

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER, E.L.C.A.
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Second Sunday in Lent March 1, 2026

* Stand as you are able

GATHERING

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, ✝ and of the Holy Spirit.

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.

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole hearts; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, ✝ and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

GATHERING HYMN*

ELW # 714 (vs 1,2,6) O God of Mercy, God of Light

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 *

O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world 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 12:1-4a

Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show ^{12:1} you. ²I 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 the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."^[a] 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.

P: The Word of the Lord:

C: Thanks be to God

PSALM 121

¹ I lift up my eyes to the hills - from where will my help come?

² **My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.**

³ He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

⁴ **He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.**

⁵ The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade at your right hand.

⁶ **The sun shall not strike you by day nor the moon by night.**

⁷ The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

⁸ **The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.**

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

^{4:1} What then are we to say was gained by^[a] Abraham, our ancestor 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^[b] God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." ⁴Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. ⁵But to one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. ¹³For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants 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, neither is there transgression. ¹⁶For this reason the promise depends on faith, in order that it may rest on grace, so that it may be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (who is the father of all of us, ¹⁷ as it is written, "I have

made you the father of many nations”), in the presence of the God in whom he believed,^[a] who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

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

Gospel Acclamation *

C: The Son of Man must be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. (John 3:14-15)

P: THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO John 3:1-17

C: Glory to you O Lord.

^{3:1} Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ² He came to Jesus^[a] by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person.” ³ Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.”^[b] ⁴ Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” ⁵ Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶ What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You^[c] must be born from above.’^[d] ⁸ The wind^[e] blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” ⁹ Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” ¹⁰ Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹ “Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you^[f] do not receive our testimony. ¹² If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man.^[g] ¹⁴ And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.^[h] ¹⁶ “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. ¹⁷ “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day *

ELW # 323 “God Loved the World”

The Nicene 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.)

A Presentation from Washington County Habitat for Humanity

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: Come to the table. Feast on God’s goodness and mercy.

Hymn

ELW # 146 “Lamb of God”

Distribution

Communion Hymn *

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 *

Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation, ✝ bless you now and always.

Amen.

Sending Hymn *

ELW # 660 "Lift High the Cross"

Dismissal *

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

C: Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Redeemer Announcements

- Today's Lector Michelle Burton, and our usher is Donna Lee.
- Next week's Lector is Tom Hostad and our ushers are Kurt & Wendy Hintz.
- Ushers for the Ecumenical Service on March 4th are Jeanine Gable & Jeanette Weber.
- The next Women's Bible Study is **Monday, March 9th**, at noon. Bring a lunch and join us.
- The next "Conversations with God" will be held on Thursday, March 26th at 10am. We will take this time to gather for prayer, Scripture, and conversation on a different topic each month. March's topic will be "Change".
- 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 at Bug Gues in Hartford.
- Roof Replacement Pledge Form due by **March 31, 2026**. Monies due by **May 1, 2026**.
- Pastor will be in the office on **Thursday, March 5th** 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 **Thursday March 12th, Wednesday March 18th, and Thursday March 26th** from 9am-12pm.
- Ecumenical Lenten Service will be **Wednesday, March 4th** here at Redeemer with a social reception following,
- Future Lenten Services are at 6:30pm: 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 March is Habitat for Humanity
- 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 caps, 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