



## St. Mary's Lutheran Church ~ Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Sunday, March 1, 2026 ~ 9:00am  
**THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT**



*Please respect the beauty of reverence and quiet reflection as we prepare for worship.  
Turn off phones or silence them.*

*Also know that St. Mary's Lutheran Church celebrates Holy Communion for ALL! This is Christ's table and His invitation. You do not need to be a Lutheran, or a member of our church to participate. Also, if you wish to come up for only a blessing, please tell us when you approach, and we will bless you! If you are unable to come up for communion, tell the usher that you would like to receive communion at your seat, and someone will bring it to you.*

### PRELUDE

*Jubilate! Handbells*

*"Lenten Reflection" BY DAN R. EDWARDS*

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please stand in body or spirit.*

**GATHERING SONG**                    *Hymn #442 "All Who Believe and Are Baptized"*

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who forgives all our sin,  
whose mercy endures forever.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt  
and blots out all offenses.

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For failing to recognize your coming reign,

and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition,

and for disdainning the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For disregarding voices from the margin,

and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world:

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent,

and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life:

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound.

Through faith, the free gift of God,

you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead  
dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts,

and gives you life and peace. **Amen**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY** (see yellow insert)

PLEASE BE SEATED

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

*Jubilate! Handbells*

*“God So Loved the World” BY JOHN STAINER, ARR. BY ARNOLD B. SHERMAN*

**WORD** (see yellow insert)

**FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a**

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 121** (read responsively)

**SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

Please stand in body or spirit.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

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.

**GOSPEL: John 3:1-17**

The holy gospel according to John the 3rd chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

The gospel of our Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

PLEASE BE SEATED

**SERMON**

Please stand in body or spirit.

**HYMN OF THE DAY** *Hymn #323 “God Loved the World”*

**APOSTLES’ CREED**

*With the whole church, let us confess our faith using the words of the 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**

Receive our prayer, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

**Amen.**

**PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

PLEASE BE SEATED

**MEAL**

**MUSICAL OFFERING**

*Adult Choir*

*“God So Loved the World” BY JOHN STAINER*

Please stand in body or spirit

**OFFERING** *Hymn #696 “Jesus Calls Us; o’er the Tumult”, vs. 1, 5*

**OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray. O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus’ name.

**Amen.**

**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.**

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

**SANCTUS (HOLY, HOLY, HOLY)**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are 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 in the high - est.

**THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

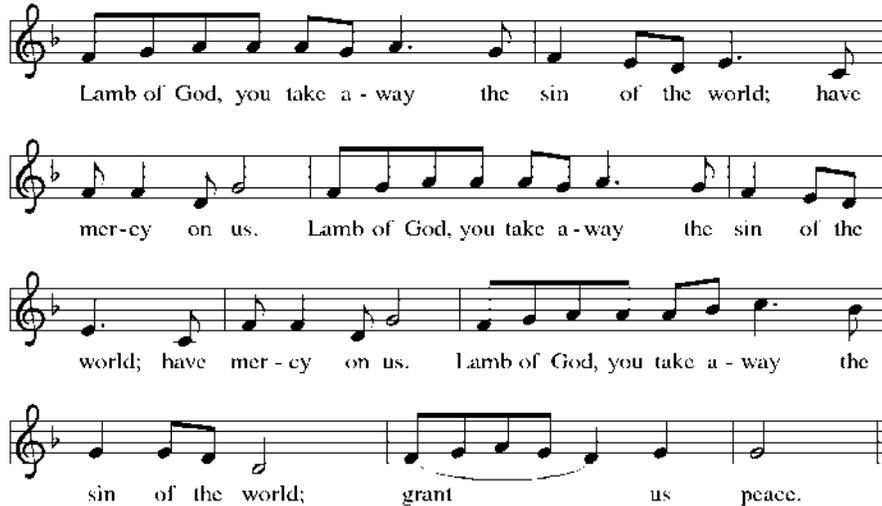
## LORD'S PRAYER

*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 to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy.



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.

## DISTRIBUTION MUSIC #666 "What Wondrous Love Is This"

### POST COMMUNION BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

**Amen.**

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

### BLESSING

God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation, ✠ bless you now and always.

**Amen.**

### SENDING SONG Hymn #661 "I Love to Tell the Story"

### DISMISSAL

**We are God's people. Followers of Jesus Christ.**

**Gifted by the Spirit. Go Pray. Go Love. Go Serve. Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE

#### Thank you for Serving!

**A/V Sound Tech:** Art Kotenko

**Sacristy Help:** Pat Gallo, Di Michalski

#### Saturday:

**Presiding Pastor:** Rev. Becca Laabs

**Assisting Minister:** Pat Gallo

**Musician:** Willy Mueller

**Reader:** Lana Woller

**Kids Connection:** Joan Oehlberg

#### Sunday:

**Pastor:** The Rev. Dr. Jordan Miller-

Stubbendick

**Assisting Minister/Reader:** Di Michalski

**Adult Choir:** Dr. Richard Sjoerdsma, Director

**Communion Assistants:** Sharon Corso,

Patti Mason, Andy Schroeder

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