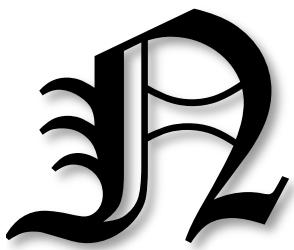




FEBRUARY 15, 2026 • SUNDAY, 10:00 A.M.

## QUINQUAGESIMA





OW FAITH IS THE ASSURANCE OF THINGS HOPED FOR, THE CONVICTION OF THINGS NOT SEEN.

– HEBREWS 11:1

# DIVINE SERVICE – SETTING THREE

“Our churches are falsely accused of abolishing the Mass. The Mass is held among us and celebrated with the highest reverence. Nearly all the usual ceremonies are also preserved”. - Augsburg Confession, Article XXIV. The Mass, 1-2a.



## PRELUDE

*Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord (LSB 637, Old 124<sup>th</sup>, Abbr.) Setting by Kevin Hildebrand*

## WELCOME

## PROCESSIONAL HYMN

*Please stand and face the processional cross.*

*Lutheran Service Book 688*

**“Come, Follow Me,’ the Savior Spake”**

1 “Come, fol - low Me,” the Sav - ior spake, “All in My  
2 “I am the light, I light the way, A god - ly  
3 “My heart a - bounds in low - li - ness, My soul with  
4 “I teach you how to shun and flee What harms your  
5 Then let us fol - low Christ, our Lord, And take the

way a - bid - ing; De - ny your-selves, the world for-sake,  
life dis - play - ing; I bid you walk as in the day;  
love is glow - ing; And gra - cious words My lips ex-press,  
soul’s sal - va - tion, Your heart from ev - 'ry guile to free,  
cross ap - point - ed And, firm - ly cling - ing to His Word,

O - bey My call and guid - ing. O bear the cross, what -  
I keep your feet from stray - ing. I am the way, and  
With meek-ness o - ver - flow - ing. My heart, My mind, My  
From sin and its temp - ta - tion. I am the ref - uge  
In suf - f'ring be un - daunt - ed. For those who bear the

e'er be - tide, Take My ex - am - ple for your guide.  
well I show How you must so - journ here be - low.  
strength, My all, To God I yield, on Him I call.  
of the soul And lead you to your heav'n - ly goal.”  
bat - tle's strain The crown of heav'n - ly life ob - tain.

Text and tune: Public domain

# CONFESSiON AND ABSOLUTION

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

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

**C** Amen.

*Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]*

**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

*[Hebrews 10:22]*

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** who made heaven and earth.

*Psalm 124:8*

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**C** and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

*Psalm 32:5*

*Kneeling or sitting forward.*

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

## ***The Seventh Commandment***

*You shall not steal.*

*What does this mean?*

*We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor's money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income.*

***Preparation for Confession and Absolution according to the Seventh Commandment:***

- *Have I gotten anything in a dishonest way?*
- *Have I made illegal copies of any printed material, audio or video formats, or computer software?*
- *Do I faithfully attend to the responsibilities of my vocation?*
- *Do I take care of what I have, pay what I owe, return what I borrow, and respect other people's property?*
- *Do I give generously, or am I selfish, stingy and greedy with my time and money?*

**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,

**C** I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

**P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

*[John 20:19-23]*

**C** Amen.

*Standing*

# SERVICE OF THE WORD

## INTROIT

*Psalm 31:1, 5, 9, 16; antiphon: Psalm 31:2b-3*



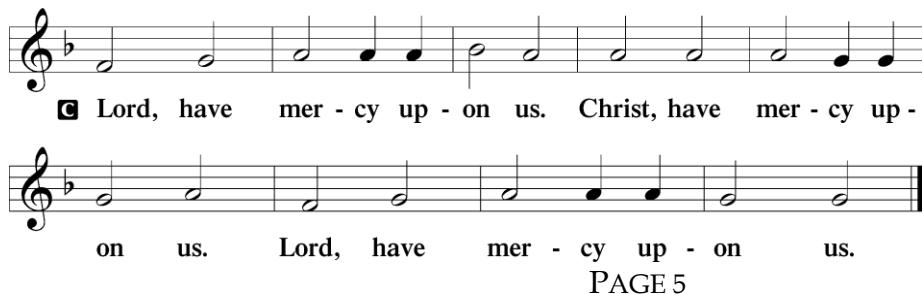
- L** Be a rock of ref- | uge for me,\*  
a strong fortress to | save me!  
For you are my rock and my | fortress;\*  
and for your name's sake you lead me and | guide me.
- L** In you, O LORD, do I take refuge; let me never be | put to shame;\*  
in your righteousness de- | liver me!
- C** Into your hand I commit my | spirit;\*  
you have redeemed me, O LORD, | faithful God.
- L** Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am | in distress;\*  
my eye is wasted from grief; my soul and my body | also.
- C** Make your face shine on your | servant;\*  
save me in your | steadfast love!



- L** Be a rock of ref- | uge for me,\*  
a strong fortress to | save me!  
For you are my rock and my | fortress;\*  
and for your name's sake you lead me and | guide me.

## KYRIE ~ *Lord, Have Mercy*

*Mark 10:47*



## SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

2 Timothy 4:22

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spirit.

**P** Let us pray.

O Lord, mercifully hear our prayers and having set us free from the bonds of our sins deliver us from every evil; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Sitting*

## PROPHECY

**1 Samuel 16:1-13**

**A** The Prophecy for Quinquagesima is from 1 Samuel, chapter 16.

**A** In those days: The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? Fill your horn with oil, and go; I am sending you to Jesse the Bethlehemite. For I have provided Myself a king among his sons." And Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears it, he will kill me." But the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' Then invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; you shall anoint for Me the one I name to you." So Samuel did what the LORD said, and went to Bethlehem. And the elders of the town trembled at his coming, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" And he said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD. Sanctify yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice." Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons, and invited them to the sacrifice. So it was, when they came, that he looked at Eliab and said, "Surely the LORD's anointed is before Him!" But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look at his appearance or at

his physical stature, because I have refused him. For the LORD does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart." So Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." Thus Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen these." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all the young men here?" Then he said, "There remains yet the youngest, and there he is, keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him. For we will not sit down till he comes here." So he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, with bright eyes, and good-looking. And the LORD said, "Arise, anoint him; for this is the one!" Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel arose and went to Ramah.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## GRADUAL

*Psalm 77:14-15*



- L** You are the God who works | wonders;\*  
you have made known your might among the | peoples.
- C** **You with your arm redeemed your | people,\***  
**the children of Jacob and | Joseph.**

## EPISTLE

## 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

- A** The Epistle is from 1 Corinthians, chapter thirteen.
- A** Brethren: Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing. Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things,
- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails. But whether there are prophecies, they will fail; whether there are tongues, they will cease; whether there is knowledge, it will vanish away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away. When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known. And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

From Sepetuagesima to Holy Saturday, the Tract replaces the Alleluia and Verse.

## TRACT

Psalm 100:1-3

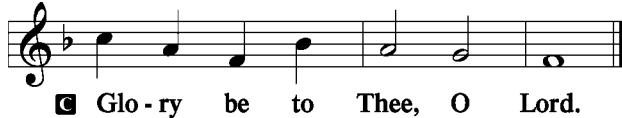


- L** Make a joyful noise to the LORD, | all the earth!\*  
Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into his presence with | singing!
- C** Know that the LORD, | he is God!\*  
It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his | pasture.

## HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 18:31–43

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the eighteenth chapter.



- P** At that time: Jesus took the twelve aside and said to them, "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and all things that are written by the prophets concerning the Son of Man will be accomplished. For He will be delivered to the Gentiles and will be mocked and insulted and spit upon. They will scourge Him and kill Him. And the third day He will rise again." But they understood none of these things; this saying was hidden from them, and they did not know the things which were spoken. Then it happened, as He was coming near Jericho, that a certain blind man sat by the road begging. And hearing a multitude passing by, he asked what it meant. So they told him that Jesus of

Nazareth was passing by. And he cried out, saying, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" Then those who went before warned him that he should be quiet; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" So Jesus stood still and commanded him to be brought to Him. And when he had come near, He asked him, saying, "What do you want Me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, that I may receive my sight." Then Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has saved you." And immediately he received his sight, and followed Him, glorifying God. And all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.

**P**

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



## NICENE CREED

**C** **I believe in one God,** *Exodus 20:3; Deuteronomy 6:4; Ephesians 4:6*

**the Father Almighty,** *Psalm 89:26; Matthew 6:9; Romans 1:20*

**maker of heaven and earth** *Genesis 1:1; Nehemiah 9:6; John 1:1*

**and of all things visible and invisible.** *2 Corinthians 4:18; Colossians 1:16*

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,** *1 Corinthians 8:6; Ephesians 4:5; 1 Timothy 2:5*

**the only-begotten Son of God,** *John 1:14; 3:16, 18; Acts 13:33; 1 John 4:9*

**begotten of His Father before all worlds,** *John 1:18; 17:24; Ephesians 1:4; Colossians 1:17; 1 Peter 1:20*

**God of God, Light of Light,** *John 1:4-9; 8:12; 12:46; Hebrews 1:3; Revelation 21:23*

**very God of very God,** *Philippians 2:6; Colossians 1:19; 2:9; 1 John 5:20*

**begotten, not made,** *John 1:2*

**being of one substance with the Father,** *John 10:30; 17:22*

**by Whom all things were made;** *John 1:3; Colossians 1:16; Hebrews 1:2*

**Who for us men and for our salvation** *John 14:6; Acts 4:12; 1 Timothy 2:4*

**came down from heaven** *John 3:13; 6:41; Luke 15:20; Ephesians 4:10*

**and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary** *Matthew 1:18; Luke 1:34-35*

**and was made man;** *John 1:14; Galatians 4:4*

**and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.** *Matthew 27:35; Mark 15:25; Luke 23:33; John 19:18*

**He suffered and was buried.** *Acts 1:13; 3:18; Matthew 14:12; Mark 15:46; Luke 23:53; John 19:42*

**And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures** *Luke 24:46; Acts 10:40; 1 Corinthians 15:4*

**and ascended into heaven** *Luke 24:51; John 20:17; Acts 1:2, 9, 11, 22; Ephesians 4:8*

**and sits at the right hand of the Father.** *Mark 16:19; Acts 2:33; 5:31; 7:55-56; Romans 8:34; Ephesians 1:20; Colossians 3:1*

**And He will come again with glory** *Matthew 26:64; John 14:3; Acts 1:11; 1 Thessalonians 4:16; Revelation 1:7*

**to judge both the living and the dead,** *Acts 10:42; 17:31; 2 Corinthians 5:10; 2 Timothy 4:1; 1 Peter 4:5; Revelation 20:12*

**Whose kingdom will have no end.** *Luke 1:33; 2 Peter 1:11; Hebrews 1:8; Revelation 11:15*

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,** *John 14:26; 16:13; Acts 2:4*

**the Lord and giver of life,** *Genesis 1:2; John 3:5-6; 15:26-27; Romans 8:2*

**Who proceeds from the Father and the Son,** *John 14:26; 16:7; Acts 1:8; 2:33; Romans 5:5*

**Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,** *Matt. 3:16-17; 28:19; 2 Cor. 13:14*

**Who spoke by the prophets.** *Luke 1:67; Acts 28:25; Ephesians 3:5; 2 Peter 1:21*

**And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,** *Ephesians 2:19-22; 1 Peter 2:5; Revelation 21:14*

**I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,** *Acts 2:38; Romans 6:3-4; 1 Corinthians 12:13; Ephesians 4:5*

**and I look for the resurrection of the dead** *John 5:29; 6:39, 40, 44, 54; 11:25-26; 1 Corinthians 6:14; 15:20-22*

**and the life  $\ddagger$  of the world to come.** *Mark 10:29-30; Luke 18:30; John 5:24; 6:33; Galatians 6:8; 1 Timothy 4:8; 1 John 5:11*

**Amen.** *Psalm 106:48; 2 Corinthians 1:20*

## CATECHETICAL RECITATION

## The Second Commandment

**P** What is the Second Commandment?

**C** You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God.

**P** What does this mean?

**C** We should fear and love God so that we do not curse, swear, use satanic arts, lie, or deceive by His name, but call upon it in every trouble, pray, praise, and give thanks.

*Sitting*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*Lutheran Service Book 685*

**"Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus"**

1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, Fol - low His ex -  
 2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus And with pa - tience  
 3 Let us glad - ly die with Je - sus. Since by death He  
 4 Let us al - so live with Je - sus. He has ris - en

am - ple pure, Through a world that would de - ceive us And to  
 bear our cross. Joy will fol - low all our sad - ness; Where He  
 con - quered death, He will free us from de - struc - tion, Give to  
 from the dead That to life we may a - wak - en. Je - sus,

sin our spir - its lure. On - ward in His foot - steps tread - ing,  
 is, there is no loss. Though to - day we sow no laugh - ter,  
 us im - mor - tal breath. Let us mor - ti - fy all pas - sion  
 You are now our head. We are Your own liv - ing mem - bers;

Pil - grims here, our home a - bove, Full of faith and  
 We shall reap ce - les - tial joy; All dis - com - forts  
 That would lead us in - to sin; And the grave that  
 Where You live, there we shall be In Your pres - ence

hope and love, Let us do the Fa - ther's bid - ding. Faith - ful  
 that an - noy Shall give way to mirth here - af - ter. Je - sus,  
 shuts us in Shall but prove the gate to heav - en. Je - sus,  
 con - stant - ly, Liv - ing there with You for - ev - er. Je - sus,

Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where You guide.  
 here I share Your woe; Help me there Your joy to know.  
 here with You I die, There to live with You on high.  
 let me faith - ful be, Life e - ter - nal grant to me.

Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000947  
 Tune: Public domain

## SERMON

*Standing*

## OFFERTORY

*Psalm 51:10-12*



C Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

*Sitting*

## OFFERING

*Beautiful Savior (LSB 537)*

Youth Chime Choir

*Standing*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*[1 Timothy 2:1-4]*

- P** Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

*Brief silence*

- P** Most merciful Lord, Your Son was sought by blind Bartimaeus despite the crowd's objections. Increase our faith in Christ's unfailing love and His finished work of redemption, that we also would cry out to Him despite the taunts and discouragements of this faithless world. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**

- P** O God who summons a people for His praise from age to age, remember Matthew, our Synod president; Jeffrey, our bishop; Aaron, our circuit visitor; and David, our pastor. Through their faithful service, open the eyes of those blind to Your great love, that they would follow Your Son on His way, rejoicing. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Lord of the Church, uphold all Christians in the confession of their Lord's name and faithful reception of His Word and blessed Sacraments. Give wisdom to our Lutheran Church, especially to her secretary and to the men nominated to serve as president and first vice-president. Give them discernment and equip them for their tasks that serve the Church. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Lord of all, You bestow Your riches on all who call upon You. Bless parents with all wisdom as they teach their children Your ways, that all in the household may confess with their mouths that Jesus is Lord. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Remember our nation, O God, and all its leaders and public servants. Guide them into ways pleasing to You. Bless also the people of our country, that we would delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Loving Father, incline Your ear to all who are in distress of body and soul [especially \_\_\_\_\_]. Comfort them with Your presence, strengthen their faith through Your gracious promises, and grant them healing according to Your will. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Holy God, bless all here today who eat and drink the body and blood of Christ in His Holy Supper, that we would receive the Sacrament in repentance for the forgiveness of sins, the strengthening of our faith, the salvation of our souls and to Your glory. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Almighty and most merciful God, You urge Your Church to be strong and fear not. Inspire us to trust Your just judgment and expect the renewal of this world. Strengthen our hands and knees to pray without ceasing and to perform the works You have prepared for us. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to You alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

Matthew 5:22-24; Ephesians 4:1-3

*Following the prayers, please greet one another in the name of the Lord by saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of forgiveness and reconciliation in preparation for worthy reception of the Holy Supper.*

## SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

### PREFACE

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spirit.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** We lift them up un - to the Lord.

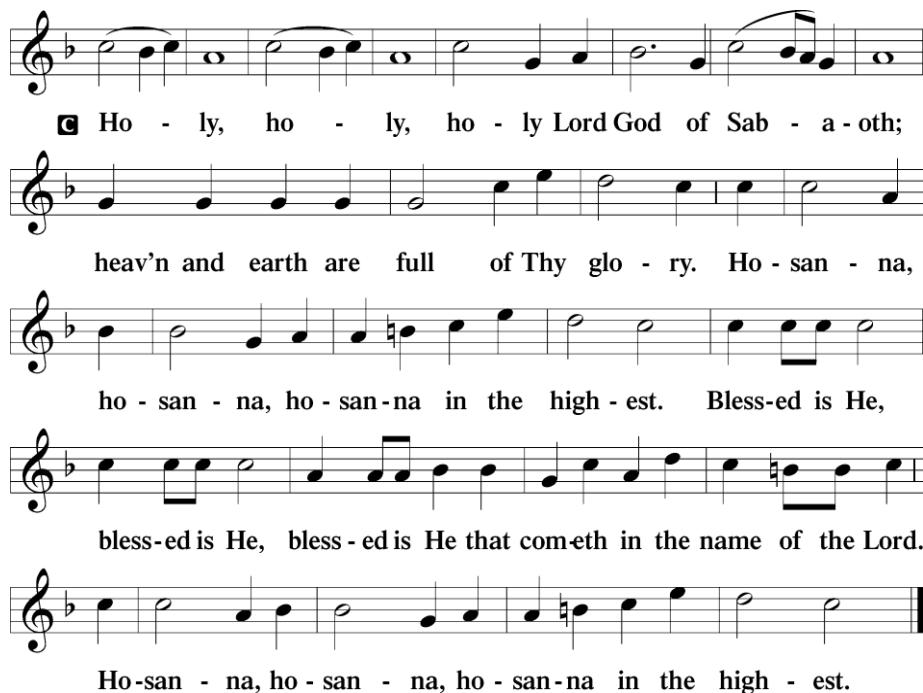
**P** Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.

**C** It is meet and right so to do.

**P** It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## SANCTUS ~ *Holy, Holy, Holy*

*Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;  
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,  
ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,  
bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.  
Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

*Kneeling or sitting forward.*

## LORD'S PRAYER

*Matthew 6:9-13*

**P** Lord, 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.

## THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

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



¶ Our Lord Je-sus Christ, on the night when He was be-trayed, took bread,



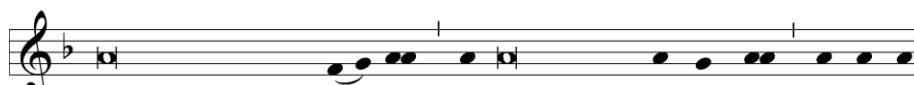
and when He had giv - en thanks, He broke it and gave it to the



dis-ci-ples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\ddagger$  bod - y, which is giv-en for you.



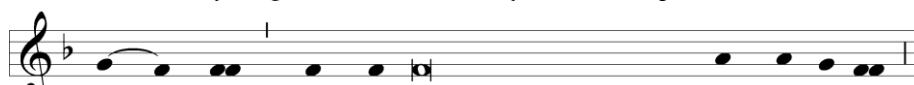
This do in re-mem - brance of Me." In the same way al - so



He took the cup after sup - per, and when He had giv-en thanks, He gave it



to them, say - ing: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in



My  $\ddagger$  blood, which is shed for you for the for-give-ness of sins.



This do, as often as you drink it, in re-mem-brance of Me."

## PAX DOMINI ~ *The Peace of the Lord*

*John 20:19*



¶ The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



¶ A - men.

## AGNUS DEI ~ Lamb of God

John 1:29



**C** O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

*Sitting*

*About participation in Holy Communion:*

*All guests and visitors are asked to please speak to Pastor Miller or an elder of the congregation before receiving Holy Communion for the first time. Thank you for honoring our practice. For further explanation, see below:*

*St. Ignatius of Antioch called Holy Communion "the medicine of immortality." St. Augustine called the Church a "hospital for sinners." And Lutherans in Germany called their clergy *seelsorger*, which means "physician of souls." This means the distribution of Christ's holy body and blood is pastoral care. It can be likened to a doctor's consultation before writing a prescription.*

*Because not all medicine is for everyone every time, Pastor Miller asks that guests and visitors please "step into his office" before having their prescription filled. The desire is that all would receive Holy Communion unto salvation by repentance and faith (1 Cor. 11:28-29). But because everyone's spiritual wellbeing is a top priority, pastors are required to be faithful in their stewardship of the sacraments (1 Cor. 4:1-2).*

*Those who are not receiving the Sacrament but still request a pastoral blessing are invited to approach the altar with arms crossed in an "X" over their chests to indicate this desire.*

*"The custom has been retained among us of not administering the sacrament to those who have not previously been examined and absolved [1 Corinthians 11:27-28]." - Augsburg Confession XXV:1*

### Prayer Before Receiving Holy Communion

Lord Jesus, You invite all who are burdened with sin to come to You for rest. I now come at Your invitation to the heavenly feast, which You have provided for Your children on earth. Preserve me from impenitence and unbelief, cleanse me from my unrighteousness, and clothe me with the righteousness purchased with Your blood. Strengthen my faith, increase my love and hope, and assure me a place at Your heavenly table, where I will eat eternal manna and drink of the river of Your pleasure forever and ever. Hear me, Jesus, for Your own sake. Amen.

## MUSIC DURING THE DISTRIBUTION

*Lutheran Service Book 637*

**"Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord"**

The musical score consists of four staves of music in G clef, common time, and a key signature of one flat. The lyrics are integrated into the music, with each line of text corresponding to a specific staff. The lyrics are as follows:

1 Draw near and take the body of the Lord,  
2 He who His saints in this world rules and shields,  
3 Come for - ward then with faith - ful hearts sin - cere,

And drink the ho - ly blood for you out - poured;  
To all be - liev - ers life e - ter - nal yields;  
And take the pledg - es of sal - va - tion here.

Of - fered was He for great - est and for least,  
With heav'n - ly bread He makes the hun - gry whole,  
O Lord, our hearts with grate - ful thanks en - dow

Him - self the vic - tim and Him - self - the priest.  
Gives liv - ing wa - ters to the thirst - ing soul.  
As in this feast of love You bless - us now.

Text and tune: Public domain



1 The will of God is al - ways best And shall be done for -  
 2 God is my com - fort and my trust, My hope and life a -  
 3 Lord, this I ask, O hear my plea, De - ny me not this  
 4 When life's brief course on earth is run And I this world am

ev - er; And they who trust in Him are blest;  
 bid - ing; And to His coun - sel, wise and just,  
 fa - vor: When Sa - tan sore - ly trou - bles me,  
 leav - ing, Grant me to say, "Your will be done,"

He will for - sake them nev - er. He helps in - deed In  
 I yield, in Him con - fid - ing. The ver - y hairs, His  
 Then do not let me wa - ver. O guard me well, My  
 Your faith - ful Word be - liev - ing. My dear - est Friend, I

time of need; He chas-tens with for - bear - ing. They who de -  
 Word de - clares, Up - on my head He num - bers. By night and  
 fear dis - pel, Ful - fill Your faith - ful say - ing: All who be -  
 now com-mend My soul in - to Your keep - ing; From sin and

pend On God, their friend, Shall not be left de - spair - ing.  
 day God is my stay; He nev - er sleeps nor slum - bers.  
 lieve By grace re - ceive An an - swer to their pray - ing.  
 hell, And death as well, By You the vic - t'ry reap - ing.

Text and tune: Public domain

**Prayer After Receiving Holy Communion**

Almighty and merciful Lord, I have again worshiped in Your presence and received both forgiveness for my many sins and the assurance of Your love in Jesus Christ. I thank You for this undeserved grace and ask You to keep me in faith until, with all Your saints, I inherit eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

Standing

## NUNC DIMITTIS ~ *Song of Simeon*

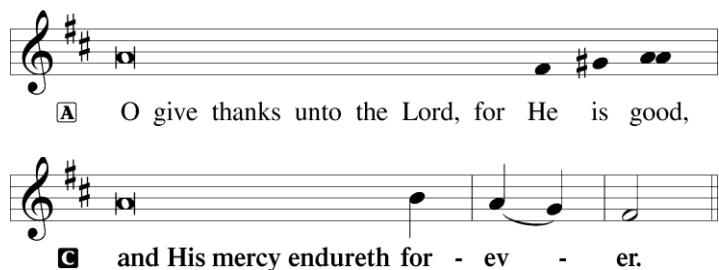
Luke 2:29-32



C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-  
cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,  
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,  
a light to light-en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy  
peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and  
to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A-men.

## THANKSGIVING

Psalm 107:1



A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,  
C and His mercy endureth for - ev - - er.

## POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

**P** Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## SALUTATION AND BENEDICAMUS

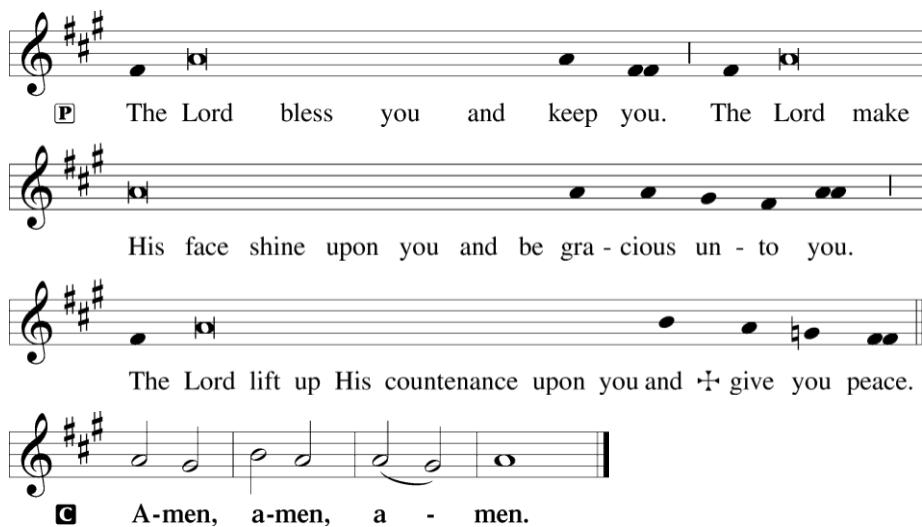
2 Timothy 4:22, Psalm 103:1



P The Lord be with you.  
C And with thy spir - it.  
A Bless we the Lord.  
C Thanks be to God.

## BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26



P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.  
C A-men, a-men, a - men.

## RECESSATIONAL HYMN

*Lutheran Service Book 924*

**“Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing”**



1 Lord, dis - miss us with Your bless - ing, Fill our hearts with  
2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion For Your Gos - pel's  
3 Sav - ior, when Your love shall call us From our strug - gling

joy and peace; Let us each, Your love pos - sess - ing,  
joy - ful sound. May the fruits of Your sal - va - tion  
pil - grim way, Let not fear of death ap - pall us,

Tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace. O re - fresh us;  
In our hearts and lives a - bound. Ev - er faith - ful,  
Glad Your sum - mons to o - bey. May we ev - er,

O re - fresh us, Trav - 'ling through this wil - der - ness.  
ev - er faith - ful To Your truth may we be found.  
may we ev - er Reign with You in end - less day.

Text and tune: Public domain

## POSTLUDE



**SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP**  
**QUINQUAGESIMA**

**Presiding Minister**  
The Rev. David V. Miller, *Pastor*

**Altar Assistant(s)**  
J.P. Morr, *Elder*  
Emilie Schoellen, *Acolyte*  
Jude Miller, *Gospel Bearer*

**Organist**  
Abby Warnke, *Director of Music*

**Cantor**  
Adrian Popescu

**Musician(s)**  
Will Davis, trumpet  
Patty Harmon, trumpet/French horn  
Chris Levell, tuba

**Youth Chime Choir**  
Fred Durden  
Jude Miller  
Titus Miller  
Katie Schoellen

**Altar Guild**  
Jeni Miller/Kati Durden

**Usher(s)**  
Joel May/Malcolm Abrahaman  
(Ryan Licht)

**Fellowship Host(s)**  
The Kranzlein family

**SERVING NEXT WEEK**

**FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT (INVOCABIT)**  
**Presiding Minister**  
The Rev. David V. Miller, *Pastor*

**Altar Assistant(s)**  
J.P. Morr, *Elder*  
Emilie Schoellen, *Acolyte*  
Jude Miller, *Gospel Bearer*

**Organist**  
Abby Warnke, *Director of Music*

**Cantor**  
Adrian Popescu

**Musician(s)**  
Will Davis, trumpet  
Patty Harmon, trumpet/French horn  
Chris Levell, tuba

**Altar Guild**  
Ryan Licht/Kati Durden

**Usher(s)**  
Joel May/Malcolm Abrahaman  
(Ryan Licht)

**Fellowship Host(s)**  
The May family

L

OVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND. THIS IS THE GREATEST AND MOST IMPORTANT COMMANDMENT. THE SECOND IS LIKE IT: LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF."

- MATTHEW 22:37-39

## THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sunday 2/15	<b>Quinquagesima</b> Nursery available Adult Choir Practice Children's Sunday School Adult Bible Study: <i>Imagine the God of Heaven</i> Holy Mass Fellowship Hour Church Board Meeting	8:30 – 11:30 AM 8:30 – 9:30 AM 9:00 – 9:45 AM 9:00 – 9:45 AM 10:00 AM Following Holy Mass Following Fellowship Hour
Monday 2/16	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Tuesday 2/17	<b>Shrove Tuesday</b> Open Arms LCDC Church Office Service of Corporate Confession Fellowship Dinner	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM 7:00 PM Following Confession
Wednesday 2/18	<b>Ash Wednesday</b> Open Arms LCDC Church Office Open Arms LCDC Chapel Holy Mass with Imposition of Ashes Holy Mass with Imposition of Ashes	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM 10:15 AM Noon 7:00 PM
Thursday 2/19	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Friday 2/20	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Saturday 2/21	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	Closed Closed
Sunday 2/22	<b>First Sunday in Lent (Invocabit)</b> Nursery available Adult Choir Practice Children's Sunday School Adult Bible Study: <i>"Follow Me:" Discipleship in Matthew</i> Holy Mass Fellowship Hour	8:30 – 11:30 AM 8:30 – 9:30 AM 9:00 – 9:45 AM 9:00 – 9:45 AM 10:00 AM Following Holy Mass

# LOVING THE LORD

## † Adult Bible Study: *Imagine the God of Heaven*

Sundays at 9:00 A.M.

Church fellowship hall

*Imagine the God of Heaven* is a five-session Bible study series, which introduces you to people from all ethnicities who have had near death experiences and met the same loving God. Within five short sessions, John Burke (author of *Imagine the God of Heaven*, and who has researched nearly 2,000 near death experiences) discusses the character traits of this God, who has been revealed throughout history and in Scripture. God's love, power, compassion, friendship, and guidance are closer than you could ever imagine. Find out just how close and real He is for you!

"Captivating stories of near-death experiences with biblical principles." (Lee Strobel)

## † Adult Bible Study: *"Follow Me": Discipleship in Matthew*

Sundays at 9:00 A.M. during the season of Lent, beginning February 22.

Church fellowship hall

The phrase "follower of Jesus" like the term "Christian" has become so generic that it means nearly anything and sometimes almost nothing. In "Follow Me," we will dig deeply into the Holy Scriptures to show what it means to be a follower of Jesus. This seven-session Bible study couldn't be more appropriate for Lent as we heed our Lord's command to "take up your cross and follow Me." All are welcome—whether you are new to Bible study or have been reading Scripture for many years. Come deepen your faith, engage in thoughtful discussion, and enjoy fellowship with others.

## † Midweek Prayer

Wednesdays at 12:15 P.M.

Church sanctuary

Whether on your lunchbreak or just need a break in your day, we invite you to join us for prayer and meditation on God's Holy Word. Every Wednesday at noon, parents and teachers of Open Arms, as well as anyone from the congregation, are encouraged to come into God's presence. We will hear Him speak through His Word, and we will pray for the world, our nation, and the deeper needs of the church and school communities. This service is simple and brief. But it will allow you to walk away refreshed and ready to finish out the week strong!

## † **Shrove Tuesday**

Tuesday, February 17 at 7:00 P.M.  
Church sanctuary/fellowship hall

Join us on Shrove Tuesday as we gather for a meaningful service that prepares our hearts for the season of Lent. Shrove Tuesday, observed on the day before Ash Wednesday, has been part of the Christian tradition for centuries. The word “shrive” means to confess and receive absolution. Historically, this day was set aside for self-examination, repentance, and forgiveness as believers prepared to enter the 40 days of Lent. It is also known as Pancake Day or Fat Tuesday, marking a final celebration before the more reflective season begins. Our Shrove Tuesday service will include a service of corporate confession, offering us the opportunity to come together in humility, repentance, and renewal as the body of Christ. Following the service, everyone is invited to stay for a fellowship dinner, celebrating our life together in community. A special appearance will be made by the Rev. Jeffrey Miskus, Bishop of the English District. All are welcome—come prepare your heart, share in worship, and enjoy fellowship with one another.

## † **Ash Wednesday**

Wednesday, February 18 at Noon & 7:00 P.M.  
Church sanctuary

You are invited to join us for our Ash Wednesday Service, marking the beginning of the season of Lent—a time of repentance, reflection, and renewal in the life of the Church. Ash Wednesday has been observed by Christians since the early centuries of the Church. On this day, ashes are placed on the forehead in the shape of a cross as a visible sign of our mortality and our need for God’s mercy, echoing the words, “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.” The ashes call us to repentance and faith as we begin our Lenten journey toward the cross and the resurrection. This service will include a Mass with the Imposition of Ashes. We are also honored to welcome the Bishop of the English District, the Rev. Jeffrey Miskus, who will be preaching. All are welcome to attend as we enter this solemn and hope-filled season together.

† **Lenten Midweek Mass: *The Seven Days of New Creation***

Wednesdays, February 25, March 4, 11, 18, 25 at 7:00 P.M.  
Church sanctuary

Throughout the season of Lent, you are invited to join us for Midweek Masses over five weeks, offering a sacred rhythm of worship, reflection, and renewal as we journey toward Easter. Lenten midweek services provide an important opportunity to slow down, repent, and refocus our hearts on Christ's saving work. Gathered around Word and Sacrament, we are strengthened in faith and drawn more deeply into the meaning of Christ's suffering, death, and resurrection. These services help prepare us spiritually to receive the joy of Easter by walking intentionally through the season of repentance and hope.

This year's sermon series will explore how Christ fulfills the seven days of creation through His ministry—and especially through the events of Holy Week—working faithfully to inaugurate God's new creation. As the first creation was formed through God's purposeful work, so Christ labors in obedience, suffering, and love to bring about restoration, redemption, and new life for all creation. All are encouraged to attend these midweek Masses and enter more fully into the Lenten journey as we prepare our hearts for the victory of Easter.

## LOVING OUR NEIGHBOR

† **Men's Group: *"You are a Royal Priesthood" Bible Breakfast***

Saturday, February 28 at 10:00 A.M.  
Church sanctuary

All men are invited to our upcoming Men's Bible Breakfast for a time of fellowship, food, and study in God's Word. Breakfast items and beverages will be provided and served—no need to bring anything but your appetite and an open heart. Enjoy a relaxed meal together as we gather around the table. Our Bible study theme will focus on who we are as a "Royal Priesthood" (1 Peter 2:9) and what that identity means for our daily lives, faith, and witness. We'll explore how God calls us to live with purpose, humility, and boldness as men set apart for His work. Come be encouraged, challenged, and strengthened alongside other men as we grow together in Christ. We look forward to seeing you there!

† **Lunch and Learn Group: Tour of Historic Silverlake Park in Brookhaven**

TBD

Silverlake Park  
4062 Peachtree Road  
Suite #A259  
Brookhaven, GA 30319

All are welcome to lunch and learn with the new Ascension weekday group. Please watch the church announcements for all upcoming planned events. The first is an easy walking tour of historic Silverlake Park in Brookhaven, with lunch to follow at Hobnob. For more details, contact Eileen Buehl (contact information in church directory).

† **Book Club: *The Deerslayer* by James Fenimore Cooper**

Sunday, June 7 at 3:00 P.M.

Pastor Miller's home

Everyone is invited to join our Book Club for fellowship and discussion! We'll gather to talk about our new book, share insights, and encourage one another. No need to be an expert—just come ready to listen and participate. All are welcome!

From the inside dust jacket flap:

*The deadly crack of a long rifle and the piercing cries of Indians on the warpath shatter the serenity of beautiful Lake Glimmerglass. Danger has invaded the vast forests of upper New York State as Deerslayer and his loyal Mohican friend Chingachgook attempt the daring rescue of an Indian maiden imprisoned in a Huron camp. Soon they are caught in the cross fire between a cunning enemy and two white bounty hunters who mercilessly kill for profit.*

*The last of the Leatherstocking Tales to be written, though first in the chronology of the hero's life, The Deerslayer is James Fenimore Cooper's masterpiece. A fine combination of romance, adventure, and morality, this classic novel of the frontier is an eloquent beginning for Cooper's great wilderness saga—and an unforgettable introduction to the famous character who has been said to embody the conscience of America: the noble woodsman Deerslayer.*

# LIFTING HOLY HANDS

## Celebrations

### *Birthdays:*

- † Malcolm Abrahaman, 2/21

### *Wedding Anniversaries:*

- † None this week

## Recent Requests

### *For comfort, health, and recovery:*

- † Rev. Dr. James Clark (friend of the congregation)
- † James Houchin (friend of Jordan Tomesch)
- † Cathy Hoyer (aunt of Pastor Miller)
- † John Kateen
- † Gerhard (Gary) Knehans (brother of Jan Knehans)
- † Jan Knehans
- † John Lamb (father of Pastor Miller's friend)
- † Betty Licht
- † Nena Nnanna (Open Arms teacher)
- † Carol Scheid (mother of Pastor Miller's friend)
- † Joshua Schoellen (brother of Jason Schoellen)
- † Melanie Schoellen (sister of Jason Schoellen)
- † Rev. Aaron Sterling (Senior Pastor of Christ the Shepherd, Alpharetta)
- † Mike Warnke (father of Abby Warnke)
- † Paul Von Wedel (father of Jill Drachenberg)

## Other Recent Requests

- † Tanzania, especially the persecuted Christians, that God would heal all divisions.

## Ongoing Requests

### *For family and friends of the congregation:*

- † David Abee (brother of Nancy Grossberg)
- † David and Phyllis Beckman (parents of Brian Beckman)
- † Thomasena Gaither (sister of Ruth Henry)
- † Ruth Henry
- † John & Felista Kaale (uncle & aunt of Hellen Kaale)
- † Dee Keiger (sister of Eileen Buehl)
- † Shirley Lee (friend of Ruth Henry)
- † Jean Meyers (former member of Ascension)
- † Heidi Schnakenberg (niece of Clara Smith)
- † Charles Schnell (former member), for his formation as a pastor.
- † Pat Vines (mother of Darlene Beckman's friend)
- † Evan Wells (nephew of Darlene Beckman)
- † Jason Wilson (coworker of Hellen Kaale)

### *For the leaders of Church and state:*

- † Director Barbara Collins-Hopkins & Open Arms Board
- † English District Bishop Jeffrey G. Miskus & all district officials
- † LCMS President Matthew Harrison & all synodical officials
- † Pastor David Miller & Church Board of Lutheran Church of the Ascension
- † Rev. Dr. Jonathan & Dcs. Cheryl Naumann, missionaries to Dominican Republic
- † President Donald Trump & all U.S. government officials



JF

OR WE WALK BY FAITH, NOT BY SIGHT.

- 2 CORINTHIANS 5:7



THE LUTHERAN  
CHURCH OF THE  
ASCENSION

4000 ROSWELL ROAD · ATLANTA, GA 30342  
404-255-0224 · 404-256-0037 FAX  
[WWW.ASCENSION-LCMS.COM](http://WWW.ASCENSION-LCMS.COM)