

*February 22, 2026*  
*First Lutheran Church*

# WELCOME TO FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

*February 22, 2026 — First Sunday of Lent*



At First Lutheran Church, we value and celebrate the richness of God’s creation and offer full welcome and inclusion to all people. Our welcome is as boundless as God’s grace. It is not affected nor limited by distinctions such as age, race, ethnicity, culture, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, political alignment, or mental and physical abilities. We continually seek to recognize and learn how to address potentially unhealthy dynamics of power and privilege which can create barriers to inclusion, racial equity and equality in this church and in society. Through proclamation of the gospel, through worship, and as servants of God working for healing and justice in the world, we uphold and seek to protect the dignity and human rights of all people.

We invite you to come and grow with us, and to experience God’s love and grace as a treasured participant in the community and worship life of First Lutheran Church.

## HOLY COMMUNION

We believe and teach that Christ’s body and blood are truly present and received in, with and under the bread and wine. All who have been baptized and already have received their First Communion are welcome to receive. Children and adults who desire a blessing may come forward to receive prayer.

## COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION INFORMATION

Receive the wafer in your hand, then take a glass from the tray (white grape juice is in the middle of the trays for those who do not wish to take the wine).

After drinking the wine, place your glass in the bowl provided.

*Gluten-free wafers are also available.*

P=Pastor; A=Assisting Minister; C=Congregation; R=Reader

# GATHERING

PRELUDE

BRENDA MORNEAU

## “VOLUNTARY IN D MINOR”

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Music composer—William Walond

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*Please stand*

P The good news of the gospel is:

C **manna in the desert, water turned into wine, love after loss,  
forgiveness after pain.**

P The good news of the gospel is:

C **release for the captive, hope for the hopeless, mourning turned to  
dancing, and strangers turned to friends.**

P So come on in. There’s no time to waste! This surprising good news  
is here for you. Let us worship this good-news God.

## CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P You may have heard, “All is fair in love and war,” or “An eye for an  
eye and a tooth for a tooth.” But God says, “Forgive seventy times  
seven.” God says, “I am slow to anger and abounding in steadfast  
love.” God says, “Turn the other cheek.” God’s mercy catches us by  
surprise. So with wonder and gratitude, let us go to God in prayer.

*Silence is kept for reflection*

P Loving God,

**C somewhere along the way we picked up the message that in order to be faithful, we have to be serious. We have to pray on our knees without ceasing. We have to be somber in worship and quiet in our studies. We have to check our questions at the door.**

**But then you say the kingdom of God is like a mustard seed—unruly and untamed. You turn water into wine—surprising and extravagant. And all of a sudden, we wonder: Can we be like that mustard seed? Can we be faithful and unruly? Can we be playful and curious? Can we be messy and still be yours? We know the answer already.**

**The Spirit whispers: of course, of course, of course.**

**Forgive our doubt. Pull us closer into your embrace. With faith like a mustard seed, we pray. Amen.**

P God's grace is wild and unruly. God's mercy is abundant and surprising. God's love is expansive and unending. So if you ask, "Holy One, am I forgiven?" the answer is and always will be: of course, of course, of course. This is the good news of the gospel.

**C Thanks be to God, Amen.**

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;  
 2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me; walk with  
 3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

me: I want Je - sus to walk with me;  
 in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me; walk with  
 when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

me: all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,  
 when my heart is al - most break - ing,  
 when my head is bowed in sor - row,

Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.  
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me. walk with me.  
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

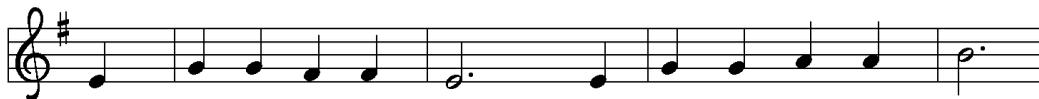
Text: African American spiritual  
 Music: SOJOURNER, African American spiritual; arr. hymnal version  
 Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

## GREETING

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

## KYRIE



1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.

2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.

3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.

Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.

Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

A Let us pray.

Holy One, it is easy to see the mustard plant and forget to marvel at the seed. It is easy to taste good wine and not appreciate it. It is easy to miss the holy that is in our midst. So as we turn to your text today, we pray, surprise us. Speak to us. Move through us. Draw us closer to your good news. We wait with bated breath.

C Amen.

*Please be seated*

## WORD

### THE FIRST READING IS FROM JOHN, THE 2<sup>ND</sup> CHAPTER

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. <sup>2</sup> Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. <sup>3</sup> When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, “They have no wine.” <sup>4</sup> And Jesus said to her, “Woman, what concern is that to me and to you? My hour has not yet come.” <sup>5</sup> His mother said to the servants, “Do whatever he tells you.” <sup>6</sup> Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. <sup>7</sup> Jesus said to them, “Fill the jars with water.” And they filled them up to the brim. <sup>8</sup> He said to them, “Now draw some out, and take it to the person in charge of the banquet.” So they took it. <sup>9</sup> When the person in charge tasted the water that had become wine and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), that person called the bridegroom <sup>10</sup> and said to him, “Everyone serves the good wine first and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.” <sup>11</sup> Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee and revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him.

R Word of God, Word of Life.

C **Thanks be to God.**



<sup>9</sup> Do not be like horse or mule, which have no | understanding;  
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will | not stay near  
you.”

<sup>10</sup> **Great are the tribulations | of the wicked;  
but mercy embraces those who trust | in the Lord.**

<sup>11</sup> Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice | in the Lord;  
shout for joy, all who are | true of heart.

*Please stand*

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Return to God

Refrain

Re - turn to God with all your heart, the source of grace and  
mer - cy; come seek the ten - der faith - ful - ness of God.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 4<sup>th</sup> chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord**

<sup>1</sup> Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil. <sup>2</sup> He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. <sup>3</sup> The tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” <sup>4</sup> But he answered, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”

<sup>5</sup> Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle

of the temple, <sup>6</sup> saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written,

‘He will command his angels concerning you,’

and ‘On their hands they will bear you up,

so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’ ”

<sup>7</sup> Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’ ”

<sup>8</sup> Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory, <sup>9</sup> and he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” <sup>10</sup> Then Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

‘Worship the Lord your God,

and serve only him.’ ”

<sup>11</sup> Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

P The Gospel of the Lord..

C Praise to you, O Christ.

*Please be seated*

**SERMON**

**REV. MARK GLAZENER**

*Time for Silent Reflection*

*Please stand*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

### ***“IN A NEAT & TIDY GARDEN”***

Words: Anna Strickland (2025)—Music: Robert Lowry (1875)  
©Anna Strickland, 2025. Commissioned by A Sanctified Art, LLC.

In a neat and tidy garden grows a secret tiny seed  
There among the planted barley will emerge a shocking weed  
Growing quickly through the soil to break forth in vacant spot  
What a joy when I discover God has planted in my plot!  
What a joy when I discover God has planted in my plot!

Green and tender leaves I harvest from the mustard growing wild  
To enrich and spice my dishes that were until now too mild  
Unexpected and surprising, uncontrolled by human hand  
See the reign of God is growing, taking root throughout the land!  
See the reign of God is growing, taking root throughout the land!

Other gardeners may struggle and pretend they have control  
Over land that God created but I'll tell you what I know:  
I am not the Master Gardener, just a steward of this place  
God has seeded every acre with surprising, wild grace!  
God has seeded every acre with surprising, wild grace!

## **APOSTLES' 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.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*(After each petition, please respond with, "receive our prayer.")*

## **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

**A** The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**C** And also with you.

*Please be seated*

## **TITHES & OFFERING**

**“THREE MEDITATIONS: II”**

By Theodore W. Ripper

*Please stand*

**OFFERING PRAYER**

A 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.

C **Amen.**

**HOLY COMMUNION**

**DIALOGUE**

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 our thanks and praise.**

**PREFACE**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



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.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup  
we remember our Lord's passover from death to life  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

O God of resurrection and new life:  
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us  
and on these gifts of bread and wine.  
Bless this feast.  
Grace our table with your presence.  
**Come, Holy Spirit.**

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.  
Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.  
Breathe new life into us.  
Send us forth,  
burning with justice, peace, and love.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

With your holy ones of all times and places,  
with the earth and all its creatures,  
with sun and moon and stars,  
we praise you, O God,  
blessed and holy Trinity,  
now and forever.

**Amen.**

# LORD'S PRAYER

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

**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.**

*Please be seated*

## COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

### “LAMB OF GOD”



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

# COMMUNION SONG

ELW #461

## All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly



- 1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad-ly; ho-ly man-na is our bread.
- 2 All who hun-ger, nev-er strang-ers; seek-er, be a wel-come guest.
- 3 All who hun-ger, sing to - geth - er, Je - sus Christ is liv - ing bread.



Come from wil-der - ness and wan - d'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.  
Come from rest-less - ness and roam - ing. Here in joy we keep the feast.  
Come from lone - li - ness and long - ing. Here in peace we have been fed.



You that yearn for days of full-ness, all a-round us is our food.  
We that once were lost and scat-tered in com-mu-nion's love have stood.  
Blest are those who from this ta - ble live their days in grat-i - tude.



Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.  
Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.  
Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: HOLY MANNA, W. Moore, *Columbian Harmony*, 1825

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*Please stand*

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

- A Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C **Amen.**

## **SENDING**

*Please be seated*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Please stand*

## **BLESSING**

- P 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.
- C **Amen.**

## There's a Wideness in God's Mercy



1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide-ness of the sea;  
 2 There is wel - come for the sin - ner, and a prom - ised grace made good;  
 3 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sures of our mind;  
 4 'Tis not all we owe to Je - sus; it is some - thing more than all:



there's a kind - ness in God's jus - tice which is more than lib - er - ty.  
 there is mer - cy with the Sav - ior; there is heal - ing in his blood.  
 and the heart of the E - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.  
 great - er good be - cause of e - vil, larg - er mer - cy through the fall.



There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in heav'n.  
 There is grace e - nough for thou - sands of new worlds as great as this;  
 But we make this love too nar - row by false lim - its of our own;  
 Make our love, O God, more faith - ful; let us take you at your word,



There is no place where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment giv'n.  
 there is room for fresh cre - a - tions in that up - per home of bliss.  
 and we mag - ni - fy its strict - ness with a zeal God will not own.  
 and our lives will be thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of the Lord.

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814–1863, alt.  
 Music: LORD, REVIVE US, North American, 19th cent.

## DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Believe the good news.  
C Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

**BRENDA MORNEAU**

### **“VOLUNTARY IN F”**

By John Bennett

#### **THOSE SERVING TODAY**

**PRESIDING MINISTER: REV. MARK GLAZENER**

**ASSISTING MINISTER: KEN CONANT**

**COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: LISA NELSON & KRIS CONANT**

**READER: SALLY HEATH**

**ORGANIST: BRENDA MORNEAU**

**ALTAR CARE: BILL MILLS**

**COUNTERS: JACK LOVELAND & LAURA PAGE**

**COFFEE: MICKIE KUCINKAS**

**Please sign the **red book** each Sunday. It helps us keep a record of who has received communion and also helps to know who is a visitor. Thank you.**

**MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES  
EMMAUS LUTHERAN CHURCH  
FALMOUTH**

**6:00 PM Soup & Bread Supper**

**7:00 pm Holden Evening**

**February 25**

**March 4**

**March 11**

**March 18**

**March 25**

**HOLY WEEK AT FIRST LUTHERAN**



**March 29, 2026**

**Palm Sunday**

**Worship— 10:00 am**

**April 2**

**Maundy Thursday Service—7:00 pm**

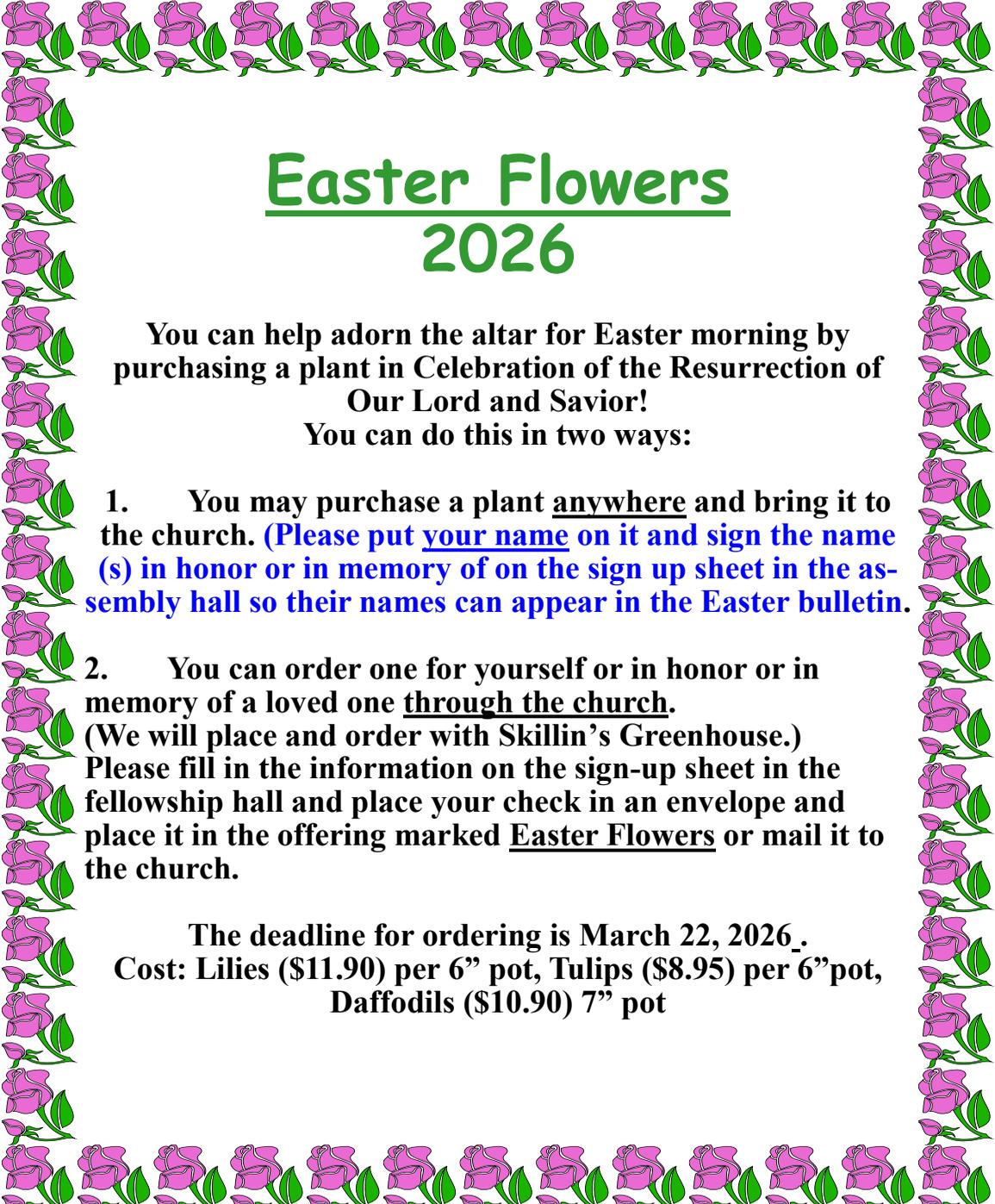
**April 3**

**Good Friday—7:00 pm**

**April 5**

**EASTER SUNDAY**

**Worship — 10:00 am**



# Easter Flowers 2026

You can help adorn the altar for Easter morning by purchasing a plant in Celebration of the Resurrection of Our Lord and Savior!

You can do this in two ways:

1. You may purchase a plant anywhere and bring it to the church. (Please put your name on it and sign the name (s) in honor or in memory of on the sign up sheet in the assembly hall so their names can appear in the Easter bulletin.

2. You can order one for yourself or in honor or in memory of a loved one through the church. (We will place and order with Skillin's Greenhouse.) Please fill in the information on the sign-up sheet in the fellowship hall and place your check in an envelope and place it in the offering marked Easter Flowers or mail it to the church.

The deadline for ordering is March 22, 2026.  
Cost: Lilies (\$11.90) per 6" pot, Tulips (\$8.95) per 6" pot,  
Daffodils (\$10.90) 7" pot



**6:00 PM, APRIL 4<sup>TH</sup>  
TO 6:00 AM EASTER, APRIL 5<sup>TH</sup>**

Join us in the ancient tradition of prayerfully waiting for the Risen Christ. Set aside time for meditation and quiet communion with God. Sign up for a one hour time slot between 6PM and 6AM the Saturday night before Easter, April 4.



**WORK DAY  
SAVE THE DATE!**

**March 7th**

**9:00 am—Noon**

Property Committee is  
planning a church  
Work and clean-up day.

**Mark your calendar.**

**READINGS FOR  
SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT  
MARCH 1, 2026**

**Genesis 12:1-4a**

*The blessing of God upon Abram*

**Psalm 121**

I lift up my eyes to the hills; my help comes from the LORD. (Ps. 121:1, 2)

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

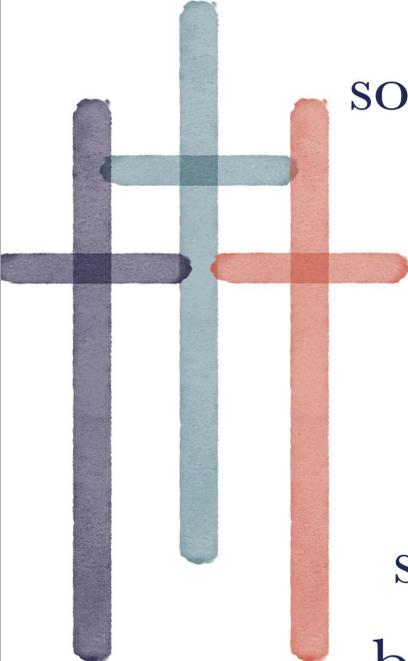
*The promise to those who share Abraham's faith*

**John 3:1-17**

*The mission of Christ: to save the world*

**CHILDREN'S BULLETINS**

**There are children's bulletins for ages 3+ and for ages 7+ and bags of crayons. So pick up a bulletin and crayons on the credenza. The message goes along with the Gospel for the day.**



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

John 3:16



*Portions of this Liturgy adapted from a prayer by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | [sanctifiedart.org](http://sanctifiedart.org)*

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## COUNCIL ASSIGNMENTS

**Property** — Michael McIver & Ken Conant

**Outreach** — Lorna Leo

**Fellowship** — Lorna Leo & Bill Mills

**School Age** — Lauren Cormier

**Give A Child A Chance** — Alison Smith

**Education** — Gene Kucinkas

**Emergency Preparedness** — Michael McIver

**Stewardship/Finances** — Larre Nelson

**RIC** — Larre Nelson & Emily Cole

**Worship** — Lauren Cormier

## VENMO

If you have any questions,  
please contact  
Cheryl Cyr,  
Financial Secretary at  
[cheryl.cyr@flcme.org](mailto:cheryl.cyr@flcme.org).

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[@firstlutheran](https://www.instagram.com/firstlutheran)





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