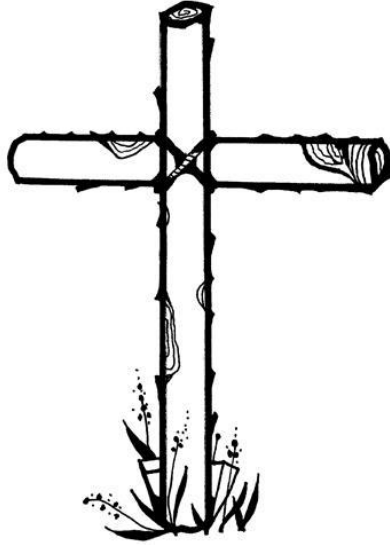


Wednesday February 25, 2026

1st Week of Lent



Our Savior's Lutheran Church 7 PM

*Please stand
Congregational responses are in **bold print**

EVENING PRAYER SERVICE

***Service of Light**

Jesus Christ is the Light of the world
The light no darkness can overcome

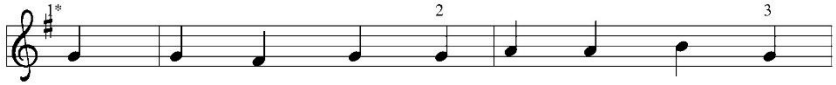
Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening
And the day is almost over

Let your light scatter the darkness
And illumine your church

**LIGHTING OF CANDLES
HYMN**

ELW 525

All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night



1 All praise to thee, my God, this night for
2 For - give me, Lord, for thy dear Son, the
3 Teach me to live, that I may dread the
4 Oh, may my soul in thee re - pose, and
5 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise



all the bless - ings of the light. Keep me, oh, keep me,
ill that I this day have done; that with the world, my -
grave as lit - tle as my bed. Teach me to die, that
may sweet sleep mine eye - lids close, sleep that shall me more
God, all crea - tures here be - low; praise God a - bove, ye



King of kings, be - neath thine own al - might - y wings.
self, and thee, I, ere I sleep, at peace may be.
so I may rise glo - rious at the awe - some day.
vig - 'rous make to serve my God when I a - wake!
heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

** May be sung in canon.*

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711, alt.
Music: TALLIS' CANON, Thomas Tallis, 1505-1585

***Joyous light of glory,**

Of the immortal Father, heavenly, holy, blessed Jesus Christ. We have come to the setting of the sun, and we look to the evening light. We sing to God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit: You are worthy of being praised with pure voices forever. O Son of God, O Giver of life: The universe proclaims your glory.

*The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, king of the universe, who led your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by the light to our path; for you are merciful, and you love your whole creation, and we, your creatures, glorify you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Amen.

*The Psalmody

Let my prayer rise before you as incense; the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice. O Lord, I call to you; come to me quickly; hear my voice when I cry to you. Let my prayer rise before you as incense; the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice. Set a watch before my mouth, O Lord, and guard the door of my lips. Let not my heart incline to any evil thing; let me not be occupied in the wickedness with evildoers. But my eyes are turned to you, Lord God; in you I take refuge. Strip me not of my life. Glory 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.

Silence for Meditation

Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend with you, O Lord, and let your lovingkindness descend upon us, that with purified minds we may sing your praises with the Church on earth and the whole heavenly host, and may glorify you forever and ever.

Amen.

Lessons

First Reading: Jeremiah 1:4-9

⁴Now the word of the LORD came to me saying, ⁵“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.” ⁶Then I said, “Ah, Lord GOD! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a [child].” ⁷But the LORD said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am only a [child]’; for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you, ⁸Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the LORD.” ⁹Then the LORD put out [the LORD’S] hand and touched my mouth; and the LORD said to me, “Now I have put my words in your mouth.”

Second Reading Luke 1:46-55

And Mary said, ⁴⁷“My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, ⁴⁸for [the Lord] has looked with favor on the lowliness of [God’s] servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; ⁴⁹for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is [God’s] name.⁵⁰[God’s] mercy is for those who fear [God] from generation to generation. ⁵¹[God] has shown strength with [God’s] arm; [God] has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. ⁵²[God] has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; ⁵³[God] has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. ⁵⁴[God] has helped [God’s] servant Israel, in remembrance of [God’s] mercy, ⁵⁵according to the promise [God] made to our ancestors, to Abraham and his descendants forever.”

Poems from Prison

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Josh Schmidt

Who Am I?

Who am I? They often tell me
I stepped from my cell's confinement
Calmly, cheerfully, firmly,
Like a squire from his country-house.
Who am I? They often tell me
I used to speak to my warders
Freely and friendly and clearly,
As though it were mine to command.
Who am I? They also tell me
I bore the days of misfortune
Equally, smilingly, proudly,
Like one accustomed to win.

Am I then really all that which other men tell of?
Or am I only what I myself know of myself?
Restless and longing and sick, like a bird in a cage,

Struggling for breath, as though hands were
compressing my throat,
Yearning for colors, for flowers, for the voices of birds,
Thirsting for words of kindness, for neighborliness,
Tossing in expectation of great events,
Powerlessly trembling for friends at an infinite distance,
Weary and empty at praying, at thinking, at making,
Faint, and ready to say farewell to it all?
Who am I? This or the other?
Am I one person today and tomorrow another?
Am I both at once? A hypocrite before others,
And before myself a contemptibly woebegone weakling?
Or is something within me still like a beaten army,
Fleeing in disorder from victory already achieved?

Who am I? They mock me, these lonely questions of mine.
Whoever I am, Thou knowest, O God, I am Thine!

Powers of Good

With every power for good to stay and guide me,
comforted and inspired beyond all fear,
I'll live these days with you in thought beside me,
and pass, with you, into the coming year.
The old year still torments our hearts, unhastening;
the long days of our sorrow still endure;
Father, grant to the souls thou hast been chastening
that thou hast promised, the healing and the cure.

Should it be ours to drain the cup of grieving
even to the dregs of pain, at thy command,
we will not falter, thankfully receiving
all that is given by thy loving hand.
But should it be thy will once more to release us,
to life's enjoyment and its good sunshine,
that which we've learned from sorrow shall increase us,
and all our life be dedicate as thine.
Today, let candles shed their radiant greeting;
lo, on our darkness are they not thy light
leading us, haply, to our longed-for meeting?
Thou canst illumine even our darkest night.
When now the silence deepens for our hearkening,
grant we may hear the children's voices raise
from all the unseen world around us darkening
their universal paeon, in thy praise.
While all the powers of good aid and attend us,
boldly we'll face the future, come what may.
At even and at morn God will befriend us, and
oh, most surely on each newborn day!

Canticle of the Turning



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
 2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .
 3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a
 4 Though the na - tions rage from . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
 work great . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
 jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . from his throne.
 liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
 The hun - gry poor shall . . weep no more, for the
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



Refrain
 My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

Text: Rory Cooney, b. 1952, based on the Magnificat.
 Music: STAR OF COUNTY DOWN, Irish traditional.
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***Prayers**

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.

For our pastors in Christ, for all servants of the Church, and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all public servants, for the government and those who protect us, that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all the people here present who await from the Lord great and abundance mercy, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and peaceful time, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the faithful who have gone before us and are at rest, let us give thanks to the Lord.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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

Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord.

Glory to you, O Lord.

O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works: Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments; and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God forever.

Amen.

***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

L: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray together the prayer our Lord Jesus taught us:

**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.**

Hymn

ELW 742

(Offering will be collected during hymn)

What a Friend We Have in Jesus



1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
2 Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?
3 Are we weak and heav - y - lad - en, cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!
We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged—take it to the Lord in prayer.
Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge—take it to the Lord in prayer.



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; oh, what need - less pain we bear—
Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor - row share?
Do your friends de - spise, for - sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!
Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness—take it to the Lord in prayer.
In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a so - lace there.

Text: Joseph Scriven, 1820–1886

Music: CONVERSE, Charles C. Converse, 1832–1918

*Closing Prayer

Almighty God, grant to your church your Holy Spirit and the wisdom which comes down from heaven, that your Word may not be bound but have free course and be preached to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, that in steadfast faith we may serve you and in the confession of your name may abide to the end; through Jesus, Christ our Lord.

Amen.

***Blessing**

The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

Amen.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please make your Thrivent Choice dollars donations **before March 31st**. You can log onto your Thrivent Account and direct the dollars or call them on the phone at 800-847-4836. **If you wish for your dollars to be designated to a certain ministry or cemetery you must tell your Financial Secretary the amount you donated and where you want the \$ to go.**

Remembered in Our Prayers:

Kent Hohensee

Kathleen Remmers

Kai Spann

Maxine Trauernicht

Wednesday Lenten Services will be at 7:00 p.m. on the following days:

March 4, 2026

March 11, 2026

March 18, 2026

March 25, 2026

Maundy Thursday, April 2, 2026 at 7:30 p.m.

Good Friday, April 3, 2026 at 7:30 p.m.

**EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 2026
8:00 A.M. AT OUR SAVIOR'S**

