



# First Sunday of LENT



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## 11:11 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service February 22

*As followers of Jesus, we rejoice in God's plan for a just, loving and peaceful world. We commit ourselves to making it a reality for all people everywhere. Just as all are welcome at the Lord's table during holy communion, all are welcome to this family of faith. People of all races, ages, social status, sexual orientations and gender identities are united here in our mission to love God, Love Others, Serve.*

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***If you are new,** please sign a worship card and place it in the offering plate.*

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*Adult Bible Class: In the classroom side of the Cup*

*Teen Sunday School (6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade): In the Youth Room*

*Confirmation Class (8<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> grade): In the Library*

*Children's Sunday School for 5<sup>th</sup> grade and younger:*

- *Ye Littles of Faith for Kindergarten and younger in East hallway classroom next to Nursery*
- *The Mighty Kids Kingdom for 1<sup>st</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> grades in West hallway classroom, 2 doors past youth room*

*Tuesday Bible Study (Open to All): The Harmony of the Gospels - In the classroom side of the Cup*

*Sunday School Classes are regularly held at 10:15 a.m.*

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Faith Guest wi-fi password: **beblessed**

***Staying connected** through at least one of these ways allows you to know what's happening in between Sundays so you can plan ahead and be involved. If you follow us on social media, please be **sure to share our posts!***

- CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP SERVICE -  
February 22, 2026 • 11:11am  
1st Sunday in Lent

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**GATHERING SONG**

*Less Like Me  
Lord I Need You*

**CALL TO WORSHIP FOR LENT**

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

**Congregation: Amen.**

P: Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Compassionate One,

**C: you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world. We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us. We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people. We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again. We squander the abundant gifts of the earth. Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross. Amen.**

P: Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home.

In † Christ your sins are forgiven. You have a place in God's house forever.

**C: Amen.**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**PARISH NEWS**

**THRIVENT PRESENTATION**

Alli von Roekel

**CELEBRATE GENEROSITY TEMPLE TALK** *Why I Serve*

Dawn Ellis

**FIRST READING: Genesis 3:1-7** *pew Bible page 2*

*It is evil that opens the innocent eyes of Adam and Eve in this account of The Fall*

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.' But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die, for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was a delight to the eyes and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked, and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

**GOSPEL READING: Matthew 4:1.11** *pew Bible page 881*

*Jesus experiences anew the temptations that Israel faced in the wilderness. As the Son of God, he endures the testing of the evil one.*

Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory, and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"

Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

**Congregation: Praise to you, O Christ!**

**SERMON** *Lent Sermon Series on Evil*  
Today: "The Origin of Evil"

Pastor Bob Stelter

**SERMON SONG** *Come Alive (Dry Bones)*

**BLESSINGS** *Affirmation of Carrie Parrott as Southeastern Synod Director of Youth Ministry*

**SHARING OF GOD'S PEACE**

**OFFERINGS FOR MISSION & MINISTRY**

**OFFERING PRAYER**

Pastor: Merciful God,

**Congregation:** we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**OFFERING SONG** *Love Medley* arr. Marilyn Ham

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION / LORD'S PRAYER / HOLY COMMUNION**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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.

**COMMUNION SONG** *Give Me Jesus* arr. Anna Laura Page

**COMMUNION BLESSING**

Pastor: May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

**Congregation:** Amen.

**BENEDICTION FOR LENT**

Pastor: As this new week begins, we pause to breathe, to listen and to remember that love is practiced one day at a time. A blessing for you: May the God of mercy and courage steady you when the road feels uncertain; open your eyes to the needs around you; open your hands to serve with care; and open your hearts to remain soft in a hard and weary world. †

**Congregation:** Amen.

**SENDING SONG** *Greatness of Our God*

**SENDING**

Praise Band Leader: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

**Congregation:** Love God, love others, serve.

### **WORSHIP ASSISTANTS TODAY**

**ALTAR GUILD** Debbie Pinchok

**GREETER** Deanne Benorden

**USHERS** Brad Berry, Christian Berry

**COMMUNION MINISTERS** Deb Miller, Ethan Gray, Carrie Parrott,  
Scarlett Parrott, Jack Parrott

**PROJECTION & LIGHTS** Lisa Stelter

## PRAYERS

*(Prayers are refreshed at the beginning of each month)*

**Members:** Terry Biesboer, Gene Bird, Dave Birkholz, Jan Bishop, Mary Blackburn, Nathan Blackburn, Rob Blackburn, Roger Brown, Jaigne Christman, Nancy & Leon Cole, Katie Condon, Michael Condon, Myles Cooper, Debbie Courtney, Nancy Dean, Nancy Dickinson, Irene Dorfinger, Patsy Elmore, John Elmore, Karoline Frasch, Pat Gary, Doug Goins, Mary Beth & Alex Green, Jonas Greenman, Chip Hester, Deb & Doug Houck, Tom Jayne, Paul Jurkoic, Lin & Mike McKinley, Diane Lee, Debbie Palatinus, Scarlett Parrott, Harold Peters, Joe Poole, Dr. Ted Primka, Sandra Prior, the Saylor families, Linda Shoemaker, Pamela Spaar, Bill Steele, Rich Wellner, Jean Witte, John Woods, Matt Wright.

**Friends:** App family, Leif Backer, Ron Bailey, Dave Berry, Bill Birkholz, Jim Birkholz, Sheila Birkholz, Frederick Bromwell, Michael Carfi, Steve Case, Celm family, Meg Corrigan, Nancy Crain, Michael Damico, Irma DeBord, Shayna DeBord, Brandy & Brian Duke, Dan Edmunds, Favre family, Alanna & Arnie Fenske, Kathi Fenske-Hong, Allyson Galloway Kraft, Phylis Garrison, Cindy Gioe, Wil Glafenheim & family, Angél Gobel, Gary Gouzy, Matt Green, Gutelius family, Hall family, Charlie Hewston, Joy Hymer, Britta Jennewein, Christine Johanssen, Ashley Jones, Barb Korsmo, Loyacano family, Matisko family, Jeff McCown, Roger McCown, Scott Nelson, Josh Nichols, Chris Patrick, Rose & Steve Penney, Alyssa Powers Rivers, Ashley Rauch, Shannon Remington, Jim Russell, Salles families, Laney Savilsky, Marilyn Savilsky, Scaglione family, Richard Sena, Jim Shea, Debbie Shinholt, Lynn Siegfried & family, baby Ruth Sommerfeld and family, Leora Stewart, Audra Tyler Moore, Frank Tyler, Janet Wengert, Bill Whalen, Mya, Ro & Haven Wolfe, Zehner family, Angel & Ben, Carolyn, Cheri & George, Darcy, Denis, Micki, Shalyar & Tanya, Shannington, Duskin, Jim, Jodi, Judy, Kim, Laura, Max, Nadine, Touranne *and those we name to You.*

**Gratitude:** New altar, credence table and pulpit in memory of Ron Fife.

**Joyful Welcome New Members:** Evan and James Griswold.

**Joyful Blessings** for Carrie Parrott as she begins her role as Director of Youth Ministry for our Southeastern Synod.

**Comfort in the midst of death for the family and friends of:** Jesse Jackson, John Hitchcock, Nick Gary, Richard Korsmo, Judy Scaglione, Jim Hart, Bill Whalen, Charles Francis, Rose Coddair, Tom Matisko.

**Shepherd of Hope Pantry Friends:** Amanda & her children, Sasha & daughter, Savannah & Devon, Max, Patti Morgan & family, Charlie & Weston, Chris, Josefina, Long Ho, Betty, Tiffany, Nita & family, Amanda & me, Ted & Sandra, Charline, Tommy, Kristi & Trent, Tom, Paul, Robby, Retha, Mary, Sally, Pryors, Mytohia & family, Christine & family, Happy, Patricia & children, Sherry & Mike, Taissi, Denis, Daniela, Mark *and those known to God.*

**Salvation Army Friends:** Tara, Wendy, Al, Julie, Daphne, Elizabeth, Cheryl, Stephanie, Lacy, Paula, Lisa, Brandon, Robert, Eli, Danny, Gibby, James, Jason, Gary, Kenny, Adam, Christopher, Mark *and those known to God.*

**Concern & Assistance:** Those dealing with addiction while incarcerated. Mentally & physically challenged. Veterans. First Responders. Refugees and those living in fear of deportation. Persecuted Christians. The people of Nigeria, Iran, Israel, Syria, Palestine, Ukraine, Russia.

**Partnerships:** Bishop Yehiel Curry & the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; Bishop Kevin Strickland & the Southeastern Synod; Alicia & David Brondos, Missionaries in Mexico; Seminarian Sam Sosebee; Shepherd of Hope Food Pantry; English Language Learning Classes, Quiet Music Ministry; Tyson House; Deacon Ministry; Knox Area Rescue Ministry; Via de Cristo Ministry; Salvation Army Homeless Shelters; Street Hope; Alzheimer's Support Group; Cole Center Caregivers and Parkinson Band; Mercy Ships; Lutheran Church & School in Guatemala; AL-ANON; Narcotics Anonymous.

**Peace & Protection for all armed forces, especially:** Jacob Cole, Anthony Hu, HM, Andrew McDonald, Alex Primka, Christine Russ, Sam Thompson, Chris Yonke, Mitchell Yount.

*The arrangements on the altar remind us of our penitential sacrifice  
and determination during the Lenten season.*

# EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22

- 9 a.m.** Traditional Worship Service
- 10:15 a.m.** Thrivent Power of Membership Workshop & Brunch
- 11:11 a.m.** Contemporary Worship Service
- 5 p.m.** Celtic Worship

## MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23

- 12 p.m.** Via de Cristo Reunion
- 6:15 p.m.** English Language Class

## TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

- 1:30 p.m.** Bible Study Class
- 5 p.m.** Salvation Army (Meet at the church)
- 6 p.m.** Evening Prayer
- 7:30 p.m.** Narcotics Anonymous

## WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25

- 4:15 p.m.** Staff Meeting
- 5 p.m.** First Communion Instruction
- 5:30 p.m.** Handbell Choir Rehearsal
- 6 p.m.** Lent Book Discussion and Soup Supper
- 6:30 p.m.** Chancel Choir Rehearsal

## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26

- 7:30 p.m.** Narcotics Anonymous

## FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27

- 9:30 a.m.** Cole Center Caregiver Community
- 7 p.m.** Narcotics Anonymous

## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28

- 11:30** Al-Anon

## SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 29

- 9 a.m.** Traditional Worship Service
- 10:15 a.m.** Sunday School, Coffee & Donuts, English Learning Class
- 11:11 a.m.** Contemporary Worship Service

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Salvation Army Visit**
  - Tuesday, February 24 at 5 p.m.
  - Meet at the church
- **First Communion Instruction**
  - Wednesday, February 25 at 5 p.m.
- **Lent Book Discussion and Soup Supper**
  - Wednesday, February 25 at 6 p.m.

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## DAILY LECTIONARY READINGS THIS WEEK

**Monday:** 1 Kings 19:1-8, Hebrews 2:10-18, Psalm 32

**Tuesday:** Genesis 4:1-16, Hebrews 4:14-5:10, Psalm 32

**Wednesday:** Exodus 34:1-9, 27-28, Matthew 18:10-14, Psalm 32

**Thursday:** Isaiah 51:1-3 2, Timothy 1:3-7, Psalm 121

**Friday:** Micah 7:18-20, Romans 3:21-31, Psalm 121

**Saturday:** Isaiah 51:4-8, Luke 7:1-10, Psalm 121

**Sunday:** Genesis 12:1-4, Psalm 121 (1, 2), Romans 4:1-5, 13-17, John 3:1-17

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## FAITHFUL RESPONSE

*Offerings last week:*     **\$ 35,226**

*Offerings year to date:* **\$ 121,803**

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on our secure webpage.*

