



Pilgrim
LUTHERAN
Church

Divine Service



February 22, 2026
First Sunday in Lent

Welcome

Opening Hymn

O Lord Throughout These Forty Days



- 1 O Lord, through-out these for - ty days you prayed and kept the fast;
- 2 You strove with Sa - tan, and you won; your faith - ful - ness en - dured;
- 3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet you prayed and fixed your mind a - bove;
- 4 Be with us through this sea - son, Lord, and all our earth-ly days,



in - spire re - pen - tance for our sin, and free us from our past.
lend us your nerve, your skill and trust in God's e - ter - nal word.
so teach us to de - ny our - selves that we may know God's love.
that when the fi - nal Eas - ter dawns, we join in heav - en's praise.

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

Refiner's Fire

Purify my heart
Let me be as gold and precious silver
Purify my heart
Let me be as gold, pure gold

Refiner's fire, my heart's one desire
Is to be holy
Set apart for You Lord
I want to be holy
Set apart for You, my Master
Ready to do Your will

Purify my heart
Cleanse me from within and make me holy
Purify my heart
Cleanse me from my sin, deep within

Refiner's fire, my heart's one desire
Is to be holy
Set apart for You Lord
I want to be holy
Set apart for You, my Master
Ready to do Your will

I want to be holy
Set apart for You, my Master
Ready to do Your will



The Battle Belongs to the Lord

In heavenly armor we'll enter the land
The battle belongs to the Lord
No weapon that's fashioned against us will stand
The battle belongs to the Lord

And we sing glory honor
Power and strength to the Lord
We sing glory honor
Power and strength to the Lord

When the power of darkness comes in like a flood
The battle belongs to the Lord
He's raised up a standard the pow'r of His blood
The battle belongs to the Lord

And we sing glory honor
Power and strength to the Lord
We sing glory honor
Power and strength to the Lord

When your enemy presses in hard do not fear
The battle belongs to the Lord
Take courage my friend your redemption is near
The battle belongs to the Lord

And we sing glory honor
Power and strength to the Lord
We sing glory honor
Power and strength to the Lord

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray...
Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil
rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces
that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast
in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us
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 2

15 The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.
16 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, 17 but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

3 Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made.

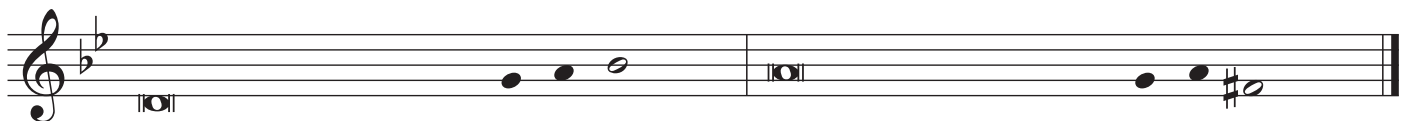
He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden'?"
2 And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, 3 but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.' " 4 But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. 5 For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." 6 So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. 7 Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

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

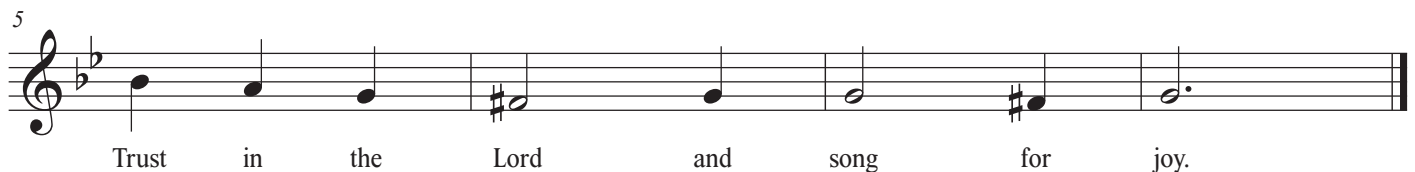
Psalm

Psalm 32

Tone



Refrain



Refrain: Be glad, you righteous ones; rejoice! Trust in the Lord and sing for joy.

1 Happy are they whose transgressions • are forgiven,
and whose sin is • put away!

**2 Happy are they to whom the Lord im- • putes no guilt,
and in whose spirit there • is no guile!**

3 While I held my tongue, my bones with- • ered away,
because of my groaning • all day long.

**4 For your hand was heavy upon me • day and night;
my moisture was dried up as in the • heat of summer.**

Refrain: Be glad, you righteous ones; rejoice! Trust in the Lord and sing for joy.

5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not con- • ceal my guilt.

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord." Then you forgave me the guilt • of my sin.

**6 Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in • time of trouble;
when the great waters overflow, they • shall not reach them.**

7 You are my hiding-place; you preserve • me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts • of deliverance.

**8 "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that • you should go;
I will guide you • with my eye.**

Refrain: Be glad, you righteous ones; rejoice! Trust in the Lord and sing for joy.

9 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."

**10 Great are the tribulations • of the wicked;
but mercy embraces those who trust • in the Lord.**

11 Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice • in the Lord;
shout for joy, all who are • true of heart.

**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: Be glad, you righteous ones; rejoice! Trust in the Lord and sing for joy.

Second Reading

Romans 5

12 Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned— 13 for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. 14 Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come.

15 But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man's trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many. 16 And the free gift is not like the result of that one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brought justification. 17 For if, because of one man's trespass, death

reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.

18 Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. 19 For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

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

Children's Message

Gemma Rodriguez

Gospel Acclamation

Be glad, you righteous ones; rejoice! Trust in the Lord and sing for joy.

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

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. 2 And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. 3 And the tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread."

4 But he answered, "It is written,

" 'Man shall not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.' "

5 Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple 6 and said 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,
lest you strike your foot against a stone.' "

7 Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.' "

8 Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. 9 And he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." 10 Then Jesus said to him, "Be gone, Satan! For it is written,

" 'You shall worship the Lord your God
and him only shall you serve.' "

11 Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O Christ.**

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

You Are My Hiding Place

You are my hiding place
You always fill my heart
With songs of deliverance
Whenever I am afraid
I will trust in You

I will trust in You
Let the weak say I am strong
In the strength of the Lord

You are my hiding place
You always fill my heart
With songs of deliverance
Whenever I am afraid
I will trust in You

I will trust in You
Let the weak say I am strong
In the strength of the Lord

Blessing

Closing Hymn

Cast Out, O Christ



1 Cast out, O Christ, cast far a - way the
2 Our rag - ing griefs, our jeal - ous fears are
3 Once long a - go, from Gal - i - lee, you
4 Your word breathes life and health and hope that
5 So come, O Christ, and cast a - way the



de - mons that de - stroy: the haunt - ing dreads that
Le - gion in their name. Our shack - led hearts im -
sailed to storm - tossed shores. And still, in pow'r, you
break through e - vil's thrall. You send us, strength - ened,
de - mons that de - stroy. Trans - form our lives to



choke our souls, the hates that sti - fle joy.
plore your grace to loose our bind - ing shame.
brave new paths to breach our bolt - ed doors.
home in peace to live your gos - pel call.
sense your love and spread a - broad your joy.

Announcements

Amazing

A love so undeserved
A gift that's free You lavish on me
A peace I could not earn
And mercy for the freedom of my soul

That's what's so amazing about Your grace
That's what's so amazing about Your grace
Lord everyday You pour on me
Your blessings of eternity
And that's what's so amazing about Your grace

Forgiveness runs so deep
Within Your heart of loving kindness
And should a soul forget
The cross of Christ reminds us every day

That's what's so amazing about Your grace
That's what's so amazing about Your grace
Lord everyday You pour on me
Your blessings of eternity
And that's what's so amazing about Your grace

*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

Mid-Week Lenten Services

"I AM with You: Moving from Ashes to Resurrection"

Lent is not a season of self-fixing; it is a season of being met by Jesus. In each encounter, Jesus reveals who He is ("I Am...") and what that means for broken, thirsty, blind, and dying people. These stories lead us steadily toward the cross and empty tomb.

2/25 First Lutheran Venice - **7pm** (Sloppy Joe Dinner at **6pm**)

3/4 Pilgrim Lutheran - **7pm**

3/11 First Lutheran Venice - **7pm**

3/18 Pilgrim Lutheran - **7pm**

3/25 First Lutheran Venice - **7pm**

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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