



Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church

www.old-swedes.org

215-389-1513

February 22, 2026
First Sunday in Lent

Ministry Assistants Today

Lector: *Candace Roberts*
Intercessor: *Corin Micklewright*
Usher: *Bob Jenkins*
Altar Guild: *Rachel Armstrong*
Celebrant: *Rev. Chris Micklewright*
Organist: *Adam Haines*

Ministry Assistants March 1

Lector: *Megan Bartlett*
Intercessor: *Jill Duink*
Usher: *Mark Roberts*
Altar Guild: *Rachel Armstrong*
Celebrant: *Rev. Chris Micklewright*
Organist: *Adam Haines*

Welcome to Gloria Dei!

Today is the first Sunday of the season of Lent, during which we prepare for the celebration of Easter. Traditionally, this work of preparation is done through "self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word." However, it is also important to remember that we are never called to shame or despair. Rather, the traditional Lenten practices invite us to recognize our own limitations, so that we might come to a deeper understanding of God's love and mercy. So, please join us today, and throughout Lent, as we prepare to celebrate Easter.

Prelude

In observance of the first Sunday of Lent, our service will begin with the Penitential Order.

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

All His mercy endures forever.

(All kneel or sit, as they are able)

Celebrant Hear the commandments of God to his people:

I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage. You shall have no other gods but me.

People Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant You shall not make for yourself any idol.

People Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

People Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

People Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant Honor your father and your mother.

People Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant You shall not commit murder.

People Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant You shall not commit adultery.

People Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant You shall not steal.

People Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant You shall not be a false witness.

People Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

People Amen. Lord have mercy.

Celebrant If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *(Silence is kept for a moment)*

All Most merciful God, we confess that 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. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

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

All Amen. *(all stand, as they are able)*

Hymn # S96

Lord, Have Mercy

Hymnal 1982

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

All Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but 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."

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'?" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but 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.'" But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So 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. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

All Thanks be to God.

Psalm 32

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

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

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

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

Then 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.

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

You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; *
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; *
I will guide you with my eye.

Do 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."

Great are the tribulations of the wicked; *
but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.

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

Second Reading

Romans 5:12-19

As sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned-- sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. Yet 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. But 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. And 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.

(continued...)

If, 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. Therefore 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. For 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.

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

All Thanks be to God.

Hymn # 581

Where Charity and Love Prevail

Hymnal 1982

Gospel Reading

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **Matthew (4:1-11)**

All **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

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

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying 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.'"

Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon **Rev. Chris Micklewright**

After the sermon, there will be a few moments for quiet reflection. Then the congregation will stand to reaffirm our faith using the Nicene Creed. Some elements may be strange or confusing – and you are invited to engage in conversation and reflection around the Creed. In the life of faith, we sometimes confess more than we fully understand, and God's grace is faithful to meet us wherever we are on the journey.

The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father,
the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius
Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the
right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living
and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the
giver of life, who proceeds from the Father
and the Son. With the Father and the Son he
is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic
Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the
forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayers of the People – Based on Psalm 91 (leader and people pray responsively) **Corin Micklewright**

Celebrant Beloved friends, in this season of repentance and healing, let us enter with Mary Magdalene and the other disciples into the grief and confusion of the hours following Jesus' death. As we wait in this darkness, may we draw hope from the example of the saints who have gone before us, and especially from God's faithfulness to walk with us in fearful times. *(Silent Pause)*

Intercessor To the God of just and inescapable truth, we pray for our leaders – in the church and in the world around us. May the light of your wisdom be a lens to illuminate justice and clarity in the eyes and hearts of those who wield power. *(Silent pause.)* Lord have mercy.

People Christ have mercy.

Intercessor To the God of immeasurable mercy and care, we pray our divided nation, and for the needs of the most vulnerable among us. Today we particularly remember our transgendered siblings, and all who face the threat of violence from corrupt systems of power. *(Silent pause.)* Lord have mercy.

People Christ have mercy.

Intercessor To the God vast enough to know all sorrow, but tender enough to know every tear, we pray for the needs of the world, especially for those living in nations besieged by violence, and for those who are hungry today. *(Silent pause.)* Lord have mercy.

People Christ have mercy.

Intercessor To the God who is able to heal all wounds, we pray for the needs of our community, remembering especially: **Elia, Eulogio, Emily, Harry, Monica, Amy, Alan, William, Betty, Angel, Dakota, Dina, Anthony, Rebecca, Beth, Seamus, Thomassina, Gregory, Julie, Denise, Jason, the Juline Family, Laurie, Peggy, Joanna, Mark, Margie, Bonnie, Keith, Connie, and Jack.** *(Long pause for further names.)* Lord have mercy.

People Christ have mercy.

Intercessor To the God of the living and of the dead, we pray for Mary and the disciples, for all the saints who have gone before us, and especially for the recently departed. *(Long pause for names.)* Lord have mercy.

People Christ have mercy.

Celebrant Merciful God, whose son Jesus Christ sacrificed himself on our behalf willingly and with great love, fill us with that same love, that it may unknot our hearts and ease our souls, and that we might share this love with all your creatures; all this we pray in the name of Jesus, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Peace, Announcements, & Offertory

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you. *(Please share the peace by greeting your siblings in Christ.)*

Pre-Offertory Hymn # 147

Now Let Us All With One Accord

Hymnal 1982

Offertory Sentence

Through Christ let us continually offer to God the sacrifice of praise, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his Name. But do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

-Hebrews 13:15-16

Collecting an offering is a way for us to remember that all we have is a gift from God, and that we are to be responsible stewards of the gifts entrusted to us. Guests are welcome to support our work of worship, ministry, and preservation - but should feel no obligation to give. Electronic giving is possible using the QR code found on the back of the bulletin.

After the collection, the offering is brought forward as we stand to sing the following song of thanksgiving.

Hymn (#380, vs 3)

The Doxology

Hymnal 1982

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow: praise him, all
 crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host:
 praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

Thomas Ken, 1674
 GENEVAN 134 (OLD HUNDREDDTH) L.M.
 Louis Bourgeois, 1551

The Holy Communion – Book of Common Prayer, Prayer A

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth. You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Hymn (#S129)

The Sanctus

Hymnal 1982

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
 might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Celebrant Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and maker of all. Jesus stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

—On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

—After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Celebrant Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

Celebrant We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever.

All *(In a LOUD voice!)* **AMEN!**

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All	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, For ever and ever. Amen.
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The Fraction and Invitation

Celebrant Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
All Have mercy upon us.

Celebrant Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
All Have mercy upon us.

Celebrant Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
All Grant us peace.

Celebrant This is the table not of the church but of our Lord Jesus. It is made ready for those who love him and those who want to love him more. So come, you who have much faith and you who have little, you who have been here often and you who have not been here long, you who have tried to follow and you who have failed. Come, because it is Jesus who invites you. It is his will that those who want him should meet him here.

Instrumental Hymn # 603

When Christ Was Lifted

Hymnal 1982

All those interested in receiving communion should make their way forward to the rail, while the elements are prepared for distribution to the congregation. Directions for receiving are printed on the next page.

Episcopal theology recognizes baptism as the formal entry into the Christian community, and baptism is normally a prerequisite to receiving communion. However, we also recognize that God meets us wherever we are on our journey of faith. Moreover, Jesus regularly welcomed and ate with people from outside of his normal community.

Therefore, all are welcome at this table - including children!

Kneel or stand at the rail, as you are comfortable. Gluten free wafers and grape juice are available – just hold up one finger to receive either of these alternative elements. The priest will distribute wafers, which you receive in your outstretched hands. If you wish to receive the cup, you may drink or dip your wafer; it is also okay to receive the wafer only – we believe that Jesus is fully present in each of the elements of communion.

If you prefer not to receive, you are still warmly invited to come forward and cross your arms to receive a blessing.

The Post-Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

All Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Solemn Prayer over the People

Celebrant Grant, Almighty God, that your people may recognize their weakness and put their whole trust in your strength, so that they may rejoice for ever in the protection of your loving providence; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn # 143

The Glory of These Forty Days

Hymnal 1982

Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

***All are invited to listen to the postlude,
and then to join us for a time of fellowship in Riverside Hall.***

Gloria Dei Clergy and Staff

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Gloria Dei Vestry

Gabrielle Barbour, Ann Brilliant, Angel Guido, Re Henning, Carol Jenkins (Rector's Warden), Christine Pickup, Candace Roberts (Accounting Warden), Cathy Ufheil (Secretary), Jeanette Woehr

Online Giving Available

It is possible to give to Gloria Dei on our website,
www.old-swedes.org/give, or using the QR code:

