

Welcome to Worship for  
**Second Sunday in Lent**



Sunday, March 1, 2026

***All Saints Lutheran Church***

722 Rockbridge Road | Lilburn, GA 30047

Rev. Ashton Roberts, Pastor  
John Womack, Director of Music



Welcome to worship! We are so glad that you are here. Please feel free to utilize this QR code using your smart phone to access our website, Facebook & Instagram pages, and to give online. Your generosity for God's church and presence is making a difference, both here in this ministry and throughout the community. Thank you!

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## GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

### PRELUDE

*John Womack*

### WELCOME

*Rev. Ashton Roberts*

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*Rev. Ashton Roberts*

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

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt  
and blots out all offenses.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For failing to recognize your coming reign,

and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition,

and for disdaining the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For disregarding voices from the margin,

and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world:

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent,

and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life:

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound.

Through faith, the free gift of God,

you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead

dwells in you,

pours God's love into your hearts,

and gives you life and peace.

**Amen.**

## Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross



1 Je - sus, keep me near the cross, there's a pre - cious foun - tain;  
 2 Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, love and mer - cy found me;  
 3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;  
 4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,



free to all, a heal - ing stream flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.  
 there the bright and morn - ing star sheds its beams a - round me.  
 help me walk from day to day with its shad - ow o'er me.  
 till I reach the gold - en strand just be - yond the riv - er.



In the cross, in the cross be my glo - ry ev - er;



till my ran - somed soul shall find rest be - yond the riv - er.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915

Music: NEAR THE CROSS, William H. Doane, 1832–1915

**GREETING**

*Rev. Ashton Roberts*

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.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

*Rev. Ashton Roberts*

*Let us pray.*

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.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## Word

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

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

*Kelly Kraus*

<sup>1</sup>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. <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>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."

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

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM 121 (Read Responsively)**

*Kelly Kraus*

<sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes | to the hills;

from where is my | help to come?

<sup>2</sup>**My help comes | from the LORD,  
the maker of heav- | en and earth.**

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

<sup>4</sup>**Behold, the keep- | er of Israel  
will neither slum- | ber nor sleep; R**

<sup>5</sup>the LORD watches | over you;  
the LORD is your shade at | your right hand;

<sup>6</sup>**the sun will not strike | you by day,  
nor the | moon by night.**

<sup>7</sup>The LORD will preserve you | from all evil  
and will | keep your life.

<sup>8</sup>**The LORD will watch over your going out and your | coming in,  
from this time forth for- | evermore.**

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

*Kelly Kraus*

<sup>1</sup>What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? <sup>2</sup>For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup>For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>4</sup>Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup>But to one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

<sup>13</sup>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. <sup>14</sup>For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law, neither is there transgression.

<sup>16</sup>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, <sup>17</sup> 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.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The assembly stands.*

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,  
slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

## **GOSPEL: John 3:1-17**

*Rev. Ashton Roberts*

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup> 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." <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above."

<sup>4</sup> 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?" <sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup> What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup> Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' <sup>8</sup> 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." <sup>9</sup> Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" <sup>10</sup> Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup> "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. <sup>12</sup> If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup> No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup> And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup> that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup> "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.

<sup>17</sup>“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.”

The gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## SERMON

*Rev. Ashton Roberts*

*The assembly stands.*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

**ELW 735**

### Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth



1 Moth - er - ing God, you gave me birth in the bright  
2 Moth - er - ing Christ, you took my form, of - fer - ing  
3 Moth - er - ing Spir - it, nur - t'ring one, in arms of



morn - ing of this world. Cre - a - tor, source of ev - 'ry  
me your food of light, grain . . . of life, and grape of  
pa - tience hold me close, so that in faith I root and



breath, you are my rain, my wind, my sun.  
love, your ver - y bod - y for my peace.  
grow un - til I flow'r, un - til I know.

Text: Jean Janzen, b. 1933; based on Julian of Norwich, c. 1342–c. 1413  
Music: NORWICH, Carolyn Jennings, b. 1936  
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Music © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

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## **APOSTLES' CREED**

*Rev. Ashton Roberts*

**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.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*Kelly Kraus*

*The assembly is seated or kneels for prayer.*

Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

*A brief silence.*

Faithful One, you renew us by grace. As you have inspired faith through the work of church artists and hymnwriters throughout the ages, give your church the means to praise your beauty today. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Living One, you delight in this world. The sun and moon, the wind and the water declare your goodness. Preserve this earth, and protect conservationists, scientists, and all who labor in service to creation. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Ruling One, you bless us to be a blessing. Open the hearts of all leaders to seek the flourishing of every person and lend your help to all who wait for justice, deliverance, and peace. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Compassionate One, you send your Son to save. Declare your word of acceptance to any who feel condemned and lift up any brought low by hatred and exclusion. Tend to all who are struggling with illness or loss.

We offer to you now the concerns of our hearts, either silently or aloud.

**Additional Intercessions**

*Rev. Ashton Roberts*

*A brief silence*

- *We pray for June; Jim; Jeff; K. Phillip.*
- *We pray for Carter and her family and for Keren and her family.*
- *We pray for Roger and the Boyer family.*
- *We pray for Phillip; Kathryn; Alex; John.*
- *We rejoice at the wedding of Hannah Rosselle and Hunter Freeman on March 1 and pray for your blessings on their marriage.*

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

- *We pray for all people of the world impacted by ongoing war, conflict, and uncertainty, especially those caught between Ukraine and Russia; between Israel and Hamas; in South Sudan; in Iran; in Venezuela.*
- *We pray for schools everywhere, that all students and those who care for them may feel safe and free from fear.*
- *We pray for justice around the world and here at home, that God may delight when we are creators of justice and joy, compassion, and peace.*

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Guiding One, you watch over our going out and coming in. Bless newcomers and new members in this assembly and accompany those who have recently left this community to journey elsewhere. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Eternal One, you neither slumber nor sleep. Be our keeper in life and in death. Thank you for our beloved who have died, and for your promise which saves this whole world by your love. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

**Amen.**

*The assembly stands in body or spirit.*

**PEACE**

*Rev. Ashton Roberts*

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

I invite you to share a sign of peace with one another.

*If you are joining us online, reach out by phone, text, email, or social media this week to share the Peace of Christ.*

## MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

### OFFERING

*Rev. Ashton Roberts*

*We have several ways to receive your offering. There is a basket on the table by the sanctuary doors, or you can utilize the QR code on the front of your bulletin to submit your offering online. Mailing your offering to the church is also an option.*

### OFFERING RESPONSE

**ELW 182**

#### Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful *Offering Song*



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be  
fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -  
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980  
Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923  
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### OFFERING PRAYER

*Kelly Kraus*

*Let us pray.*

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.**

# DIALOGUE

Rev. Ashton Roberts

The Lord be with you! **And al-so with you!** Lift up your hearts! **We lift them to the Lord!**

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God! **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

On the night He was be-trayed, He took the bread, gave thanks, broke it and said:

**"Take and eat. This is my bo-dy, gi-ven for you. Take and eat. This is my body,**

**gi-ven for you. Do this for the re-mem - brance of me."**

On the night He was be-trayed He took the cup gave thanks, and raised it up:

**"Take and drink. This is my blood, poured out for you. Take and drink. This is my blood,**

**poured out for you. Do this for the re-mem - brance of me."**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Fa-ther, who art in hea-ven, hal-lo-wed be Thy name. Thy  
king-dom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in hea-ven. Give us this  
day our dai-ly bread, and for - give us as we for-giveour debt-ors; and  
lead us not in-to temp - ta - tion, but de - li-ver us from e - vil; for  
Thine is the king-dom and the po - wer and the glo - ry, for - e - ver. A - men.

Chords: B $\flat$ sus4 B $\flat$ , E $\flat$ , F $\flat$ sus4 F, B $\flat$ , C, B $\flat$ /D E $\flat$ , F $\flat$ sus4 F, B $\flat$ , B $\flat$ /A, G $\flat$ min, C7, C $\flat$ min, F, B $\flat$ , C, D $\flat$ min, E $\flat$ , B $\flat$ , F, F/G G $\flat$ min, F/E $\flat$ , D7, D/F $\sharp$ , G $\flat$ min, G $\flat$ min/F, E $\flat$ , F, B $\flat$ .

## COMMUNION SONG

Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin  
of the world. Have mer - cy on us.  
Grant us peace. Grant us peace. Grant us peace, Lamb of God.

Chords: B $\flat$ , B $\flat$ /D, E $\flat$ , F, B $\flat$ , B $\flat$ /D, E $\flat$ , F7sus4, B $\flat$ , B $\flat$ /D, E $\flat$ , F7sus4, B $\flat$ .

Tune: John Tirro

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## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

*The assembly is seated.*

## **MUSIC FOR COMMUNION**

*The assembly stands in body or spirit.*

## **POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

*Rev. Ashton Roberts*

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**Amen.**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

*Kelly Kraus*

*Let us pray.*

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.**

## **SENDING**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

## **BLESSING**

*Rev. Ashton Roberts*

*The assembly stands in body or spirit.*

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.**

*Blessed*

## When I Survey the Wondrous Cross



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the  
 2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the  
 3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and  
 4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a



prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I  
 death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that  
 love flow min - gled down. Did e'er such love and  
 pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss and pour con - tempt on all my pride.  
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.  
 sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?  
 so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: HAMBURG, Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Rev. Ashton Roberts*

**DISMISSAL**

*Rev. Ashton Roberts*

Go in peace. Believe the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

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