

**IMAGES OF GOD:
A Lenten Journey
Through Sacred Objects**



POTTER'S CLAY
God who shapes and reforms

St. Paul Lutheran Church
March 4, 2026

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Creator God, You are the potter; we are the clay. You shape us with patience and mercy. Gather us now, that we may be formed again by Your faithful hands.

PRELUDE *“Change My Heart, Oh Lord”* Eddie Espinosa

OPENING HYMN: *“Abba, Father” (from Via de Cristo)*

Abba, Abba, Father, You are the potter
We are the clay, the work of your hands.

Mold us, mold us and fashion us
Into the image of Jesus Your Son,
Of Jesus Your Son.

Abba, Abba, Father, You are the potter
We are the clay, the work of your hands.

Father, May we be one in You,
May we be one in You
As He is in You and You are in Him.

Abba, Abba, Father, You are the potter
We are the clay, the work of your hands.

Glory, Glory and praise to You,
Glory and praise to You,
Forever Amen, Forever Amen.

Abba, Abba, Father, You are the potter
We are the clay, the work of your hands.

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit
Amen

OPENING DIALOG

L: Creator God, You are the potter.

C: We are the clay in Your hands.

L: You shape us with patience and mercy.

C: Mold us according to Your will.

L: When we are cracked or misshapen, You do not discard us.

C: Remake us through Your grace.

L: Form us into vessels of Your love.

C: We trust ourselves to Your care. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray,

Shaping God, You do not discard what is flawed but patiently remake what You love. Mold us in this Lenten season, soften what has grown rigid, and reshape our lives according to Your grace; through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.

“Thy Word” (sing twice)

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 64:1-12

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence—as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down; the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name or attempts to take hold of you, for you have hidden your face from us and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people. Your holy cities have become a wilderness; Zion has become a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation. Our holy and beautiful house, where our ancestors praised you, has been burned by fire, and all our pleasant places have become ruins. After all this, will you restrain yourself, O LORD? Will you keep silent and punish us so severely?

L: For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, Have mercy.

L: For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits and the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For the faithful who have gone before us and are at rest, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

OFFERING: *“The Potter’s Hand” Darlene Zschech*

OFFERTORY: LBW #406 *“Take My Life, that I May Be”*
(verses 1& 3)

1 Take my life, that I may be
consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

3 Take my voice and let me sing
always, only, for my King;
take my lips and let them be
filled with messages from thee.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Great and merciful God, Source and Ground of all goodness and life, give to your people the peace that passes all understanding, and the will be live your Gospel of mercy and justice, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

L: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray::

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.

BENEDICTION

May the hands of the potter hold you gently and firmly, reshaping your life in mercy and love. **Amen.**

DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, formed by God's grace.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE “*Andantino*” *W. A. Mozart*