



**Pilgrim**  
LUTHERAN  
**Church**

## Divine Service



**March 1, 2026**  
**Second Sunday in Lent**

# Welcome

## Opening Hymn

### Oh Love How Deep



1 Oh, love, how deep, how broad, how high, be - yond all  
2 God sent no an - gel to our race, of high - er  
3 For us bap - tized, for us he bore his ho - ly  
4 For us he prayed; for us he taught; for us his



thought and fan - ta - sy, that God, the Son of  
or of low - er place, but wore the robe of  
fast and hun - gered sore; for us temp - ta - tion  
dai - ly works he wrought, by words and signs and



God, should take our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake!  
hu - man frame, in Christ our Lord to this world came.  
sharp he knew; for us the tempt - er o - ver - threw.  
ac - tions thus still seek - ing not him - self, but us.

## Confession and Forgiveness

*The assembly stands. The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

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

**Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

Most merciful God,

**We confess that we are in bondage 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**

*The minister stands and addresses the congregation.*

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## The Sign of Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## Songs of Praise

### God of Abraham

You are the God of Abraham  
You are in command of every throne  
You are the God of majesty  
You saw the heart in me and made a home

And You have been my God  
Faithful through the years  
The nations rise and fall  
You were standing still  
And You will be my God  
What then shall I fear  
I know whatever comes  
You'll be with me still

You are the God of righteousness  
You are my defense when I have none  
You are the God of matchless grace  
And in my darkest days you still hold on

And You have been my God  
Faithful through the years  
The nations rise and fall  
You were standing still  
And You will be my God  
What then shall I fear



I know whatever comes  
You'll be with me still

I know You've never let go  
I know You've never let go of me  
I know You've never let go  
And You never will  
(REPEAT)

You have been my God  
Faithful through the years  
The nations rise and fall  
You were standing still  
And You will be my God  
What then shall I fear  
I know whatever comes  
You'll be with me still

### **God So Loved**

Come all you weary  
Come all you thirsty  
Come to the well that never runs dry  
Drink of the water  
Come and thirst no more

Come all you sinners  
Come find His mercy  
Come to the table He will satisfy  
Taste of His goodness  
Find what you're looking for

For God so loved the world that He gave us  
His one and only Son to save us  
Whoever believes in Him will live forever

Bring all your failures  
Bring your addictions  
Come lay them down at the foot of the cross  
Jesus is waiting there  
With open arms

For God so loved the world that He gave us  
His one and only Son to save us  
Whoever believes in Him will live forever  
The power of hell forever defeated  
Now it is well I'm walking in freedom  
For God so loved God so loved the world

Praise God praise God  
From whom all blessings flow  
Praise Him praise Him  
For the wonders of His love  
(Repeat)

For God so loved the world that He gave us  
His one and only Son to save

For God so loved the world that He gave us  
His one and only Son to save us  
Whoever believes in Him will live forever  
The power of hell forever defeated  
Now it is well I'm walking in freedom  
For God so loved God so loved the world

Bring all your failures  
Bring your addictions  
Come lay them down at the foot of the cross  
Jesus is waiting  
God so loved the world

## Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

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.**

## First Reading

### Genesis 12

Now 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 And 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 him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

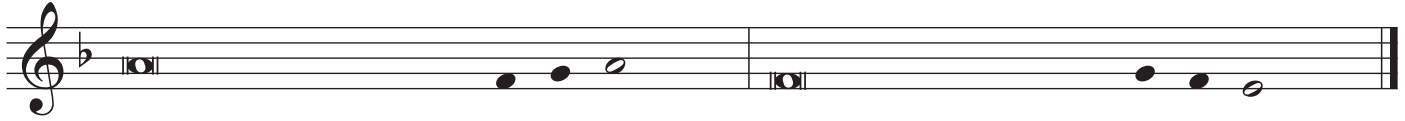
4 So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

# Psalm

## Psalm 121

### Tone



### Refrain



My help comes on - ly from the Lord, the mak - er of heav'n and earth.

**Refrain: My help comes only from the Lord, the maker of heav'n and earth.**

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 heav- • en 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 keep- • er of Israel  
will neither slum- • ber nor sleep;**

**Refrain: My help comes only from the Lord, the maker of heav'n and earth.**

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 for- • evermore.**

**Refrain: My help comes only from the Lord, the maker of heav'n and earth.**

**Glory be to the Father and • to the Son  
and to the Holy • Spirit;  
as it was in the be - • ginning,  
is now, and will be forever. • Amen.**

**Refrain: My help comes only from the Lord, the maker of heav'n and earth.**

## Second Reading

### Romans 4

What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather 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 counted to him as righteousness."  
4 Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due.  
5 And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness,  
13 For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come 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 there is no transgression.  
16 That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring—not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all,  
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.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## Children's Message

**Gemma Rodriguez**

## Gospel Acclamation

**My help comes only from the Lord, the maker of heav'n and earth.**

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the third chapter. **Glory to You, O Lord!**

3 Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews.  
2 This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him."  
3 Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God."  
4 Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?"  
5 Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.  
6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.  
7 Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.'  
8 The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, 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 Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony.  
12 If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things?  
13 No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man.  
14 And 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, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his 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.**

## Sermon

**Rev. Lew Upchurch**

## Confession of Faith

### Apostles' Creed

**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 Intercession

*Following each prayer petition:*

God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

## Offering

### The Sacrament of the Altar

The Lord be with you. **And also 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.**

It is indeed our duty and our joy...evermore praising You and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of Your glory, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed + is He who comes in the Name of the Lord, Hosanna in the highest.**

We proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.**

## Words of Institution

### The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

## O Lamb of God...

### Ways to Commune

**Intinction** – Pastor places bread in hands. Communicant dips bread in chalice held by Communion Assistant.

**Sealed Cups** – Gluten-Free in Blue and Alcohol-Free in Pink are available (take to seat, and we will commune together).

**Prayer** – Approach the communion table with arms crossing your chest.



## Communion Song

### I Lift My Eyes Up

I lift my eyes up to the mountains  
Where does my help come from  
My help comes from You, maker of heaven  
Creator of the earth  
(Repeat)

Oh how I need You Lord  
You are my only hope  
You're my only prayer  
So I will wait for You  
To come and rescue me  
Come and give me life

I lift my eyes up to the mountains  
Where does my help come from  
My help comes from You, maker of heaven  
Creator of the earth

Oh how I need You Lord  
You are my only hope  
You're my only prayer  
So I will wait for You  
To come and rescue me  
Come and give me life  
(Repeat)

I lift my eyes up to the mountains  
Where does my help come from  
My help comes from You, maker of heaven  
Creator of the earth

# Blessing

## Closing Hymn

### 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.

*Refrain*



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.

# Announcements

## Blessed Assurance

Blessed assurance Jesus is mine  
O what a foretaste of glory divine  
Heir of salvation purchase of God  
Born of His Spirit washed in His blood

This is my story this is my song  
Praising my Savior all the day long  
This is my story this is my song  
Praising my Savior all the day long

Perfect submission all is at rest  
I in my Savior am happy and blest  
Watching and waiting looking above  
Filled with His goodness lost in His love

This is my story this is my song  
Praising my Savior all the day long  
This is my story this is my song  
Praising my Savior all the day long

*Please use the basket in the Narthex to dispose of your used  
Holy Communion Cups as you leave the Sanctuary*

# Sermon Notes



# Serving at Worship Today

## **Preaching & Presiding**

Rev. Lew Upchurch

## **Director of Music**

Mary Harper

# Upcoming Events



**Learn more about all upcoming events at [pilgrimsm.org/calendar](https://pilgrimsm.org/calendar)**

## Pilgrim Giving



Your faithful financial stewardship is as important as ever. We will be creating cards with QR code to access online giving.

## Serve at Pilgrim



Interested in serving at Pilgrim? Scan the QR code or go to <https://pilgrims.org/serve-at-divine-service/> to complete an information form. We will contact you when trainings are scheduled for various service opportunities.

## Bible App



Scan this QR code to download a Bible app and access scripture, devotionals, and more right from your phone!



**Pilgrim**  
L U T H E R A N  
**Church**

Called by the Holy Spirit,  
**we are an intergenerational community of  
worship and service**  
that invites the people of  
Santa Monica and beyond  
**to flourish in the love of Jesus Christ  
through Word and Sacraments.**

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