



THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

FEBRUARY 22, 2026 | 8:00 AND 10:30 AM

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH; CONCORDIA, MO

ABOUT TODAY'S WORSHIP

Jesus' ministry leads to Jerusalem and to His suffering, crucifixion, and death. It was always going to lead to this moment. And where our Savior goes, His people follow. He teaches us that "whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it" (Matthew 16:25 ESV). *This is Part 4 of a year-long series, "A Year in Matthew."*

P Pastor

C Congregation/All

† All may make the sign of the cross to remember their baptism.



Led by the Holy spirit, we gather for worship.

We are prepared for worship through Confession and Absolution.

PRELUDE & WELCOME

OPENING HYMN 424 "O Christ, You Walked the Road"

CONFESSION OF SINS & FORGIVENESS

2 Corinthians 6:2 NIV; Genesis 3:19; Joel 2:12; Psalm 51:17; John 3:16–17

P In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P The Lord says, "In the time of my favor I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you."

C **But we are dust, and to dust we shall return.**

P "Yet even now," declares the Lord, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning."

C **The sacrifice the Lord desires is a broken and contrite heart; it will not be despised.**

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean.**

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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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. ►

P “God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. 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.” As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the **+** Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

SALUTATION & COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

VERSE OF THE MONTH *Luke 1:46–47*

C My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.



We hear God's Word read and proclaimed, and we respond with our prayers and praise, tithes and offerings.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Genesis 3:1–21*

The devil tempts Adam and Eve into sin. Even as God punishes them for their disobedience, He promises One who will come to crush the devil and his power.

¹Now 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’?” ²And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³but 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.’” ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. ⁵For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be

opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” ⁶So 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. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

⁸And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool

of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” ¹⁰And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.” ¹¹He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” ¹²The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.” ¹³Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

¹⁴The LORD God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. ¹⁵I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he

shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.”

¹⁶To the woman he said, “I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children. Your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you.”

¹⁷And to Adam he said, “Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, ‘You shall not eat of it,’ cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life; ¹⁸thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. ¹⁹By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”

²⁰The man called his wife’s name Eve, because she was the mother of all living. ²¹And the LORD God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them.

P This is the Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE Romans 5:12–19

Saint Paul teaches that just as sin and death were introduced into the world through one man (Adam), so also grace and new life have come into the world through one Man (Jesus Christ).

¹²Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned—¹³for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. ¹⁴Yet 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.

¹⁵But 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. ¹⁶And 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. ¹⁷If, 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.

¹⁸Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 4:1–11*

Tempted by the devil for forty days in the wilderness, Jesus turns away all the devil's tests and remains faithful.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

²And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. ³And the tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” ⁴But he answered, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”

⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple ⁶and 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

righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. ¹⁹For 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.

they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.’”

⁷Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’” ⁸Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹And he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” ¹⁰Then Jesus said to him, “Be gone, Satan! For it is written, ‘You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.’”

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

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

CREED *See the inside back cover of the hymnal.*

SERMON HYMN 544 “*O Love, How Deep*”

SERMON *Called to Die: “Dying to Self”*

GATHERING OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

All may sign the friendship register found in each pew.

THIRD GRADE CATECHISM MILESTONE

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

After each petition:

P Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

The 8:00 am service concludes with the Lord's Prayer, Benediction, and Closing Hymn 418, "O Lord, throughout These Forty Days."



We receive God's gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation
as we share the Sacrament of the Altar.

PREFACE

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 Him thanks and praise.
P It is truly good, right, and salutary ... evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS | Holy, Holy, Holy *Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*

Tune: SOUTHWELL ("Lord Jesus, Think on Me")

C (sung) O holy Lord of hosts,
Our loud hosannas cry:
Bring Your almighty pow'r to bear;
Save us, O Lord, we pray.

WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST *1 Corinthians 11:26*

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **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.**

PAX DOMINI | Peace of the Lord *John 20:19*

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI | Lamb of God *John 1:29*

Tune: SOUTHWELL ("Lord Jesus, Think on Me")

C (sung) **O spotless Lamb of God**
Who takes away our sin,
By Your great mercy and Your grace
Wash us without, within.

We believe that in the Lord's Supper our Lord gives to us His true body and blood with the bread and the wine for the forgiveness of our sins. We recognize the charge that St. Paul offers in 1 Corinthians 11:27–28 that those who come to receive the Lord's Supper ought to examine themselves so that they do not eat and drink in an unworthy manner. Therefore, out of concern for those who have not been instructed in the faith or who hold to a different confession, we ask that only members of Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod congregations receive the Sacrament. If you would like to learn more about what our congregation teaches, to inquire about becoming a member or have questions about our practice, please speak to one of the pastors. Adults and children who have not yet been baptized or instructed in the Christian faith are invited to come forward and receive a spoken blessing at the altar rail; please indicate this by crossing your arms across your chest.

For those who require it, diluted wine is found in the purple glasses in the center of the tray of individual cups; gluten free wafers are available upon request.

Music during distribution:

HYMN 600 “Mark How the Lamb of God’s Self-Offering” (soloist: v.1)

HYMN 718 “Jesus, Lead Thou On”

HYMN 656 “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”



Even as this time of worship ends, we go out of the church into the worship of our everyday lives, ready to be God’s witnesses and do His will.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER & BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN 418 “*O Lord, throughout These Forty Days*”

ANNOUNCEMENTS, SENDING & POSTLUDE

P Go in peace; serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

This week’s takeaway: Where our twisted desires seek self-serving ends, Jesus’ desire was our salvation, pursuing full obedience to His heavenly Father and setting His face toward the cross. In Him, our desires are redirected away from ourselves and toward God’s will and our neighbor’s good.

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SERVING IN THIS SERVICE

Rev. Andrew Lehenbauer, *Liturgist*

Rev. Michael Pottschmidt, *Preacher*

Katie Drefs, *Organist*

Kahlan Haase, *Soloist (10:30 am)*

Lillie Todd, Amelia Shafer, *Acolytes (8:00 am)*

Truman Eckhoff, Olivia Strobel, *Acolytes (10:30 am)*

Tim & Robin Kerksiek, *Greeters (8:00 am)*

Mary Beth Self, *Greeter (10:30 am)*

John Beerman, Mark Schelp, Andrew Jones, *Elders on Duty*

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please contact the church office to keep our prayer list up-to-date.

Our pastor “on call” number in case of emergency is (660) 580-5483.

New: Kathy Schnakenberg, Hudson Kloos, Paul Brackman, Wilmer Bredehoeft, Nicole Maxwell, Richard Cordes, Tom Burrow, Melba Poese, Bridget Kageman, Addison Wehrle, Alan Luebert, Diane Stumpenhaus, Lisa Arnett, Ron Roepe, Joyce Kroll, Rev. Dr. Lee Hagan, Rev. Dr. Les Mitkos, Susan Reeves, Les Bruns

Ongoing: Raymond Becker, Chad Nuelle, Barbie Cowherd, Baby Felix, Gene Virus, Harry Rehkop, Nolan Kirby, Jon Spells, Joe Connell, Roger Kammeyer, Ledrue Brandt, Alyssa Pfannkuch, Alice Hildebrand, Donnie Fiene, Rev. Perry Copus, Darla Wolters, Vickie Greene, Amy Gerdts, Tim Bergman, Amy Backus, David Rehmsmeyer, Dannie Griffit, Lari Huntze, Johnny Cowherd, Kelly Meyer, Shirley Kimball

Death: Kathy Brandt

Nation and World: the people of Slovenia

Partners in Mission: St. Paul Lutheran Church; Ironton, MO; Lutheran Hour Ministries

Birthdays: (2/22) David Evert, Staci Hon, Tytus Lark, Clint Oetting, Dennis R. Oetting; (2/23) Donna Moyers, Phyllis Nuelle, Caleb Pfannkuch, Angela Steffens, Ailya Werneke; (3/24) Eian Grass, Ryan Kirchhoff, Roger Martens, Joel Oetting, Stanley Palmer; (2/25) Trenton Beerman, Coulter Chrisman, Chelsey Holland, John Jacobsen, Lynette Schnackenberg; (2/26) Jeanne Brown, Melissa Grass, Paul Heins Lauren Renno, Courtney Goering, Elva Snider, Penelope Virus; (2/27) Ty Flander-meyer, Knox Meyer, Mary Umbach; (2/28) Keirsten Beerman, Justin Boehmer, Chester Fiene, Clara Stuenkel, Pamela Werths, Wilmer Ziegelbein

Anniversaries: (2/23) Kevin & Lori Brunkhorst; (2/25) Richard & Connie Brackman

PREPARING FOR NEXT WEEK'S WORSHIP

Genesis 12:1–9; Romans 4:1–8, 13–17; Matthew 12:46–50
Hymns (*Lutheran Service Book*): 685, 753, 750, 696, 571, 708



"Making a Christ-centered difference in our community and world today and for eternity."

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

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