

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church  
2206 Washington Road  
Washington, IL 61571  
February 18, 2026, 7:00 p.m.



### **Gather in Silence**

#### **\*Greeting**

P     The Lord be with you  
C     **And also with you.**

### **Psalm 51**

#### **Invitation to Lent** *(The assembly is seated)*

Friends in Christ, today with the whole church we enter the time of remembering Jesus' passover from death to life, and our life in Christ is renewed.

We begin this holy season by acknowledging our need for repentance and for God's mercy. We are created to experience joy in communion with God, to love one another, and to live in harmony with creation. But our sinful rebellion separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, so that we do not enjoy the life our creator intended.

As disciples of Jesus, we are called to a discipline that contends against evil and resists whatever leads us away from love of God and neighbor. I invite you, therefore, to the discipline of Lent—self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love—strengthened by the gifts of word and sacrament. Let us continue our journey through these forty days to the great Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection.

## Confession of Sin

**P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,  
who brings us out of captivity into freedom,  
out of the wilderness into the promised land, out of death into life.

**C** **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, **have mercy on us.**

For self-centered living, and for failing to walk with humility and gentleness:  
**have mercy on us.**

For longing to have what is not ours, and for hearts that are not at rest with  
ourselves: **have mercy on us.**

For misuse of human relationships,  
and for unwillingness to see the image of God in others: **have mercy on us.**

For jealousies that divide families and nations,  
and for rivalries that create strife and warfare: **have mercy on us.**

For reluctance in sharing the gifts of God,  
and for carelessness with the fruits of creation: **have mercy on us.**

For hurtful words that condemn, and for angry deeds that harm: **have mercy on us.**

For idleness in witnessing to Jesus Christ,  
and for squandering the gifts of love and grace: **have mercy on us.**

**P** In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for  
his sake God forgives us all our sins. Through the Holy Spirit God cleanses us  
and gives us the power to proclaim the mighty acts of the one who called us  
out of darkness into his marvelous light. As a called and ordained minister of the  
church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire  
forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

Sharing the Peace: **The peace of Christ be with you all**

Words of Institution

C The 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**

Holy Communion

**Now may the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.**

**Imposition of Ashes (Silence)**

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

**Responsive Prayer**

P Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,

**C that we may show forth your glory in the world.**

P By the cross and passion of your Son, our Savior,

**C bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.**

P Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

**C Amen.**

**Concluding Prayer**

P Merciful God, accompany our journey through these forty days. Renew us in the gift of baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure in the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

Blessing

Dismissal

P Go in peace, serve the Lord

**C Thanks be to God.**

*Assembly departs in silence*



**Today is the first day of Lent**, a time of repentance and rededication to our Lord as we walk with him toward the cross.

Midweek Lenten Worship/Meal services will be held on Wednesdays, February 25<sup>th</sup>, March 4, 11, 18 and 25<sup>th</sup>. We will have a worship service and meal combined each Wednesday during Lent beginning at 6 pm. Soup and salad will be the meal throughout Lent.