

Welcome to Lutheran Church of the Cross!

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worship begins**

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS

Rev. Lyndon Sayers, Pastor

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

March 9, 2025 – 10:00 AM

Evangelical Lutheran Worship

Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Season of Lent

What are ways we can support one another on our Lenten journey through the wilderness?

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Invitation to Lent

These forty days called Lent are like no other. It is our opportune time to return to the God who rescues, to receive the gifts of God's grace, to believe with the heart and confess with the mouth the wonder of God's love in Jesus, and to resist temptation at every turn. This is no small pilgrimage on which we have just embarked. It is a struggle Jesus knew. It is a struggle Jesus shares. The nearness of Christ, in bread and wine, water and word, will uphold and sustain us.

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate One,

**you are slow to anger and abounding in
steadfast love,
but our lives do not always reflect you
and your love for the 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. Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross. Amen.

Beloved in Christ,
God's arms are always stretched open wide
to welcome the wandering ones home.
In † Christ your sins are forgiven.
You have a place in God's house forever.
Amen.

Gathering Song
Mercy, We Abide in You – No. 1077

Refrain: Mercy, we abide in you.
Stir in us, we pray.

Leader

Vs. 1 In peace, may we assemble.
In peace, may we unite.
In peace, may we be whole.
Move within each heart.

Refrain: Mercy, we abide in you.
Stir in us, we pray.

Assembly

Hm . . . Stir in us, we pray.
Stir in us we pray.
Stir in us we pray.

Refrain: Mercy, we abide in you.
Stir in us, we pray.

Vs. 2 For all who suffer in war,
for all who struggle for comfort,
for all who slumber in ease.
Move within each heart.

Refrain: Mercy, we abide in you.
Stir in us, we pray.

Vs. 3 We are broken, longing for peace,
forgiveness, flow among us.
May we be reconciled.
Move within each heart.

Refrain: Mercy, we abide in you.
Stir in us, we pray.

Kyrie – No. 158

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy on us.

Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

¹ You who dwell in the shelter of ^l the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of ^l the Almighty—
² **you will say to the LORD, “My refuge ^l and my
stronghold,
my God in whom I ^l put my trust.”**

Refrain: ***God will give the angels charge over
you, to guard you in all your ways.***

⁹ Because you have made the ^l LORD your refuge,
and the Most High your ^l habitation,

**¹⁰ no evil | will befall you,
nor shall affliction come | near your
dwelling.**

**¹¹ For God will give the angels charge | over you,
to guard you in | all your ways.**

**¹² Upon their hands they will | bear you up,
lest you strike your foot a- | gainst a stone.**

Refrain: ***God will give the angels charge over
you, to guard you in all your ways.***

**¹³ You will tread upon the lion | cub and viper;
you will trample down the lion | and the serpent.**

**¹⁴ I will deliver those who | cling to me;
I will uphold them, because they | know my
name.**

¹⁵ They will call me, and I will | answer them;
I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue
and | honour them.

**¹⁶ With long life will I | satisfy them,
and show them | my salvation.**

Refrain: ***God will give the angels charge over
you, to guard you in all your ways.***

Lenten Acclamation – No. 176

Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.
Save us as you promised; we will trust your word.

Gospel Reading

Luke 4:1-13

Hymn of the Day

O Lord, throughout These Forty Days – No. 319

Vs. 1 O Lord, throughout these forty days
you prayed and kept the fast;
inspire repentance for our sin,
and free us from our past.

Vs. 2 You strove with Satan, and you won;
your faithfulness endured;
lend us your nerve, your skill, and trust
in God's eternal word.

Vs. 3 Though parched and hungry, yet you prayed
and fixed your mind above;
so teach us to deny ourselves
that we may know God's love.

Vs. 4 Be with us through this season, Lord,
and all our earthly days,
that when the final Easter dawns,
we join in heaven's praise

Prayers of the People

God, in your mercy
receive our prayer.

Peace Sharing

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

Offering Song

Now Is the Time of Grace – No. 918

Refrain: Now is the time of grace,
now is the day of salvation.
Turn now, and seek God's face,
now behold God's invitation.

Vs. 1 This is the fast that God would choose:
to loose the bonds of injustice,
to let the captives go free,
and to break the yoke of oppression.

Refrain: Now is the time of grace,
now is the day of salvation.
Turn now, and seek God's face,
now behold God's invitation.

Vs. 2 Sharing your bread with the hungry
and welcoming homeless in,
offering hope and offering help,
this is what God requires.

Refrain: Now is the time of grace,
now is the day of salvation.
Turn now, and seek God's face,
now behold God's invitation.

Vs. 3 Then shall your light break forth as dawn,
and healing shall come to you quickly;
then you shall call and God shall answer,
God's love shall go before you.

Refrain: Now is the time of grace,
now is the day of salvation.
Turn now, and seek God's face,
now behold God's invitation.

Great Thanksgiving

May God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give our thanks and praise to God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy

Sanctus - F. Schubert - choir

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion Songs

***Create in Me a Clean Heart* – No. 188**

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of your salvation,
and uphold me with your free Spirit.

Be Thou My Vision – No. 793

Vs. 1 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
thou my best thought both by day and by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Vs. 2 Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.
Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tow'r,
raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.

Vs. 3 Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou and thou only, the first in my heart,
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.

Vs. 4 Light of my soul, after victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Let Your Peace Rain upon Us – No. 989

Let your peace rain upon us,
O living God of peace.

Let your peace rain upon us,
Lord, fill our hearts with your peace.

Sending Song

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me – No. 325

Vs. 1 I want Jesus to walk with me;
I want Jesus to walk with me;
all along my pilgrim journey,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

Vs. 2 In my trials, Lord, walk with me;
in my trials, Lord, walk with me;
when my heart is almost breaking,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

Vs. 3 When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;
when I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;
when my head is bowed in sorrow,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

Worship Leaders and Assistants

Assisting Minister: Allyson Roberts

Kantor: Nathan McDonald

Musician: Karen Johnson-Lefsrud

Choral Scholars: Abby Corpus, DJ McGrath

Reader: Nicky Ni

Livestreaming: Josh Boutin, Kezia Devathasan

Communion: Nicky Ni, Beverley Norman

Ushers: Grant Froyland, Murray Nelson

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