

# First Sunday in Lent February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2026

## Order of Service

7:45 a.m.	10:30 a.m.
DSIII (pg.184)	DSIII (pg.184)
Hymns	Hymns
711, 729, 713, 722, 716	711, 729, 722

## Sermon

“Who You Gonna Trust?”  
Pastor Mark Brandt

## Scripture Readings

*Genesis 3:1-21:* Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden?’” The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, ‘You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.’” “You will not surely die,” the serpent said to the woman. “For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves. Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, “Where are you?” He answered, “I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid.” And he said,

“Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?” The man said, “The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it.” Then the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.” So the Lord God said to the serpent, “Cursed are you above all livestock and all wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life. And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.” To the woman he said, “I will make your pains in childbearing very severe; with painful labor you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you.” To Adam he said, “Because you listened to your wife and ate fruit from the tree about which I commanded you, ‘You must not eat from it,’ cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat food from it all the days of your life. It will produce thorns and thistles, and you will eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, for dust you are and to dust you shall return.”

*Romans 5:12-19:* Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned—To be sure, sin was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not charged against anyone’s account where there is no law. Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who is a pattern of the one to come. But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did

God’s grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many! Nor can the gift of God be compared with the result of one man’s sin: The judgment followed one sin and brought condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification. For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God’s abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ! Consequently, just as one trespass resulted in condemnation for all people, so also one righteous act resulted in justification and life for all people. For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.

*Matthew 4:1-11:* Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. The tempter came to him and said, “If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.” Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’” Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. “If you are the Son of God,” he said, “throw yourself down. For it is written: ‘He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.’” Jesus answered him, “It is also 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. “All this I will give you,” he said, “if you will bow down and worship me.” Jesus said to him, “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your

God, and serve him only.’” Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

## Serving in Worship Today

Elders . . . *Rodney Hecht, Kevin Kern; Lucas Brown*  
Organist . . . . . *Pam Bernreuter*  
Choir . . . . . *Handbells*  
Usher . . . . . *Matt Buchinger; Jeff Mossner*  
Altar Guild . . . . . *Lynn Hecht*  
Acolytes . . . . . *Alexis Balcer; Brylee Bickel*

## Wednesday

Elder . . . . . *Lucas Brown*  
Pianist . . . . . *Pam Bernreuter*  
Usher . . . . . *Jeff Mossner*

## This week at St. Michael’s

Today . . . . . Communion 7:45 a.m.  
   *Bible Class/KidzMin 9 a.m.*  
   Worship Service 10:30 a.m.  
Mon . . . . . *Bd. Of Education 6 p.m.*  
Tue . . . . . Adult Choir 7 p.m.  
Wed . . . . . *Lenten Supper 5:30 p.m.*  
   Lenten Service 7 p.m.  
Next Sun. . . . . Worship Service 7:45 a.m.  
   *Bible Class 9 a.m.*  
   Communion 10:30 a.m.

*175th Anniversary:* We continue our celebration today with Pastor Mark Brandt as our guest preacher. Pastor Brandt formerly served St. Lorenz and also as a Michigan District Vice-President.

*“Lord, Teach Us To Pray:”* You are invited to Bible study this morning in the overflow room as Pastor Gillaspie leads us in a study of the Lord’s Prayer, and prayer in general.

*Midweek Lenten Worship:* We continue with our theme of the Seven Deadly Sins. This Wednesday at 7:00 we turn our attention to

Peter who, out of pride told Jesus, "I will never deny you!"

*Lenten Supper @ 5:30:* St Michael's Adult Choir is hosting this Wednesday's Lenten Supper. Donations will go towards the St. Michael's Hot Lunch. Please consider joining us for Spaghetti, salads and desserts.

*Lenten Devotionals:* Special Lenten devotional booklets entitled "Witnesses to Christ" are available at the exits. We thank Lutheran Laymen's League for providing these!

*Youth Group:* Today, Minute to Win It and Trivia Night.... the competition is on! Pizza, Prizes, and a Prayer (devotion) We will meet at the church from 6:00 PM till 7:30 PM.

*175th Anniversary:* Pastor Gillaspie and members of the 175th Committee will be interviewed live this Thursday morning at 9:00 on radio station WSGW, AM 790.

*Sisters of Ruth* will meet Wed. March 4<sup>th</sup> at 12 p.m. in the overflow room for a potluck.

*Grant applications* for St Michael's Endowment Non-Designated Fund are now available on our website or in the church office. To locate the application on the website, go to About/Endowment and then scroll down to grant application. These applications may be turned in at the church office and are due March 30. Any questions, contact Pam Bierlein 989-971-3340.

*St. Michael's Church Anniversary:* We are looking for people of all ages who would like to be part of a special anniversary video, and we are looking for old photos from past events or memories at St. Michael's. If you're interested or

have photos to share, please contact Mallorie Rogers at 989-882-7249.

*Happy Times* for Feb/Mar are available at the exits.

*Did you know?* It wasn't until 1931 that the congregation decided to include an English service every third Sunday of the month. The voters' meeting minutes, however, continued to be recorded in German until December 3rd 1950, when they were recorded in English for the first time.

Attendance

Sun. Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> ..... 438  
Ash Wed. Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> ..... 195

Other News

*The Lutheran Hour* airs on WSAM-1400 from 8:30 to 9:00 a.m. every Sunday. Next Sunday: "The Fifth Act" *Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler*; Through the Bible, God invites us to help Him complete the unfinished drama He's been writing for the world. 1 Corinthians 4:1

## Prayers

Health

*Lucas Brown; Michelle DeCoe; Ben Dzioba; Don Duperon; Hope Hecht; Faith Heinlein; Ann Houser; Barb Kern; Carolyn Navarre; Eugene Palmreuter; Barb Rupprecht; Rollie Wenzel*

Sympathy

*Family of Lewis Abraham; who passed away Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>, funeral was Feb 20<sup>th</sup>.*  
*Family of Luella Buchinger, who passed away Feb. 16<sup>th</sup>, funeral was Feb 19<sup>th</sup>.*  
*Family of Dennis Fischer; who passed away Feb 17<sup>th</sup>, funeral is March 7<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m.*

Thanksgiving

*Arlene Bierlein's 92<sup>nd</sup> Birthday; Feb. 21<sup>st</sup>*

Mission

Rev. Nathaniel and Emma Jensen serve the Lord through The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) in Kaiserslautern, Germany. Nathaniel is pastor of Kaiserslautern Evangelical Lutheran Church, which serves U.S. military members stationed in the area as well as other English speakers. In addition, Nathaniel works with the Synod's partner church in Germany to proclaim the Gospel to non-English speakers, and he serves as a mentor to seminary students throughout the region.

Prayer of the Day

"Almighty and eternal God, we implore You to direct, sanctify, and govern our hearts and minds to follow Your Commandments, that through Your divine protection we may remain in true faith; through Jesus Christ Your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen."

