



Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Church

www.old-swedes.org

215-389-1513

March 1, 2026
Second Sunday in Lent

Ministry Assistants Today

Lector: *Megan Bartlett*

Intercessor: *Jill Duink*

Usher: *Mark Roberts*

Altar Guild: *Rachel Armstrong*

Celebrant: *Rev. Chris Micklewright*

Organist: *Adam Haines*

Ministry Assistants March 8

Lector: *Candace Roberts*

Intercessor: *Corin Micklewright*

Usher: *Mark Roberts*

Altar Guild: *Jeanette Woehr*

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 O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

First Reading**Genesis 12:1-4a****Megan Bartlett**

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. 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. 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."

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

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

All Thanks be to God.

Psalm 121

I lift up my eyes to the hills; *
 from where is my help to come?
 My help comes from the LORD, *
 the maker of heaven and earth.
 He will not let your foot be moved *
 and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.
 Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel *
 shall neither slumber nor sleep;
 The LORD himself watches over you; *
 the LORD is your shade at your right hand,
 So that the sun shall not strike you by day, *
 nor the moon by night.
 The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; *
 it is he who shall keep you safe.
 The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, *
 from this time forth for evermore.

Second Reading**Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations") —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

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

All Thanks be to God.

Hymn # 142*Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days*

Hymnal 1982

Gospel Reading

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **John (3:1-21)**

All Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. 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." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above."

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?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' 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." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?"

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

"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. Those who believe in him are not condemned, but those who do not believe are condemned already because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

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 stands to reaffirm our faith using the Nicene Creed. Some elements may be strange or confusing – and you are always invited to engage in further conversation and reflection around the Creed, the sermon, or any part of the liturgy.

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)* **Jill Duink**

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 for our divided nation, and for the needs of the most vulnerable among us. Today we particularly remember our trans 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: **Rev. John, Erica, Elia, Eulogio, Sheila, Emily, Harry, Monica, Amy, William, Betty, Dina, Gia, Beth, Seamus, Thomassina, 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 for the recently departed, especially **Robert Norsworthy.**
(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 # 518

Christ is Made the Sure Foundation

Hymnal 1982

Offertory Sentence

I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come? My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth. *-Psalm 121:1-2*

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.

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 HUNDREDTH) L.M.

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 # 448

O Love, How Deep

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 Keep this your family, Lord, with your never-failing mercy, that relying solely on the help of your heavenly grace, they may be upheld by your divine protection; through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Closing Hymn # 559

Lead Us, Heavenly Father

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:

