

**February 22, 2026**  
**Invocabit Sunday**

FIRST SUNDAY IN  
**LENT**

**Christ's Lutheran Church**  
700 East Pennsylvania Avenue  
Oreland, Pennsylvania

*Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
connects individuals to God, each other, and the community.*

## Welcome to Worship at Christ's Lutheran Church!

Today's gospel tells of Jesus' temptation in the desert. His forty-day fast becomes the basis of our Lenten pilgrimage. In the early church Lent was a time of intense preparation for those to be baptized at the Easter Vigil. This catechetical focus on the meaning of faith is at the heart of our Lenten journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. Hungry for God's mercy, we receive the bread of life to nourish us for the days ahead.

### GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

#### Prelude

#### Welcome and Announcements

*Please stand in body or spirit as you are able.*

#### Confession and Forgiveness

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

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt  
and blots out all offenses.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Gracious God,  
**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:  
Gracious God,  
**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:  
Gracious God,  
**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For failing to recognize your coming reign,  
and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God,  
**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition,  
and for disdainful the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,  
**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For disregarding voices from the margin,  
and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world:  
Gracious God,  
**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent,  
and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life:  
Gracious God,  
**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound.  
Through faith, the free gift of God,  
you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ.  
In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.  
The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead  
dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts,  
and gives you life and peace.

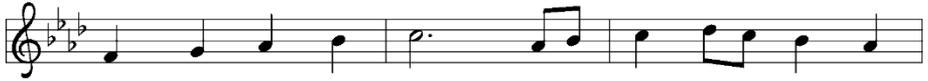
**Amen.**

# Gathering Song

# O Lord, throughout These Forty Days ELW # 319



1 O Lord, through - out these for - ty days you  
2 You strove with Sa - tan, and you won; your  
3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet you prayed and  
4 Be with us through this sea - son, Lord, and



prayed and kept the fast; in - spire re - pen - tance  
faith - ful - ness en - dured; lend us your nerve, your  
fixed your mind a - bove; so teach us to de -  
all our earth - ly days, that when the fi - nal



for our sin, and free us from our past.  
skill and trust in God's e - ter - nal word.  
ny our - selves that we may know God's love.  
Eas - ter dawns, we join in heav - en's praise.

Text: based on Claudia F. Hernaman, 1838–1898; para. Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930  
Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davisson, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816  
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

## 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.**

*Our HOP today is another African American Spiritual that was first introduced in America in October, 2005 at Westminster Choir College in Princeton. The spiritual expresses that only one thing is important and that is to want Jesus. It is noted that “there is a desire to have Jesus present with us in our pain. The plea is not to have Jesus take the pain away, but to have Jesus walk with us.” It is also noted that “this spiritual is a song, a poem and a prayer.”*

# Hymn of Praise

# I Want Jesus to Walk with Me ELW # 325



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



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

Text: African American spiritual  
Music: SOJOURNER, African American spiritual

## 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.*

## THE WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

### First Reading

**Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7**

A reading from Genesis, chapters 2 and 3.

<sup>15</sup> The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. <sup>16</sup> And the LORD God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden, <sup>17</sup> 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."

<sup>3:1</sup> 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'?" <sup>2</sup> The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, <sup>3</sup> 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.' " <sup>4</sup> But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die, <sup>5</sup> for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." <sup>6</sup> 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. <sup>7</sup> 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.

Word of God. Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

# Psalm 32

# Bless the Lord

The congregation will sing the following response:

Dm G Dm B♭ C F A

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's ho - ly name. —

Dm G Dm B♭ C Dm

Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me in - to life.

- 1 Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven,  
and whose sin is put away!
- 2 Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt,  
and in whose spirit there is no guile!
- 3 While I held my tongue, my bones withered away,  
because of my groaning all day long.
- 4 For your hand was heavy upon me day and night;  
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer. **Response**
- 5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt.  
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." Then you  
forgave me the guilt of my sin.
- 6 Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of  
trouble;  
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.
- 7 You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble;  
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.
- 8 "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go;  
I will guide you with my eye. **Response**
- 9 Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding;  
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay  
near you."
- 10 Great are the tribulations of the wicked;  
but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.
- 11 Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD;  
shout for joy, all who are true of heart. **Response**

A reading from Romans, chapter 5.

<sup>12</sup> 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 <sup>13</sup> for sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. <sup>14</sup> 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.

<sup>15</sup> 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. <sup>16</sup> 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. <sup>17</sup> 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.

<sup>18</sup> 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. <sup>19</sup> 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.

Word of God. Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand in body or spirit.*

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Return to the Lord  
ELW Setting Four**



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,



slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

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

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

<sup>5</sup> Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, <sup>6</sup> 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.' "

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

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

'Worship the Lord your God,  
and serve only him.' "

<sup>11</sup> Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

A Moment of Prayer

ELW # 473 | Holy, Holy, Holy



San - to, san - to, san - to, mi co - ra - zón te\_a - do - ra.  
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you.



Mi co - ra - zón te sa - be de-cir: San - to\_e-res Se - ñor.  
 My heart is glad to say the words: You are ho - ly, God.

Text: Argentine traditional  
 Music: ARGENTINE SANTO, Argentine traditional

The Message

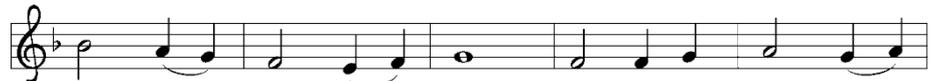
Ken Souders

*Please stand in body or spirit.*

Hymn of the Day ELW # 803 | When I Survey the Wondrous Cross



1 When I sur - ve y the won - drous cross on which the  
 2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the  
 3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and  
 4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a



prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I  
 death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that  
 love flow min - gled down. Did e'er such love and  
 pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss and pour con - tempt on all my pride.  
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.  
 sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?  
 so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748  
 Music: HAMBURG, Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

## **Apostles' Creed**

Let us name and proclaim the God who saves us, 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 kneel or sit as you are able for the prayers.*

## **Prayers of Intercession**

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

*A brief silence.*

God of all grace, grant faith to your church. Give to all the baptized the will to resist temptation and to worship and serve you alone. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of all creation, tend this earth. When human greed and disobedience threaten this planet and the life it contains, lead us by your Spirit into ways of reverence, awe, and gentleness. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of all nations, preserve us from trouble. Surround all living in places of violence with your steadfast love and give resilience to all who work for peace. Grant courage to those who challenge, especially around issues of racism and systemic oppression. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of all healing, mend our wounds. Bring wholeness to all who are sick, give peace to all who groan in grief, and send companions to all who are lonely or isolated. We pray especially for Bob, Mary Jane, Matt, Shane, Michael, Hans, Marie, Nancy, Scott, Darlene, the Engstrom family, the Rothenheber family, the Daniels family, the Wendte family, the Miller family, and the Griffin family. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of all people, provide for our community. For any among us who hunger for bread, bring nourishment. For any among us who hunger for truth, speak your life-giving word. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of all life, bring us to you. We thank you for your free and abounding grace, and for those who, by that same grace, now rest eternally in you. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

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

**Amen.**

## **Passing of the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*You are invited to share God's peace with those around you  
and to greet those who are worshipping online.*

*Please be seated.*

*Following the resurrection, Jesus said to Thomas, "Because you have seen me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." (John 20:29)*

*Please stand.*

## Offertory

## Create in Me a Clean Heart WOV # 732

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
spir-it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres-ence, and  
take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store un - to me the  
joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

## Offering Prayer

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Gracious God, you have been faithful to our ancestors, bringing us  
throughout time to this very day  
And remind us that we are all kindred in your eyes  
**We are better together.**

You invite us to trust in your abundance, live generous lives,  
And recognize that your good best work is done in communion with  
you and one another:  
**We are better together.**

And so in service to our neighbor, in love for all creation,  
and in proclamation of your good news for all:

**We are better together.**

Bless these gifts we've gathered, remembering all you have done,  
and all you do  
give us generous hearts,  
honest commitment to the call you've placed before us,  
and sincere trust that we can rely on your grace and sufficiency  
Let us be your people, and serve the world in love as you first loved us  
**Amen.**

### **Lord's Prayer**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

## Blessing

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,  
✠ bless you now and always.

A - men, a - men, a - - men.

WORDS and MUSIC: Alex. PS

Prepared by [www.DigitalSongLeadHymns.com](http://www.DigitalSongLeadHymns.com)

## The Sending Song

**Jesus, Still Lead On**  
**ELW # 624**

**Please see the next page for the hymn.**

## Dismissal

Go in peace. Believe the good news.  
**Thanks be to God.**



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.

Text: Nicolaus L. von Zinzendorf, 1700–1760; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–1897, alt.  
Music: SEELENBRÄUTIGAM, Adam Drese, 1620–1701

## Your Prayers Are Invited

*We hope you will add the following people to your personal prayers. Those who are listed for longer than 6 weeks can be found on the long-term prayer list through the link in the weekly e-news or the monthly Link newsletters. To add a name to the prayer list or provide an update, please contact the office.*

Bob

Mary Jane Brenneman

Matt Cirigliano (friend of Pastor Kaegler)

Shane Morrissy

Hans Noerr (friend of Don & Pat Hallman)

Michael Nugent (Stephanie Staerk's cousin)

Darlene Pappas (friend of Bob Kelly)

Nancy Renner

Scott Robinson (son of the congregation)

Marie Wilson (member of 60 Plus)

*The flowers on the altar today have been sponsored by  
Andy Manus in celebration of her son's birthday  
and  
by Chris Reynolds in memory of Joan Reynolds.*

### Online Giving

*To make an offering to support the work of Christ's Lutheran Church and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, you may use this QR code to access our site for secure online giving.*



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**Christ's Lutheran Church**  
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**[clcsecretary@christs-oreland.org](mailto:clcsecretary@christs-oreland.org)**

Ministers	The People of Christ's Lutheran Church	
Senior Pastor	Reverend Axel Kaegler	
Director of Spiritual Formation	Becca Shelor	
Director of Music	Ken Selinger	
Administrative Assistant	Lorraine Pfeiffer	
Preschool Director	Sally Mead	
Sexton	Pete Carr	

Assisting Minister	Don Hallman	
Soundboard	Diane Polis	
Livestream	Rick Daniels, Don Hallman, John Melnick, Paul Zieger	
Counter(s)	Sue Frantz	
Closer	Jen Morrissy	
Assisting Minister next Sunday	Elise Seyfried	

Upcoming Altar Guild March 1	Bonnie Zieger, Marge Holmes	
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**This Week at CLC!**

<b>Sunday</b>	9:00 am	Family Tables (chapel)
	9:00 am	Choir Rehearsal
	10:30 am	Worship at CLC and online
	2:00 pm	Community Garden Seed Swap (200)
<b>Monday</b>	9:30 am	Monday Morning Men
	10:00 am – 6:00 pm	PBJ Collection (chapel)
	11:00 am	CLC Yarners (200)
	7:30 pm	BS Troop 1 (PH)
<b>Tuesday</b>	9:00 am – 10:45 am	PBJ Collection (chapel)
	6:00 pm	Lions/Tigers (203/204)
	7:00 pm	AOL Scouts (200)
	7:00 pm	Webelos (PH)
	7:00 pm	Pub Theology (Tannery Run)
<b>Wednesday</b>	10:00 am	Bible Study (200)
	7:00 pm	AA (PH)
	7:00 pm	Mid-week Lenten Service (chapel)
<b>Thursday</b>	7:00 pm	ZOOM Bible Study
<b>Friday</b>	8:00 pm	AA (200)
<b>Saturday</b>	9:00 am	Troop 1 (PH)





**Christ's Lutheran Church**

700 E. Pennsylvania Ave  
Oreland, PA 19075

**FREE  
ENTRY**

**Spring Craft Fair**

**March 7th, 2026**

**9 AM to 2 PM**

*Over 20 Unique Local Crafters - Raffle Baskets - Food for Sale  
Proceeds of Raffle Baskets & Food Sales go to  
the Willow Grove Baptist Food Pantry*

[www.christs-oreland.org](http://www.christs-oreland.org) - Facebook: Christ's Lutheran Church, Oreland PA - [Community@christs-oreland.org](mailto:Community@christs-oreland.org)