

First Sunday of Lent
February 26, 2023
9:00 a.m.



GATHERING

Prelude *(a time for silent meditation)*

Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who journeys with us these forty days,
and sustains us with the gift of grace.

Amen.

Let us acknowledge before God and one another
our need for repentance and God's mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,

we confess to you our faults and failings.

Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word;

we take for ourselves instead of giving to others;

we spoil rather than steward your creation;

we cause hurt though you call us to heal;

we choose fear over compassion.

Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,

as we seek to follow in your way of life.

Amen.

Hear the good news:

God so loved the world that God gave the only Son,
so that all may receive life.

This promise is for you!

God embraces you with divine mercy,

☩ forgives you in Christ's name,

and revives you in the Spirit's power.

Amen.

Gathering Song: "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me" WOV #660

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| 1 | I want Jesus to walk with me;
I want Jesus to walk with me;
all along my pilgrim journey,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me. | when my heart is almost breaking,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me. |
| 2 | In my trials, Lord, walk with me;
in my trials, Lord, walk with me; | |
| 3 | | When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;
when I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;
when my head is bowed in sorrow,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me. |

Greeting

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

Prayer of the Day

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.
Amen.

WORD

Children's Sermon

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

¹⁵The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. ¹⁶And the LORD God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; ¹⁷but 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?'" ²The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; ³but 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.'" ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; ⁵for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶So 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. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

Word of God, Word of Life
Thanks be to God

Psalm: Psalm 32

¹Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven,
and whose sin is put away!

**²Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt,
and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

³While I held my tongue, my bones withered away,
because of my groaning all day long.

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

⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt.
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

**⁶Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in | time of trouble;
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.**

⁷You 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.**

⁹Do 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.**

¹¹Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD;
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

Second Reading: Romans 5:12-19

¹²Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned—¹³sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. ¹⁴Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

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

¹⁸Therefore 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. ¹⁹For just as by the one man’s disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man’s obedience the many will be made righteous.

Word of God, Word of Life
Thanks be to God

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 4th Chapter
C: Glory to You, O Lord

¹Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ²He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. ³The tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” ⁴But he answered, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”

⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶saying 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.’”

⁷Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

⁸Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; ⁹and he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” ¹⁰Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’”

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

P: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: “Thank You For Hearing Me”

Thank you for loving me x4
Thank you for hearing me x4
Thank you for saving me x4

Apostle’s Creed

**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 catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

Prayers of Intercession

*(Each petition ends with... Merciful God, the congregation responds: **receive our prayer.***

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you

The Offering Please leave your offering on our website: https://www.eservicepayments.com/cgi-bin/Vanco_ver3.vps?appver3=Dc8dzPGn4-LCajFevTkh9MYPCLmH2sG-jdxWYJMFgw_IQfxkD4hBw8W0Q6UZLveQvLkSxosar2o939JWiAad87o7zqy-JU_UuLu19bUbjx2MmPFcxvWiuZ6A7FDgkhUKk0PpduXvnt8gXUeZjQYbn9G3frHWC59Y_VCHQ6_VCoE=&ver=3

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray... God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life.

Amen.

SACRAMENT

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

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

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.

Amen.

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.

Distribution

The body of Christ, given to you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Prayer After Communion

Let us pray. . . Embodied God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus.
With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors
and touch the world with your love.

Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor
and + give you peace.

Amen.

Sending Song: "A Mighty Fortress is Our God"

1 A mighty fortress is our God,
a sword and shield victorious;
he breaks the cruel oppressor's rod
and wins salvation glorious.
The old evil foe,
sworn to work us woe,
with dread craft and might
he arms himself to fight.
On earth he has no equal.

2 No strength of ours can match his might!
We would be lost, rejected.
But now a champion comes to fight,
whom God himself elected.
Ask who this may be:
Lord of hosts is he!
Jesus Christ, our Lord,
God's only Son, adored.
He holds the field victorious.

3 Though hordes of devils fill the land
all threat'ning to devour us,
we tremble not, unmoved we stand;
they cannot overpower us.
This world's prince may rage,
in fierce war engage.
He is doomed to fail;
God's judgment must prevail!
One little word subdues him.

4 God's Word forever shall abide,
no thanks to foes, who fear it;
for God himself fights by our side
with weapons of the Spirit.
If they take our house,
goods, fame, child, or spouse,
wrench our life away,
they cannot win the day.
The kingdom's ours forever!


Dismissal

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.
Thanks be to God.

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OUR MISSION - FAITHFUL IN THE WORD

- + To **gather** as God's people and nurture one another
- + To **know** the Word of God
- + To **grow** in faith, love, and service
- + To **go** into the world with the Good News of Jesus Christ



SERVING OUR LORD IN WORSHIP TODAY

Pastor:	The Rev. Matthew E Ollikainen
Music/Choir Director	Michael Dettra
Lay Reader	David Elkin
Communion Assistant	Janice Hoffman

ONE WORSHIP SERVICE AT 9:00 AM FEBRUARY 26TH

On Sunday, February 26th there will only be 1 service with Holy Communion at 9:00 am.
The Annual Congregational Meeting will follow at 10:00 am.



ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26

The Annual Congregational Meeting will follow the service at **10:00 a.m.** Please plan to attend so that we make quorum and be able to conduct the business of the Church.

If you are unable to attend the meeting in person, **please plan to attend via zoom.**
While using Zoom, please mute yourself when you are not speaking.
Meeting ID: 884 7671 6384 Pass code: 083867
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88476716384?pwd=ZkZ5SzYoRkZlN3ppY2o5Y29qZEQrdz09>

CHURCH COUNCIL OPEN POSITIONS

Advent's Church Council currently has three open positions. These are all positions where the chairperson works with the assistance of the Church Council.

1. The **Evangelism Chairperson** identifies prospective members and encourages them to unite with the congregation and will also reach out to current members. The chairperson also tries to find ways to have Advent connect to the local community and other churches.
2. **Youth Coordinator** identifies and coordinates group activities for our youth. The committee assists in developing and maintaining programs that promote the special needs of personal growth and spiritual development for youth.
3. The **Congregation Life Chairperson** helps plan and implement fellowship/community activities, including special events and fellowship time/refreshments after church services.

We ask that you prayerfully consider volunteering to fill one of these positions. Please contact Church Council President, George Henry or Pastor Matt if you are interested or have any questions.



LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF - EARTHQUAKE IN TURKEY

Lutheran World Relief is coordinating an emergency response to our neighbors in Turkey devastated by the earthquake.

We are being asked to donate to the emergency response fund so they can deliver critically needed care for families like water, medical care, shelter and essential supplies.

Please send your donations to Advent marked with earthquake relief and it will be sent in to Lutheran World Relief or give online at lwr.org/quake or mail a check to **Lutheran World Relief, PO Box 17061, Baltimore, MD 21297-1061**. Please write QUAKE in the memo.

Thank you for leading our congregation to share God's love with the world when it's needed most.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar Flowers are presented to the Glory of God.

NUEVA CREACIÓN MISSION SUPPORT

Support of Nueva Creación Lutheran Church in Philadelphia for this week is by Peg & George Spahn in gratitude for Warren's recovery.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE: SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19

8:00 a.m. 16 9:30 a.m. 22 Sunday School 5 **Total 43**

MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT

	<u>Received as of 1/31/23</u>	<u>Needed per Budget</u>
Current	\$11,802.43	\$17,281.00
Mortgage	\$ 2,581.00	\$ 1,898.00



MID-WEEK LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES THURSDAYS MARCH 2 - MARCH 30, 7 PM

Beneath the Cross of Jesus is the theme for worship this season of Lent. We live our lives beneath the cross of Jesus, beneath God's manifold love and grace that reach to us even from Calvary. Based on the hymn "Beneath the cross of Jesus" (ELW 338), this series explores what it means for us to abide at the foot of the cross, to cling to the rock of our salvation, to dwell in the house of the Lord, and to confess our sins and receive God's forgiveness.

Services will be held in person and online this year **Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m., March 2 through March 30.**

Mid week Lenten Worship services may also be attended by **Zoom** and will be live streamed on **Facebook**. A recording of the services will be uploaded to **YouTube** and linked to our website immediately after the service concludes.

While using Zoom, please mute yourself when you are not speaking.

Meeting ID: 864 7772 3021

Pass code: 443360

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86477723021?pwd=cEFHd2hxYoxMRVJPT2hCQjQ5MnF2Zz09>



MID WEEK LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS

Gather at church during the season of Lent for soup and fellowship before the mid week Lenten worship service. The Soup Suppers will begin at **6:00 p.m.** in the social hall on **Thursdays** March 2 through March 30. Please sign up at church to bring soup, bread or drinks. Please contact Gail Oines with any questions or concerns 215-534-8218.



CHOIR AND PRAISE BAND PRACTICES

Practices of the Choir and Praise Band are on Wednesday **nights, 6:30 Praise Band, 7:15 Vocal Choir.** All are welcome and encouraged to join, no prior experience is necessary. Please see Mike Dettra, Music and Choir director or Pastor Matt for more details.



PING PONG TUESDAY NIGHTS

We are playing Ping Pong weekly on Tuesday nights, starting at **6:30 pm** and ending around 8 pm. All are invited. No equipment is required. Please contact Ray Heiss if you plan to give it a try (rayheiss1@gmail.com)



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Thank you for leading our congregation to share God's love with the world when it's needed most.

NUEVA CREACIÓN MISSION SUPPORT

Please consider supporting our sister congregation, Nueva Creación Lutheran Church in Philadelphia which does vital ministry in North Philadelphia. A sign-up sheet is found on the table in the narthex near the entrance to the sanctuary.

THIS WEEK AT ADVENT

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT - FEBRUARY 26 **ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

- 9:00 am Service of Holy Communion
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6
10:00 am Annual Congregational Meeting
Fellowship Time: Ward Family

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27

- 7:30 pm A.A. Open Meeting

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

- 6:30 pm Ping Pong

WEDNESDAY - MARCH 1

- 6:30 pm Praise Band Practice
7:15 pm Choir Practice

THURSDAY - MARCH 2

- 6:00 pm Lenten Soup Supper
7:30 pm Lenten Worship Service

FRIDAY, MARCH 3

- 7:30 pm A.A. Step Meeting

SATURDAY, MARCH 4

- 10:00 am Stitch Club

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT - MARCH 5

- 8:00 am Traditional Holy Communion
9:00 am Adult Bible Study
9:30 am Contemporary Holy Communion
Sunday School age 4 - grade 6
10:30 am Fellowship Time: George Henry
10:45 am Adult Bible Study