

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT



MARCH 1, 2026

ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMS)

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DIVINE SERVICE SETTING IV P. 203-212

PRESERVICE "NEGLECT THE BIBLE" SUN. SCHOOL N3-K (10:30 AM)

OPENING HYMN "TODAY YOUR MERCY CALLS US" 915

✠ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION ✠

P. 203

✠ THE SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

INTROIT

PSALM 105:4-7; ANTIPHON: V. 8

He remembers his covenant forever,
the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations.

**Seek the Lord and his strength;
seek his presence continually!**

Remember the wondrous works that he has done,
his miracles, and the judgments he uttered,

**O offspring of Abraham, his servant,
children of Jacob, his chosen ones!**

He is the Lord our God;
his judgments are in all the earth.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;**

**as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

He remembers his covenant forever,
the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations.

KYRIE

P. 204

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT

GENESIS 12:1-9

¹The Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ²And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." ⁴So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. ⁵And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the land of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan, ⁶Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. ⁷Then the Lord appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the Lord, who had appeared to him. ⁸From there he moved to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. And there he built an altar to the Lord and called upon the name of the Lord. ⁹And Abram journeyed on, still going toward the Negeb.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL

HEBREWS 12:2

[O come, let us fix our eyes on] Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

EPISTLE

ROMANS 4:1-8, 13-17

¹What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh? ²For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness." ⁴Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. ⁵And to the one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness, ⁶just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works: ⁷"Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are

covered; ⁸blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin." . . . ¹³For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression. ¹⁶That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring—not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, ¹⁷as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations"—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

JOHN 3:1-17

P The Holy Gospel, according to St. John, the third chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. ²This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him." ³Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." ⁴Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" ⁵Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. ⁶That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' ⁸The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." ⁹Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" ¹⁰Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever

believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise to You, O Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

P. 207

HYMN OF THE DAY “LORD, THEE I LOVE WITH ALL MY HEART” 708

SERMON

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Lord, in your Mercy,

G Hear our Prayer.

In Our Prayers:

+ Scott Christenson	+ Darian Litzau
+ Andy Birkholz	+ Robin Lueck
+ Dan Gueningsman	+ Karen Strei
+ Maya Radtke	+ Hillard Klaustermeier
+ Jeremy Radtke	+ Angela Litzau
+ Merlin Mathews	+ Call Process for Associate Pastor
+ Family and friends of Alice Lindquist	

OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN “ON MY HEART IMPRINT YOUR IMAGE” 422

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠ P. 208-210

The Sacrament is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that our Lord, as He says, gives not only bread and wine, but His true body and blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation, to repentant, reconciled believers in Christ. Our Lord Jesus invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us (Matt. 26:26-28; 1Cor. 11:23-29; Matt.6:15).

We practice closed communion. Why? (1 Cor. 10:16-17). Because our Lord says those who eat and drink His body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm. If not yet instructed, in doubt, or holding a confession differing from that of the LCMS, you are lovingly asked not to commune at this time. Pastor is happy to make an appointment to

discuss adult catechesis or questions you have regarding the Sacrament of the Altar.

Examination Questions: Please prepare by asking yourself — Am I sorry for my sins? Do I believe in Jesus Christ as my Savior from sin? Do I believe that I am receiving the body and blood of Christ along with the bread and wine? Will I try, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to live a more God-pleasing life?

Prayers for “Before communing” and “Thanksgiving after receiving the Sacrament” are printed on the front cover of the hymnal.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“WE SING THE PRAISE OF HIM WHO DIED”	429
“ALL WHO BELIEVE AND ARE BAPTIZED”	601
“JESUS, I WILL PONDER NOW”	440
“NOT ALL THE BLOOD OF BEASTS”	431

NUNC DIMITTIS P. 211

BENEDICAMUS & BENEDICTION P. 212

CLOSING HYMN “GUIDE ME, O THOU GREAT REDEEMER” 918

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Attendance Last Week

Sunday: 171
Sunday School: 38
Bible Study: N/A

Organist:

Jane Holasek

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. SPEAKER- Pastor Jean Rajaonasy, founder and director of House of Hope Madagascar (HOHM), will be speaking between services TODAY. Refreshments, including breakfast food, will be served. Everyone is welcome to join us!

2. LENT SCHEDULE- Please join us for our Midweek Lenten Service, on Wednesday March 4 at 7:00 PM. A meal will be served at 6:00 PM. Menu includes Chili and Ham Potato Soup

3. BAKED POTATO BAR- The Bd of Ed invites all youth and congregation members to join them for a Baked Potato Bar following second service on Sunday, March 8th. Please bring your favorite topping to share. A sign-up sheet is in the Upper Narthex to indicate

how many will be attending, and what topping you are bringing. Please also bring your favorite card/board game to play after lunch.

4. GOOD FRIDAY CHILDREN'S CHOIR - All children are invited to join a children's choir that will be singing for the Good Friday service. We will be rehearsing on Wednesdays at 5:45pm in the music room. Come join us, learn a new Holy Week hymn, then grab dinner before Lenten Midweek service! Contact Amanda Barlau with any questions.

5. LILY ORDERS- If you would like to order an Easter Lily, forms are available on the table in the Upper Narthex. Deadline to order is March 5th. No late orders will be taken.

6. EASTER DAY – Please note that the Easter Day Services will be at 6:30 and **9:00 AM** (Update from what was in the Lamplighter)

7. THE MARCH MISSION PROJECT organized by LWML is to provide 9 Lester Prairie families in need with food for the 4-day Easter Break from school. Each Sunday School student is asked to bring in 2 grocery items_(sheets with assigned items will be sent home today), and congregational members can donate too! Check out the forms available in the lower narthex. Place the items by the offering basketball hoop in the ed. wing or in the display in the lower narthex by March 22nd.

8. EASTER BREAKFAST HELP: Please check the sign-up sheets in the upper narthex to help with the Easter breakfast Sunday, April 5th! ALL CONGREGATIONAL members are encouraged to participate in this joyful fellowship! Help is needed both Saturday and Sunday morning that weekend.

9. THANK YOU to all of the 7th -12th grade students who helped with the Sun. Sch. mission project last Sunday so our teachers could attend the special voters meeting. We appreciate all of you! ~ Bd. of Ed.

10. CARDS- Easter greeting cards are available for \$1.00 each on the LWML table. Proceeds go to support the Mission projects. Thank you.

11. LIBRARY/NURSERY ROOM - Thank you to all who volunteered their time to update our church library. New books have been added. The room was freshened up and now includes a baby changing station and a quiet space for nursing mothers. Donations are requested for baby wipes, Lysol wipes, and diapers size Newborn through 5. Donations may be left by the changing table. ~ Bd of Ed

12. SCHEDULE- *March 8:* Ushers: 1st Service-Brendan Feltmann, Jim Klaustermeier, Don Hoof; 2nd Service: Cory Schauer, Cole Ehrke, Leighton Buhr, Jason Lyons; Acolytes: 1st Service- W. Schauer, A. Kosek; 2nd Service: M. Schauer, L. Schauer; Greeters- 1st Service: Don &

LaJean Hoof; 2nd Service: Barb Parpart Flowers: Lois Raduenz; Altar Guild: Linda Mensing, April Lee, Jane Roth; Worship Bags: Elaine Peterson

Calendar of Events

Sun. March 1	8:00 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION Sunday School/Adult Bible Study WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION
Mon. March 2		Release Time Classes
Tues. March 3	7:30 p.m.	Dartball Home vs. Benton
Wed. March 4	Noon 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Deadline for Bulletin Release Time Lent Meal MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICE
Thur. March 5		Admin. Assist. Amanda out of office
Fri. March 6		Admin. Assist. Amanda out of office
Sun. March 8	8:00 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	WORSHIP W/ CONT. LINE COMM. Sunday School/ Adult Bible Study WORSHIP W/ CONT. LINE COMM. Baked Potato Bar Lunch

Lenten and Holy Week Schedule (Please note that the Easter Service time is changed from what was printed in the March Lamplighter.)

3/4 Midweek of Lent 2, 6:00 p.m. Meal; 7:00 p.m. "Healing from Demons" (Pastor Onken)

3/11 Midweek of Lent 3, 6:00 p.m. Meal; 7:00 p.m. "For Us He Seeks" (Pastor Mastin)

3/18 Midweek of Lent 4, 7:00 p.m. "Done For Us"
(at St. Peter, Pastor Beckman)

3/25 Midweek of Lent 5, 7:00 p.m. "For Us Betrayed"
(at St. Peter, Pastor Barlau)

3/29 Palm Sunday, 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

4/2 Holy Thursday, 7:00 p.m. "For Many Means For You"

4/3 Good Friday, 7:00 p.m. "His Dying Breath"

4/4 Easter Vigil, 7:45 p.m. "For Us He Rose" (at St. John, Plato)

4/5 Easter Sunday:

6:30 a.m. Easter Sunrise Service "For Us He Lives"

7:30-8:45 a.m. Easter Breakfast

8:15 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt

9:00 a.m. Feast of the Resurrection Service (UPDATED TIME!)