

Second Sunday in Lent
Facebook Live
March 1, 2026, 8:30am



Welcome

THANKS FOR JOINING US TODAY

Welcome to worship at **Tierrasanta Lutheran Church**

We're excited that you have chosen to worship with us. We encourage you to fill out the green visitor sheet located in the pew pocket and place it in the offering basket.

Take-Home Busy Bags for kids and children's bulletins are available from an usher. A Nursery for children 3 and under is at the west end of the hallway.

During Lent we journey with all those around the world who will be baptized at the Easter Vigil. In today's gospel Jesus tells Nicodemus that he must be born of water and Spirit. At the font we are given a new birth as children of God. As God made a covenant with Abraham, in baptism God promises to raise us up with Christ to new life. From worship we are sent forth to proclaim God's love for all the world.

PRE SERVICE *(Piano)*

PRELUDE "Think on These Things"- *Courtney (Choir)*

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WELCOME TO WORSHIP BY PASTOR GARY MCCARY

THE BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

C: Amen.

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

(a moment of silence for self-examination)

P: Gracious God,

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

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

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

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

C: 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,

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

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

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

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

C: 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,

C: 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.

A: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN ELW 335 **“Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross”** (stz. 1, 3, 4)

1 Jesus, keep me near the cross,
there's a precious fountain;
free to all, a healing stream
flows from Calv'ry's mountain.

Refrain

In the cross, in the cross
be my glory ever;
till my ransomed soul shall find
rest beyond the river.

3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God,
bring its scenes before me;
help me walk from day to day
with its shadow o'er me. *Refrain*

4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait,
hoping, trusting ever,
till I reach the golden strand
just beyond the river. *Refrain*

APOSTOLIC GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

C: And also with you!

P: Let us pray together:

C: O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING *God's call of Abram and Sarai has a clear purpose — that through them all the families of the earth would gain a blessing. As they set out on their journey they are accompanied by promises of land, nation, and a great reputation.*

Genesis 12:1-4a

Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. 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. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

PSALM CHOIR ANTHEM "I Lift up mine Eyes" - *Pote (Claudia Murphy, soloist.*
Based on Psalm 121) Copyright 1989 Augsburg

SECOND READING *In the person and example of Abraham we discover that a right relationship with God does not involve earning a reward from God but entails trusting God's promises. Abraham is the forebear and model of both Jews and Gentiles, because we too trust that ours is a God who gives life to the dead.*

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness... For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also

to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as 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.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ELW 328 **“Restore in Us, O God”** (stz. 1)

- 1 Restore in us, O God,
the splendor of your love;
renew your image in our hearts,
and all our sins remove.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944 Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

GOSPEL *A curious Pharisee visits Jesus by night to learn from the teacher his friends reject. Jesus speaks to him about life in the Spirit and the kingdom of God.*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 3rd chapter, beginning with the 1st verse.

C: *(Spoken Glory to You, O Lord.*

John 3:1-17

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God

so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

P: Here ends the Reading of the Gospel.

C: *(Spoken)* **Praise to You, O Christ.**

PULPIT HYMN ELW 323 “God Loved the World”

- 1 God loved the world so that he gave
his only Son the lost to save,
that all who would in him believe
should everlasting life receive.
- 2 Christ Jesus is the ground of faith,
who was made flesh and suffered death;
all who confide in Christ alone
are built on this chief cornerstone.
- 3 If you are ill, if death draws near,
this truth your troubled heart can cheer:
Christ Jesus rescues us from death;
that is the firmest ground of faith.
- 4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son
forgives all sins that you have done,
and justified by Jesus' blood,
your baptism grants the highest good.
- 5 All glory to the Father, Son,
and Holy Spirit, Three in One!
To you, O blessed Trinity,
be praise now and eternally!

MESSAGE BY PASTOR GARY MCCARY

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 660 “Lift High the Cross”

Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred name.

- 1 Come, Christians, follow where our captain trod,
our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. *Refrain*
- 2 All newborn servants of the Crucified
bear on their brows the seal of him who died. *Refrain*
- 3 O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
as thou hast promised, draw us all to thee. *Refrain*
- 4 So shall our song of triumph ever be:
praise to the Crucified for victory! *Refrain*

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827-1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874-1956

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APOSTLES' CREED

C: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

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

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

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

P: Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

A brief silence.

P: Faithful One, you renew us by grace. As you have inspired faith through the work of church artists and hymnwriters throughout the ages, give your church the means to praise your beauty today. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Living One, you delight in this world. The sun and moon, the wind and the water declare your goodness. Preserve this earth, and protect conservationists, scientists, and all who labor in service to creation. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Ruling One, you bless us to be a blessing. Open the hearts of all leaders to seek the flourishing of every person and lend your help to all who wait for justice, deliverance, and peace. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Compassionate One, you send your Son to save. Declare your word of acceptance to any who feel condemned and lift up any brought low by hatred and exclusion. Tend to all who are struggling with illness or loss, especially: *Reid Bixler, Barbara Berg, James Vadis, Marianne d'Arnaud, Ellen Mize, Frank Fogg, Mike George, Barbara Vann, Anastasia Balmaceda, Armando Caragan, Mary Peters and the Caragan family at the death of Alexander Caragan. Lord, please guide and protect our military personnel serving in harm's way.* Hear us, O God,

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Guiding One, you watch over our going out and coming in. Bless newcomers and new members in this assembly and accompany those who have recently left this community to journey elsewhere. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: For what else do we pray? Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Eternal One, you neither slumber nor sleep. Be our keeper in life and in death. Thank you for our beloved who have died, and for your promise which saves this whole world by your love. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

C: Amen.

MISSION MOMENT ON STEWARDSHIP - Doren Reese

MISSION MOMENT ON LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF - Ginny Pence

OFFERING HYMN ELW 188 "Create in Me a Clean Heart"

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

CHILDREN'S OFFERING - God's Global Barnyard *We can donate money through the ELCA to purchase farm animals and related resources (like tools, seeds, training) to help hungry families globally achieve long-term food security and self-sufficiency, turning gifts into food, income, and fertilizer.*

OFFERING PRAYER

P: 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.

C: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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, the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

SENDING HYMN ELW 638 "Blessed Assurance"

1 Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

Refrain

This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior, all the day long:
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.

2 Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love. *Refrain*

3 Perfect submission, all is at rest;
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
watching and waiting, looking above,

filled with his goodness, lost in his love. *Refrain*

THE BENEDICTION

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.

C: Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Believe the good news.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Omitted during Lent*

Assisting Minister: Howard Gray

Reader: Christine Durnell

Ushers: Mike George, Donna George

Coffee/Punch: Bart & Shari Lyon

Altar: Donna George

Nursery: Isabelle Villa, Anastasia Balmaceda

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“Time Change Song”

God of sleep, and God of slumber,
Help us not be late, we ask:
changing clocks one forward number,
may we not forget this task.
Choir directors, preachers, teachers,
all will bless your holy name,
if to Sunday church on time we came.

Tune: “God Of Grace”

Words: Dean McIntyre, 1995

Music: John Hughes, 1907

TLC STAFF

Senior Pastor: Bohdan Vadis; **Administrative Assistant:** Elizabeth Duffield;
Bookkeeper: Sandy Robinson; **Director of Music:** Betsy Frater; **Worship
Projection Technician:** Amy Hall; **Sextons:** Sam Irons, Aaron Russell; **TLC
Pre School Director:** Melissa Vargas.

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