

Second Sunday in Lent March 1st, 2026

Order of Service

7:45 a.m.	10:30 a.m.
DSIII (pg.184)	DSIII (pg.184)
<u>Hymns</u>	<u>Hymns</u>
566, 611, 575	566, 611, 555, 575

Sermon

"By the grace of God I am what I am"
Rev. Wes Gillaspie

Scripture Readings

Genesis 12:1-8: The Lord had said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you. I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all people on earth will be blessed through you." So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Haran. He took his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, all the possessions they had accumulated and the people they had acquired in Haran, and they set out for the land of Canaan. Abram traveled through the land as far as the site of the great tree of Moreh at Shechem. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. The Lord appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built an altar there to the Lord, who had appeared to him. From there he went on toward the hills east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. There he built an altar to the Lord and called on the name of the Lord.

I Corinthians 15:3-11: For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day

according to the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, and then to the Twelve. After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born. For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me. Whether, then, it is I or they, this is what we preach, and this is what you believed.

John 3:1-17: Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. He came to Jesus at night and said, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him." Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again." "How can someone be born when they are old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother's womb to be born!" Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit." "How can this be?" Nicodemus asked. "You are Israel's teacher," said Jesus, "and do you not understand these things? Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we

have seen, but still you do not accept our testimony. I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven: the Son of Man. Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him. For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him."

Serving in Worship Today

Elders *Charles Zwerk; Dennis Thurston, Dave Miller, Mark Schiefer*
Organist *Pam Bernreuter*
Choir *Adult Choir*
Usher *Don Bierlein; Klair Bierlein*
Altar Guild *Lynn Hecht*
Acolytes *Alexis Balcer; Brylee Bickel*

Wednesday

Elder *Ben Bekemeier, Jason Hecht*
Pianist *Calista Daenzer*
Usher *Klair Bierlein*

This week at St. Michael's

Today Worship Service 7:45 a.m.
Bible Class/KidzMin 9 a.m.
Communion 10:30 a.m.
Mon *Mary Martha 7 p.m.*
Tue Elders 7 p.m.
Adult Choir 7 p.m.
Wed Sisters of Ruth 12 p.m.
Lenten Supper 5:30 p.m.
Lenten Service 7 p.m.
Thurs. *ECC 6:30 p.m.*
Next Sun. Communion 7:45 a.m.

Bible Class/KidzMin 9 a.m.
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

Daylight Saving Time begins next weekend, so "spring" your clocks forward one hour Saturday night!

Church Council at 7:00 Monday March 9th in the overflow room, with *Voters* after late worship Sunday on the 15th. Executive Committee meets March 17th at 7:00.

Dennis Fischer Funeral is at 11:00 a.m. Saturday.

St Michael's Choir would like to invite former choir members and students to join us in singing for the funeral of Dennis Fischer on Saturday, March 7th. A rehearsal will be held Tuesday, March 3rd. We would be honored to have you join us as we come together in song to celebrate Dennis' life.

"*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.

Mary Martha will meet tomorrow, March 2nd, in the overflow room at 7 p.m. Principal Joel Rachow will be our guest speaker.

Wednesday Lenten worship continues this week at 7:00 with Pastor Mark Auernhamer's message on the deadly sin of lust.

Lenten Supper @ 5:30: Our Lenten Supper on Wednesday will be hosted by St. Michael's LLL. Donations will go to St. Michael's Hot Lunch Program. Please join us for delicious fellowship and food! On the menu: Soup, bread 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 March 8th, Meet at the church at 1:30 PM. We will carpool over to Saginaw Bay Ice Arena, and skate 2:15 - 3:35. Then we will come back to church for pick-up around 4:00. Cost: \$10.00/person. The concession will be open there during our visit. Please make sure you have a current 2026 waiver done. Parents, if you can drive, let Mrs. Hoepfner know. Please RSVP by March 4.

Sisters of Ruth will meet Wed. March 4th 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.

Bus Trip to Genetit's in Northville for dinner and a murder-mystery show, "Dying for a Drink" March 25th, Cost: \$75.00 (includes Bus, Dinner, Show, & Tip) Limited seats available. Money due March 10th. Please call Nancy Schuluckbier (989) 529-0320

Attendance

Sun. Feb. 22nd 342
Wed. Feb. 25th 107

Other News

The Lutheran Hour airs on WSAM-1400 from 8:30 to 9:00 a.m. every Sunday. Next

Sunday: "What Was the Price on That?" *Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Daniel Paavola*; When we couldn't pay the price of our redemption, God did so completely by the life of Jesus. 1 Corinthians 6:19-20

Prayers

Health

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

Mission

Rev. Dr. Gerald and Heidi Paul serve the Lord through The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) as career missionaries in the Cayman Islands. As a pastor and church planter, Gerald works with the church leadership of Safe Harbour Lutheran Church to reach out to the people of the Cayman Islands — both locals and expats — with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Prayer of the Day

"Heavenly Father, Your glory is to always show mercy.

Be gracious to all who have gone astray and bring them back again with repentant hearts and steadfast faith so they will hold fast to the unchangeable truth of Your Word; through Jesus Christ Your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen."

