

February 22, 2026

First Sunday in Lent



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Divine Service:
8:00, 9:30 & 11:00am
Sundays

Adult Bible Study &
Sunday School:
9:30 am

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Pastor:
Richard Willsea

Deaconess:
Karen Suter

Organist:
Patty Barnes

THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

February 22, 2026

✠ PREPARATION ✠

Today we will observe The Lord's Supper... *The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Grace Lutheran Church in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked you first to speak with the pastor, an elder or an usher. (For further study, see Matthew 5:23f; 10:32f; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; I Cor. 11:17-34). Wine is used in the individual and common cup. It may also be received by intinction. A gluten free wafer is available upon request.*

PRELUDE

"Introduction and Allegro"
"A Mighty Fortress is Our God"

arr. T. Kendall
arr. T. Chesterton

WELCOME

Stand

HYMN

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

LSB 657 sts. 1-4



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, A sword and shield vic -
2 No strength of ours can match his might. We would be lost, re -
3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land All threat'ning to de -
4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, No thanks to foes, who



to - rious; He breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod And wins sal -
ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, Whom God Him -
your us, We trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; They can - not
fear it; For God Him - self fights by our side With weap - ons



va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe Has sworn to
 self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be? The Lord of
 o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage; In bat - tle
 of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house, Goods, hon - or,



work us woe. With craft and dread - ful might He
 hosts is He, Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord, God's
 we'll en - gage. His might is doomed to fail; God's
 child, or spouse, Though life be wrenched a - way, They



arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
 on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
 judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
 can - not win the day. The King - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Text: tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, Text and tune: Martin Luther, 1483-1546
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INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Psalm 32:5

P I acknowledged my sin to You.

C I did not cover up my iniquity.

P I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD."

C And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for meditation and reflection.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your punishment now and forever. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them,

and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being. Forgive me all my sins and grant me the power of Your Holy Spirit that I may amend my sinful life.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P May He who began this good work within you bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

† SERVICE OF THE WORD †

KYRIE

LSB 168



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from a-bove and for our sal-va-tion let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the uni-ty of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

The Word is read...

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

PSALM

Psalm 32:1–7; antiphon: v. 7a



- ¹Blessèd is the one whose transgression is for- | given,*
 whose sin is | covered.
- ²Blessèd is the man against whom the LORD counts no in- | iquity,*
 and in whose spirit there is | no deceit.
- ³For when I kept silent, my bones wast- | ed away*
 through my groaning | all day long.
- ⁴For day and night your hand was heavy up- | on me;*
 my strength was dried up as by the heat of | summer.
- ⁵I acknowledged my sin to you,
 and I did not cover my in- | iquity;*
 I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,"
 and you forgave the iniquity | of my sin.
- ⁶Therefore let everyone who is godly
 offer prayer to you at a time when you | may be found;*
 surely in the rush of great waters,
 they shall not | reach him.
- ⁷You are a hiding place for me;
 you preserve me from | trouble;*
 you surround me with shouts of de- | liverance.

EPISTLE

Romans 5:12–19

The Word is read...

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

VERSE

John 3:16

P For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 4:1–11

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

The Word is read...

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Sit

SERMON

HYMN

"Jesus, Once with Sinners Numbered"

LSB 404



1 Je - sus, once with sin - ners num - bered, Had no blem - ish
2 John con - fessed Him as the Sav - ior— "Look, the sin - less
3 This the bap - tism that our Sav - ior Great - ly longed to
4 Je - sus, once with sin - ners num - bered, Full o - be - dience



of His own; In the wa - ters of the Jor - dan
Lamb of God!" Yet he dared not loose the san - dals
un - der - go; This the crim - son cleans - ing need - ed
was Your path; You, by death, have con - se - crat - ed



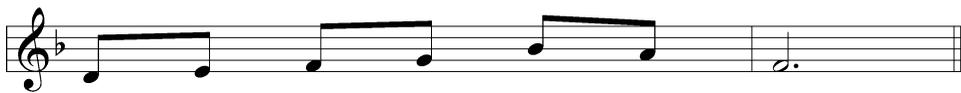
His true worth and work were shown: Heav - en o - pened
Of the One God's love had shod. Oh, how fair the
So the world God's love might know; This the mis - sion
Wa - ter in this sav - ing bath: Dy - ing to the



and the Spir - it There de - scend - ed like a
feet of Je - sus, Bring - ing news of peace to
of Mes - si - ah As He stepped from Jor - dan's
sin of Ad - am, Ris - ing to a life of



dove, As the Fa - ther's voice re - sound - ed,
us, Christ, the her - ald of sal - va - tion,
stream, He, the cho - sen and a - noint - ed
grace; We are count - ed with the righ - teous,



“Hear My Son, the One I love.”
Preach - ing mer - cy from the cross:
Son of God, sent to re - deem.
O - ver us the cross You trace.

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Stand

NICENE CREED

- C** I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,

**being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the
dead, whose kingdom will have no end.
And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** We give You thanks, O Lord, that You invite us to pray and have promised to hear and answer the prayers of Your people. By Your Holy Spirit enable us to plead for mercy in the name of Jesus and with confidence that whatever Your answer, it will be best for us.
- A** That we stand firm in the face of temptation and be clothed with the strength of the Lord Jesus in time of trial, let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** That we neither be distracted nor enticed by the voice of the devil, the world, and the desires of our own flesh, but endure through the days of trouble through the Word of the Lord that endures forever, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

A That our nation and those who lead us be equipped with wisdom and faith, that we lead quiet and peaceable lives in Christ, that the nations learn pathways of peace, and that we not be overcome by fear or despair, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P That the sick and all who suffer know the healing and strength of the Spirit in their afflictions, that the dying abide in peace, and that the grieving be granted comfort, [especially . . .], let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

A That the work of the Kingdom be prospered among us and through us, that those who have not heard rejoice to hear the Gospel, and that we be generous in supplying the poor and the homeless, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P That daily we offer up prayers on behalf of the church, her ministers, and her ministries and for all according to their need, interceding on behalf of others even as Christ intercedes for us, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

A That we approach the Table of the Lord with humility and repentance, that we not commune in an unworthy manner, and that we keep what we receive there in holy hearts and holy lives, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P That the church would enjoy unity of doctrine and harmony in her work, that many be raised up for church work, and that we offer the Lord the sacrifice of praise from our lips and tithes and offerings from our hands, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

A That the Lord grant us all good things as are needful for this body and life and prevent all things harmful to us and our salvation, let us pray in the name of Jesus, whom with the Father and the Holy Spirit are one God and one Lord, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

OFFERING

VOLUNTARY

“Allegretto”

arr. T. Kendall, A. Guilmant

Stand

OFFERTORY

LSB 176



What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all His ben - e-fits to



me? I will of-fer the sac-ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will



call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-



va-tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my



vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo - ple, in the



courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je-ru - sa - lem.

✠ **SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT** ✠

PREFACE

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 Him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

P It is truly good, 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 178

C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of
pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is He who comes in the name



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

- 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."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

- P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

- C** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

C **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.**

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI

LSB 180



C Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world;



have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the

sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of
 God, You take a - way the sin of the world;
 grant us peace, grant us peace.

Sit

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

"Christ, the Lord of Hosts, Unshaken"

LSB 521

1 Christ, the Lord of hosts, un - shak - en By the dev - il's
 2 Mi - chael fought the heav'n - ly bat - tle, God - ly an - gels
 3 Long on earth the bat - tle ra - ges, Since the ser - pent's
 4 Je - sus came, this word ful - fill - ing, Tram - pled Sa - tan,
 seeth - ing rage, Thwarts the plan of Sa - tan's min - ions;
 by his side; Warred a - gainst the an - cient ser - pent,
 first de - ceit; Twist - ed God's com - mand to Ad - am,
 death de - fied; Bore the brunt of our temp - ta - tion,
 Wins the strife from age to age; Con - quers sin and
 Foiled the beast, so full of pride, Cast him earth - bound
 Made for - bid - den fruit look sweet. Then the curse of
 On the wretch - ed tree He died. Yet to life was
 death for - ev - er; Slams them in their steel - y cage.
 with his an - gels; Now he prowls, un - sat - is - fied.
 God was spo - ken: "You'll lie crushed be - neath His feet!"
 raised vic - to - rious; By His life our life sup - plied.

5 Swift as lightning falls the tyrant
 From his heav'nly perch on high,
 As the word of Jesus' vict'ry
 Floods the earth and fills the sky.
 Wounded by a wound eternal
 Now his judgment has drawn nigh!

6 Jesus, send Your angel legions
 When the foe would us enslave.
 Hold us fast when sin assaults us;
 Come, then, Lord, Your people save.
 Overthrow at last the dragon;
 Send him to his fiery grave.

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VOLUNTARY

"Christ, the Lord of Hosts Unshaken"

setting: R. Lind

Stand

NUNC DIMITTIS

LSB 182

Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have prepared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re-veal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it; as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, through Your Son You have promised us forgiveness of sins and everlasting life. Govern our hearts by Your Holy Spirit that in our daily need and especially in all time of temptation, we may seek Your help and, by a true and lively faith in Your Word, obtain all that You have promised, remembering all that our Savior accomplished for us that we may not be alone or without the refuge of Your grace in time of test or trial; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

"O Lord, throughout These Forty Days"

LSB 418



1 O Lord, through - out these for - ty days You
2 You strove with Sa - tan, and You won; Your
3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet You prayed And
4 Be with us through this sea - son, Lord, And



prayed and kept the fast; In - spire re - pen - tance
faith - ful - ness en - dured; Lend us Your nerve, Your
fixed Your mind a - bove; So teach us to de -
all our earth - ly days, That when the fi - nal



for our sin, And free us from our past.
skill and trust In God's e - ter - nal Word.
ny our - selves, Since we have known God's love.
Eas - ter dawns, We join in heav - en's praise.

Text: based on Claudia F. Hernaman, 1838–98; para. Gilbert E. Doan, 1930–2024, Tune: The Psalms of David in Prose and Meeter, 1635, Edinburgh
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Sit

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DISMISSAL

- A** Go in peace as you serve the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Postlude Pomposo"

G. Blake

Acknowledgements

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