



# The First Sunday of Lent

February 22, 2026 | 9:00am

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**Annunciation of Our Lady Episcopal Church**  
5725 Stearns School Road, Gurnee, Illinois  
(847) 336-3730 | [annunciationgurnee.org](http://annunciationgurnee.org)

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# Welcome to Annunciation

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## Before Worship

We ask that conversations and greetings before the worship service happen in the Narthex. We try to keep the Nave as a space for quiet prayer and contemplation as we enter into worship.

## What's Happening

The bulletin is your guide to everything happening in our parish. It contains everything you need to fully participate in the service. Some of the music we will sing can be found here in the bulletin or the Red or Blue hymnal in your pew.

## Receiving Communion

- *You're Invited: This is Jesus' table; he made no restrictions, and neither do we.*
- *Host: Our communion is by bread or wafer. The priest or deacon will place the sacrament in your hand.*
- *Wine: You are invited to receive the wine by the common cup, either by sipping (please guide the chalice with your hand) or by intinction (dipping the wafer in the wine).*
- *If you would like to receive in the single-serving cups, a Eucharistic Minister will have a tray of cups by the right ambulatory.*
- *Gluten-free wafers are available. Ask the priest for one when you come up.*
- *Healing Prayer: If you would like someone to pray for you for healing of mind, body, or spirit, you're invited to go to the side chapel at any time during Communion.*

## Hospitality

After the service, please enjoy good food, coffee, and conversation in the Parish Hall.

## Let's Get Connected!

We want to get to know you better and tell you more about our community. Please fill in a Newcomer Card, available at the Communications Center near the main entrance.

## Children

We welcome children to participate fully, and we do not expect them to be perfectly quiet. If your child

needs a break, feel free to bring them to the Narthex (lobby) or make use of our Nursery: take a left as you exit the worship space, down the hall.

## Restrooms

The main restrooms are off the Parish Hall, to your right as you exit the worship space. A gender-neutral restroom is located to your left as you exit the worship space, down the hall.

## Wheelchair Accommodations

There are wheelchair-friendly spaces in the pews, on the outside aisles. Accessible restroom stalls are in the main restrooms off the Parish Hall, to your right as you exit the worship space.

## Hearing Assistance

Hearing devices are located on the table near the main entrance. Please ask an usher for assistance.

## Online Worship

We record and broadcast our services via Zoom. You can find the link to the Zoom on our electronic Parish News.

**Additionally, if you are not comfortable or do not consent to your image being shown on our broadcast, we encourage you to be aware of the camera and ask you to consider taking a seat behind the camera on the left side of the Nave.**

## Streaming to Facebook Live

If you aren't able to join us for our in person service, the video will be available at:

<https://www.facebook.com/annunciationurnee>

You do not need a Facebook account to view the video.

## In-person, indoor worship

- If you are not feeling well, please stay home.
- **Masks are optional inside. Please gauge your own continuum of safety.**

*Please ask an usher or worship leader for assistance with anything you need.*

# The Liturgy of the Word

## Prelude

### Entrance Hymn

*Please stand, as able, to sing.*

#142, *The Hymnal 1982*

*Lord, throughout these forty days*

### A Penitential Order

*Celebrant:* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

*People:* ***His mercy endures for ever.***

*Celebrant:* Beloved in the Lord: Our Savior Christ, on the night before he suffered, instituted the Sacrament of his Body and Blood as a sign and pledge of his love, for the continual remembrance of the sacrifice of his death, and for a spiritual sharing in his risen life. For in these holy Mysteries we are made one with Christ, and Christ with us; we are made one body in him, and members one of another.

Having in mind, therefore, his great love for us, and in obedience to his command, his Church renders to Almighty God our heavenly Father never-ending thanks for the creation of the world, for his continual providence over us, for his love for all humankind, and for the redemption of the world by our Savior Christ, who took upon himself our flesh, and humbled himself even to death on the cross, that he might make us the children of God by the power of the Holy Spirit, and exalt us to everlasting life.

But if we are to share rightly in the celebration of those holy Mysteries, and be nourished by that spiritual Food, we must remember the dignity of that holy Sacrament. I therefore call upon you to consider how Saint Paul exhorts all persons to prepare themselves carefully before eating of that Bread and drinking of that Cup.

For, as the benefit is great, if with penitent hearts and living faith we receive the holy Sacrament, so is the danger great, if we receive it improperly, not recognizing the Lord's Body. Judge yourselves, therefore, lest you be judged by the Lord. Examine your lives and conduct by the rule of God's commandments, that you may perceive wherein you have offended in what you have done or left undone, whether in thought, word, or deed. And acknowledge your sins before Almighty God, with full purpose of amendment of life, being ready to make restitution for all injuries and wrongs done by you to others; and also being ready to forgive those who have offended you, in order that you yourselves may be forgiven.

And then, being reconciled with one another, come to the banquet of that most heavenly Food.

And if, in your preparation, you need help and counsel, then go and open your grief to a discreet and understanding priest, and confess your sins, that you may receive the benefit of absolution, and spiritual counsel and advice; to the removal of scruple and doubt, the assurance of pardon, and the strengthening of your faith.

To Christ our Lord who loves us, and washed us in his own blood, and made us a kingdom of priests to serve his God and Father, to him be glory in the Church evermore. Through him let us offer continually the sacrifice of praise, which is our bounden duty and service, and, with faith in him, come boldly before the throne of grace.

*Celebrant:* Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these."

*Deacon:* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

**All:** *Most merciful God, we confess that 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. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.*

*Celebrant:* Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

*People: Amen.*

### **Collect of the Day**

*Celebrant:* Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

*People: Amen.*

### **Kyrie**

#S86, *The Hymnal 1982*

*Please be seated*

### **The First Lesson**

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

*Reader:* A reading from the book of Genesis.

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.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.  
*People:* ***Thanks be to God.***

## **The Psalm**

*Psalm 32*

*Reader:* Let us respond to the psalm, saying "Happy are we who have been forgiven."

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

Happy are they to whom the  
Lord imputes no guilt, \*  
and in whose spirit there is no  
guile!

While I held my tongue, my  
bones withered away, \*  
because of my groaning all day  
long.

*People:* ***Happy are we who have  
been forgiven.***

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

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.

Therefore all the faithful will  
make their prayers to you in

time of trouble; \*when the  
great waters overflow, they  
shall not reach them.

*People:* ***Happy are we who have  
been forgiven.***

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

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

*People:* ***Happy are we who have  
been forgiven.***

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."

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

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

*People: Happy are we who have  
been forgiven.*

## **The Second Lesson**

*Romans 5:12-19*

*Reader:* A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

As sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned-- sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type 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 free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion 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 by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

*People:* ***Thanks be to God.***

## **Gospel Acclamation**

*All stand, as able, and sing:*

*Dust and Ashes, Gather Hymnal*

## **The Gospel**

*Matthew 4:1-11*

*Deacon:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

*People:* ***Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

*Deacon:* Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards 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 splendor; and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." 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.

*Deacon:* The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People:* ***Praise to you, Lord Christ.***

## **The Sermon**

### **The Creed**

*All stand, as able, and say:*

***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:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate  
from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.  
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.***

***With the Father and the Son he is  
worshiped and glorified.***

***He 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.***

*Leader:* With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying "*Lord, have mercy.*"

*Leader:* For the peace from above, for the loving-kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

*People: Lord, have mercy.*

*Leader:* For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord. This morning we pray for Fort Dauphin in the Diocese of Toliara and The Church of Ireland. We also pray for those places touched by violence and war: Gaza,

*People: Lord, have mercy.*

*Leader:* For our Bishop Paula, for Sean, the Presiding Bishop, Sarah, the Archbishop of Canterbury, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

*People: Lord, have mercy.*

*Leader:* For our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

*People: Lord, have mercy.*

*Leader:* For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

*People: Lord, have mercy.*

*Leader:* For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

*People: Lord, have mercy.*

*Leader:* For *Eric and family, John and Jane, Dorothy, Dan, Ilay and family, John, Kay, Mark, the Sharp family, Dale, Tony, Robbie, Karen and Jon, Jerry, Walter, Brent, Tom* let us pray to the Lord.

*People: Lord, have mercy.*

*Leader:* For all who celebrate birthdays and anniversaries this week.

*People: Lord, have mercy.*

*Leader:* For all those who serve in the Armed Forces, including *Zoë Babowice, Moshe McClain, Liam Mellen, Christopher Pavy, Nick Unda, Karl Mohrmann, Trish Hull, Clay Anderson, and Quinton Hocking*

*People: Lord, have mercy.*

*Leader:* For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

*People: Lord, have mercy.*

*Leader:* O God, who created all peoples in your image, we thank you for the wonderful diversity of races and cultures in this world. Enrich our lives by ever-widening circles of fellowship, and show us your presence in those who differ most from us, until our knowledge of your love is made perfect in our love for all your children; let us pray to the Lord.

*People: Lord, have mercy.*

*Leader:* For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord. This morning we remember **Ralph** Gigiano (2/23/22), **Rob** Quick (2/23/2022), **Cynthia** Mellen (2/25/2020), **Anita** Murrens (2/27/2018), **Norman** Lang (2/27/2005) and **Bob** Bental.

*People:* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Leader:* For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

*People:* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Leader:* For the poor and the helpless, the hungry and the oppressed. This morning we pray for the people served by Sunrise Assisted Living, PADS and the Community Meal program, for our friends in Madagascar: **Bishop Samy, Bishop Victor, Canon Donne, Laundrina, Clarita, Manirisoa, Norbert, Louisiano.** Let us pray to the Lord.

*People:* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Leader:* That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

*People:* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Leader:* Defend us, deliver us, and in thy compassion protect us, O Lord, by thy grace.

*People:* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Leader:* In the communion of the Ever Blessed Virgin Mary and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

*People:* **To thee, O Lord our God.**

*Celebrant:* Lord, hear the prayers of thy people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*People:* **Amen.**

## **The Peace**

*Celebrant:* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*After you have greeted others, please have a seat.*

## **Offertory**

*Celebrant:* Ascribe to the Lord the honor due God's name; bring offerings and come into God's courts with praise and thanksgiving.

*All are invited to make an offering to Annunciation as an expression of gratitude for God's generosity. You can place your gift in the alms basin (offering plate), or you can make an online donation through Zelle by using the QR code or through your bank (use the email: [treasurer@annunciationgurnee.org](mailto:treasurer@annunciationgurnee.org)). Thank you for your generosity!*



## **Offertory Hymn**

*All remain seated to sing.*

#441, *The Hymnal 1982*  
*In the cross of Christ I glory*

## Presentation Hymn

Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings to the altar.  
Please stand, as able, and sing:

Praise God, from whom all bles-sings flow; Praise Him, all crea-tures here be-low;

Praise Him a-bove, ye heav'n-ly host; Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A-men.

# The Holy Communion

## Sending Forth of Lay Eucharistic Visitors

*Celebrant:* Hear us, O heavenly Father, and with your Word and Holy Spirit bless and sanctify this bread and wine that it, also, may be the Sacrament of the precious Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who took bread and the cup and said, "This is my Body, this is my Blood." Amen.

*Deacon:* You have been entrusted with the sacraments of the church. Go and share these signs of our community with those who are unable to be a part of our gathering, and assure them that they are in our prayers. May you bring peace to these places that welcome you.

## The Great Thanksgiving

*Enriching Our Worship 1, Prayer 1*

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* ***And also with you.***

*Celebrant:* Lift up your hearts.

*People:* ***We lift them to the Lord.***

*Celebrant:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People:* ***It is right to give God thanks and praise.***

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you. Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

*all sing:*

#S124, *The Hymnal 1982*

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love.

Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people. Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*People: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.*

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your children, that with the ever-blessed Virgin Mary and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.

*People: Amen!*

### **The Lord's Prayer**

*Celebrant:* And now as our savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

*People: 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, for ever and ever. Amen.*

### **Fraction Anthem**

*all sing:*

#S161, *The Hymnal 1982*

### **Invitation to Communion**

*Celebrant:* The gifts of God for the people of God.

## Communion Hymn

#336, *The Hymnal 1982*  
*Come with us O Blessed Jesus*

## Postcommunion Prayer

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

*You're invited to stand or kneel, as able.*

*People:* ***Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.***

## Solemn Lenten Prayer

*Deacon:* Let us bow down before the Lord. Grant, Almighty God, that your people may recognize their weakness and put their whole trust in your strength, so that they may rejoice for ever in the protection of your loving providence; through Christ our Lord.

*People:* ***Amen.***

## Welcome & Announcements

## Closing Hymn

#445, *The Hymnal 1982*  
*Praise to the Holiest*

## The Dismissal

*Deacon:* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People:* ***Thanks be to God.***

## Postlude

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## Ministers of the Service

*Crucifer/Acolyte* Bob Coates  
*1st Reader & Psalm* Deb Modde  
*2nd Reader* Chris Schrantz  
*Prayers* Miriam Berry  
*Euch. Minister* Br. Dunstan, OLW and Jane Penticoff  
*Ushers* Jane and Brian Penticoff

*Sunrise Minister* Elizabeth Danos, Jay Stripling, Steve Kulbis  
*Altar Guild* Br. Dunstan, OLW  
*Healing Minister* Tom Crafton  
*Digital Verger* Linda Lutter  
*Musicians* Elaine and Ron O'Neil

## Staff & Leadership

### *Rector*

The Rev. Jenni Liem - [rector@annunciationurnee.org](mailto:rector@annunciationurnee.org)

### *Deacon*

The Rev. Anne Smith - [deacon.annunciation@gmail.com](mailto:deacon.annunciation@gmail.com)

*Wardens* - Leanne Ulmer and Chris Schrantz

*Vestry* - Terry Kline, Andrea Lindblad, Debbie Rakestraw, Gin Bosserman, David McClain, Peggy Fennell, Ryan Potochnik

*Clerk of the Vestry* - Bob Coates

*Treasurer* - Elaine O'Neil

[treasurer@annunciationurnee.org](mailto:treasurer@annunciationurnee.org)



## Annunciation

*Annunciation is a place..*

*To be included*

*To be honest*

*To be challenged*

*To be empowered*

*To find hope*