

Feb 21-22, 2026
First Sunday in Lent

5p/9a Worship Service



First Lutheran
discover more : **together**

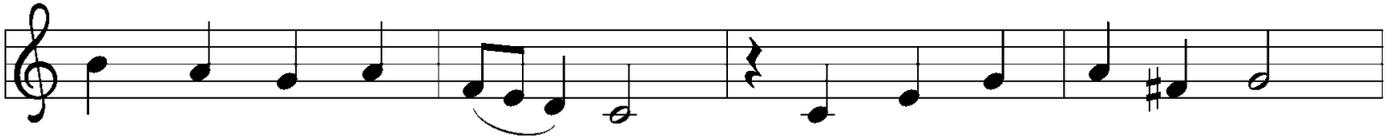
A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who



to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
 ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
 vour us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
 fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
 God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
 weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,



has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
 in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
 goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
 they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Prelude: Variations on “Eternal Lord of Love” – Arr. Krapf, Willan

Welcome *Katie on Center
Stand*

Confession and Forgiveness *Katie on Center*

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever

All: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt
and blots out all offenses.

(brief silence) Gracious God,

All: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P: For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you: Gracious God,

All: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P: For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word: Gracious God,

All: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P: For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the
Spirit: Gracious God,

All: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P: For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdain the living
water Christ offers: Gracious God,

All: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P: For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing
and hope in the world: Gracious God,

All: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P: For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ’s
call to come forth to life: Gracious God,

All: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P: God’s steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound. Through faith, the free gift
of God, you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ. In the name
of ☐ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. The Spirit of the One who raised
Christ from the dead dwells in you, pours God’s love into your hearts, and gives
you life and peace.

All: Amen.

Opening Hymn: *ELW #504*
“A Mighty Fortress”

Refrain



Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, on our world and on our way.



Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, ev-'ry day.



1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the

2 That we may live out your im-passioned re-sponse to the

3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for

4 For your Spir-it to guide; that you cen-ter our lives in the



u-ni-ty of all; for

hun-gry and the poor; that

friends and fam-i-ly; for

wa-ter and the word; that you



this ho-ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,

we may live out truth and jus-tice and grace,

life and for love, for our work and our play,

nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod-y and blood,



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Refrain

Greeting *Craig on Center*

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

← **Kyrie ...** pg. 184 *Marita– Balcony*

Prayer of the Day *Craig on Center*

P: Let us pray. (*brief silence*)

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.

All: Amen.

(9am) Children’s Message *Katie on Floor*

Sit

Intro to the Reading: *Lector @Ambo*

L: In our conversations with Jesus, we begin with Psalm 32, as we hear the message, mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord. In the gospel reading from Matthew, Jesus experiences anew the temptations that Israel faced in the wilderness. As the Son of God, he endures the testing of the evil one.

First Reading: Psalm 32 *NRSVue*

L: ¹Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.

²Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

³While I kept silent, my body wasted away
through my groaning all day long.

⁴For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;
my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you,
and I did not hide my iniquity;

I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,”
and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

⁶Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you;
at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them.

Continued →

⁷You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with glad cries of deliverance.

⁸I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go;
I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

⁹Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding, whose temper must
be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not stay near you.

¹⁰Many are the torments of the wicked,
but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord.

¹¹Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O righteous,
and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

L: The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation pg. 189



Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.



Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.



Save us as you prom-ised; we will trust your word.



Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.

P: The Gospel according St. Matthew, the fourth chapter...

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

The Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11 *NRSVue* *Pastor Katie @ ??*

P: 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.’ ”

Continued →

When We Are Tested



1 When we are test - ed and wres - tle a - lone,
2 When in the des - ert we cry for re - lief,
3 When we are tempt - ed to bar - ter our souls,
4 When we have strug - gled and searched through the night,



fam - ished for bread when the world of - fers stone,
plead - ing for paths marked by cer - tain be - lief,
trad - ing the truth for the pow'r to con - trol,
sort - ing and sift - ing the wrong from the right,



nour - ish us, God, by your word and your way,
lift us to love you be - yond sign and test,
teach us to wor - ship and praise on - ly you,
Sav - ior, sur - round us with cir - cles of care,



food that sus - tains us by night and by day.
trust - ing your pres - ence, our on - ly true rest.
seek - ing your will in the work that we do.
an - gels of heal - ing, of hope, and of prayer.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

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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

P: The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you O Christ.

Sermon ... Pr. Katie Lowe Lancaster *Pastor Katie @ ??*

Stand

Hymn of the Day: ACS #922

"When We are Tested"

Lector: Go to the Ambo for the Prayers

The Apostles' Creed...Page 105 *Steve behind Altar*

All: 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.

THE PRAYERS →

L: Lord, in your mercy.

All: Hear our prayer.

Passing of the Peace:

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

All: And also with you

P: Let us turn to one another, offering a sign of Christ's peace.

Offering of Gratitude:

(Sit) P: You may be seated.

We give God our thanks and praise in response to God's mercy and abundance.

We invite you to place your gratitude card along with any offering you have in the plate at this time or make an offering electronically.

Would the ushers please come forward.

Lector—Go to Ambo before Prayer; remain up front for communion.

(9) **Special Music:** "Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley" Youth Handbells

— Arr. Sandra Eithun

(9) **Offertory Hymn:** *ELW* #803 "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" (st. 4)

All: Were the whole realm of nature mine,

that were a present far too small;

love so amazing, so divine,

demands my soul, my life, my all.

Offertory Prayer: *Lector @ Ambo*

L: *(5p) Please Stand and*

(9a) Let us pray.

O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation.

You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty.

Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your

Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus'

name.

All: Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving: ... page 190 *Steve @ Altar*

P: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

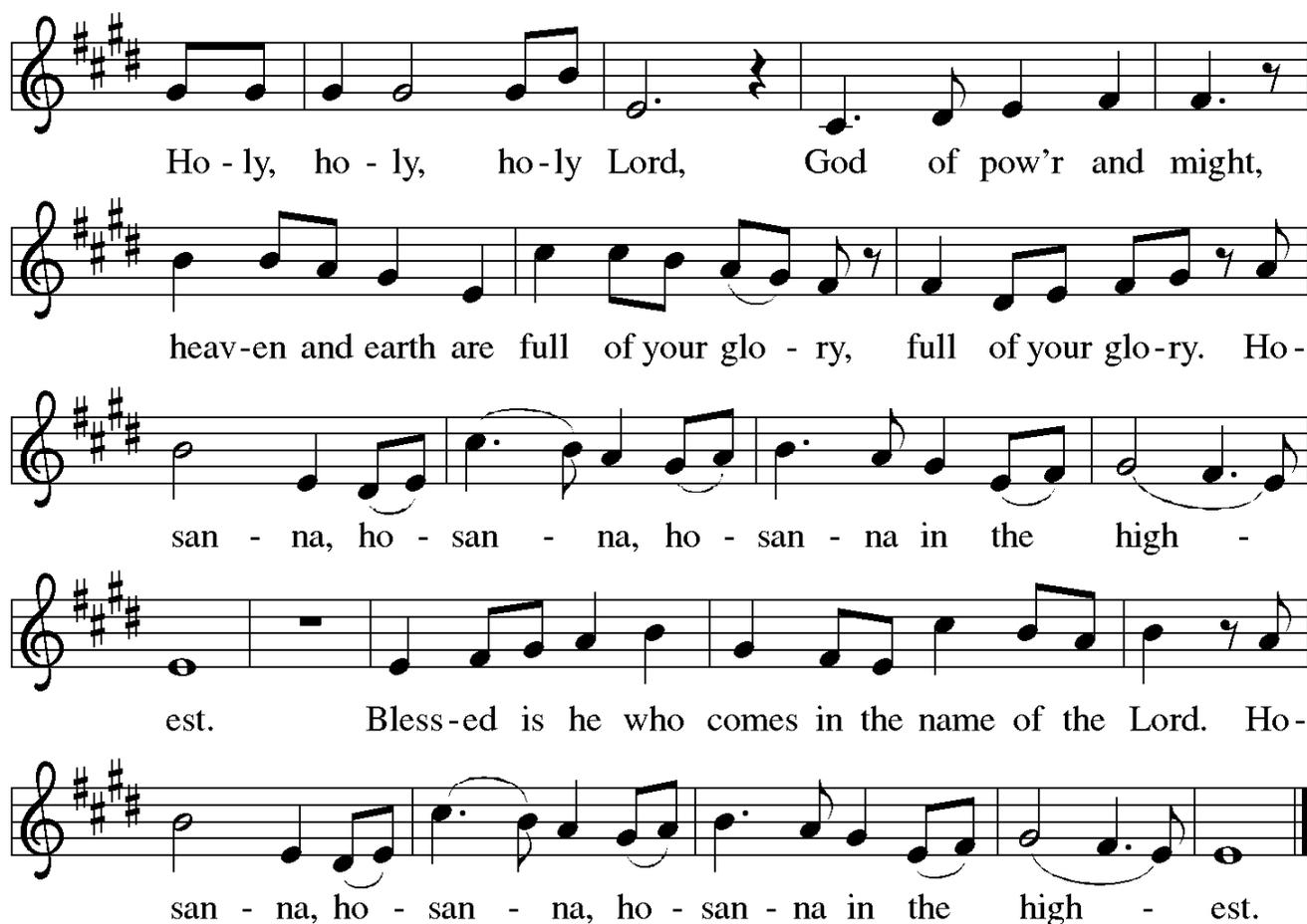
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Lent Preface:

P: 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:

Sanctus: "Holy, Holy, Holy"... page 190



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song



1 *Jé - sus, je vou - drais te chan - ter sur ma rou - te;*
1 Lord Je - sus, you shall be my song as I jour - ney;
2 Lord Je - sus, I'll praise you as long as I jour - ney.
3 As long as I live, Je - sus, make me your ser - vant,
4 I fear in the dark and the doubt of my jour - ney;



Jé - sus, je vou - drais t'an - non - cer à mes voi - sins par - tout,
I'll tell ev - 'ry - bod - y a - bout you wher - ev - er I go:
May all of my joy be a faith - ful re - flec - tion of you.
to car - ry your cross and to share all your bur - dens and tears.
but cour - age will come with the sound of your steps by my side.



car toi seul es la vie et la paix et l'a - mour:
you a - lone are our life and our peace and our love.
May the earth and the sea and the sky join my song.
For you saved me by giv - ing your bod - y and blood.
And with all of the fam - 'ly you saved by your love,



Jé - sus, je vou - drais te chan - ter sur ma rou - te.
Lord Je - sus, you shall be my song as I jour - ney.
Lord Je - sus, I'll praise you as long as I jour - ney.
As long as I live, Je - sus, make me your ser - vant.
we'll sing to your dawn at the end of our jour - ney.

**All: 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.**

P: You may be seated. Please follow the direction of the ushers to come forward.
There is gluten free bread and juice available upon request. The table is set
and all are welcome. (optional) Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Distribution of Holy Communion

The Lamb of God ... page 191



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, Lamb of God.

Communion Hymn: ELW #808 “Lord Jesus, You Shall be My Song”

Lector—go to the ambo as Pastor covers communion elements.

Stand

Eternal Lord of Love, Behold Your Church



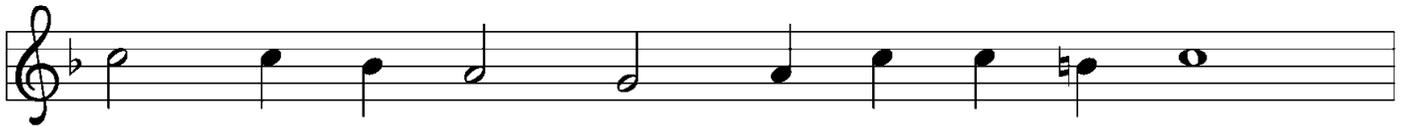
1 E - ter - nal Lord of love, be - hold your church
2 So dai - ly dy - ing to the way of self,
3 If dead in you, so in you we a - rise,



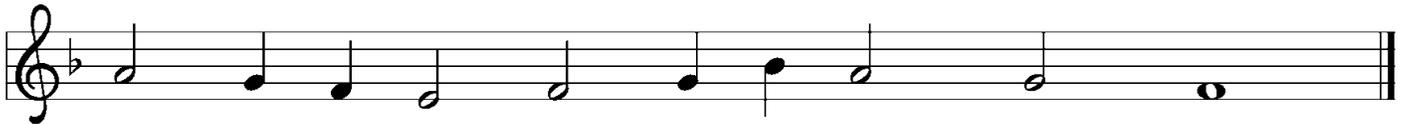
walk - ing once more the pil - grim way of Lent,
so dai - ly liv - ing in your way of love,
you the first - born of all the faith - ful dead;



led by your cloud by day, by night your fire,
we walk the road, Lord Je - sus, that you trod,
and as through ston - y ground the green shoots break,



moved by your love and toward your pres - ence bent:
know - ing our - selves bap - tized in - to your death:
glo - rious in spring - time dress of leaf and flow'r,



far off yet here— the goal of all de - sire.
so we are dead and live with you in God.
so in - to life and glo - ry shall we wake.

Text: Thomas H. Cain, 1931–2003

Music: OLD 124TH, *Trente quatre pseumes de David*, Geneva, 1551

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The Communion Blessing *Steve @ Altar*

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you,
and keep you in his grace.

All: Amen.

Post-Communion Prayer *Lector @ Ambo*

L: God of our salvation,

we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All: Amen.

- Sending -

Benediction: *Steve @ Altar*

P: Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into existence,
Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation,
† bless you now and always.

All: Amen.

Closing Hymn: *ELW #321*

“Eternal Lord of Love, Behold Your Church”

Dismissal: *Lector @ Ambo*

L: Go in peace. Believe the good news.

All: Thanks be to God.

Postlude: Fugue and Paeon on “When We Are Tested” – Arr. David Lasky

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