim,

*God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.***

Make us a dangerous people – for once not to each other but to all those resentments, preconceptions and reasons why your future should not be the future, for your church AND for your creation.

*God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.***

We only dare such craziness

because we sit in the presence of One whose prayer we echo.

Our father, who art in heaven...

~ written by Keith Howard, and posted on Keith Howard.ca <http://keithhoward.ca/2010/09/07/167/>

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.

***BLESSING**

As you leave this place, may you find God in every messy middle. May you know that the world is bigger than two sides. May you trust that you are made in the image of God, and therefore, you contain multitudes. So may you move through this world with an open heart, with a curious mind, and with the confidence that you do not go alone. God is with you in the mountains, in the valleys, and everywhere in between.

***SENDING SONG**

Lift High the Cross

ELW 660

Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore his sacred name.

1 Come, Christians, follow where our captain trod, our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God.

Refrain

2 All newborn servants of the Crucified bear on their brows the seal of him who died. *Refrain*

4 So shall our song of triumph ever be: praise to the Crucified for victory! *Refrain*

***DISMISSAL**

*Go in peace to love your neighbor and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.***

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

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Thank you to our worship servers for your ministry.

Saturday/Sunday, March 15 & 16

Musicians: Marsha Mertes (Sat)/Parker Knox (Sun)

Assisting Minister: Jona Hagen

Reader: Robin Cox

Slides: Owen Mertes (Sat)/Butch Bowman (Sun)

Streaming: Jeff & Carrie Churchill

Ushers/Greeters: Luke & Robin Cox, Bill & Diane Tschetter, Brent Zeigler

Saturday/Sunday, March 22 & 23

Musicians: Joyful Noise

Assisting Minister: Nichole Morse

Reader: Brent Zeigler

Slides: Owen Mertes (Sat)/Butch Bowman (Sun)

Streaming: Bob Thompson

Ushers/Greeters: Phil & Nancy Busching, John & Carol Davies, Ken & Jo Walker, Rebecca Schacht

Communion Assistants: Robin Cox, Myra Duba, Holly Thorson, Tammy Richards, Joleen Wilson

Altar Care: Robin Cox, Paulette Morse and Holly Thorson