

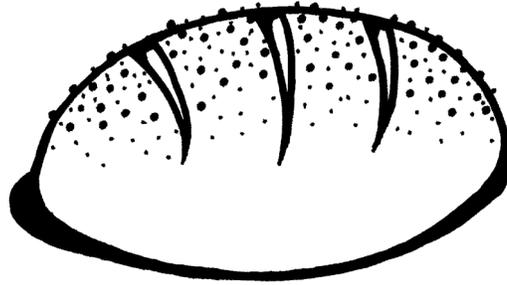
Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

Our Mission: To share Christ's love with the greatest number of people.

First Sunday in Lent, February 22, 2026
The Service at 8:30 and 11 am



Today's gospel tells of Jesus' temptation in the desert. His forty-day fast becomes the basis of our Lenten pilgrimage. In the early church Lent was a time of intense preparation for those to be baptized at the Easter Vigil. This catechetical focus on the meaning of faith is at the heart of our Lenten journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. Hungry for God's mercy, we receive the bread of life to nourish us for the days ahead.



GATHERING

PRELUDE

“Jesus, Still Lead On” - arr. Paul Manz

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Please stand.

Pastor In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Congregation **Amen.**

Pastor God of all mercy and consolation,
come to the help of your people,
turning us from our sin to live for you alone.
Give us the power of your Holy Spirit
that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness,
and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Congregation **Amen.**

Pastor Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Silence is kept for reflection.

Pastor Gracious God,
Congregation **have mercy on us.**
**We confess that we have turned from you
and given ourselves into the power of sin.
We are truly sorry and humbly repent.
In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown,
things we have done and things we have failed to do.
Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit,
so that we may live and serve you in newness of life
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**
Amen.

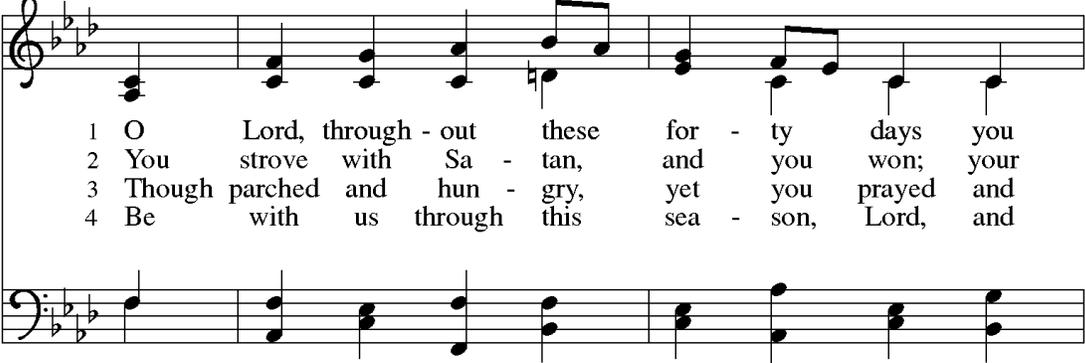
Pastor In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you.
To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become children of God and
bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

Congregation **Amen.**

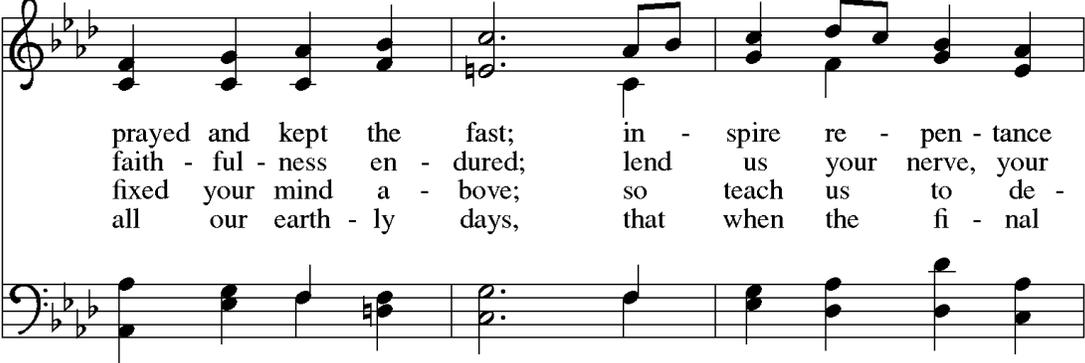
GATHERING HYMN: O LORD, THROUGHOUT THESE FORTY DAYS #319

We invite you to turn and face the cross (as you are comfortable). Please turn to the front of the sanctuary after the cross has passed you. All sing.

O Lord, throughout These Forty Days



1 O Lord, through - out these for - ty days you
2 You strove with Sa - tan, and you won; your
3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet you prayed and
4 Be with us through this sea - son, Lord, and



prayed and kept the fast; in - spire re - pen - tance
faith - ful - ness en - dured; lend us your nerve, your
fixed your mind a - bove; so teach us to de -
all our earth - ly days, that when the fi - nal



for our sin, and free us from our past.
skill and trust in God's e - ter - nal word.
ny our - selves that we may know God's love.
Eas - ter dawns, we join in heav - en's praise.

Text: based on Claudia F. Hernaman, 1838–1898; para. Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930
Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davisson, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816; arr. Theodore A. Beck, 1929-2003
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.
Arr. © 1969 Concordia Publishing House.

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APOSTOLIC GREETING

Pastor The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
Congregation **And also with you.**

KYRIE
All sing.



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well - being of the church of



God, and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



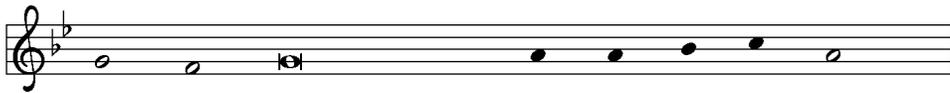
For this ho - ly house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and



praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor The Lord be with you.

Congregation **And also with you.**

Pastor 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.

Congregation **Amen.**

Please sit.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE



THE WORD

Reading: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

Human beings were formed with great care, to be in relationship with the creator, creation, and one another. The serpent's promise to the first couple that their eyes would be opened led, ironically, to the discovery only that they were naked.

¹⁵ The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. ¹⁶ And the Lord God commanded the man, "You may freely 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 die."

^{3:1} Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?'" ² 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 middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" ⁴ But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not 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 loincloths for themselves.

Reader Word of God, word of life.

Congregation **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 32

Congregation sings words in bold.



- 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.**
- 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.**
- 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.

Reading: Romans 5:12-19

Through Adam's disobedience, humanity came under bondage to sin and death, from which we cannot free ourselves. In Christ's obedient death, God graciously showers on us the free gift of liberation and life.

¹² Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned ¹³ for sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. ¹⁴ Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who did not sin in the likeness of Adam, who is a pattern of the one who was to come.

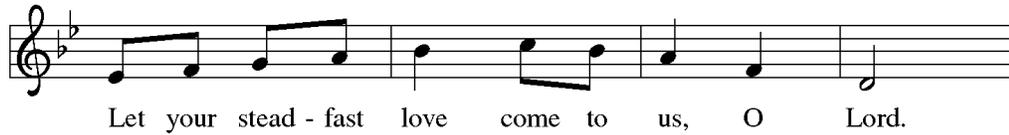
¹⁵ But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. ¹⁶ And the gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the gift following many trespasses brings justification. ¹⁷ If, because of the one man's trespass, death reigned through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

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

Reader	Word of God, word of life.
Congregation	Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Please stand and



The Gospel is announced.

Pastor

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

Congregation

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11

Jesus experiences anew the temptations that Israel faced in the wilderness. As the Son of God, he endures the testing of the evil one.

¹ Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil. ² He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. ³ 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,

‘One does 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 placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶ saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written,

‘He will command his angels concerning you,’
and ‘On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’ ”

⁷ Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘Do 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, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

‘Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him.’ ”

¹¹ Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

Pastor

The Gospel of the Lord.

Congregation

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

*Listening for God
Pastor Sharon Core*

Take My Life, That I May Be

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems. The first system has a vocal line and a bass line. The second system also has a vocal line and a bass line. The lyrics are printed below the vocal lines.

1 Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;
3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;
4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with - hold;

take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise.
take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sag - es from thee.
take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, alt.
Music: PATMOS, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

APOSTLES' CREED

Asst. Min.
Congregation

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.
**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

PRAYERS

Prayers are included for the whole Church, the nations, those in need, the parish, and special concerns.

After each portion of the prayers:

Asst. Min. Hear us, O God.
Congregation **Your mercy is great.**

At the end of the prayer:

Pastor Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior.
Congregation **Amen.**

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

Pastor The peace of Christ be with you always.
Congregation **And also with you.**

The congregation may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace and may say, "Peace be with you" or similar words.

OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. Our offerings to God are first of all just that – offerings of thanksgiving to God. As you are able please continue to support our ministry with your financial gifts.

Please sign the red attendance book and pass it down the pew.

OFFERTORY

"I Want Jesus to Walk with Me" - African-American spiritual arranged by Raymond H. Haan

COME TO THE TABLE

OFFERTORY SONG

Please stand and sing.

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923
Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right
spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho-ly Spir-it from me. Re-store to me the joy of
your sal-va-tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Asst. Min.
Congregation

Let us pray.
**Holy God, gracious and merciful,
you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation.
Turn our hearts towards those who hunger in any way,
that all may know your care;
and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life,
Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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

Pastor Lift up your hearts.
Congregation **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
Congregation **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

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

All sing.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and

might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high-est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

san - na in the high-est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor

Congregation

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

All sing.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNE

COMMUNION

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

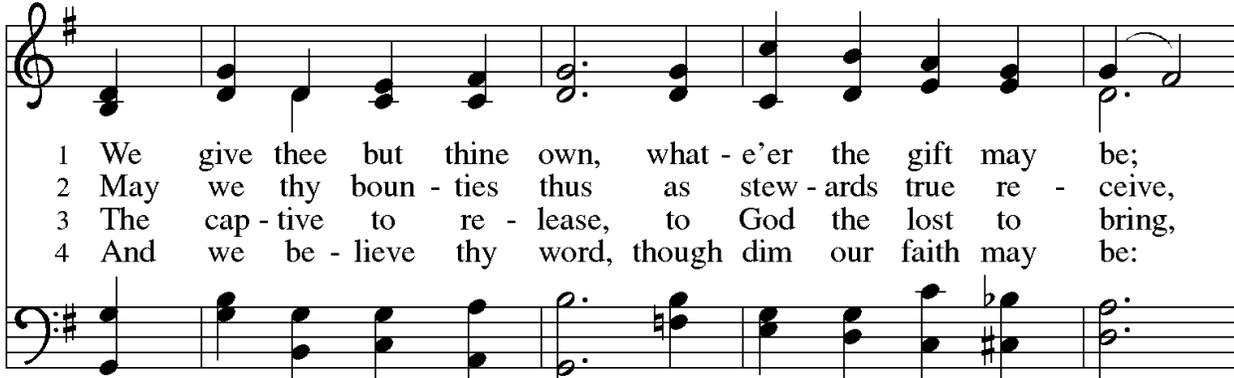
Communion will be offered by intinction. For those not comfortable receiving from those who are distributing the elements, a separate tray is available.

Anyone not comfortable receiving the bread or the wine is invited to come forward for a blessing. To receive a blessing, please cross your arms. You are an important part of our faith community.

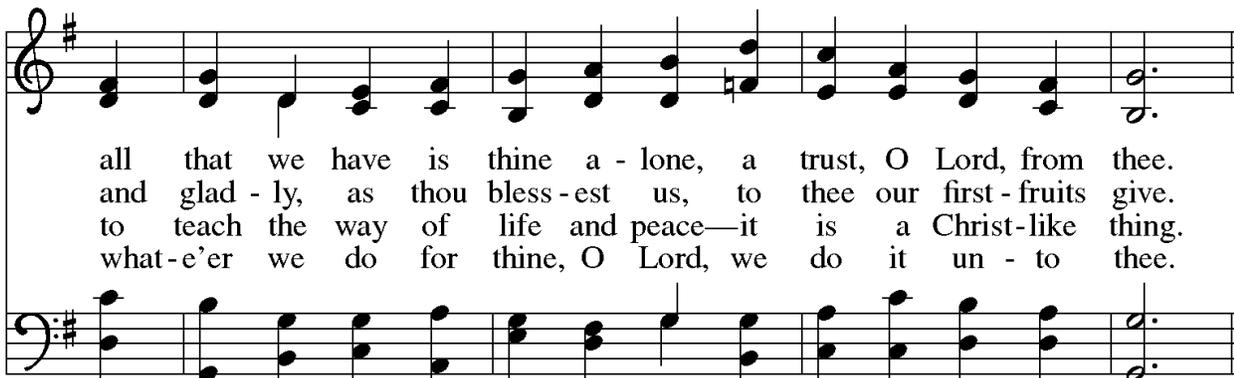
In Holy Communion we receive the true body and blood of Christ.

COMMUNION HYMN: WE GIVE THEE BUT THINE OWN # 686
All sing.

We Give Thee but Thine Own



1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;
2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,
3 The cap - tive to re - lease, to God the lost to bring,
4 And we be - lieve thy word, though dim our faith may be:



all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.
and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.
to teach the way of life and peace—it is a Christ-like thing.
what - e'er we do for thine, O Lord, we do it un - to thee.

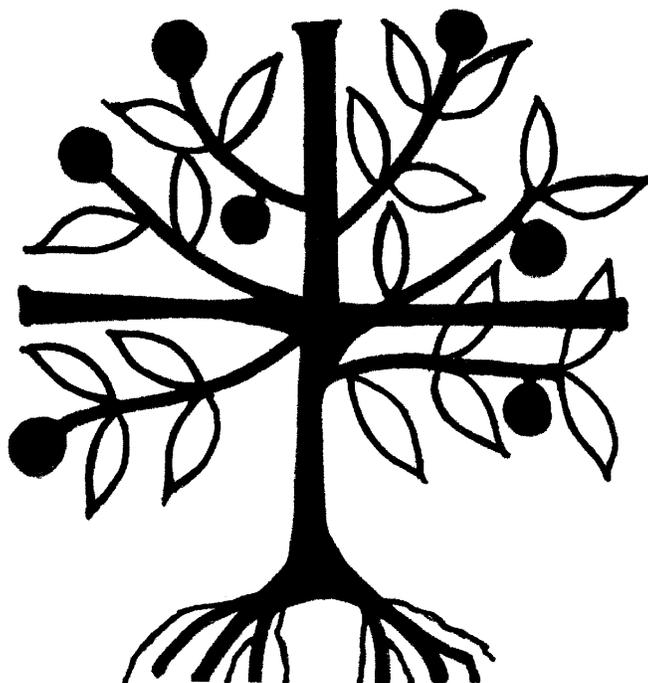
Text: William W. How, 1823–1897, alt.
Music: HEATH, L. Mason and G. Webb, *Cantica Lauda*, 1850

Please stand.

Pastor The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Congregation **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

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



THE SENDING

BLESSING

Pastor The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.
Congregation **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN: JESUS, STILL LEAD ON #624

Please follow the cross, turning toward the cross as it passes by your pew. As the cross leads, so Christ leads us out into the community to share Christ's love.

All sing.

1 Je - sus, still lead on, till our rest be won; and, al-though the
2 If the way be drear, if the foe be near, let no faith - less
3 When we seek re - lief from a long-felt grief, when temp-ta - tions
4 Je - sus, still lead on, till our rest be won; heav'n-ly lead - er,

way be cheer - less, we will fol - low, calm and fear - less;
fears o'er - take us, let not faith and hope for - sake us;
come al - lur - ing make us pa - tient and en - dur - ing;
still di - rect us, still sup - port, con - sole, pro - tect us,

guide us by your hand to the prom - ised land.
safe - ly past the foe to our home we go.
show us that bright shore where we weep no more.
till we safe - ly stand in the prom - ised land.

Text: Nicolaus L. von Zinzendorf, 1700–1760; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–1897, alt.
Music: SEELENBRÄUTIGAM, Adam Drese, 1620–1701

DISMISSAL

Asst. Min.
Congregation

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Toccata in E Minor - Pachelbel

Redeemer's Lenten and Easter Services

February 25- March 25 Wednesdays 6:15 pm - Dinners 7:00 pm - Services	Wednesday Lenten Service and Dinner Pray with Redeemer for Holden Evening Prayer held every Wednesday at 7:00 pm until Holy Week. A light supper will be offered at 6:15.
April 2 Thursday 7:00 pm	Maundy Thursday Remember Christ and his command to love one another.
April 3 Friday Noon	Good Friday Worship On this sacred day, worship at noontime.
April 3 Friday 7:00 pm	Tenebrae Service Experience the solemn majesty of this special service as we remember Christ's death.
April 5 Sunday 8:30, 9:45, and 11:00	Easter Morning Services Celebrate our Risen Lord this great day. The brass musicians will accompany our talented choir, making this a festival celebration to honor our Lord.

Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

Children are welcome in our worship. There is a children's worship bulletin for them. If you prefer, a nursery and/or childcare is available for children up to age 3 during all worship services.

Hearing help available: We have personal hearing amplification units available for your use. Please speak with the person at the sound board.

Church Phone: 703-356-3346

Email: church@redeemermclean.org

Sunday Services

8:30 and 11:00 am for the traditional service and 9:45 am for the contemporary service

Next Sunday's Scripture:

Genesis 12:1-4a

Psalm 121

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

John 3:1-17

The Devil Doesn't Wear Tights

No one believes in the existence of the devil these days, do they? Do you? Perhaps we can thank Hollywood and Halloween's marketing blitz for our casual if not incredulous approach to the devil's existence. Pointy horns, pitch forks, red costumes, and box office ticket sales continue to shape our culture's collective consciousness of the devil. Though red tights and long tails may be a frightening thought as you consider a costume for a Halloween party, they do nothing to communicate the true terror of an honest-to-God encounter with the devil's power.

This Lent we are called to expunge the fantastical images of the devil from our minds and think seriously about the real presence of evil in our world. We know firsthand about the sin that caused, causes, and will cause suffering to us, our loved ones, our neighbors, our global communities, and creation itself. Sin is real; suffering is real; evil is real; indeed, the devil is real. This oppressive, tangible reality is as real as the air we breathe—felt but not always seen. Greed, envy, rage, hatred, war, discrimination, and apathy are just some of the ways the devil's forces wreak havoc upon us. These forces have one goal and one goal only: to turn us away from the will of God.

Matthew's gospel reorients us to the truth of the devil's power, and calls us to name Satan's presence in the world. In the wilderness Jesus encounters an evil as real as its opposite, resurrection. The great tempter seeks to undermine Jesus' mission before he even begins; testimony that evil has much to fear of our Jesus! Nonetheless, Jesus will not be dissuaded. "Away with you, Satan!" proclaims the redeemer of the cosmos. Thus, the Lenten journey begins—a journey that takes us to the cross, where the devil is named and crushed underfoot.

The flowers are given to the glory of God.

Today we are using Setting 9 from the Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal.

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