

**MAN SHALL NOT
LIVE BY BREAD
ALONE, BUT BY
EVERY WORD THAT
PROCEEDETH OUT
OF THE MOUTH OF
GOD.**

Matthew 4:4



FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

FEBRUARY 22, 2026

GATHERING

PRAYER FOR MEDITATION: *Eternal God, as we are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ, so give us the grace of repentance that we may pass through the grave with him and be born again to eternal life. For he is the One who was crucified, dead, and buried, and rose again for us, Jesus our Savior. Amen.*

RINGING OF THE CHIMES

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 103:1 and Psalm 118:24*

Rev. Courtney Bowen

One: Bless the Lord, O my soul,

ALL: *and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.*

One: This is the day that the Lord has made.

ALL: *Let us rejoice and be glad in it.*

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Courtney Bowen

PRELUDE

Wondrous Love
Stan Brunner

Dale Wood

***LITANY FOR LENT**

Rev. Courtney Bowen

One: For forty days and nights the rain fell, and the waters covered the face of the earth.

ALL: *Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.*

One: For forty years the people wandered, seeking the land of God's promise.

ALL: *Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.*

One: Moses spent forty days on the mountain, learning the commandments of God.

ALL: *Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.*

One: Elijah traveled forty days in the wilderness to hear the voice of God in the silence.

ALL: *Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.*

One: Jonah cried out to the people of Nineveh: Repent, or in forty days you will perish.

ALL: *Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.*

One: Jesus fasted and prayed for forty days and was tested by the devil.

ALL: *Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.*

One: Let us pray. Wild God of wilderness, as we devote these forty days to you, shape us by your Holy Spirit into the image of Christ our Lord.

ALL: *May we be ready, by your grace, to confront the power of death with the promise of eternal life. Amen.*

***HYMN: 166** *Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days*

ST. FLAVIAN

TO PRAISE GOD AND CONFESS OUR SINS

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. John White

In a time of testing, let us pause to examine our own hearts, looking for how we have failed to live up to that which God has commanded.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. John White

Merciful God, you know all about our troubles. Your Son was tested in the wilderness, tempted by the powers and principalities of the age. We confess how easily and often we give in to them. Yet, you continue to forgive us, reminding us there is nothing we can do to lose your love. Holy God, turn us from the evil powers in high places, that we may return to you and the path to which you have called us. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION AND REPENTANCE

Rev. John White

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS *Psalm 32:1, 11*

Rev. John White

One: Happy are those whose sin is forgiven! Be glad in the Lord and shout for joy:
in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

ALL: Thanks be to God. Amen.

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *Great is Thy Faithfulness, GtG #39*

BUNESSAN

Great is thy faithfulness!

Great is thy faithfulness!

Morning by morning, new mercies I see.

All I have needed thy hand hath provided.

Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. John White

One: The peace of Jesus Christ be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

THE WORD

ANTHEM

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross
Chancel Choir | Director, Helen Redding

arr. Chilcott

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Anna Poole

MINUTE FOR MISSION: GUATEMALA MISSION TRIP

Chris Anderson

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. John White

*HYMN: 415 *Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy*

RESTORATION

**Congregation standing, if able*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Courtney Bowen

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 4:1-11 (pg. 3)

Rev. Courtney Bowen

One: This is the word of God for the people of God. The grass withers and the flower fades, but the word of the Lord endures forever. ***ALL: Thanks be to God.***

SERMON

Our Daily Bread

Rev. Courtney Bowen

RESPONSE

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *from A Brief Statement of Faith*

Rev. John White

In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!" With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

OFFERING

Rev. John White

OFFERTORY

O Lamm Gottes, Unschuldig

J. S. Bach

Stan Brunner

*Doxology (Tune: 607)

OLD HUNDREDTH

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

*Dedicatory Prayer

Rev. John White

***HYMN OF DEDICATION: 209** *My Song is Love Unknown*

LOVE UNKNOWN

SENDING

***CHARGE and BENEDICTION**

Rev. Courtney Bowen

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Jesus, Keep Me Near

Purchase

Chancel Choir

POSTLUDE

Lead Me to Calvary

arr. Eleanor Whitsett

Stan Brunner