

First Lutheran Church ELCA

Worship at the First Lutheran sanctuary,
And available on iHeart radio 620 am (at 11am)
and Facebook livestream

<https://www.facebook.com/firstlutheransiouxcity/>



The First Sunday in Lent

Sunday ☩ March 9, 2025 ☩ 10:30 am

The Season of Lent

These forty days called Lent are like no other. It is our opportune time to return to the God who rescues, to receive the gifts of God's grace, to believe with the heart and confess with the mouth the wonder of God's love in Jesus, and to resist temptation at every turn. This is no small pilgrimage on which we have just embarked. It is a struggle Jesus knew. It is a struggle Jesus shares. The nearness of the Lord, in bread and wine, water and word, will uphold and sustain us.

Gathering

PRELUDE

"Prayer"

Jacques Lemmens

OPENING HYMN

"I Want Jesus to Walk With Me"

ELW 325

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

GREETING

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Let us together pray.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

WELCOME

Word

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

The annual harvest festival, called the Feast of Weeks, provides the setting for this reading. This festival celebrates the first fruits of the produce of the land offered back to God in thanks. In this text, worshipers announce God's gracious acts on behalf of Israel.

¹ When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, ² you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. ³ You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us." ⁴ When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God, ⁵ you shall make this response before the LORD your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. ⁶ When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, ⁷ we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. ⁸ The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; ⁹ and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. ¹⁰ So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me." You shall set it down

before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God.

¹¹ Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING - PSALM 91

Join in reading the psalm responsively by verse.

¹ You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty –

² **you will say to the LORD, “My refuge and my stronghold,
my God in whom I put my trust.”**

⁹ Because you have made the LORD your refuge,
and the Most High your habitation,

¹⁰ **no evil will befall you,
nor shall affliction come near your dwelling.**

¹¹ For God will give the angels charge over you,
to guard you in all your ways.

¹² **Upon their hands they will bear you up,
lest you strike your foot against a stone.**

¹³ You will tread upon the lion cub and viper;
you will trample down the lion and the serpent.

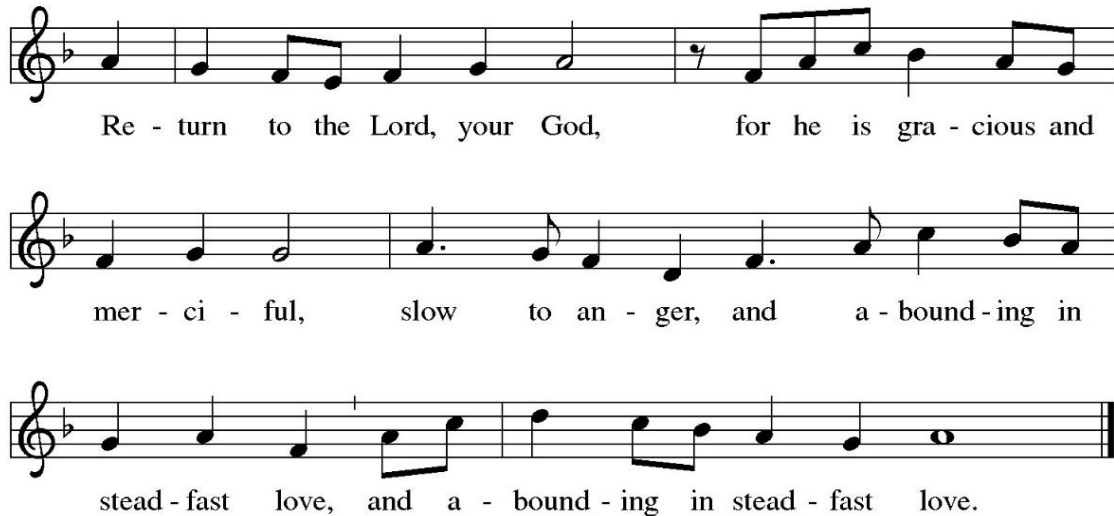
¹⁴ **I will deliver those who cling to me;
I will uphold them, because they know my name.**

¹⁵ They will call me, and I will answer them;
I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and honor them.

¹⁶ **With long life will I satisfy them,
and show them my salvation.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 4:1-13

After being filled with the Holy Spirit at his baptism, Jesus is led in the wilderness. Through his responses to the temptations of the devil, he defines what it means to be called "the Son of God."

The Gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹ Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, ² where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. ³ The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." ⁴ Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'"

⁵ Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶ And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. ⁷ If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." ⁸ Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"

⁹ Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰ for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,' ¹¹ and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

¹² Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" ¹³ When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"When We Are Tested"

ACS 922



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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APOSTLES' CREED

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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Gracious God, speak your word anew among your church. ...

God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that
your promise is revealed among the people.

Amen.

Meal

SHARING OF THE PEACE

Greet one another with a gesture of peace.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

MUSICAL OFFERING

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

Charles Calahan

OFFERTORY SONG

“Loaves were broken”

ACS 966 (verse 1)

Offerings are shared in the basket at the entry.

Loaves were broken, words were spoken by the Galilean shore.
Jesus, Bread of life from heaven, was their food forevermore.
By your body broken for us, by your wine of life outpoured,
Jesus, feed again your people. Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens,
and your abundance to the depths of the seas.
Bless what we offer to your service:
our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts.
Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity,
now and always.
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

setting eight, page 190

Dialogue

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.

It is indeed right...join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

setting eight, page 191



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.

Communion Prayers / Words of Institution

Blessed are you, O holy God,
You are the Life and Light of all. ...

By your Spirit bless us and this meal, that, refreshed with this
heavenly food, we may be light for the world, revealing the brilliance
of your Son. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

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

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread and Invitation to the Table

The joy of the Lord is our strength.
Come, eat this meal of gladness.

Communion

All are invited to receive these gifts of God. Children are welcome to receive communion or a blessing. Communion at this service is served by intinction.

Music during Communion

Lamb of God

setting eight, 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.

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

ELW 742

1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
 2 Have we tri - als and temp-ta - tions? Is there trou-ble an - y-where?
 3 Are we weak and heav - y - lad - en, cum-bered with a load of care?

What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!
 We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged— take it to the Lord in prayer.
 Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge— take it to the Lord in prayer.

Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; oh, what need-less pain we bear—
 Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor-rows share?
 Do your friends de-spise, for - sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.

all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!
 Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness— take it to the Lord in prayer.
 In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a so-lace there.

Text: Joseph Scriven, 1820–1886
 Music: CONVERSE, Charles C. Converse, 1832–1918

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Nourishing God,
at this table you have refreshed us
with holy gifts of food and drink.
Strengthen us for service,
and send us out to embody your good news
of liberation and healing for the sake of the world.
In the name of Christ we pray, **Amen.**

Sending

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you,
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN

"For By Grace You Have Been Saved" ELW 598

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Fantasia in C Minor"

J.S. Bach

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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

SERVING TODAY

Pastor David Halaas *presider*
Bruce Miller *assisting minister*
Yvonne Hazlett *organist*
Mark Viksten *reader*
Kaia Downing *sacristan*
Jenny Denne *communion minister*
Lee Knop *usher*
Dee Bertram, Dorothy Goettsch *greeters*
Ben and Ellie Hertenstein *sound and media technicians*
Sarah Biorn *coffee fellowship*
Ann Knutson *radio broadcast and livestream*

(In celebration of Hillard's 93rd Birthday)

First Lutheran Church ELCA

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Transition Pastor David Halaas

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701-430-3393

WELCOME. WORSHIP. SERVICE.

Welcome to worship at First Lutheran Church!

Holy Communion will be served today by intinction. Gluten-wafers are available, simply ask your server. Children are welcome to receive Communion, or a blessing. If you prefer to remain in your pew, the pastor will come and serve you there. All are welcome at God's table!

This week at First Lutheran

Monday, March 10

7 pm Handbells, choir room

Wednesday, March 12

9:00-11:30 am Holy Family Food Pantry, volunteers: Enola Peters, Sue Bowers

12:30 pm Lenten Worship/Lutherans Together – at Senior Center, 4th & Hamilton

6:30 pm Lenten Worship/Lutherans Together – at Senior Center, 4th & Hamilton

8:00 pm Choir, choir room

Thursday, March 13

1:00 pm Bible Study – the Book of Acts

Sunday, March 16

10:30 am Worship with Holy Communion

Coffee and fellowship follows worship in the Fireside Room

Save The Date!

Congregational Life is planning Food, Fellowship ,and Fun ,Sunday March 23, at The Wheelhouse Bar and Grill, at 5:30pm. We will meet at 5pm to carpool from church or you can meet us there. There will be a sign up sheet on the narthex table starting this Sunday. All are welcome!

Lenten Tree Project

Congregational Life invites you to participate in collecting items in support of Sleep in Heavenly Peace, during this Lenten season. Please see the directions located near the tree, and return items by the end of March. We are also planning to have another “Bed Building Event” in the spring, so more to come.

New Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9am to 2pm.