



2nd Sunday in Lent
Sunday March 1st, 2026
Redemption Lutheran Church
8001 Bustleton Ave.
Philadelphia PA 19152
www.redemptionphiladelphia.org

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

(The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God)

The assembly stands.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

C: Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P: For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:
Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P: For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:
Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P: For failing to recognize your coming reign,
and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P: For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition,
and for disdain the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P: For disregarding voices from the margin,
and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world:
Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P: For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent,
and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life:
Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P: 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.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN – *Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross - ELW 335*

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of
the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: 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

P: Let us pray.

P: O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world through 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.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

(God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.)

FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a

A: A reading from Genesis

¹ The LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. ² I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

^{4a} So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: 121

The Psalm is read responsively.

¹ I lift up my eyes | to the hills;

from where is my | help to come?

² **My help comes | from the LORD,
the maker of heav- | en and earth.**

³ The LORD will not let your | foot be moved
nor will the one who watches over you | fall asleep.

⁴ **Behold, the keep- | er of Israel
will neither slum- | ber nor sleep; R**

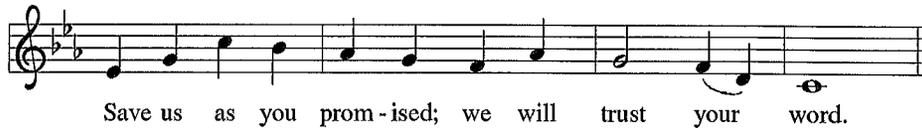
⁵ the LORD watches | over you;
the LORD is your shade at | your right hand;

⁶ **the sun will not strike | you by day,
nor the | moon by night.**

⁷ The LORD will preserve you | from all evil
and will | keep your life.

⁸ **The LORD will watch over your going out and your | coming in,
from this time forth for- | evermore. R**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*



GOSPEL: John 3: 1-17

P: The Holy Gospel according to John

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ² He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person.” ³ Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” ⁴ Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” ⁵ Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶ What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ ⁸ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” ⁹ Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” ¹⁰ Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

¹¹ “Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹² If I have told you about

earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴ And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶ “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷ “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Rev. Kari Hart

The assembly remains seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY – *God Loved the World* - ELW 323

The assembly stands.

CREED

C: 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

Each prayer ends with the words, “Hear us, O God” and the congregation responds, “Your mercy is great”.

PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you", or similar words.

MEAL

(God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.)

The Assembly Stands

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray.

P: 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.

C: Amen.

DIALOGUE

The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

The presiding minister continues:

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est." The score ends with a double bar line.

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

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, you have brought us this far along the way. In times of bitterness you did not abandon us, but guided us into the path of love and light. In every age you sent prophets to make known your loving will for all humanity. The cry of the poor has become your own cry; our hunger and thirst for justice is your own desire. In the fullness of time, you sent your chosen servant to preach good news to the afflicted, to break bread with the outcast and despised, and to ransom those in bondage to prejudice and sin.

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

P: Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection, we await the day when Jesus shall return to free all the earth from the bonds of slavery and death. Come, Lord Jesus! And let the church say, Amen.

C: Amen.

P: Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate, to fill the hearts of all who share this bread and cup with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all the world. Come, Spirit of freedom! And let the church say, Amen.

C: Amen.

P: Join our prayers and praise with your prophets and martyrs of every age, that, rejoicing in the hope of the resurrection, we might live in the freedom and hope of your Son. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

C: 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

P: Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy.

The assembly may be seated. The bread is broken for communion.

COMMUNION

You may come to the rail to receive communion. The bread is gluten free, and you may dip it in the wine or grape juice. If you can't come to the rail communion will be brought to you.

LAMB OF GOD



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.

The assembly stands.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Let us pray.

P: 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.

SENDING

(God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.)

BLESSING

P: Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity:
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.

C: Amen

SENDING HYMN – *Blessed Assurance* – *ELW 638*

DISMISSAL

P: Go in Peace. Believe the good news.

C: Thanks be to God.

Worship Permissions

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Our Prayer List

Our Community: Bob Conn, Mabel Turner, Ethel Metz, Doris LaMar.

Our Friends: Terry Gara, Lea and Paul Ressler, Melissa Kuchler, Linda Moore, Robert Donnelly and Family, Patricia Weiser, Kathy Schultz, Shannon Puitro, Josh, Sue & Dave Goldstein, Jack Horvath, Joe Wolf, Mason Family, Nina Liptak, Barbara Laudenbacker, Mark Strenger, Freddie Schrat, Karen Giampietro, Dave Speece.

Announcements

During this time of pastoral transition, we want to share our financial status with the congregation by reporting the amount budgeted for monthly offering income, versus actual monthly offering income. Budgeted monthly offering income for February was \$5,800, and we received \$6,657.

Feast of Justice Collection – Personal Care items are needed. Full-sized bottles of shampoo, conditioner and body wash. Soap, toothpaste, deodorant and especially feminine products would be greatly appreciated. You can place the items in the box in the Narthex.

School Supplies Collection – We are collecting colored pencils, tissues, markers, scotch tape and Clorox wipes for Julie's class at Community Academy of Philadelphia Charter School. You can place the items in the basket in the Sanctuary.

Sunday, March 1st – Rescheduled Bingo Fundraiser in the Fellowship Hall at 2:00 p.m. \$25 per person at the door. Invite your family and friends!

The theme of this year's NE/NW Philly Conference Midweek Lent Supper and Worship is Forgiveness. Supper at 6:00p.m., Worship at 7:00p.m. on the following Wednesdays:

March 4 - St. John, 3101 Tyson Ave.

March 11 - St. Paul, 5918 N. 5th St.

March 18 - St. David, 9169 Academy Rd.

March 25 - Redemption, 8001 Bustleton Ave.

Pastor Ron Wesemann will lead worship for Redemption on March 25.

Please see the sign-up sheet for soup, salad, bread and dessert contributions in the back of the Sanctuary.

In conjunction with the Midweek Lent Supper and Worship, St. John will present a Book Study on Forgiving. You will read the Book of Forgiving by Desmond and Mpho Tutu. Monday's at 7:00p.m., starting February 23. In person or on-line. Instructions are:

Meet.google.com/yvo-bysa-pgu

#515-890-5268 PIN: 952 621 452#

Sunday, March 8th – Rescheduled Congregational & Transition Meeting. We will approve the second half of our fiscal year 2025/2026 Budget (January - June 2026). The Transition Team will hold an information meeting. Pizza will be provided.

Sunday, March 22nd – Rescheduled MLK Day service project after worship. We will prepare snack bags for the non-profit “Caring for Friends”. Our goal is 40 bags.

Save the Date

Sunday, April 19th – Join our inaugural Book Club Meeting at 12:00p.m. We will discuss “The Book Club of Troublesome Women” by Marie Bostwick. Light Refreshments. Invite family and friends.

Saturday, September 26th – The Faithful Travelers will take their 2nd Bus Trip to the Sight & Sound Theatre in Lancaster, PA. We will see the 11:00a.m. performance of Joshua and have a family – style luncheon at the Plain and Fancy Restaurant. The cost is \$250 for adults and \$190 for children (under 12). Sign up will begin in April. A \$125 deposit will be due on May 1st. Pastor Ron Wesemann will present a Bible Study on the book of Joshua before the trip.