

**GOOD
SHEPHERD
LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

7800 W. McCarthy Rd,
Palos Heights, IL
60463
708-448-4170

March 1, 2026

**Second Sunday
in Lent**

9:00 am

Service of Holy
Communion

11:00 am

Service of
the Word

The Pastor:
Rev. Chris
Buresh

The Associate
Pastor:

Rev. Andrew Bell

The Intern:
Immanuel

Karunakaran

The Director of
Children's &

Family Ministry:
Lori Puttkammer

The Pastor

Emeritus:

Rev. Dr. Wayne
A. Basch

Nicodemus came
to
Jesus
BY NIGHT



JOHN 3:2

Welcome

When Life Needs a Little Wind



Botanists say that trees need the powerful March winds to flex their trunks and main branches, so that the sap is drawn up to nourish the budding leaves.

Perhaps we need the gales of life in the same way, though we dislike enduring them. A blustery period in our fortunes is often the prelude to a new spring of life and health, success and happiness, when we keep steadfast in faith and look to the good in spite of appearances. —Jane Truax

Word Day of Prayer

Today we join Christians around the world for the World Day of Prayer. Together, we lift our voices in unity, trusting God to bring peace, healing, and hope to every nation.

“The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.”

—James 5:16 (NIV)

Pause and pray with us today!

#WorldDayOfPrayer #PrayTogether #FaithInAction



GATHERING

The Prelude: *"Jesus Loves Me"* Kerr

The Call to Worship (11:00): ***"Still, My Soul, Be Still"*** Koerts

The Children's Message: **"The Heart Check"**

+Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

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.**

Gracious God,
have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ☩ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

+The Opening Hymn: GOD LOVED THE WORLD No. 323

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.

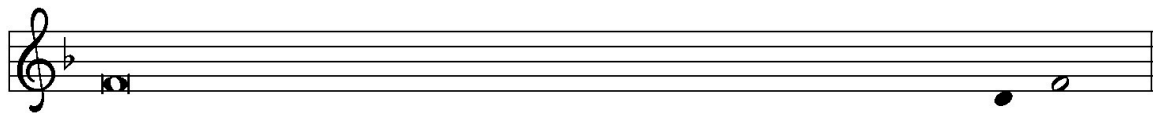


The Service of Holy Communion - 9 am

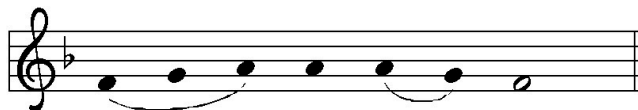
+ The Kyrie



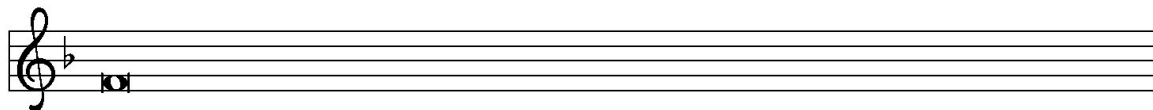
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



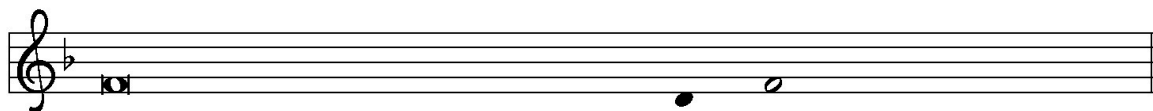
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



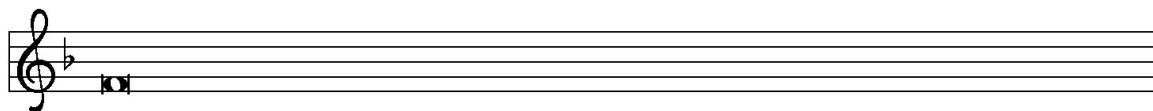
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



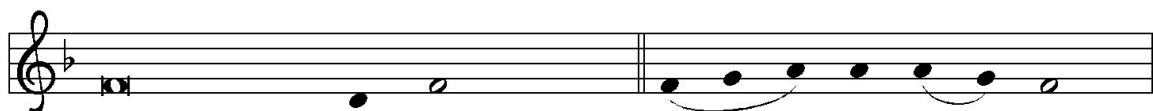
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

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

The Service of the Word - 11 am

+The Kyrie:

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:

Chri - ste e - le - i - son: Christ, have mer - cy.
Christ, . . . have mer - cy:

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:

+ The Prayer of the Day

O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world 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

+ The Readings for the Second Sunday in Lent:

Genesis 12:1-4a

¹The Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ²I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

^{4a} So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him.

The Anthem (9:00): ***"Forty Days of Lent" Childers***

(11:00): ***"I See, I Hear, I Know" Courtney***

Gospel: John 3:1-17

¹ Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews.

² He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person." ³ Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above."

⁴ Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" ⁵ Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶ What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' ⁸ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." ⁹ Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" ¹⁰

Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?"

¹¹ "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹² If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴ And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶ "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷ "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him."

The Sermon: **"A Summary"**

+The Hymn of the Day: JESUS LOVES ME!

No. 595

+The Apostle's 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.

+The Prayers

Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

A brief silence.

Faithful One, you renew us by grace. Give your church here, at our partner parish in Coronationville and around the world the means to praise your beauty today. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Living One, you delight in this world. The sun and moon, the wind and the water declare your goodness. Preserve this earth, and protect all who labor in service to creation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Ruling One, you bless us to be a blessing. Open the hearts of all leaders to seek the flourishing of every person, lend your help to all who wait for justice, deliverance, and peace and provide guidance and wisdom to those who serve our country and communities. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Compassionate One, you send your Son to save. Declare your word of acceptance to any who feel condemned and lift up any brought low by hatred and exclusion. Tend to all who are struggling with illness or loss (*especially*). Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Guiding One, you watch over our going out and coming in. Bless all who gather here for worship today and inspire us with your Word as we go out into the world. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Eternal One, you neither slumber nor sleep. Be our keeper in life and in death. Thank you for the gift of knowing those who shared your love and now rest with you, and for your promise which saves this whole world by your love. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation. **Amen.**

+ Sharing the Peace of Christ

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

The Voluntary: "Pastoral" Kerr



Service of Holy Communion - 9 am

MEAL

+The 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.

+The Preface is sung by the pastor.

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. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who



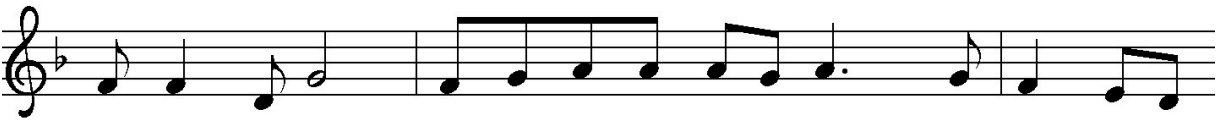
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

+The Words of Institution are spoken by the pastor.

+The Lord's Prayer



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.

THE COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION:

Please use this time for quiet reflection on the tremendous gifts of love and forgiveness that Jesus offers to all.

+ The Prayer after Communion



Service of the Word - 11 am

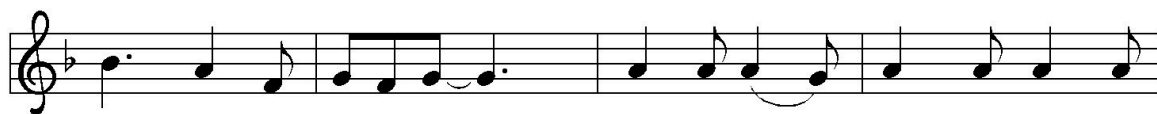
+The Canticle of Thanksgiving



Sal - va - tion be - longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for -



ev - er and ev - er. 1 Great and won - der - ful are your deeds, O



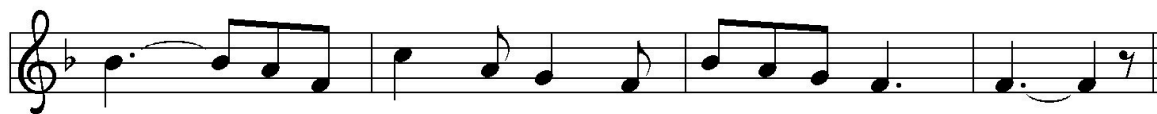
God of the u - ni - verse; just and true are your ways, O



Rul - er of all the na - tions. Who can fail to hon - or you, Lord, and



sing the glo - ry of your name? Sal - va - tion be - longs to our



God and to Christ the Lamb for - ev - er and ev - er.



2 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, and



bless-ed is the one whose name is the Word of God. All



praise and thanks to you, ho - ly God! Sal - va-tion be-longs to our



God and to Christ the Lamb for - ev - er and ev - er.

+ The Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Word

+ The Lord's Prayer



SENDING

+The Benediction

+The Dismissal is spoken by the pastor

Response: **Thanks be to God**

+SENDING HYMN: WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS No. 803

The Postlude: *"Allegretto" Kerr*

SERVING TODAY:

The Organist - *Beth Ridderhoff*

The Adult Choir Director: *Aaron Basch*

The Junior Choir Director: *Michelle Podewell*

The Readers - 9:00 - *Edith Schmitt* 11:00 - *CJ Muller*

The Acolytes - 9:00 - *Rich Facko and Ethan Held*

11:00 - *Lukas Bort and Tate Spencer*

Today's chancel flowers are given by April Strand in loving memory of her husband, Bob and by Grant and Suellen Spooner in celebration of their 25th wedding anniversary.



Our Core Values

Encouraging each other in our lifelong journey of faith through our core values of:

- Drawing nearer to God
- Prioritizing Love over Judgment
- Practicing Grace
- Welcoming All
- Generously Serving
- Fostering Community



Our intercessions include:

The hospitalized: Myrna Bronson (Palos)

the bereaved: Nancy Harrington upon the passing of her cousin, Louis Uza

+The Holy Baptism: *Eloise Ada Wagner*, daughter of Matthew and Lindsey. Born: November 21, 2011. Sponsors: Sandra and Eugene Wagner.



*Pictures may be taken at our service to use on our updated website.
Please contact us if you desire we not use any photograph including your image.*

**From sundaysandseasons.com.
Copyright © 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next weekend is the beginning of daylight savings time. Don't forget to spring forward Saturday evening so you arrive on time for church next Sunday!

Lenten worship services continue this week. The 10:30 am service is a time of guided prayer. The 7:30 pm service follows the theme, "*Prayers of the Senses.*" Each week will walk us through experiencing prayer using different sensory abilities; this week focuses on hearing. The evening services will also highlight our 8th graders sharing their Witness to the Faith.

At 6:15 pm, prior to the evening Lenten service, come enjoy some food and fellowship in the family life center. A different ministry group will provide a meal each week. Inspired by one of our 8th graders, Noah Bergmann, we will support the charity, *Save the Children*, with the freewill offerings collected.

Flowers to beautify the chancel for Easter are available to purchase. Lilies are \$17 while hyacinths and tulips are \$15. The order deadline is March 23. The flowers can be taken home after the late service on Easter Sunday. Sign up in the narthex on Sundays or in front of the office during the week.

If you need offering envelopes, please call the church office.

Donations for the Easter Eggstravaganza are needed and greatly appreciated!! Individually wrapped candy (please try to avoid peanuts) that will fit in a plastic egg are needed. These items can be dropped off at Mrs. Lori's office on or before March 11.

Attention Jr. High and High School Youth! Help stuffing Easter eggs is needed on March 15 after church. Pizza lunch is provided. Service hours can be earned. Let pastor Bell or Mrs. Lori know if you plan to attend.

The calendar for the week of March 1

<p>SUN</p>	<p>9:00 am 10:10 am 10:30 am 11:00 am 11:00 am 6:00 pm</p>	<p>Service of Holy Communion/Online Service 8th Grade Confirmation Cherub Choir Service of the Word Sunday School High School Basket Ball</p>
<p>MON</p>	<p>4:00 pm 6:00 pm 7:00 pm 8:00 pm</p>	<p>"Just a Quick Word" - YouTube/FB Junior Choir 6th & 7th Grade Confirmation "Body & Soul"</p>
<p>TUE</p>	<p>9:30 am 10:30 am 6:30 pm 7:30 pm</p>	<p>Faith, Prayer & Joy Group Bible Study Discovering the Bible Deacons' Meeting</p>
<p>WED</p>	<p>10:30 am 1:00 pm 6:00 pm 6:15 pm 7:30 pm</p>	<p>Lenten Prayer Service Gamers Anonymous Adult Choir Lenten Supper Lenten Service</p>
<p>THU</p>	<p>6:30 pm 9:00 pm</p>	<p>Carillon Choir Prayer Walk</p>
<p>SAT</p>	<p>1:45 pm</p>	<p>Feed My Starving Children; arrive at Aurora Facility Remember to turn your clock ahead this evening</p>
<p>SUN</p>	<p>9:00 am 10:00 am 10:10 am 10:15 am 10:30 am 11:00 am 11:00 am 12:00 pm 6:00 pm</p>	<p>Service of the Word/<i>Online Service</i> Puppets 8th Grade Confirmation Sunday School Teachers' Meeting Cherub Choir Service of Holy Communion/ Sunday School Mission Trip Lunch Meeting High School Basket Ball</p>

PRAYER LIST

Members of the Congregation

Myrna Bronson	Jim Srbeny
Bob Ekhart	Larri Lyn Rauch
Cheryl Davidovitch	Gail Kendall
Marilyn Garr	Jerry Kendall
Jerry Gunderson	Lucette Held
Tom Kozlowski	Bill Innocenti
Gerhard Haigis	Nicole Baldwin

Friends of the Congregation

Primo Martinez	Sarah Wagner
Karunakaran Balraj	Laura Reynolds
Jason Dzlezic	Ronald Held
Rolly Lyon	Jennifer Strilko
Laura Nicholson	Joe Kaderabek
Bill Kimball	Jim Peele
Karen Chidester	Ann Dixon
Julius Ragel	Louise Sims
Dina Pylman	Jason Randall Glugla
Walter Smola	Tim Hennessey
Arlene Guard	Katy Peterman
Brian O'Connell	Jessica Clifford
Craig Chismarick	Erin Olson
Tom Elsner	Dave Furtak
Blakely McCracken	Dale Koch
Ann Bellair	Maryanne Campbell
Janice Severance	Alex Gersic
Debra Casey	Silvia Guijarro
Lori Toepper Opsenica	

Please let us know if there is someone you need added or removed from the prayer list by contacting the church office by 9 am on Friday. Thank You!