

Second Sunday in Lent  
February 25, 2024  
8:30 & 11am Worship



Central Lutheran Church  
1857 Potter Street  
Eugene, OR  
[www.welcometocentral.org](http://www.welcometocentral.org)

## CALL TO WORSHIP

The Carillon

**PRELUDE**     *Herzlich tut mich verlangen (O Sacred Head)*     Brahms

## WELCOME

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS** (*please stand as you are able*)

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for self-examination.*

Most Merciful God,  
**we confess that we are in bondage 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.**

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 unto you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

# HYMN #327 Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow



1 Through the night of doubt and sorrow, on - ward goes the  
 2 One the light of God's own pres - ence on the ran - somed  
 3 One the strain that lips of thou - sands lift as from the  
 4 On - ward, there - fore, sis - ters, broth - ers; on - ward with the



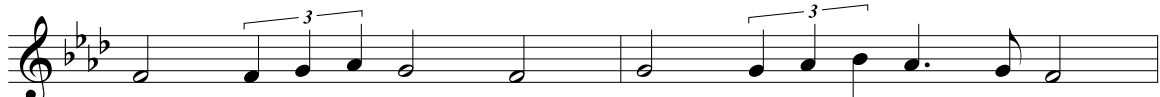
pil - grim band, sing - ing songs of ex - pec - ta - tion,  
 peo - ple shed, chas - ing far the gloom and ter - ror,  
 heart of one; one the con - flict, one the per - il,  
 cross our aid. Bear its shame, and fight its bat - tle



march - ing to the prom - ised land. Clear be - fore us  
 bright - 'ning all the path we tread. One the ob - ject  
 one the march in God be - gun. One the glad - ness  
 till we rest be - neath its shade. Soon shall come the



through the dark - ness gleams and burns the guid - ing light;  
 of our jour - ney, one the faith which nev - er tires,  
 of re - joic - ing on the far e - ter - nal shore,  
 great a - wak - 'ning; soon the rend - ing of the tomb!



pil - grim clasps the hand of pil - grim  
 one the ear - nest look - ing for - ward,  
 where the one al - might - y Fa - ther  
 Then the scat - t'ring of all shad - ows,

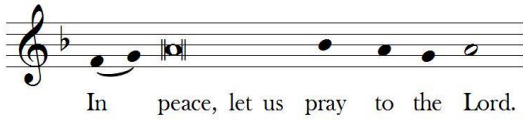


step - ping fear - less through the night.  
 one the hope our God in - spires.  
 reigns in love for - ev - er more.  
 and the end of toil and gloom.

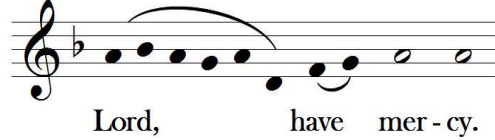
# GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

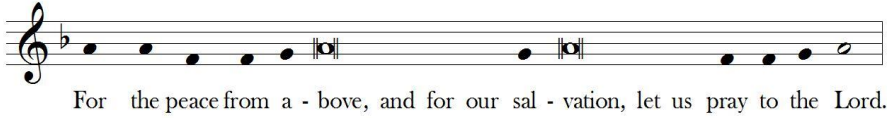
## KYRIE



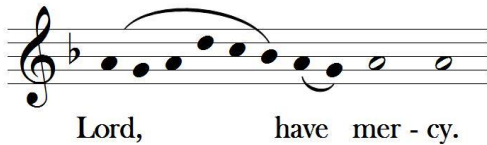
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



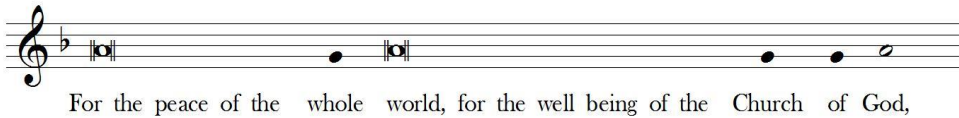
Lord, have mer-cy.



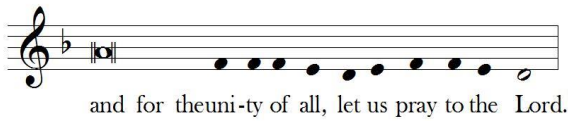
For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



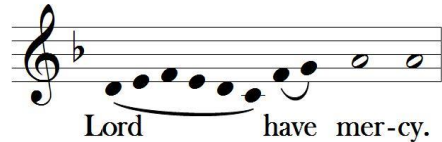
Lord, have mer-cy.



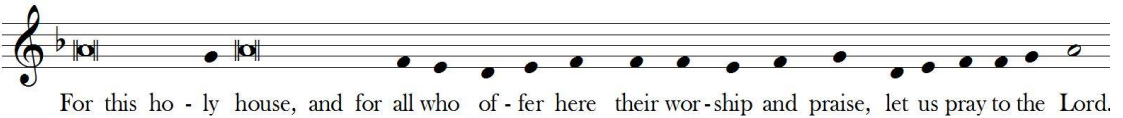
For the peace of the whole world, for the well being of the Church of God,



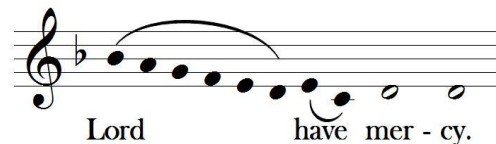
and for the uni-ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



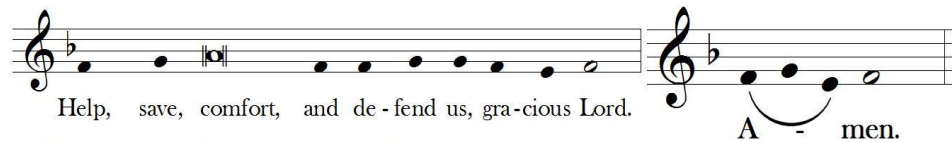
Lord have mer-cy.



For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor-ship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord have mer-cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

*The Canticle of Praise is omitted during Lent*

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. **O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**  
*(please be seated)*

## **FIRST READING    Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16**

*As with Noah, God makes an everlasting covenant with Abraham and Sarah. God promises this old couple that they will be the ancestors of nations, though they have no child together. God will miraculously bring forth new life from Sarah's womb. The name changes emphasize the firmness of God's promise.*

<sup>1</sup>When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. <sup>2</sup>And I will make my covenant between me and you and will make you exceedingly numerous." <sup>3</sup>Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, <sup>4</sup>"As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. <sup>5</sup>No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. <sup>6</sup>I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. <sup>7</sup>I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you." <sup>15</sup>God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. <sup>16</sup>I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."  
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 22:23-31

<sup>23</sup>You who fear the Lord, give praise!



All you of Jacob's line, give glory. Stand in awe of the Lord, all you offspring of Israel.

<sup>24</sup>**For the Lord does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the Lord's face hidden from them; but when they cry out, the Lord hears them.**

<sup>25</sup>From you comes my praise in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the Lord.

<sup>26</sup>**The poor shall eat and be satisfied, Let those who seek the Lord give praise! May your hearts live forever!**

<sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord; all the families of nations shall bow before God.

<sup>28</sup>**For dominion belongs to the Lord, who rules over the nations.**

<sup>29</sup>Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship; all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the Lord.

<sup>30</sup>**Their descendants shall serve the Lord, whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.**

<sup>31</sup>They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying to them, "The Lord has acted!"

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.**

As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

**ANTHEM** (8:30) *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* - Martin Chorale

**ANTHEM** (11:00) *Humbly I Adore Thee* - Plainchant Cantor

## SECOND READING    Romans 4:13-25

*Paul presents Abraham as the example for how a person comes into a right relationship with God not through works of the law but through faith. Though Abraham and Sarah were far too old for bearing children, Abraham trusted that God would accomplish what God had promised to accomplish.*

<sup>13</sup>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. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. <sup>16</sup>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, <sup>17</sup>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. <sup>18</sup>Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become “the father of many nations,” according to what was said, “So numerous shall your descendants be.” <sup>19</sup>He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. <sup>20</sup>No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, <sup>21</sup>being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. <sup>22</sup>Therefore his faith “was reckoned to him as righteousness.” <sup>23</sup>Now the words, “it was reckoned to him,” were written not for his sake alone, <sup>24</sup>but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, <sup>25</sup>who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## LENTEN ACCLAMATION *(please stand)*

Handbells

Glor - ry and praise

to you, O Lord Je - sus Christ.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff is for handbells, with notes on the treble clef staff: G4, A4, B4, C5, G4, A4, B4, C5, G4, A4, B4, C5, G4, A4, B4, C5. The second staff is for voice, with notes on the treble clef staff: G4, A4, B4, C5, G4, A4, B4, C5, G4, A4, B4, C5, G4, A4, B4, C5. The lyrics are written below the notes.

**Cantors:** May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord <sup>1</sup> Jesus Christ,\* by which the world is crucified to me, and I <sup>1</sup> to the world. **(Repeat Antiphon)**

## GOSPEL Mark 8:31-38

The Gospel according to Mark, the eighth chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>31</sup>[Jesus] began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup>He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup>But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.” <sup>34</sup>He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.

<sup>35</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. <sup>36</sup>For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? <sup>37</sup>Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? <sup>38</sup>Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.” **The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ. *(please be seated)***

**SERMON**

Pastor Laurie A. Jones



# HYMN OF THE DAY #806 O God, My Faithful God *(please stand)*



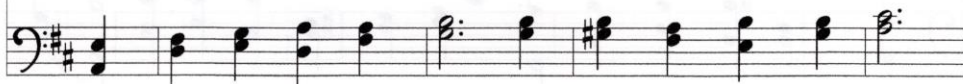
1 O God, my faith - ful God, true foun-tain ev - er flow - ing,  
2 Give me the strength to do with read - y heart and will - ing  
3 Keep me from say - ing words that lat - er need re - call - ing;  
4 When dan - gers gath - er round, oh, keep me calm and fear - less;



with - out whom noth - ing is, all per - fect gifts be - stow - ing:  
what - ev - er you com - mand, my call - ing here ful - fill - ing—  
guard me, lest i - dle speech may from my lips be fall - ing;  
help me to bear the cross when life seems dark and cheer - less;



give me a health - y frame, and may I have with - in  
to do it when I ought, with all my might—and bless  
but when, with - in my place, I must and ought to speak,  
help me, as you have taught, to love both great and small,



a con - science free from blame, a soul un - stained by sin.  
what - ev - er I have wrought, for you must give suc - cess.  
then to my words give grace, lest I of - fend the weak.  
and, by your Spir - it's might, to live at peace with all.



## **APOSTLES' CREED**

With the whole church through the ages, let us confess our Christian faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen. *(please be seated)***

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

### **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

### **OUR LIFE TOGETHER**

### **OFFERING**

*You may bring your offering forward during communion and place it in the plate.*

**ANTHEM (8:30)** *Sing My Soul, His Wondrous Love - Rorem Chorale*  
*Sing, my soul, his wondrous love, who, from yon bright throne above, ever watchful o'er our race, still to us extends his grace. Heaven and earth by him were made; all is by his scepter swayed; what are we that he should show so much love to us below? God, the merciful and good, bought us with the Savior's blood, and, to make salvation sure, guides us by his Spirit pure. Sing, my soul, adore his Name! Let his glory be thy theme: praise him till he calls thee home; trust his love for all to come.*

**ANTHEM (11:00)** *Ashokan Farewell* Jay Unger    Andy Strietelmeier, Violin

### **OFFERTORY PRAYER** (*please stand*)

Let us pray. Gracious and merciful God, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

### **GREAT THANKSGIVING**



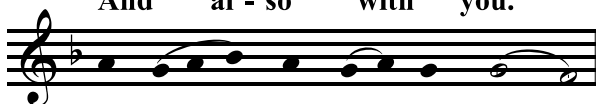
The Lord be with you.



And al - so with you.



Lift up your hearts.



We lift them to the Lord.



Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

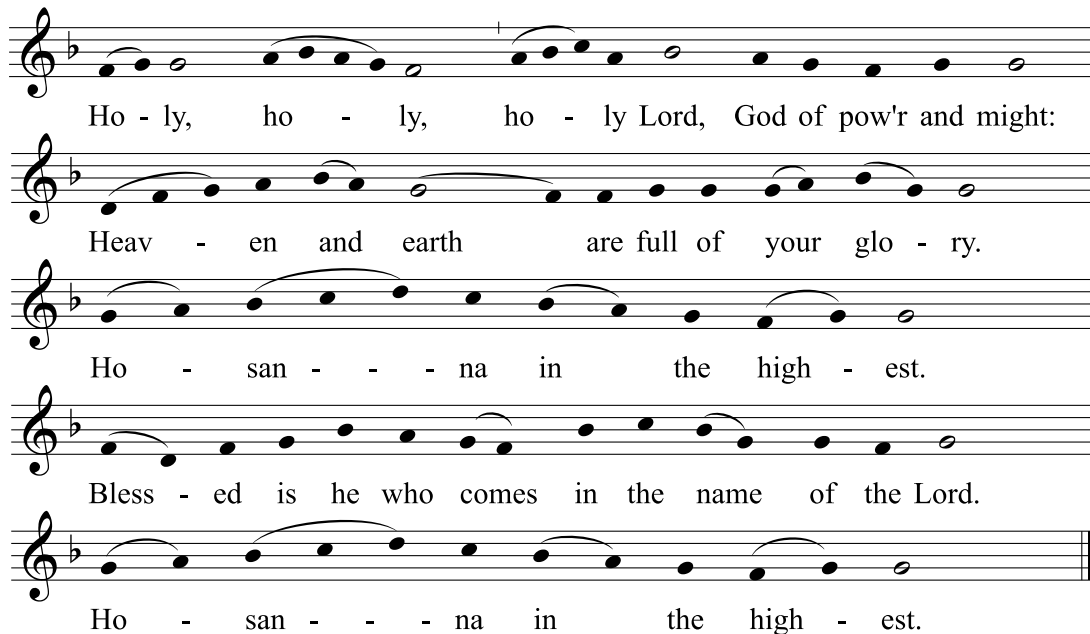


It is right to give our thanks and praise.

### **PROPER PREFACE**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
Heav - en 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.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age. Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

## LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Ho - ly Spir - it let us pray as Je - sus taught us.

Our\_ Fa - ther in heav - ven hal - lowed be\_\_\_ your name,

your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.

Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we

for-give those who sin\_ a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al

and de - liv - er us from e - vil, For the king - dom, the pow'r

and the glo - ry are yours, now and for-ev - er. A - men.\_\_\_\_

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION *(please be seated)*

*You are invited to come forward with hands outstretched to receive the bread in the form of a wafer and then intinct (dip) the wafer into the cup with red wine or white grape juice, as you hear the words: "The body of Christ, given for you" and "The blood of Christ, shed for you." (Gluten-free wafers are also available.)*

## COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

## LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world;  
have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way  
the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God,  
You take a-way the sin of the world; grant us peace. A-men.

**ANTHEM (8:30)** *Ashokan Farewell* Jay Unger    Andy Strietelmeier, Violin

## BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life. **Amen.**

## BENEDICTION (*please stand*)

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. **Amen.**

# HYMN #323 God Loved the World

1 God loved the world so that he gave his on - ly  
 2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, who was made  
 3 If you are ill, if death draws near, this truth your  
 4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son for - gives all  
 5 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly

Son the lost to save, that all who would in  
 flesh and suf - fered death; all who con - fide in  
 trou - bled heart can cheer: Christ Je - sus res - cues  
 sins that you have done, and jus - ti - fied by  
 Spir - it, Three in One! To you, O bless - ed

him be - lieve should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.  
 Christ a - lone are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.  
 us from death; that is the firm - est ground of faith.  
 Je - sus' blood, your bap - tism grants the high - est good.  
 Trin - i - ty, be praise now and e - ter - nal - ly!

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**ORGAN VOLUNTARY** *Fantasia on “Von Gott will ich nicht lassen”* Bert Matter

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**Today’s Cantor at 11am:** Daniel Au

**Lenten Midweek Series with a NEW schedule:** Our Lenten Midweek series continues on Tuesday evenings. Our theme is *“Journeying with God through our Wilderness.”* The series will begin with a simple soup supper at 5:15, then worship begins at 6pm in the Parish Hall with an interactive reflection on the Word of God (which stands as our homily for the evening), concluding with Holden Evening Prayer in the Sanctuary (6:45-7:15) Note: Music Together and Children’s Choir rehearsal is at the usual time (6:00-6:45pm) followed by Junior Cantors (6:45-7:15pm).

**New Members will be received at both services on Palm Sunday, March 24.** Please let Pastor Laurie or Pastor Ben know if you’d like to learn more about our life together at Central.

**Join us for midweek coffee hour and fellowship** on Wednesday, February 28th in the Terrace Room (adjacent to the Parish Hall) from 1pm-2pm.

**Mark your calendars for The Concordia Choir Concert on March 10.** The choir from Concordia College, Moorhead, MN will be singing at Central on March 10 at 4pm. Tickets are \$35 for premium seating, \$25 for general admission. Students of all ages are free. Tickets can be purchased between services, in the office, or online at [www.theconcordiachoir.org](http://www.theconcordiachoir.org).



## Central Lutheran Church 2024 Schedule for Lent thru Easter

Date	Lent / Holy Week / Easter
February 14 Ash Wednesday	Ash Wednesday Worship at noon & 7:30pm in the Sanctuary
February 18, 25 March 3, 10, 17	Sundays in Lent Worship at 8:30am & 11am with Education between services 9:45-10:45am
February 20, 27 March 5, 12, 19 Together Tuesdays	Soup Supper at 5:15pm; Music Together & Children's Choir at 6pm; Interactive Worship at 6pm with Holden Evening Prayer at 6:45pm
March 24 Palm Sunday	Reception of New Members at 8:30am & 11am
March 28 Maundy Thursday	Worship at 7:30pm
March 29 Good Friday	Worship at noon & 7:30pm in the Sanctuary
March 31 Easter Sunday	The Resurrection of Our Lord Festival Worship at 8:30am & 11am

### *“Journeying with God through our Wilderness” Based on Exodus chapters 15-20*

Together Tuesday topics for Interactive Worship:

Feb 20: Joy of freedom & the anxiety of vulnerability in the Wilderness

Feb. 27: Groundlessness, despair, lament, & complaint in the Wilderness

Mar 5: Theology of need rather than abundance in the Wilderness

Mar 12: Sabbath in the Wilderness, gift and challenge

Mar 19: Caring for others in the Wilderness

## Welcome to Central!

**Central Lutheran Church**, a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Oregon Synod, is a Reconciling in Christ community: We affirm that Christ has made us one body with many members, all sharing in God's wondrous grace and unconditional love.

**We celebrate** both the human variation and inclusive unity of God's family. Following Jesus' example, we embrace all of God's people regardless of ethnicity, physical and mental abilities, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or economic circumstance. With welcoming hearts, we invite you to join us in worship, fellowship, and ministry.

**Our mission** is to be the hands and feet of Jesus by loving God and one another, nurturing faithful living, serving those in need, and sharing the Gospel.

### Central Lutheran Staff

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