



Holy Spirit Lutheran Church

ELCIC

A Welcoming Christ-Centered Community

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March 1, 2026 – Second Sunday in Lent Service of Holy Communion

Pastor: Rev. Liz Bell
Assisting Minister: Carola Unsworth
Ministers: Every member
Ushers: Harry W

Council President: Karen Oko
Musician: Isaac Courneyea
Video/Live Streaming: Anton Chell
Worship Host: Kathryn Elford

Welcome

Gathering Song “Alleluia, Song of Gladness” (ELW 318, WOV 654)

Kyrie & Gloria - ELW Setting 3, p 138

Prayer of the Day

Children’s Time

First Reading: Genesis 12:1-4a

¹ The Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. ² I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³ I 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.

Psalm 121 read responsively

¹ I lift up my eyes to the hills;
from where is my help to come?

² **My help comes from the Lord,
the maker of heaven and earth.**

³ The Lord will not let your foot be moved
nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

⁴ **Behold, the keeper of Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep;**

⁵ the Lord watches over you;
the Lord is your shade at your right hand;

⁶ **the sun will not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.**

⁷ The Lord will preserve you from all evil
and will keep your life.

⁸ **The Lord will watch over your going out and your coming in,
from this time forth forevermore.**

Second Reading Romans 4:1-5,13-17

¹ What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? ² For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³ For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." ⁴ Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. ⁵ But to one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. ¹³ For 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. ¹⁴ For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵ For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law, neither is there transgression. ¹⁶ For this reason the promise depends on faith, in order that it may rest on grace, so that it may be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (who is the father of all of us, ¹⁷ 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.

Gospel Acclamation - ELW Setting 3, pg 142

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. ¹²If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that 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.”

Sermon

Song of the DAY *‘God Loved the World’* (ELW 323)

Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten,
not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

In our prayers: Gertie B, Carl C, Tom d, Susan K, Cody M, Brendan S, Pr. Erin T, Ed L, Mary R, Shirley E, Faye P, and those we hold dear in our hearts.

Peace

Offertory “*God’s Work, Our Hands*” (ACS 1000), vs 2

Offering Prayer

Great Thanksgiving – ELW Setting 3, p 144

Holy, Holy - ELW Setting 3, p 144

Lord’s Prayer written by Rev. Jim Burklo

**Dear One, closer to us than our own hearts,
farther from us than the most distant star,
you are beyond naming.**

**May your powerful presence become obvious
not only in the undeniable glory of the sky,
but also in the seemingly base and common processes of the earth.**

**Give us what we need, day by day, to keep body and soul together,
because clever as you have made us, we still owe our existence to you.**

**We recognize that to be reconciled with you,
we must live peaceably and justly with other human beings,
putting hate and bitterness behind us.**

**We are torn between our faith in your goodness
and our awareness of the evil in your creation,
so deliver us from the temptation to despair.**

**Yours alone is the universe and all its majesty and beauty.
So it is, Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

Communion Songs

Lamb of God – ELW Setting 3, pg. 146

‘*A New Commandment*’ (WOV 664) sing 2x

‘*Great God, Your Love Has Called Us*’ (ELW 358, WOV 666)

‘*Be Thou My Vision*’ (WOV 776)

Benediction – ‘*Hope Everlasting*’ Liturgy of the Beloved

Community Life

Sending Song ‘*What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine*’ (ELW 774, WOV 780) vs 1,2

Dismissal

