



Sunday, March 1, 2026
Immanuel Lutheran Church, Pepin, WI
Second Sunday of Lent

*As you enter, you are invited into a time
to silently reflect and center for worship*

PRELUDE

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Most merciful God,

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 heart; 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.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

GATHERING

GATHERING HYMN **ELW 398** *“Holy Spirit, Truth Divine”*

GREETING

P/ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

R/ And also with you.

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.

WORD

FIRST READING **Genesis 12:1-4a**

1 The LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. 2 I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. 3 I 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."

4a So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him.

L/Word of God, Word of Life **R/Thanks Be to God**

PSALM **Psalm: 121**

1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?

2 My help comes from the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth.

3 The LORD will not let your foot be moved nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

4 Behold, the keeper of Israel will neither slumber nor sleep;

5 the LORD watches over you; the LORD is your shade at your right hand;

6 the sun will not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

7 The LORD will preserve you from all evil and will keep your life.

8 The LORD will watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth forevermore.

L/Word of God, Word of Life **R/Thanks Be to God**

SECOND READING **Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

1 What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh?
2 For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God.
3 For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." 4 Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. 5 But to one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. 13 For 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. 14 For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. 15 For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law, neither is there transgression. 16 For 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, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

L/Word of God, Word of Life **R/Thanks Be to God**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ELW pg. 205



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

GOSPEL **John 3:1-17**

The Holy Gospel according to John, the third chapter. **R/Glory to you, O Lord**

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. **2** He came to Jesus 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.” **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 must be born from above.’ **8** The wind 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 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. **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. **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 **R/ Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY **ELW 343** “ My Song Is Love Unknown”

INSTALLATION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

The following people have been *elected* [by the congregation] to positions of leadership, they are asked to come forward as their offices and names are read.

We give thanks for their willingness to serve. In baptism we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God; we rejoice now that these *sisters and brothers* will lead us in our common life and our mutual mission as a congregation. I ask you, together with all who are here gathered, to confess the faith of the Church, the faith in which we are baptized.

APOSTLE’S CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

A reading from First Corinthians: There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. (1 Corinthians 12:4-7)

You have been elected to positions of leadership and trust in this congregation.

You are to see that the words and deeds of this household of faith bear witness to God, who gathers us into one together with the whole church.

You are to seek to involve all members of this congregation in worship, learning, witness, service, and support, so that the mission of Christ is carried out in this congregation, in the wider church, in this community, and in the whole world.

You are to be faithful in your specific area of serving, that the Spirit who empowers you may be glorified.

You are to be examples of faith active in love, fostering peace, harmony, and mutual understanding in this congregation.

On behalf of your sisters and brothers in Christ, I ask you: Will you accept and faithfully carry out the duties of the offices to which you have been *elected*?

R/ I will, and I ask God to help me.

People of God, I ask you: Will you support these, your *elected* leaders, and will you share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized?

R/ We will, and we ask God to help us.

I now declare you installed as *officers / council members* of this congregation.
Almighty God bless you, and direct your days and your deeds in peace,
that you may be faithful servants of Christ.

Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P/ Lord, in your mercy **R/ Hear our prayer.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

MEAL

OFFERING

OFFERING HYMN: **ELW 692 "We Are an Offering"**

OFFERING PRAYER:

God of healing and hope, you bless those who are hungry, promising to fill them with good things. Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts. **Nourish us with the abundance of your feast and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our Savior, now and forever.**

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to

It is right to offer our thanks and praise.

the Lord, our God.

PREFACE & HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

P/..... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er 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 of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

LAMB OF GOD ELW pg. 208

O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away, you suffered death our lives to save, have mercy now, we pray.

O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away, you set us free from guilt and grave, have mercy now, we pray.

O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away, eternal peace with God you made, give us your peace, we pray.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS ELW 336 *"Lamb of God"*
ACS 1025 *"If We Live, We Live to the Lord"*

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER :

Lord God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us, and your love supporting us, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SENDING

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN ELW 631 *"Love Divine, All Love Excelling"*

DISMISSAL

P/ Go in peace. Share the harvest R/Thanks be to God.

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