Lamb Of God Lutheran Church

March 5, 2023 + Baptism

The 2nd Sunday in Lent





Communion Statement We will be celebrating Holy Communion at this service

We consider this to be a family meal partaken in and with the Real Presence of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The term "Communion" describes the relationship between the participants, certainly between each person and our Savior whose meal it is, but also with all who come together to consume Christ's body and blood in and with the bread and wine. To properly celebrate Communion all participants should be in communion; sharing the same confession of faith as is taught by the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS). We welcome all those who regularly confess this faith as members or regular attenders of Lamb of God. Those who belong to another LCMS congregation and wish to join with us as fellow family members are asked to speak to an Elder prior to the beginning of service. Those who are visiting but not members of an LCMS congregation may approach the communion rail and receive a blessing with their arms folded in front of their chest, or remain seated.

This has been the practice of the Church from the beginning, which according to earliest records would dismiss all those not baptized and confirmed before the Lord's Supper was celebrated. We are celebrating this Sacrament in keeping with this tradition. If you are from outside the LCMS confession, please know that we are not judging you or your faith. We are not implying that you are not a Christian or worthy of the gifts Christ won for you on the cross. We are simply acknowledging that since you do not have the same confession as we do you are not "in communion" with us. If you still desire to participate in Holy Communion in the future at Lamb of God please speak with Pastor Mark after the service. Thank you for honoring our celebration of Holy Communion.

^{**} Note: For those concerned about consuming alcohol-the individual cups in the center of each tray contain diluted wine. (1 drop of wine in water) There is gluten free wafers.

Lamb of God Lutheran Church

Empowered by Christ's Sacraments to be His witness in Friendship/Fellowship/and Faith.

2051 West Maple Ave. Flint, MI 48507 810 234 2423 Pastor Mark Pretznow 248 736 8639



The 2nd Sunday in Lent February 19, 2023 Divine Service III

Fellowship Register

Please sign the register that you will find in the pew and pass it on to the others sitting in your pew. Guests are invited to sign the register and please include your address. Thank you.

Pre-Service Music

Welcome and Announcements

Salutation

- **P** The Peace of the Lord be with you always
- And also with you.

Please share the Peace of Christ with a wave of your hand from where you sit.

Holy Baptism AARON LEE DIXON

Baptismal Hymn: 591 "This Is the Spirit's Entry Now"

Sung to the tune from # 524 "How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds"

- 1 This is the Spirit's entry now:
 The water and the Word,
 The cross of Jesus on your brow,
 The seal both felt and heard.
- This miracle of life reborn
 Comes from the Lord of breath;
 The perfect Man from life was torn;
 Our life comes through Christ's death.

Text: Thomas E. Herbranson, 1933–2009
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The Baptismal Candidate and his family gather around the Baptismal font

Please stand as you are able

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P Dearly beloved, Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." In the last chapter of Mark our Lord promises, "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved." And the apostle Peter has written, "Baptism now saves you."

The Word of God also teaches that we are all conceived and born sinful and are under the power of the devil until Christ claims us as His own. We would be lost forever unless delivered from sin, death, and everlasting condemnation. But the Father of all mercy and grace has sent His Son Jesus Christ, who atoned for the sin of the whole world, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

The pastor addresses each candidate:

- **P** How are you named?
- R Aaron Lee Dixon

The pastor makes the sign of the holy cross upon the forehead and heart of each candidate while saying:

- P <u>Aaron Lee Dixon</u>, receive the sign of the holy cross both upon your

 → forehead and upon your

 → heart to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified.
- **P** Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, according to Your strict judgment You condemned the unbelieving world through the flood, yet according to Your great mercy You preserved believing Noah and his family, eight souls in all. You drowned hard-hearted Pharaoh and all his host in the Red Sea, yet led Your people Israel through the water on dry ground, foreshadowing this washing of Your Holy Baptism. Through the Baptism in the Jordan of Your beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, You sanctified and instituted all waters to be a blessed flood and a lavish washing away of sin.

We pray that You would behold Aaron according to Your boundless mercy and bless him with true faith by the Holy Spirit, that through this saving flood all sin in him, which has been inherited from Adam and which he himself has committed since, would be drowned and die. Grant that he be kept safe and secure in the holy ark of the Christian Church, being separated from the multitude of unbelievers and serving Your name at all times with a fervent spirit and a joyful hope, so that, with all believers in Your promise, he would be declared worthy of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

- From ancient times the Church has observed the custom of appointing sponsors for baptismal candidates and catechumens. In the Evangelical Lutheran Church sponsors are to confess the faith expressed in the Apostles' Creed and taught in the Small Catechism. They are, whenever possible, to witness the Baptism of those they sponsor. They are to pray for them, support them in their ongoing instruction and nurture in the Christian faith, and encourage them toward the faithful reception of the Lord's Supper. They are at all times to be examples to them of the holy life of faith in Christ and love for the neighbor.
- P Brothers and sisters in Christ, are you willing to serve Aaron Lee Dixon as sponsors in the Christian faith?
- Yes, with the help of God.

P God enable you all to will and to do this faithful and loving work and with His grace fulfill what we are unable to do.

C Amen.

P Hear the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

They brought young children to [Jesus] that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked those who brought them. But when Jesus saw it, He was greatly displeased and said to them, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God. Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it." And He took them up in His arms, put His hands on them, and blessed them.

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

The pastor places his hands on the head of the candidate, and the congregation joins in praying:

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.

- The Lord preserve your coming in and your going out from this time forth and even + forevermore.
- C Amen.

Congregation: please be seated

The pastor addresses the candidate(s) and asks the following questions:

- **P** Arron Lee Dixon: do you renounce the devil?
- R Yes, I renounce him.
- **P** Do you renounce all his works?
- R Yes, I renounce them.
- **P** Do you renounce all his ways?
- R Yes, I renounce them.
- P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth?
- R Yes, I believe.
- P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He will come to judge the living and the dead?
- **R** Yes, I believe.

- P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting?
- R Yes, I believe.
- P Aaron Lee Dixon: do you desire to be baptized?
- R Yes, I do.

The pastor pours water three times on the head of each candidate while saying:

- P Aaron Lee Dixon, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

The pastor places his hands on the head of the newly baptized while saying:

- The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life + everlasting.
- C Amen.

The elder lights a baptismal candle from the paschal candle and gives it to the newly baptized, while Pastor says:

P Receive this burning light to show that you have received Christ who is the Light of the world. Live always in the light of Christ, and be ever watchful for His coming, that you may meet Him with joy and enter with Him into the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which shall have no end.

The newly baptized may be welcomed with the following:

P In Holy Baptism God the Father has made you a member of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and an heir with us of all the treasures of heaven in the one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We receive you in Jesus' name as our brother in Christ, that together we might hear His Word, receive His gifts, and proclaim the praises of Him who called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.

Amen. We welcome you in the name of the Lord.

Please stand as you are able

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful God and Father, we thank and praise You that You graciously preserve and enlarge Your family and have granted Aaron the new birth in Holy Baptism and made him a member of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and an heir of Your heavenly kingdom. We humbly implore You that, as he has now become Your child, You would keep him in his baptismal grace, that according to Your good pleasure he may faithfully grow to lead a godly life to the praise and honor of Your holy name and finally, with all Your saints, obtain the promised inheritance in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

- Almighty and everlasting God, since You govern and sanctify the whole Christian Church by Your Holy Spirit, hear our prayers for all her members, and mercifully grant that by Your grace we may serve You in true faith; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Amen.
- Peace + be with you.
- C Amen.

All return to their places.

Please be seated

Baptismal Hymn 591 This Is the Spirit's Entry Now

Sung to the tune from #524

"How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds"

- 3 Let water be the sacred sign
 That we must die each day
 To rise again by His design
 As foll'wers of His way.
- 4 Renewing Spirit, hear our praise
 For Your baptismal pow'r
 That washes us through all our days;
 Lord, cleanse again this hour.

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Service of the Word

Responsive Psalm 121

- ¹ I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come?
- ² My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.
- P ³ He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.
- Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.
- The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade on your right hand.

- The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.
- The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.
- The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore.
- Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.



Salutation and Collect of the Day

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And with thy spirit.
- P Let us pray.
 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.
- C Amen.

Old Testament Lesson:

Genesis 12:1-9

¹The LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ²And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

⁴So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. ⁵And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the land of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan, ⁶Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. ⁷Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. ⁸From there he moved to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. And there he built an altar to the LORD and called upon the name of the LORD. ⁹And Abram journeyed on, still going toward the Negeb.

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Epistle Lesson:

Romans 4:1-8, 13-17

¹What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh? ²For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness." ⁴Now to the one who

works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. ⁵And to the one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness, ⁶just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works:

⁷"Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered;

⁸blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin."...

¹³For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith.

¹⁴For if 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 there is no transgression.

¹⁶That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring—not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, 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.

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able

Holy Gospel:

John 3:1-17

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the third chapter.

G Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. ²This 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." ³Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." ⁴Nicodemus 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?" ⁵Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. ⁶That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' ⁸The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

⁹Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" ¹⁰Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you

heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the



Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

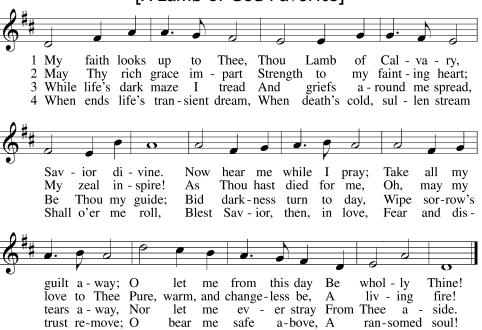
- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Please be seated

Children's Message

Children-with their parent's permission, may depart for Children's Church





Sermon: John 3:1-17 "Faith! Where Does it Come From?" Pastor David Hensler

Votum

- **P** The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
- C Amen.

Offering and Prayers

Offering Statement

If you are a visitor, we don't want you to feel obligated to give an offering, we are just glad that you have joined us for worship this day. Those who would like to give an offering may drop it off in the Offering Box in the Narthex, the box across from the Church Office, mail their Offering Envelope in, or use our online giving portal from our website.

Responsive Offering Verses:

Psalm 121:1-2

- I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come?
- ² My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

Please stand as you are able

Offertory LSB 192



Prayer of the Church

- **P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For hearts to remember the gracious works of God in Christ, that we would proclaim His name to the world He has loved, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- **P** ...let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P Hear us, heavenly Father, for the sake of Christ Jesus, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Please stand as you are able

Service of the Sacrament

Preface LSB 194

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And with thy spirit.
- **P** Lift up your hearts.
- **@** We lift them up unto the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.
- It is meet and right so to do.

Proper Preface (Full)

It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus LSB

195



■ Ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,



bless-ed is He, bless-ed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.



Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 241

- P Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:
- Pour 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.

The Words of Our Lord

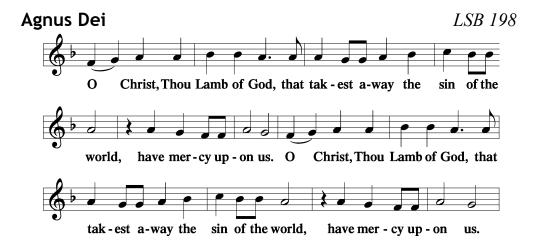
LSB 197

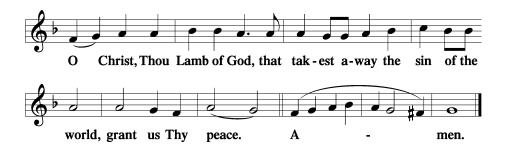
P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini LSB 197

- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.





Please be seated

Distribution

The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first and then distribute them to those who come to receive, saying:

Right Column

LSB 199

The true body of Christ, given for you.

Amen.

The true blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen.

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:



Table Dismissal

P Depart now in His joy and peace, knowing that all of your sins have been forgiven.

598 Once in the Blest Baptismal Waters

Sung to the tune from #719
"I Leave All Things to God's Direction"

Once in the blest baptismal waters
 I put on Christ and made Him mine;
 Now numbered with God's sons and daughters,
 I share His peace and love divine. Refrain

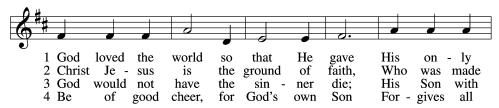
ref O God, for Jesus' sake I pray Your peace may bless my dying day.

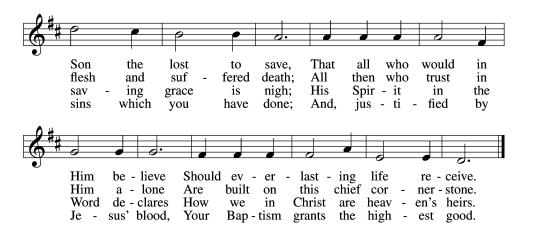
- His body and His blood I've taken
 In His blest Supper, feast divine;

 Now I shall never be forsaken,
 For I am His, and He is mine. Refrain
- And thus I live in God contented
 And die without a thought of fear;
 My soul has to God's plans consented,
 For through His Son my faith is clear. Refrain

 Text: Emilie Juliane von Schwarzburg-Rudolstadt, 1637–1706; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, abr., alt.
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571 God Loved the World So That He Gave

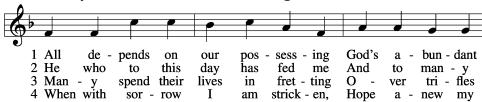


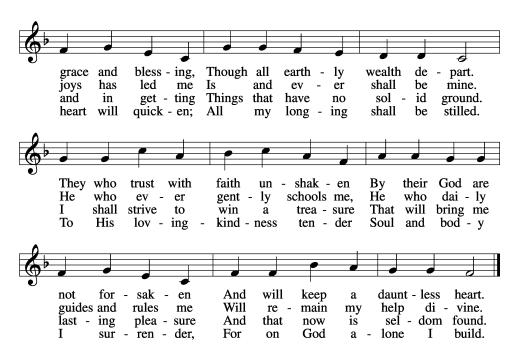


- 5 If you are sick, if death is near, This truth your troubled heart can cheer: Christ Jesus saves your soul from death; That is the firmest ground of faith.
- △6 Glory to God the Father, Son, And Holy Spirit, Three in One! To You, O blessèd Trinity, Be praise now and eternally!

Text: Heiliges Lippen- und Hertzens-Opffer, c. 1778, Stettin; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt. Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–93 Text and tune: Public domain

732 All Depends on Our Possessing





- 5 Well He knows what best to grant me; All the longing hopes that haunt me, Joy and sorrow, have their day. I shall doubt His wisdom never; As God wills, so be it ever; I commit to Him my way.
- 6 If my days on earth He lengthen,
 God my weary soul will strengthen;
 All my trust in Him I place.
 Earthly wealth is not abiding,
 Like a stream away is gliding;
 Safe I anchor in His grace.

The Dismissal

LSR 199

- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart + in peace.
- C Amen.

Please stand as you are able

Thanksgiving

LSB 200

- **P** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
- and His mercy endureth forever.

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Salutation LSB 201

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And with thy spirit.

Benedicamus LSB 202

- **P** Bless we the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Benediction LSB 202

> **P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be cious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and + give you peace.

Amen.

971 There Is a Redeemer

[A Lamb of God Favorite]







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Sharing of the Peace

- **P** The Peace of the Lord be with you always
- C And also with you
- **P** The love and Peace of Christ Jesus, Your Savior, has been poured out upon you richly and abundantly this day. In the same manner it has been shared with you, pour out His

gifts upon those around you, to all who need to hear the Gospel from your lips and by the work of your hands. In

we



Clos-

That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

John 3:6, ESV

Go in peace, serve the Lord