

First Sunday in Lent
February 22, 2026
8:30am & 11am Worship



Central Lutheran Church
1857 Potter Street
Eugene, OR
www.welcometocentral.org

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Carillon

PRELUDE *Nocturne on “Conditor Alme Siderum”* Katherine Wright

WELCOME

CONFESSİON AND FORGIVENESS (*please stand as you're able*)

Let us pray. Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Most merciful God,

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

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, 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 \pm Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

ENTRANCE HYMN #504 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, A
 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land All
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, No

sword and shield vic - to - rious; He
 would be lost, re - ject - ed. But
 threat - ning to de - your us, We
 thanks to foes, who fear it; For

breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod And wins sal - va - tion
 now a cham - pion comes to fight, Whom God him - self e -
 trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; They can - not o - ver -
 God him - self fights by our side With weap - ons of the

glo - - - - - rious. The old sa - tan - ic
 lect - - - - - ed. You ask who this may
 pow'r - - - - - us. Let this world's ty - rant
 Spir - - - - - it; Were they to take our

foe has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful
 be? The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus might - y
 rage; In bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to
 house, Goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, Though life be wrenched a -

might he arms him - self to fight, On
 Lord, God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He
 fail; God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One
 way, They can - not win the day; The

earth he has no e - - - - - qual.
 holds the field vic - to - - - - - rious.
 lit - tle word sub - dues him.
 king - dom's ours for - ev - - - - - er!

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 mercy.



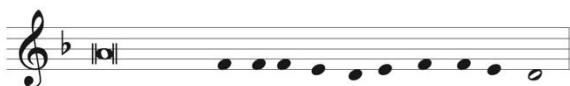
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mercy.



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.



Lord have mercy.



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



Lord have mercy.



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



Amen.

The Canticle of Praise is omitted during Lent

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. 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.** (please be seated)

ANTHEM (11:00)

Jr. Cantors & Children's Choir

What Wondrous Love - Charles Dupree

FIRST LESSON **Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7**

Human beings were formed with great care, to be in relationship with the creator, creation, and one another. The serpent's promise to the first couple that their eyes would be opened led, ironically, to the discovery only that they were naked.

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die." 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. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**



PSALM 32

Happy are they whose transgressions ¹ are forgiven,
and whose sin is ¹ put away!

**Happy are they to whom the Lord im- ¹ puts no guilt,
and in whose spirit there ¹ is no guile!**

While I held my tongue, my bones with- ¹ ered away,
because of my groaning ¹ all day long.

**For your hand was heavy upon me ¹ day and night;
my moisture was dried up as in the ¹ heat of summer.**

Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not con- ¹ ceal my guilt.
I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.” Then you forgave
me the guilt ¹ of my sin.

**Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in ¹ time of
trouble; when the great waters overflow, they ¹ shall not reach them.**

You are my hiding-place; you preserve ¹ me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts ¹ of deliverance.

**“I will instruct you and teach you in the way that ¹ you should go;
I will guide you ¹ with my eye.**

Do not be like horse or mule, which have no ¹ understanding;
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will ¹ not stay near
you.”

**Great are the tribulations ¹ of the wicked;
but mercy embraces those who trust ¹ in the Lord.**

Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice ¹ in the Lord;
shout for joy, all who are ¹ true of heart.

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the ¹ Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be fore- ¹ ver. Amen.**

ANTHEM (8:30) *A Passiontide Carol* – Philip Ledger

Chorale

ANTHEM (11:00) *Gymnopedie #3* – Eric Satie

Handbell Ensemble

SECOND LESSON **Romans 5:12-19**

Through Adam's disobedience, humanity came under bondage to sin and death, from which we cannot free ourselves. In Christ's obedient death, God graciously showers on us the free gift of liberation and life.

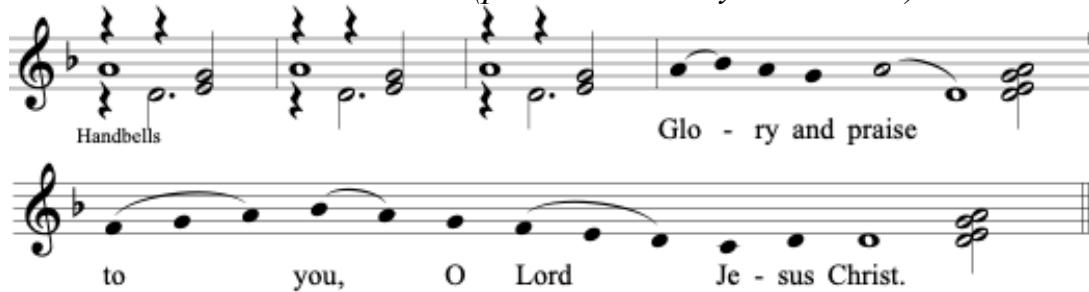
Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned for sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who did not sin in the likeness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

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. 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.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

During the Gospel Acclamation our children are invited to the Chapel for a special message. They will return during the sharing of the peace.

LENTEN ACCLAMATION (*please stand as you are able*)



Handbells

Glo - ry and praise

to you, O Lord Je - sus Christ.

Cantors: One does not live by ¹ bread alone,* but by every word that comes from the ¹ mouth of God. **Repeat antiphon.**

GOSPEL Matthew 4:1-11

The Gospel according to Matthew, the 4th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.** 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. The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Laurie A. Jones

HYMN #320 The Glory of These Forty Days (*please stand*)



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.



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

*When the leader says, “God, in your mercy,”
you are invited to respond, “Hear our prayer.”*

PEACE

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

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

HYMN #343 My Song Is Love Unknown

1 My song is love un - known, my Sav - ior's love to -
 2 He came from his blest throne sal - va - tion to be -
 3 Some - times we strew his way and his sweet prais - es
 4 We cry out, we will have our dear Lord made a -

me, love to the love - less shown that they might
 stow; the world that was his own would not its
 sing; re - sound - ing all the day ho - san - nas
 way, a mur - der - er to to save, the prince of

love - ly be. Oh, who am I that
 Sav - ior know. But, oh, my friend, my
 to our king. Then "Cru - ci - fy!" is
 to life to slay. Yet cheer - ful he to

for my sake my Lord should take frail flesh and die?
 friend in - deed, who at my need his life did spend!
 all our breath, and for his death we thirst and cry.
 suf - f'ring goes that he his foes from thence might free.

5 In life no house, no home
 my Lord on earth might have;
 in death no friendly tomb
 but what a stranger gave.
 What may I say? Heav'n was his home
 but mine the tomb wherein he lay.

6 Here might I stay and sing—
 no story so divine!
 Never was love, dear King,
 never was grief like thine.
 This is my friend, in whose sweet praise
 I all my days could gladly spend!

OFFERING

*You are invited to place your offering
in the plate as you come forward for communion.*

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

Please stand as you're able.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

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

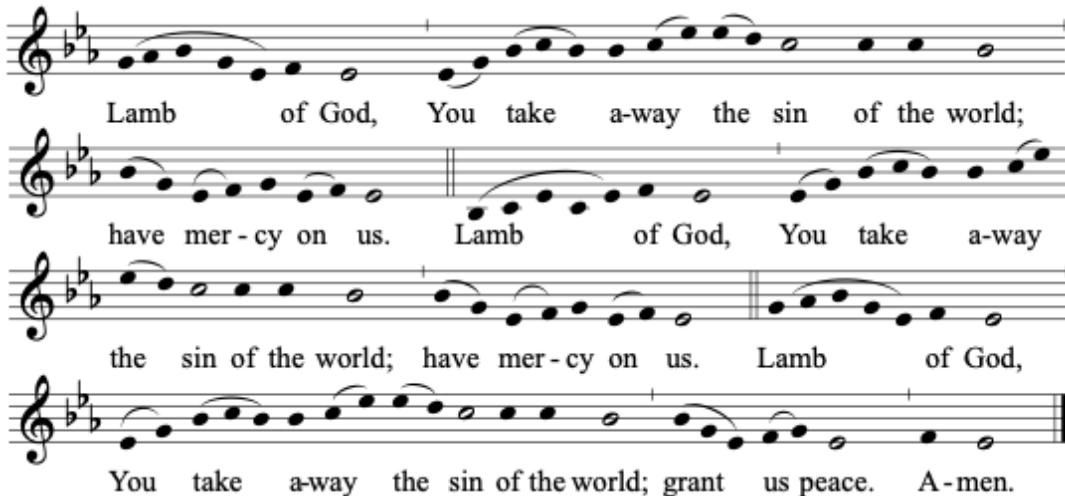
and de - liv - er us from e - vil, For the king - dom, the pow'r

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

COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS & DISTRIBUTION *(be seated)*

You are invited to come forward and kneel (or stand) at the altar rail to receive communion. You will receive the bread in the form of a wafer and then you may drink from the individual cups of either red wine or white grape juice. If you prefer not having to navigate the stairs you may come forward and sit in the front pew (or remain where you are) and the communion servers will come to you. This is Christ's meal, and it is Christ who bids you come. All are welcome.

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. Amen.

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION (*please stand*)

Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation, \pm bless you now and always. **Amen.**

HYMN #624 Jesus Still Lead On (*see insert*)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

You may remain seated during the Organ Voluntary; however if you choose to depart, we kindly ask you to do so in silence until you reach the Narthex.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY *Procession (Second Symphony)* Guy Weitz

Weitz's inspiration for **Procession** is drawn from a procession of Benedictine monks making the Adoration of the Cross; the melodic theme is drawn from Gregorian chant, specifically "*Vexilla Regis prodeunt*" from the Vesper service on Passion Sunday. The work is very programmatic, in that one can hear the procession grow and change until it reaches a dramatic arrival, probably at the cathedral following a long trek through the village. Once the doors to the cathedral are opened, the mood changes and one senses the conclusion of the procession as it moves to the High Altar, bathed in beautiful colored light from the stained-glass windows as the organ is softly played.

The liturgy is adapted from the Evangelical Lutheran Worship, © 2006, Augsburg Fortress, with permission to reproduce and podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license A-706755. All rights reserved.

Assisting Minister (8:30): Honora Mathisen-Lund

Today's Cantor (11:00): Steve Rodgers

New members will be received on Palm Sunday, March 29th, at both the 8:30am & 11:00am worship services. If you are interested in finding out more, simply fill out a pew card and place it in the offering plate as you come forward for communion or let Pastor Laurie know.

Pastor Laurie A Jones

pastorlaurie@welcometocentral.org

mobile: 206-354-6756

Prayers requests may be submitted to: prayers@welcometocentral.org

HYMN #624 Jesus Still Lead On (*stanza 4 a cappella*)

1 Je - sus, still lead on, till our rest be won; and, al-though the
 2 If the way be drear, if the foe be near, let no faith - less
 3 When we seek re - lief from a long-felt grief, when temp-ta - tions
 4 Je - sus, still lead on, till our rest be won; heav'n-ly lead - er,

way be cheer - less, we will fol - low, calm and fear - less;
 fears o'er - take us, let not faith and hope for - sake us;
 come al - lur - ing make us pa - tient and en - dur - ing;
 still di - rect us, still sup - port, con - sole, pro - tect us,

guide us by your hand to the prom - ised land.
 safe - ly past the foe to our home we go.
 show us that bright shore where we weep no more.
 till we safe - ly stand in the prom - ised land.

Central Lutheran Church

2026 Schedule for Lent – Easter

Date	Lent / Holy Week / Easter
February 18 Ash Wednesday	Ash Wednesday Worship at noon in the Chapel & 7:30pm in the Sanctuary
Feb 22 & March 1, 8, 15, 22 (Sundays)	Sundays in Lent Worship at 8:30am & 11am with Education between services 9:45-10:45am
Feb 24 & March 3, 10, 17, 24 (Together Tuesdays)	Soup Supper at 5:15pm; Music Together & Children's Choir at 5:45pm; Adult Ed at 6pm with Holden Evening Prayer Worship at 7:00pm
Feb 25 & Mar 4, 11, 18, 25 (Wednesdays)	Lenten Matins Worship in the Chapel at noon followed by a soup luncheon in the Narthex
March 29 Palm Sunday	Reception of New Members at 8:30am & 11am
April 2 Maundy Thursday	Worship at noon at United Lutheran or at Central at 7:30pm in the Sanctuary
April 3 Good Friday	Chapel open for prayer between noon & 3pm; Worship at 7:30pm in the Sanctuary
April 4 Vigil of Easter	Worship at United Lutheran at 7pm
April 5 Easter Sunday	The Resurrection of Our Lord Festival Worship at 8:30am & 11am