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∞ THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT ∞

ORDER OF WORSHIP • FEBRUARY 22, 2026 • 9:00 AM

✠ *Indicates the congregation should stand as able.*

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS & WELCOME**

✠ **GATHERING HYMN**

TREE OF LIFE AND AWESOME  
MYSTERY

*CHOIR ALONE:*

*Tree of Life and awesome myst'ry, in your death we are reborn;  
though you die in all of hist'ry, still you rise with ev'ry morn,  
still you rise with ev'ry morn.*

**ALL: Seed that dies to rise in glory, may we see ourselves in you;  
If we learn to live your story, we may die to rise anew,  
we may die to rise anew.**

**From the dawning of creation you have loved us as your own;  
stay with us through all temptation, make us turn to you alone,  
make us turn to you alone.**

✠ **CONFESSION**

WL: Compassionate One,

**you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, yet we fail  
to share your love with your world. We do not show others the  
tender compassion you have shown to us. We do not welcome  
others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people. We  
oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again.  
We squander the abundant gifts of the earth. Make us turn to you  
alone, gracious God. Transform our lives and guide us again in the  
way of the cross. Amen.**

✠ **ABSOLUTION**

WL: People of God, take heart! The Lord has heard your cry.

The Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.

The one who gave his life in love always stretches forth his arms to  
welcome the wandering ones home.

Go now, restored and forgiven. Take up your cross and follow him.

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

**All: Amen.**

## ✠ HYMN OF PRAISE

BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR  
LBW #518, stanzas 1 & 4

## ✠ PRAYER OF THE DAY

WL: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

WL: Let us pray. O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**All: Amen.**

## FIRST LESSON

GENESIS 3:1-21

R: The First lesson for this 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent is from Genesis, chapter 3.

Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?"

The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'"

"You will not certainly die," the serpent said to the woman. "For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, "Where are you?"

He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid."

And he said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?”

The man said, “The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it.”

Then the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?”

The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

So the Lord God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this,

“Cursed are you above all livestock and all wild animals!  
You will crawl on your belly  
and you will eat dust all the days of your life.  
And I will put enmity between you and the woman,  
and between your offspring and hers;  
he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.”

To the woman he said,

“I will make your pains in childbearing very severe;  
with painful labor you will give birth to children.  
Your desire will be for your husband,  
and he will rule over you.”

To Adam he said, “Because you listened to your wife and ate fruit from the tree about which I commanded you, ‘You must not eat from it,’

“Cursed is the ground because of you;  
through painful toil you will eat food from it  
all the days of your life.  
It will produce thorns and thistles for you,  
and you will eat the plants of the field.  
By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food  
until you return to the ground,  
since from it you were taken;  
for dust you are and to dust you will return.”

Adam named his wife Eve, because she would become the mother of all the living.

The Lord God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND LESSON

ROMANS 5:12-19

R: Our Epistle lesson is from the 5<sup>th</sup> chapter of Paul's letter to the Romans.

Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned—

To be sure, sin was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not charged against anyone's account where there is no law. Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who is a pattern of the one to come.

But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many! Nor can the gift of God be compared with the result of one man's sin: The judgment followed one sin and brought condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification. For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ!

Consequently, just as one trespass resulted in condemnation for all people, so also one righteous act resulted in justification and life for all people. For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

✠ VERSE

AMAZING GRACE, HOW SWEET THE SOUND  
LBW #448, STANZAS 1 & 4

**Amazing grace! how sweet the sound  
that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found;  
was blind, but now I see.**

**The Lord has promised good to me;  
his word my hope secures;  
he will my shield and portion be  
as long as life endures.**

## ✠ HOLY GOSPEL

MATTHEW 4:1-11

R: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 4th chapter.

**All: Glory to you, O Lord!**

Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread."

Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down. For it is written:

"He will command his angels concerning you,  
and they will lift you up in their hands,  
so that you will not strike your foot against a stone."

Jesus answered him, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. "All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me."

Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'"

Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

R: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you, O Christ!**

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### TODAY'S MESSAGE

## ✠ MESSAGE HYMN

A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD  
LBW #228

## ✠ PROFESSION OF FAITH

*Apostles' Creed*

WL: Let us boldly confess our faith, with the words of the Apostles' Creed:

All: **I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And 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.**

**I 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. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

*Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.***

## GATHERING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

# SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

## ✠ PREFACE

WL: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

WL: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them to the Lord.**

WL: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

## ✠ THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

## ✠ THE LORD'S PRAYER

WL: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

All: **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

WL: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: **Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

COMMUNION HYMN

SOUL, ADORN YOURSELF  
WITH GLADNESS  
LBW #224

✝ THE DISMISSAL

WL: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting.

All: **Amen.**

✝ CLOSING PRAYER

WL: Let us pray. Lamb of God, you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in your holy name.

All: **Amen.**

✝ BLESSING

WL: 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.

All: **Amen.**

✝ SENDING SONG

THIS TRAIN IS BOUND FOR GLORY

**This train is bound for glory (3X)**

**Children, get on board!**

**No more weepin' and a-wailin'. (3X)**

**Children, get on board!**

✝ SENDING

WL: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

All: **Thanks be to God.**



SOLI DEO GLORIA  
TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY

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**Liturgy from Lutheran Service Book.**

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**Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery**

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