

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER, E.L.C.A.
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First Sunday in Lent February 22, 2026

* Stand as you are able

GATHERING

INVOCATION

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, Savior, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *

P: Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses.

.
Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you: Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word: Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdaining the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world: Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life: Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound. Through faith, the free gift of God, you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ. In the name of ✙ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts, and gives you life and peace.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN*

ELW # 319 "O Lord, Throughout These Forty Days "

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.**

KYRIE (pages 184-185 in front of hymnal)

C: Sing refrain

Lori: For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all: ... let us pray to the Lord.

C: Sing refrain

Lori: That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor...let us pray to the Lord.

C: Sing refrain

Lori: For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family ... let us pray to the Lord.

C: Sing refrain

Lori: For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word ... let us pray to the Lord.

C: Sing refrain

Prayer of the Day *

Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

¹⁵The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. ¹⁶And the Lord God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden, ¹⁷but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."
^{3:1} Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" ²The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die, ⁵for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God,^[a] knowing good and evil."
⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was a delight to the eyes and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked, and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

P: The Word of the Lord: **C: Thanks be to God**

PSALM 32

¹Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

²Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

³ While I kept silent, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long.

⁴ **For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up^[a] as by the heat of summer.**

⁵ Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,” and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

⁶ **Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress,^[b] the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them.**

⁷ You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance.

⁸ **I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you.**

⁹ Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding, whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not stay near you.

¹⁰ **Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord.**

¹¹ Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

Romans 5:12-19

¹² Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned— ¹³ for sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. ¹⁴ Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who did not sin in the likeness of Adam, who is a pattern of the one who was to come. ¹⁵ But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man’s trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. ¹⁶ And the gift is not like the effect of the one man’s sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the gift following many trespasses brings justification. ¹⁷ If, because of the one man’s trespass, death reigned through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ Therefore just as one man’s trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man’s act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. ¹⁹ For just as through the one man’s disobedience the many were made sinners, so through the one man’s obedience the many will be made righteous. P: The Word of the Lord: **C: Thanks be to God**

Gospel Acclamation *

C: One does not live by bread alone; but by every word that comes from the mouth of God. (Matthew 4:4)

P: THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO Matthew 4:1-11

^{4:1} Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil. ² He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. ³ The tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” ⁴ But he answered, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’ ” ⁵ Then the

devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶ saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, ‘He will command his angels concerning you,’ and ‘On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’ ” ⁷ Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’ ” ⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory, ⁹ and he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’ ” ¹¹ Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day *

ELW # 503 “A Mighty Fortress is Our God”

The Apostle’s Creed * (Printed inside the back cover of the hymnal.)

Welcome to our WTKM radio and online worshipers, Good News and Prayer Petitions

Prayers of the Church

Response P: Hear us, O God. C: **Your mercy is great.**

Sharing the Peace

P: The Peace of Christ be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

(you are encouraged to turn to one another and share the peace of the Lord.)

Offering Hymn *

ELW # 708 “Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love”

Offering Prayer *

**O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation.
You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty.
Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son,
who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus’ name.
Amen.**

MEAL

Thanksgiving *

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.**

The Preface *

P: Lord, it is indeed right and our joy that at all times and in all places we give thanks and praise to you. And so with the angels and archangels and with the church on earth and in heaven, we give glory to you O God, through Jesus Christ, as we praise your name and join in the unending hymn:

C: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna, in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest** (pg. 144 ELW)

The Words of Institution and The Lord's Prayer *

Invitation to Communion

P: Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! Come to the table; taste and see.

Hymn

ELW # 146 "Lamb of God"

Distribution

Communion Hymn *

ELW # 599 "Lord Jesus, Think on Me"

SENDING

Communion Blessing *

Prayer After Communion *

God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Blessing *

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn *

ELW # 624 "Jesus, Still Lead On"

Dismissal *

P: Go in peace. As we serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Redeemer Announcements

- Today's Lector Scott Lopas, and our ushers are Bruce & Laurie Horst.
- Next week's Lector is Michelle Burton and our usher is Donna Lee.
- The next Women's Bible Study is **Monday, March 9th**, at noon. Bring a lunch and join us.
- A Church Council Meeting will be held on **Monday, March 9th** at 4:00PM.
- The next Fish Fry meeting will be held, **Friday, March 6th** at noon.
- Roof Replacement Pledge Form due by **March 31, 2026**. Monies due by **May 1, 2026**.
- Pastor will be in the office on **Thursday, February 26th** from 9:00am - 12:00pm. Appointments are appreciated, but not necessary. If you wish to meet with Pastor at other times, please contact him directly. Looking ahead, he will be in the office he will be in on **Wednesday, March 4th** and **Thursdays March 12th, 19th, and 26th** from 9am-12pm.
- Ecumenical Lenten Service will be **Wednesday, February 25th** at St. Killian Catholic Church with a social/reception following.
- Future Lenten Services are at 6:30pm: Wednesday, **March 4th** here at **Redeemer** with a social reception following, Wednesday, **March 11th** at **St. Aidan Episcopal Church** with a potato bar from 5:00-6:15pm, Wednesday, **March 18th** at **First United Methodist Church** preceded with soup and salad bar, and Wednesday, **March 25th** at **St. Olaf Lutheran Church** followed by a social/reception..

Ministry Partners

- Special Giving for February is "Mr. Bob's Under the Bridge."
 - Community Lunch will be served on **Saturday February 28th**, 11:30am, at First United Methodist Church. Fellowship prior to lunch.
- Lincoln Elementary School

In the Nest:

- Casa Guadalupe English Language Learners "ELL" meets Monday & Wednesdays from 6- 7:30PM.
- Al-Anon Meetings are held Thursdays at 7:00PM.
- Girl Scouts meet the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays.

The Needs of Our Partners:

Lincoln Elementary School.

Clothing winter clothes for children in various sizes snowpants, winter coats, socks, sweatpants for both elementary and middle school, regular gloves, and cups, gloves for playing in the snow. **Snacks** include: Goldfish, Individually wrapped food items, Animal Crackers, and Granola Bars... **NO** bags of nuts.

Food drive/pantry (most helpful in Feb – Summer) cereal, shelf stable microwave meals, canned goods and mac and cheese with cheese sauce (not add milk and butter).

Casa Guadalupe

Clothing: winter coats, boots, mittens, warm clothes, winter hats, socks (gently used items are ok) **Snacks:** Kid snacks - **NO NUTS**, fruit cups, cereal, canned goods. **Other Items:** Books (gently used is ok), new toys.

See The Herald and the giving tree in the coffee area for these and other needs.

PLEASE JOIN US AFTER TODAY'S SERVICE FOR COFFEE AND SNACKS IN THE GATHERING ROOM