

**Welcome to Lord of Life
Lutheran Church
February 26th, 2023
First Sunday in Lent**



Today's gospel tells of Jesus' temptation in the desert. His forty-day fast becomes the basis of our Lenten pilgrimage. In the early church Lent was a time of intense preparation for those to be baptized at the Easter Vigil. This catechetical focus on the meaning of faith is at the heart of our Lenten journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. Hungry for God's mercy, we receive the bread of life to nourish us for the days ahead.

Welcome: Welcome to Lord of Life Lutheran Church. This is a safe space to bring your whole self. If there are ways we can make participation in worship easier for you, we will do our best to accommodate.

Worship: Masks: DuPage County community level is **Low**. Since we are at the low level, masks are optional in our building.

Communion: All are welcome to share in Holy Communion. Individual packets available near the entrance to the worship center.

Passing of the Peace: It is ok to greet those sitting near you. Please remember people have different levels of personal space which may vary from day to day and situation to situation. You can be respectful by asking, "May I hug you?" or "Would you like a handshake."

Physical Distancing: It is still important to be aware of distancing. Pews along the sides of the church near the stained-glass windows are for people who want space; please space yourselves accordingly.

For those worshipping from home: Find a peaceful place to pray, perhaps a table. You will need your communion packet, this service folder, and if your phone is convenient, you can use it to pass the peace. Lighting a candle hallows your worship place. We distribute packets of pre-consecrated bread and wine (gluten free option is available) for those who call the church office. We are here for you!

Children Welcome: Kids of all ages are welcome in service, and we celebrate their joyful wiggles and giggles! There are kids bags in the back of the sanctuary.

*Information, service & liturgy instructions are shown in italic or **bold italic** type on the following pages.*

Portions of the liturgy spoken by the leaders are shown in plain type.

*Portions of the liturgy spoken by the assembly are shown in **bold type**.*

PRELUDE

Gathering

The assembly stands as they are able.

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.

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.

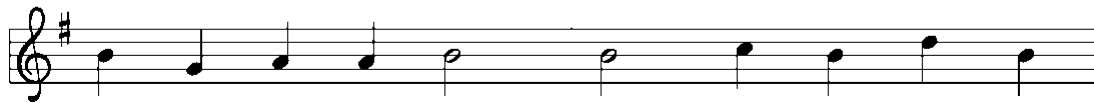
GATHERING HYMN

The Glory of These 40 Days

Hymn 320



1 The glo - ry of these for - ty days we cel - e -
2 A - lone and fast - ing Mo - ses saw the lov - ing
3 So Dan - iel trained his mys - tic sight, de - liv - ered
4 Then grant, O God, that we may, too, re - turn in



brate with songs of praise; for Christ, through whom all
God who gave the law; and to E - li - jah,
from the li - ons' might; and John, the Bride - groom's
fast and prayer to you. Our spir - its strength - en



things were made, him - self has fast - ed and has prayed.
fast - ing, came the steeds and char - i - ots of flame.
friend, be - came the her - ald of Mes - si - ah's name.
with your grace, and give us joy to see your face.

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.

KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



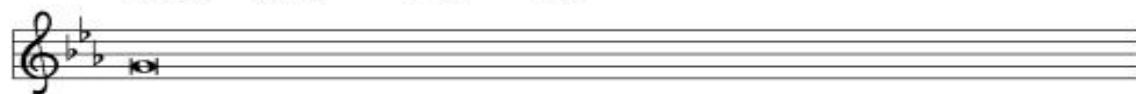
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

Assembly is seated

YOUNG AT HEART SERMON

Pastor Adam Dowd

Word

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

Human beings were formed with great care, to be in relationship with the creator, creation, and one another. The serpent's promise to the first couple that their eyes would be opened led, ironically, to the discovery only that they were naked.

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!

²**Happy 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.

⁴**For 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.

⁶**Therefore 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.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: Romans 5:12-19

Through Adam’s disobedience, humanity came under bondage to sin and death, from which we cannot free ourselves. In Christ’s obedient death, God graciously showers on us the free gift of liberation and life.

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.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God. (Matt. 4:4)

THE GOSPEL READING: Matthew 4:1-11

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the Fourth chapter.

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.

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

All are seated.

SERMON

Pastor Adam Dowd

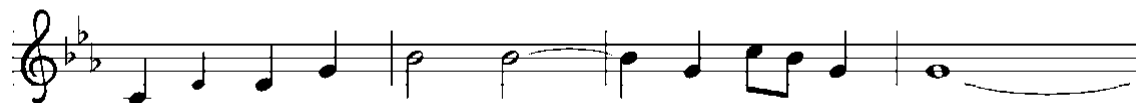
HYMN OF THE DAY

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

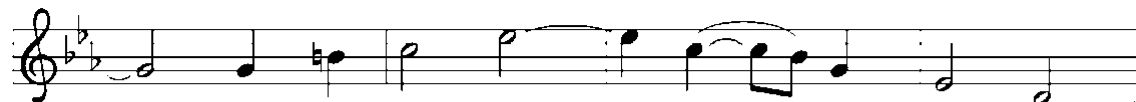
Hymn 325



1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;
2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;
3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;



I want Je - sus to walk with me;
in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;
when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;



all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,
when my heart is al - most break - ing,
when my head is bowed in sor - row,



Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

Response to the Word

The assembly stands as they are able.

THE APOSTLE'S CREED

With the whole Church, let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostle's 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 power of 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**

All are seated.

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

You alone are God. Sustain your church in times of wilderness. Give vision and wisdom to bishops, their staff, and all entrusted with the ministry of administration. Counsel all who faithfully lead your people into the future. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You create verdant gardens and expansive deserts. Tend to the needs of every living creature. Bless those who work in fields and orchards, that the world is nourished by the fruits of their labor. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You know our temptations. Sustain those who govern and legislate. Instill in them a sense of your justice and righteousness, that equity and peace would pervade all the regions and nations of the world. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You are a hiding place for all in distress. Draw near to exiles, and accompany all refugees and immigrants, especially children who travel alone. In times of trouble, trauma, or illness, surround your people with your steadfast love especially for Penny, Ken, Kerry, Jim, Roberta, Caryl, Gale, Don, Ron, Nancy and Cor. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You offer abundance to all. Bless the ministries of hospitality in this place. Care for those who tend to the needs of others, especially worship greeters, refreshment table hosts, and ushers. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You alone are God. We praise you for the faithful departed in every age. Unite our prayers with theirs, until our wilderness journey is complete, and we rest in you. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior.
Amen.

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

The assembly greets one another in the name of the Lord with phrases like “Peace be with you.” If you have your phone available text a word of peace to someone who is worshipping alone.

OFFERING AND PRAYER

Offering Reflection

The offering plate is brought forward as a sign of the good gifts, ourselves included, God has given us.

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of

bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that

we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of

all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble

with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

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.

Meal

The assembly stands as they are able.



PREFACE AND EUCHARISTIC PRAYER... join their unending hymn

Congregation:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed is the
One who comes in your name. Ho - san - na in the
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

The minister continues the eucharistic prayer.

....We proclaim the Lord's death until he comes:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

**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**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.

COMMUNION

All are seated. As we sing When Peace Like a River, please take time to prepare yourselves and your communion elements.

SONG DURING COMMUNION *When Peace Like a River*

ELW 785



1 When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, when
2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let
3 He lives— oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought; my
4 Lord, has - ten the day when our faith shall be sight, the



sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll, what - ev - er my lot, thou hast
this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ hath re - gard - ed my
sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to his cross and I
clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trum - pet shall sound and the



taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.
help - less es - tate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul.
bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
Lord shall de - scend; e - ven so it is well with my soul.

Refrain



It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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

God the eternal Word, who dwells with us in Jesus, and who holds us in
the grace of the Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

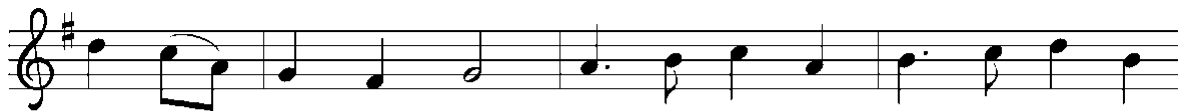
May the Lord bless you and keep you,
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy,
The Lord look upon you with favor and (+) give you peace.
Amen.



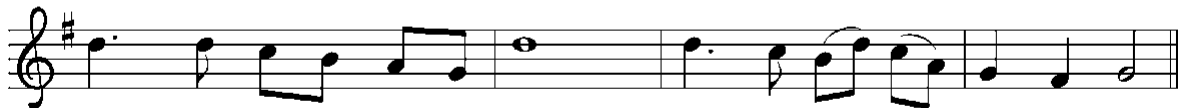
1 Guide me ev - er, great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain where the heal - ing
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land. I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me
 wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me
 fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me



with your pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
 all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer, strong de - liv - 'rer,
 safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs and prais - es, songs and prais - es



feed me now and ev - er - more, feed me now and ev - er - more.
 shield me with your might - y arm, shield me with your might - y arm.
 I will raise for - ev - er - more, I will raise for - ev - er - more.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve in love.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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Eucharistic Prayer- Nathan Nettleton, used with permission

Litanies of Welcome and Farewell-Interim Ministry Network, Baltimore, Maryland

We thank you for your ministry here today:

Presiding Minister	Pastor Adam Dowd
Assisting Minister	Bob Eggert and Elsy Eggert
Organist	Rosita Yao
Reader	Louis Plzak
Guitarist	Christopher Vincent and Pastor Adam Dowd
Greeters	Arlene Danielson
Ushers	Arlene Danielson and Bruce Danielson
Video	Sherry Sejnost

Announcements – 2-26-2023

This month the **Wine and Candles** are provided by **Roberta Sejnost**.

Flowers today are provided by the **Spitznagle's** in celebration of Kerry's Birthday.

Easter Flowers Envelopes for Easter flowers are on the table in the narthex. Help beautify the sanctuary for the Easter season! A 6-1/2" potted lily is \$14.00, and tulips and hyacinth are \$12.00 each. **Orders need to be in the church office by Monday, March 27th.**

Adopt a Plot Spring will be here before you know it. Lord of Life needs some help maintaining the garden spaces around the church this year. We have a lawn service for the grass, but the shrubs and garden space are taken care of entirely by volunteers. This ministry enhances our building's exterior and provides a cheery welcome to visitors. If you are interested, please talk with Judy Padera or Arlene Danielson. Thanks again for your hard work to make our grounds beautiful.

Feed My Starving Children On Saturday, April 22nd, from 4:30 pm to 6:15 pm, LoL has a set time to volunteer at Feed My Starving Children. We will be hand-packing rice, soy, dried vegetables and a nutritionally complete blend of vitamins and minerals into bags which are then sealed, boxed, placed on pallets, and shipped to reach the neediest children around the world. We can meet at the church and carpool together. You can register online at <http://www.fmssc.org/join-group?joincode=4WV8EY> or you can sign up at church or by calling the church office at 630-323- 3161.

Donations - Please continue to support LoL with your generous contributions, either via the online donations, USPS or by putting them in the drop box outside the west entry. Thank you to everyone who have been coming out to do this. To access the secure electronic donations, go to our website at <http://www.lordoflifedarien.com/> and click on the "Give" tab on the top right. With your help we will be able to continue to serve you and the community "*Sharing God's Love.*"

Please pray for members:

Penny Scukanec	Jim Eckwall	Cor Peterson
Roberta Sejnost	Caryl Schaer	Gale Dyskie
Don Dibbern	Ron Matta	Nancy Swanson
Kerry Spitznagle	Ken Gulliford	

A full list of relatives, friends and military personnel for whom we pray is emailed weekly on Friday. A list will also be printed in the bulletin the first Sunday of the month.

Last Week's Giving – \$2088.00

Electronic Donation for the month of January - \$918.15

THIS WEEK AT LORD OF LIFE

Sunday	2/26	10:00 AM	Worship (Live Streaming)
		11:00 AM	Christian Education (Adults and Children)
		2:00 PM	Loving Word Worship
Monday	2/27	2:00 PM	FSS Technologies Fire Inspection
Tuesday	2/28	5:15 PM	Overeaters Anonymous
		7:00 PM	Church Council
		7:00 PM	Troop 56
Wednesday	3/1	10:00 AM	Bible Study
		7:00 PM	Holden Evening Prayer
		7:00 PM	One Day at a Time (AA)
Friday	3/3	9:30 AM	Cards
Saturday	3/4	9:00 AM	Seventh Day Adventist
Sunday	3/5	10:00 AM	Worship (Live Streaming)
		11:00 AM	Christian Education (Adults and Children)
		2:00 PM	Loving Word Worship

Upcoming Events

March 1, 2023	Holden Evening Prayer 7:00 PM
March 8, 2023	Holden Evening Prayer 7:00 PM
March 12, 2023	Daylight Saving Time
March 14, 2023	Lunch Bunch Ki's Restaurant 11:30 AM * (contact L. Breede)
March 15, 2023	Prayers Around the Cross 7:00 PM
March 16, 2023	Senior Spirits Noon
March 17, 2023	Potluck and Bingo 6:00 PM
March 22, 2023	Holden Evening Prayer 7:00 PM
March 27, 2023	Easter Flower orders are due
March 29, 2023	Holden Evening Prayer 7:00 PM
April 2, 2023	Palm Sunday 10:00 AM
April 5, 2023	Holden Evening Prayer 7:00 PM
April 6, 2023	Movie Night Prince of Egypt 6:00 PM
April 7, 2023	Good Friday 7:00 PM
April 9, 2023	Easter Sunday 10:00 AM
April 11, 2023	Lunch Bunch Public Landing 11:30 AM* (contact L. Gustafson)
April 13, 2023	Senior Spirits Noon
April 22, 2023	Feed My Starving Children 4:30 PM*

*You need to sign up for this event.

