

LUTHERAN CHAPEL

1st Sunday
IN LENT



EXODUS 3:1-6, 13-15 and MATTHEW 4:1-11

"The Temptation of our Lord 2026"

**ANTE COMMUNION
1ST SUNDAY IN LENT
FEBRUARY 22, 2026**

**lutheranchapelchurch.org
(704) 864-6491**

**LUTHERAN CHAPEL
SERVICE OF ANTE COMMUNION**

*BOLD indicates congregational responses - * Indicates that all who are able should stand to honor God.*

GATHER

PRELUDE

"Air"

Henry Purcell

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DEDICATION OF NEW PARAMENTS FOR LENT

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 28:19b

C: Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

1 John 1:8-9

P: If we say 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.

P: Let us recite the gift of the Ten Commandments and the Great Commandment and use these teachings to examine our lives.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

Exodus 20:1-17

- 1. I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of slavery; you shall have no other gods.**
- 2. You shall not make wrongful use of the Name of the LORD your God.**
- 3. Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.**
- 4. Honor your father and mother.**
- 5. You shall not murder.**
- 6. You shall not commit adultery.**
- 7. You shall not steal.**
- 8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.**
- 9. You shall not covet your neighbor's house.**
- 10. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife or (husband).**

THE GREAT COMMANDMENT

Mark 12:28-31

You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength...you shall love your neighbor as yourself.

P: Let us kneel or sit for a time of silent confession and self-examination.

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by His authority. I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

***THE APOSTOLIC GREETING**

2 Corinthians 13:13

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.

***THE KYRIE**

Mark 10:47, ELW pg. 138

AM: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

AM: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

AM: 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.

C: Lord, have mercy.

AM: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

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

C: Amen.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

(In Unison)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

C: Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

MESSAGE FOR ALL OF GOD'S PEOPLE

All who want to come forward for the Message are welcome to do so.

STORY OF SALVATION LESSON

EXODUS 3:1-6, 13-15

¹ Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness and came to Mount Horeb, the mountain of God. ² There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. ³ Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight and see why the bush is not burned up." ⁴ When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." ⁵ Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." ⁶ He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

¹³ But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" ¹⁴ **God said to Moses, "I am who I am." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I**

am has sent me to you.’ ” ¹⁵ God also said to Moses, “Thus you shall say to the Israelites, ‘The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you’:

This is my name forever,
and this my title for all generations.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

STORY OF SALVATION TIMELINE

The timeline below offers an overview of the Story of Salvation lesson from Genesis to Revelation. The + marks where we are now. Memory verse is in bold.

*Creation : Fall : Promise : **+Exodus** : Conquest : Judges: Kings and Prophets : Exile :
Restoration : 2nd Temple : JESUS : Apostles : Last Day : New Creation*

PSALM 32

(Spoken)

¹ Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.

² **Happy are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.**

³ While I kept silent, my body wasted away
through my groaning all day long.

⁴ **For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;
my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. *Selah***

⁵ Then I acknowledged my sin to you,
and I did not hide my iniquity;

I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,”
and you forgave the guilt of my sin. *Selah*

⁶ **Therefore let all who are faithful
offer prayer to you;
at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters
shall not reach them.**

⁷ You are a hiding place for me;
you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with glad cries of deliverance. *Selah*

⁸ **I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go;
I will counsel you with my eye upon you.**

⁹ Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding,
whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle,
else it will not stay near you.

¹⁰ **Many are the torments of the wicked,
but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the LORD.**

¹¹ Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, O righteous,
and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will forever. Amen.**

SECOND LESSON

ROMANS 5:12-19

12 Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned 13 for sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. 14 Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who did not sin in the likeness of Adam, who is a pattern of the one who was to come.

15 But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. 16 And the gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the gift following many trespasses brings justification. 17 If, because of the one man's trespass, death reigned through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

18 Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. 19 For just as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so through the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 6:68

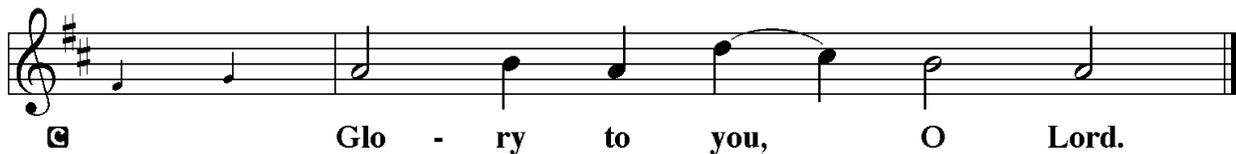
Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

*GOSPEL

MATTHEW 4:1-11

Those who are able may stand to honor Christ during the reading of the Gospel.

Response after the announcement:



¹ Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil. ² He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. ³ The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." ⁴ But he answered, "It is written,

'One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'

⁵ Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶ 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.'

⁷ Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

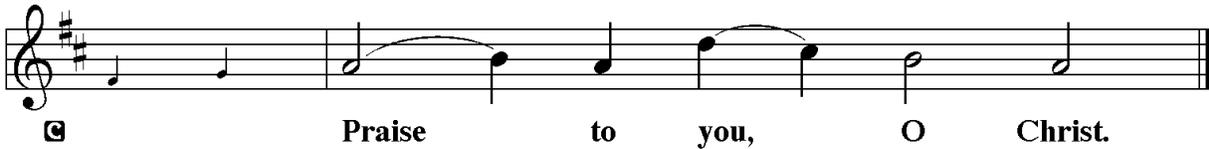
⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory, ⁹ and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

'Worship the Lord your God,

and serve only him.’ ”

¹¹ Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



MESSAGE

“Temptation of our Lord 2026”

Call of Moses

Call of Moses, Prophet and Lawgiver

The Law is an aspect in the Word that shows our brokenness, sin and need for Jesus’ saving power: Do I resist temptation? I see how Moses reacted when God asked him to do something he did not want to do, how do I react? Do I even recognize when and how I am being tempted?

The Gospel is an aspect in the Word that gives strength, wisdom and hope in Jesus’ ultimate saving power: Jesus is victorious as He undergoes temptation and His example, His Words, His Spirit can help us in our temptations.

So What?/Plain Sense: What are the temptations used by the enemy of our soul to attack me? Read Deuteronomy – especially the passages our Lord uses to rebuke the enemy. Identify who you would go to for help when you need help with spiritual warfare.

***HYMN OF THE DAY**

“I Want Jesus to Walk with Me”

ELW #325

***THE APOSTLES’ CREED**

All are invited to confess our faith in God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. If you have not received the gift of baptism or would like to affirm your faith in Jesus and join His mission here, please indicate on the attendance registry and talk to an usher or the pastor.

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven and

sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy Christian Church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

**the resurrection of the body
and the life + everlasting. Amen.**

***THE SHARING OF THE PEACE**

Philippians 4:7

P: The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Malachi 3:10, Matthew 23:23, 2 Corinthians 9:7-8

MUSICAL OFFERING

"Fanfare"

J. Lemmens

***OFFERTORY**

"Create in Me a Clean Heart"

Psalms 51:10-11

**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.**

***THE OFFERTORY PRAYER**

(In Unison)

C: Blessed are You, O God, maker of all things. Through Your goodness You have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered in feeding the world with Your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

1 Timothy 2:1-4

AM: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

A brief silence may be kept. Each prayer will conclude: Lord in Your mercy, and the congregation may respond **Hear our prayers.**

Prayers are commended in Jesus' Name.

AM: All these prayers and whatever else You see that we need we ask in the Name of Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Matthew 6:9-13

AM: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**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.**

SENDING

***BENEDICTION**

***RECESSIONAL HYMN** *"Bless Now, O God, the Journey"*

ELW #326

***DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Larghetto"

Charles Wesley



In Honor &
MEMORY 

OUR ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the Glory to God from Beth and Scott Swindler.

Serving the
CHURCH 

- Ministers.....People of Lutheran Chapel
- Pastor.....Michael Comer
- Administrative Assistant.....Susan Hibsich
- Director of Music Ministries.....Kathie Riebe
- Choir Accompanist.....Anna Gilreath
- Assistant Minister.....Chris Lowe
- Acolyte.....Elena Hoffman
- Lector.....Jason Sanders
- Crucifer.....Maddie Potter
- Head Ushers.....Steve Clark and Ervin Hoffman
- First Aid/AED/CPR.....Perry Linkous
- Council Members of the Month.....Pam Overcash & Mike Bell

Upcoming EVENTS

GENERAL INFORMATION: If your family is in need of a **nursery** attendant during the 10:00 service, please let our ushers know and they will contact one of our attendants. **Restrooms** are located on the bottom floor of the Sanctuary. Additional restrooms are located in the Educational Building and *do not require the use of stairs*. If needed, please see an usher for assistance in locating them.

TO GIVE TITHES AND OFFERINGS ONLINE: This QR code goes straight to the “Easy Tithe” page on the website that accepts tithes and offerings electronically.



CLOTHING CLOSET: The next clothing closet giveaway will take place on **Saturday, February 21** from 9 am-12 pm.

LENT VESPERS SERVICES: Services will be held on **Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 pm** in the Sanctuary. All are welcome!

TABLE TALK: Join us today after the service for Table Talk on the Lord’s Prayer. Service will be offered in the Fellowship Hall. All are invited for food and conversation on the gift of God’s Word.

2026 ALTAR FLOWER CALENDAR: If you’d like to sign up for a Sunday in 2026, please contact Susan Lewis at 704-914-8451 or email sudalewi@gmail.com. We still need flowers for October 4, November 8, and November 22.



LOVE OFFERING FOR FEBRUARY: The love offering for February will go to the Backpack Weekend Food Program. For the past 14 years, Lutheran Chapel Church has supported the BWFP by providing meals to needy students in Gaston County. Between 800 and 1,000 students in Gaston County Schools will go home this weekend to a household with very little food to eat or no food at all. The BWFP is dedicated to providing healthy, non-perishable meals to students to take home on the weekend during the school year so they can come to school the following week better nourished and ready to learn.

PARAMENT DEDICATION TODAY

Thanks be to God for the gift of new paraments for Lent, given in memory of Kay Lineberger. Kay faithfully served God at Lutheran Chapel on the Church Council, in the Choir and as a teacher of the Bible for many years.


Thank you!

Weekly **CALENDAR**



Sunday, February 22

- 8:30 am Fellowship with coffee
- 9:00 am Sunday School and Bible Study
- 10:00 am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 11:00 am Table Talk** (Fellowship Hall)
- 11:30 am Chancel Choir (Sanctuary)
- 4-6 pm Life In Christ (Fellowship Hall & Chapel)
- 8:00 pm Faith Group (Fellowship Hall)

Monday, February 23

- 8:30 am Preschool

Tuesday, February 24

- 8:30 am Preschool
- 10:00 am Clothing Closet Workday
- 6:00 pm Pickup basketball

Wednesday, February 25

- 8:30 am Preschool
- 7:00 pm Vespers Lent Service

Thursday, February 26

- 8:30 am Preschool

Friday, February 27

- Office Closed
- 9:00 am Men's Community Bible Study (Library)

Saturday, February 28

- 9:30 am Hungry Peeps in (Fellowship Hall)
- 9:00 - 12:00 pm Council Retreat (Family Life Center)**

Sunday, March 1

- 8:30 am Fellowship with coffee
- 9:00 am Sunday School and Bible Study
- 10:00 am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 11:30 am Chancel Choir (Sanctuary)
- 8:00 pm Faith Group (Fellowship Hall)

Let's **PRAY**

DAILY PRAYER - A HOME ALTAR ALTERS THE HOME!: Sunrise, noon, sunset and at meals are times for daily prayer (*Psalm 1, 55:17*). *May God bless you as you turn to Him day by day.*

THE BIBLE IN A YEAR - Week 9—February 22 to March 1, 2026

02/22 Morning Reading: Mark 3:20-35—Evening Reading: Numbers 3, 4
02/23 Morning Reading: Mark 4:1-20—Evening Reading: Numbers 5, 6
02/24 Morning Reading: Mark 4:21-41—Evening Reading: Numbers 7, 8
02/25 Morning Reading: Mark 5:1-20—Evening Reading: Numbers 9, 10, 11
02/26 Morning Reading: Mark 5:21-43—Evening Reading: Numbers 12, 13, 14
02/27 Morning Reading: Mark 6:1-29—Evening Reading: Numbers 15, 16
02/28 Morning Reading: Mark 6:30-56—Evening Reading: Numbers 17, 18, 19
02/29 Morning Reading: Mark 7:1-13—Evening Reading: Numbers 20, 21, 22
03/01 Morning Reading: Mark 7:14-37—Evening Reading: Numbers 23, 24 25

This QR code goes straight to the Daily prayers page on the website that lists the commemorations and Psalms appointments for the week.



PRAYER LIST FOR FELLOWSHIP: Shirley Bradley, Gail Brown, Miles Carpenter, Shirley Carpenter, George Cashion, Delana Clark, Baker Hampton, **Henry Hoffman**, Jason Lineberger, Janie Peak, Cathy Robinson, **Gene Weaver** and David Zibell.

FRIENDS OF THE FELLOWSHIP: Kyle Banes, Rick Belton, Kathy Bradley, Gage Brown, Deborah Carpenter, Zandra Chavis, Jeff Cobb, Doris Coggins, Hall Darden, Edith Dean, Genniser Devega, Tucker Doyne, Ralph Euchner, Kenny Falls, Jameson Franklin, **Carolyn Gantt**, Abi Gordon, Jan Green, Jerry Green, John, Kathy Jenkins, Debbie Kersprie, Don Kincaid, Sherry McCart, Betty Parlier, Rita Pasour, Jeff Smith, Christy Carpenter Smith, Charlene Sorenson, Judy Turner and Kennedy Williams.

To share concerns and updates for the prayer list you can contact the church office (704-864-6491) or call/text Pastor Comer (704-787-6439)

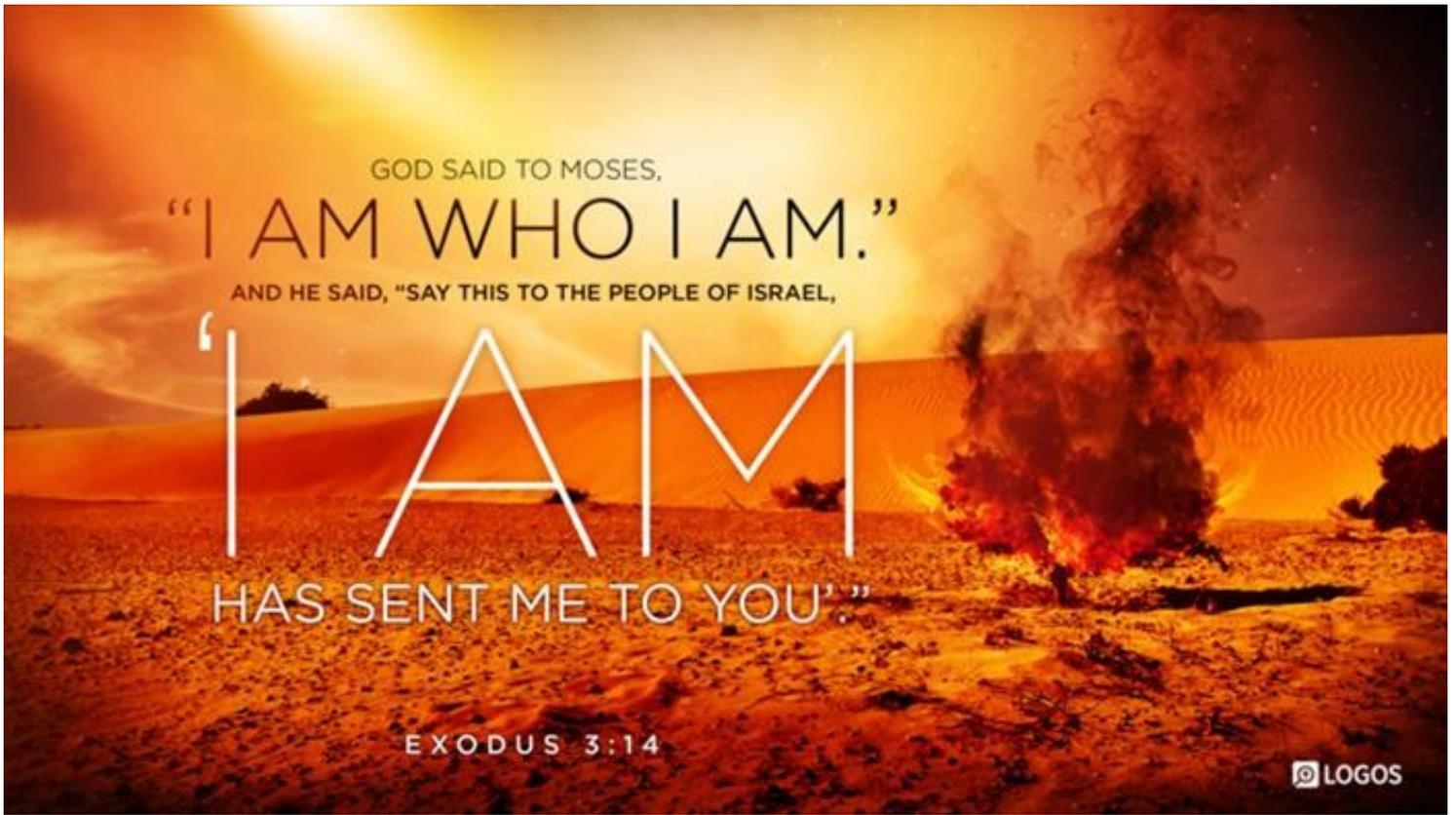
NEXT WEEK'S LESSONS

Wednesday, February 25 ~ Lent Vespers

Psalm 99 "*Saint and Sinner at the Same Time!?!*"

Sunday, March 1 ~ Holy Communion

Exodus 14:10-31, 15:20-21 and John 3:1-17 - "*The Gospel in One Verse*"



Easter Lily Order



If you wish to place a lily in the sanctuary for the Easter Sunday Service, please fill out the form below and return it along with your payment to the church office by **Sunday, March 15**. Make your check payable to Lutheran Chapel and write *Lily Order* on the memo line.

Be sure to pick up your flowers after the Easter Sunday Service.

Number ordering: _____ @ \$13.00 each = Total \$ _____

(Please print)

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

Placed by: _____

The Glory of These Forty Days

1 The glo - ry of these for - ty days we cel - e -
 2 A - lone and fast - ing Mo - ses saw the lov - ing
 3 So Dan - iel trained his mys - tic sight, de - liv - ered
 4 Then grant, O God, that we may, too, re - turn in

brate with songs of praise; for Christ, through whom all
 God who gave the law; and to E - li - jah,
 from the li - ons' might; and John, the Bride - groom's
 fast and prayer to you. Our spir - its strength - en

things were made, him - self has fast - ed and has prayed.
 fast - ing, came the steeds and char - i - ots of flame.
 friend, be - came the her - ald of Mes - si - ah's name.
 with your grace, and give us joy to see your face.

Text: Latin hymn, 11th cent.; tr. Maurice F. Bell, 1862–1947, alt.

Music: ERHALT UNS, HERR, J. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543

Outside USA: Text from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906. All rights reserved.

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I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;
 2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me; walk with
 3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

me; I want Je - sus to walk with me;
 in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me; walk with
 when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

me; all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,
 when my heart is al - most break - ing,
 when my head is bowed in sor - row,

Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me. walk with me.
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

Text: African American spiritual
 Music: SOJOURNER, African American spiritual; arr. hymnal version
 Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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Bless Now, O God, the Journey

1 Bless now, O God, the jour - ney that all your peo - ple make,
 2 Bless so - journ-ers and pil - grims who share this wind-ing way;
 3 Di - vine e - ter - nal lov - er, you meet us on the road.

the path through noise and si - lence, the way of give and take.
 your hope burns through the ter - rors, your love sus-tains the day.
 We wait for lands of prom - ise where milk and hon - ey flow,

The trail is found in des - ert and winds the moun-tain round,
 We yearn for ho - ly free - dom while of - ten we are bound;
 but wait-ing not for plac - es, you meet us all a - round.

then leads be - side still wa - ters, the road where faith is found.
 to - geth - er we are seek - ing the road where faith is found.
 Our cov - e - nant is writ - ten on roads, as faith is found.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993
 Music: LLANGLOFFAN, Welsh tune, 19th cent.
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