

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH – TWIN LAKES, WI
Lenten Mid-week– February 25, 2026



AS WE GATHER

Lent begins today with Ash Wednesday. Lent is a season of repentance and sorrow for sin in expectation of Holy Week when we proclaim and celebrate Christ’s triumphant entry, last will and testament, sacrificial death, and glorious return from the dead. During Lent, we suspend the hymn of praise during worship and the use of the word “alleluia” - in eager expectation of resuming them at the festival of the resurrection. Many people also fast or partially fast by giving up meat on Fridays.

This year, our mid-week services will consider One of the Bible’s greatest wisdom books is the book of Job. This Lent, eight sermons will help us dig deeply into Job’s central message. Tonight we look at Job 1:13–22 to see how suffering develops us as we surrender.

✘ PREPARATION ✘

WELCOME

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP *(Based upon Job 19:23-27)*

Pastor: Oh, that my words were recorded, that they were written on a scroll.

People: **That they were inscribed with an iron tool on lead, or engraved in rock forever!**

Pastor: I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth.

People: **And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God.**

Pastor: I myself will see him with my own eyes, I, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!

ALL: **I know that my Redeemer lives!**

OPENING HYMN “*Christ the Life of All the Living*”

LSB 420 stzs 1-3

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Gracious and most merciful Father,

***People:* In the light of your holiness we see ourselves as we really are.**

Pastor: And we are ashamed.

***People:* We confess that we have impure thoughts and unclean lips.**

Pastor: We think too highly of ourselves and too little of others.

***People:* We cling so tightly to the treasures of this world,**

Pastor: That we cannot open our hands to receive blessings from above.

***People:* Our feet follow the paths of sin.**

Pastor: We wander so far astray that we become strangers to righteousness.

***People:* Forgive us, and set us again on the path that leads to life.**

Pastor: Deal with us not as we deserve, but according to your mercy,

***People:* Not because we are worthy but because you are gracious.**

Pastor: While it is true that we have sinned, it is a greater truth that through God's love in Jesus Christ we are forgiven. God has shown his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross and by his wounds we are healed. I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

ALL: I know that my Redeemer lives!

SCRIPTURE READING

Job 1:13-22

¹³ Now there was a day when his sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother's house, ¹⁴ and there came a messenger to Job and said, "The oxen were plowing and the donkeys feeding beside them, ¹⁵ and the Sabeans fell upon them and took them and struck down the servants with the edge of the sword, and I alone have escaped to tell you." ¹⁶ While he was yet speaking, there came another and said, "The fire of God fell from heaven and burned up the sheep and the servants and consumed them, and I alone have escaped to tell you." ¹⁷ While he was yet speaking, there came another and said, "The Chaldeans formed three groups and made a raid on the camels and took them and struck down the servants with the edge of the sword, and I alone have escaped to tell you." ¹⁸ While he was yet speaking, there came another and said, "Your sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother's house, ¹⁹ and behold, a great wind came across the wilderness and struck the four corners of the house, and it fell upon the young people, and they are dead, and I alone have escaped to tell you."

²⁰ Then Job arose and tore his robe and shaved his head and fell on the ground and worshiped. ²¹ And he said, "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return. The LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD."

²² In all this Job did not sin or charge God with wrong.

Pastor: O Lord, have mercy on us.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SCRIPTURE READING

2 Corinthians 1:3-9

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, ⁴ who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are

comforted by God. ⁵ For as we share abundantly in Christ's sufferings, so through Christ we share abundantly in comfort too. ⁶ If we are afflicted, it is for your comfort and salvation; and if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we suffer. ⁷ Our hope for you is unshaken, for we know that as you share in our sufferings, you will also share in our comfort.

⁸ For we do not want you to be unaware, brothers, of the affliction we experienced in Asia. For we were so utterly burdened beyond our strength that we despaired of life itself. ⁹ Indeed, we felt that we had received the sentence of death. But that was to make us rely not on ourselves but on God who raises the dead. ¹⁰ He delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us. On him we have set our hope that he will deliver us again. ¹¹ You also must help us by prayer, so that many will give thanks on our behalf for the blessing granted us through the prayers of many.

Pastor: O Lord, have mercy on us.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN *“Christ the Life of All the Living”*

LSB 420 stzs 6-7

SERMON

Rev. Paul Muther

OFFERING

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: O God, when you allow suffering and pain instead of sunshine and gladness we will still believe and live by your Holy Word.

***People:* When we feel loss, empower us still to bless your holy name.**

Pastor: For it is the weak and humble who receive your love;

***People:* Who are pardoned and healed,**

Pastor: Who are enlightened and strengthened.

***People:* And so we will find joy in suffering**

Pastor: And pray for your will to be done.

Father, we surrender to our present circumstances which we cannot control;

***People:* Because we have your names—**

Pastor: Yahweh, El Shaddai and Eloah.

***People:* We have your name—**

Pastor: Jesus.

ALL: “The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away. Blessed be the name of the LORD.” Amen.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in
heaven;
give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not
into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the
kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER

Pastor: Let us pray.

People: I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me.

ALL: Amen.

BENEDICTION (*Based upon Job 1:21-This is the benediction for the series*)

Pastor: The LORD gives.

People: And the LORD takes away.

Pastor: Blessed be the name of the LORD.

People: Yes, blessed be the name of the LORD!

Pastor: And so we go forth confidently in the name of our LORD.

People: The Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

ALL: Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN “*Children of the Heavenly Father*”
LSB 878

ANNOUNCEMENTS--

TONIGHT WE WELCOME REV PAUL MUTHER OF OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN IN BURLINGTON TO BRING US THE WORD OF GOD.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR LENTEN SUPPERS AT 6:00 PM FOLLOWED BY OUR LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICE AT 7:00 PM EACH WEDNESDAY THROUGH MARCH 29th.

PASTOR: Rev. Dr. Timothy Oswald
ORGANIST: George Kelm
CHOIR DIRECTOR: Gail Feick
ENSEMBLE COORDINATOR: Tabra Gomski
A/V TEAM: Stan & Cheryl Grey, Dawn Oswald
Brian & Amanda Larie, Josh Walton