

Second Sunday in Lent

March 16, 2025

The First Reading

Genesis 15:1-12,17-18

The word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O LORD God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Then he said to him, "I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." But he said, "O LORD God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates."

Psalm

Psalm 27

- 1 The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear? *
the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid?
- 2 When evildoers came upon me to eat up my flesh, *
it was they, my foes and my adversaries, who stumbled and fell.
- 3 Though an army should encamp against me, *
yet my heart shall not be afraid;
- 4 And though war should rise up against me, *
yet will I put my trust in him.
- 5 One thing have I asked of the Lord; one thing I seek; *
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life;
- 6 To behold the fair beauty of the LORD *
and to seek him in his temple.
- 7 For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe in his shelter; *
he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling and set me high upon a rock.
- 8 Even now he lifts up my head *
above my enemies round about me.
- 9 Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation with sounds of great gladness; *
I will sing and make music to the LORD.
- 10 Harken to my voice, O LORD, when I call; *
have mercy on me and answer me.
- 11 You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my face." *
Your face, LORD, will I seek.

- 12 Hide not your face from me, *
nor turn away your servant in displeasure.
- 13 You have been my helper; cast me not away; *
do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.
- 14 Though my father and my mother forsake me, *
the LORD will sustain me.
- 15 Show me your way, O LORD; *
lead me on a level path, because of my enemies.
- 16 Deliver me not into the hand of my adversaries, *
for false witnesses have risen up against me, and also those who speak malice.
- 17 What if I had not believed that I should see the goodness of the LORD *
in the land of the living!
- 18 O tarry and await the LORD's pleasure; be strong, and he shall comfort your heart; *
wait patiently for the Lord.

The Second Reading

Phillipians 3:17-4:1

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

The Gospel Reading

Luke 13:31-35

Before proclaiming the Gospel, the Priest says

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Some Pharisees came and said to Jesus, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Announcements

Birthdays this month

2nd: Laura Brown
 6th: Raven Buckner
 13th: Susan Kuhlman
 14th: Allyssa Morse
 15th: Stan Williams
 24th: Norman White
 27th: Lorraine Litterski
 27th: Shelly Williams

This Week at SMAA

Wednesday, March 12, 2025

6:00 pm Dinner & fellowship

Sunday, March 16, 2025

9:00 am Bible Study

10:00 am Holy Eucharist

Easter Hydrangeas

If you would like to purchase Hydrangeas for Easter Sunday, **April 20, 2025**, please pick up and fill out the form in the entry way of the church. Place your check noted “**Easter Hydrangeas**” and the form in the offering plate. Please print legibly. Suggested Donation: **Hydrangeas \$25.00**. Deadline to purchase Hydrangeas will be **Sunday, April 6th**.

Bishop Doyle

The Bishop will be with us on **June 1st, 2025**. If you are interested being confirmed, please contact Mtr. Tracey.

This Sunday's Servers

Acolytes: Joshua Martinez
Cameras & Streaming: Michael Greathouse
Danny's Team: Bryan White
Eucharistic Ministers: Laura Buckner
Greeter: Catherine White
Lector: Harrison Brown
Nursery Helper: Carolyn Deakins
Ushers: Joe Frank Brown, Jerry Ritchie
Vestry People: Stan Williams, Michael Greathouse
Worship Tech: Gianna Glave

Prayer Requests

Healing For:

- Susan Brown
- JoLee Ferguson
- Sheila Carlisle's Family
- Tom Cobb
- Andrew McWhorter
- The Akinson & Brown Families
- Lorraine and Margie Litterski

To submit a prayer request, fill out the back of the information sheet in the pew and place it in the offering. Or, send an email with your request to: prayer@smaalongview.org

**** Emailed prayer requests are received by all who've signed up for the SMAA prayer chain. This community of prayer is committed to holding up our needs and thanksgivings to God whenever they are shared. TO JOIN IN THIS IMPORTANT MINISTRY, JUST SEND A REQUEST TO SMAA@SMAALONGVIEW.ORG ASKING TO BE A PART OF THE PRAYER CHAIN. ****

Stewardship Update

DATE	GIVING	BUDGET	ABOVE/BELOW
02/16/25	\$1,558	\$3,431	-\$1,873
02/23/25	\$3,340	\$3,431	-\$91
03/02/25	\$4,535	\$3,431	\$1,104
03/09/25	\$2,250	\$3,431	-\$1,181
YTD TOTALS	\$34,020	\$34,310	-\$290

NEXT Sunday's Servers (03/23)

Acolytes: Michael Greathouse
Cameras & Streaming: Devin McLaughlin
Danny's Team: Stan Williams
Eucharistic Ministers: Sheila Thrash
Greeter: Joe Frank Brown
Lector: Sheila Thrash
Nursery Helper: Becky Supercinski, Diane Buffington
Ushers: Wayne Workman
Vestry People: Patti Maxwell, Michael Greathouse
Worship Tech: Gianna Glave

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