

## February 18, 2026



### Gathering

*Ringing of Bell*

PRELUDE

GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

L: Let us pray.

**C: Gracious God, out of your love and mercy you breathed into dust the breath of life, creating us to serve you and our neighbors. Call forth our prayers and acts of kindness, and strengthen us to face our mortality with confidence in the mercy of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

P: Friends in Christ, today with the whole church we enter into the time of remembering Jesus' Passover from death to life, and our life in Christ is renewed. We begin this holy season by acknowledging our need for repentance and for God's mercy. We are created to experience joy in communion with God, to love one another, and to live in harmony with creation. But our sinful rebellion—as individuals complicit in unhealthy systems of power and greed—separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, so that we do not enjoy the life our creator intended.

As disciples of Jesus, we are called to a discipline that contends against evil and resists whatever leads us away from love of God and neighbor. I invite all of us, therefore, to the discipline of Lent—self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, giving and works of love—strengthened by the gifts

of word and sacrament that we share together with Christ Jesus. Let us continue our journey through these forty days to the great Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection.

### ◆ CONFESSION

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Most holy and merciful God,

**C: We confess to you and to one another, and before the whole company of heaven, that we have sinned by our fault, by our own fault, 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.**

P: We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

**C: Have mercy on us, O God.**

L: We have shut our ears to your call to serve as Christ served us.

**C: Have mercy on us, O God.**

P: Our self-indulgent ways, and our exploitation of other people, we confess to you.

**C: Have mercy on us, O God.**

L: Our neglect of human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty, we confess to you.

**C: Have mercy on us, O God.**

P: Our false judgements, our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, we confess to you.

**C: Have mercy on us, O God.**

L: Our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us, we confess to you.

**C: Have mercy on us, O God.**

P: Restore us, O God, and forgive us with your abundant grace and love.

**C: Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.**

HYMN: Lord Whose Love in Humble Service No. 712

1 Lord, whose love in humble service  
bore the weight of human need,  
who upon the cross, forsaken,  
worked your mercy's perfect deed:  
we, your servants, bring the worship  
not of voice alone, but heart;  
consecrating to your purpose  
ev'ry gift which you impart. >>

- 2 **Still your children wander homeless;  
still the hungry cry for bread;  
still the captives long for freedom;  
still in grief we mourn our dead.  
As you, Lord, in deep compassion  
healed the sick and freed the soul,  
by your Spirit send your power  
to our world to make it whole.**
- 3 **As we worship, grant us vision,  
till your love's revealing light  
in its height and depth and greatness  
dawns upon our quickened sight,  
making known the needs and burdens  
your compassion bids us bear,  
stirring us to ardent service,  
your abundant life to share.**
- 4 **Called by worship to your service,  
forth in your dear name we go,  
to the child, the youth, the aged,  
love in living deeds to show;  
hope and health, good will and comfort,  
counsel, aid and peace we give,  
that your servants, Lord, in freedom  
may your mercy know and live.**

*Please be seated*

### *Word*

FIRST READING: JOEL 2:1, 12-17, 21-22

Blow the trumpet in Zion! Cry the alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land quake, For the day of the HOLY GOD is coming, it is near. Yet even now, says the HOLY ONE, return to me with all your hearts, with fasting, with weeping, and with lamenting. Tear your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the HOLY ONE, your God, for God is gracious and loves as a mother, slow to anger, and abounds in faithful love, and reluctant to impose harm. Who knows whether God will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind, for a grain offering and a drink offering To the HOLY ONE, your God? Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly. Gather the people; sanctify the congregation; assemble the aged; gather the children, even breastfeeding babies. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her canopy. Between the portico and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the HOLY ONE, weep. Let them say, "Spare your people, HOLY ONE, and do not offer your heritage as a mockery, a byword among the nations. Why should it be said among the peoples, 'Where is their God?' " Fear not, O land! Be glad and rejoice, for the HOLY ONE has done great things! Fear not, O animals of the field!

For the pastures of the wilderness are green; the tree lifts up its fruit, the fig tree and vine give their riches.

WORD OF GOD, WORD OF LIFE. **THANKS BE TO GOD!**

[Translation by Wilda C. Gafney, *A Women's Lectionary for the Whole Church*]

PSALM 90:1-10, 12 *We read responsively*

God, it seems you've been our home forever; long before the mountains were born, long before you brought earth itself to birth, from "once upon a time" to "kingdom come"—you are God.

**So don't return us to mud, saying, "Back to where you came from!" Patience! You've got all the time in the world—whether a thousand years or a day, it's all the same to you.**

Are we no more to you than a wispy dream, no more than a blade of grass that springs up gloriously with the rising sun and is cut down without a second thought?

**Your anger is far and away too much for us; we're at the end of our rope. You keep track of all our sins; every misdeed since we were children is entered in your books.**

All we can remember is that frown on your face. Is that all we're ever going to get? We live for seventy years or so (with luck we might make it to eighty),

**Oh! Teach us to live well! Teach us to live wisely and well.**

[The Message Bible

Translation]

SECOND READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 15:45-49

Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the spiritual that is first but the physical and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, made of dust; the second man is from heaven. As one of dust, so are those who are of the dust, and as one of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the one of dust, we will also bear the image of the one of heaven.

[Translation by Wilda C. Gafney]

WORD OF GOD, WORD OF LIFE. **THANKS BE TO GOD.**

◆ GOSPEL: MATTHEW 6:1-6, 16-18

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said,] "Now, beware of practicing your justness before other people in order to be seen by them; surely, lest you have no reward from your Creator in heaven. So when you give alms, do not

trumpet before yourself, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and

in the streets, in order that they may be praised by other people. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, in order that your alms may be secret; and your Creator who sees in secret will reward you. And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on the street corners, in order that they may be seen by other people. Truly I tell you, they have received their recompense. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Creator who is in secret; and your Creator who sees in secret will reward you. And when you fast, do not be sullen like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces in order to show other people that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, in order that your fasting may be seen, not by others, but by your Creator who is in secret, and your Creator who sees in secret will reward you."

[Translation by Wilda C. Gafney]

THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD. **PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST.**

SERMON *Pastor D.J. Chatelaine*

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Beautiful Things* ACS 925

1 **All this pain;**  
I wonder if I'll ever find my way.  
I wonder if my life could really change at all.

REFRAIN

You make beautiful things,  
you make beautiful things out of the dust.  
You make beautiful things,  
you make beautiful things out of us.

2 **All this earth;**  
could all that is lost ever be found?  
Could a garden come up from this ground at all?

REFRAIN\_

3 **All around,**  
hope is springing up from this old ground.  
Out of chaos, life is being found in you.

REFRAIN\_

PRAYERS

Hear us, O God **your mercy is great.**

LORD'S PRAYER

## *Imposition of Ashes*

P: Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth. May these ashes be a sign of our mortality and penitence, reminding us that only by the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ are we given eternal life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

*You are invited to come forward to receive the sign of the cross on your forehead. Please let an usher know if you need Pastor D.J. to come to you. When you are marked with the cross of ashes, hear the words, "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."*

### PRAYER AFTER IMPOSITION

P: Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,

**C: that we may show forth your glory in the world.**

P: By the cross and passion of your Son, our Savior,

**C: bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.**

P: 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.

**C: Amen.**

## *Sending*

### BLESSING

P: Almighty God, Creator, + Redeemer, and Sustainer, bless you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

SENDING SONG: *Be Thou My Vision* No. 793

- 1 **Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;**  
naught be all else to me, save that thou art:  
thou my best thought both by day and by night,  
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.
- 2 **Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;**  
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.  
Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tow'r,  
raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
- 3 **Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,**  
thou mine inheritance, now and always:  
thou and thou only, the first in my heart,  
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.

v.4 >>

4 **Light of my soul, after victory won,  
may I reach heaven's joys, O heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.**

*Ringing of Bell*

DISMISSAL Go in peace. Christ is with you.  
**Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

**PARTICIPANTS**

PASTOR—Rev. D.J. Chatelaine  
ACOLYTING & ASSISTING IN WORSHIP—  
Confirmation Students: *Abel Eggert, Boe Aronson,  
Harvey Bauer, Page Buchal, Scarlett Eggert,  
Haydon Hanson, Henry Kruger*  
ORGANIST— Tammy Hanson  
TECH CREW—Heidi Haugen, Steve Johnson,  
Holly Aldorfer, Jack Aronson, Luke Cordes.

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

*Jennifer Lerfeld, Lavon Underdahl, Jim Fontaine,  
Dax Eggert, Larry Walker, Renee Spidahl-Carmichael,  
& Tim Emerson.*

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[OL/SKU#53811](#) *Lord Whose Love in Humble Service*  
[CCLI Song #5665521](#) *Beautiful Things*, ALL CREATION SINGS  
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**SYNOD EVENT Council as Leaders -**

**Saturday Mar 14 9 am – 3:30 pm** at St Olaf Church in  
Austin. Registration Fee \$20 Includes Lunch & Workshops

**CALENDAR**

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| We 2-18  | ASH WEDNESDAY<br>5:30 Supper<br>6:30 Worship<br>7:15 COUNCIL  |
| Sun 2-22 | 9 AM HOLY COMMUNION WORSHIP –<br><i>1ST SUN IN LENT</i><br>10 AM Coffee<br>10 AM Intergenerational Activity<br><b>Jeopardy!</b> |
| Tue 2-23 | 1 PM GRIEF SUPPORT  |
| Wed 2-25 | WEDNESDAY LENTEN:<br>5:30 Supper<br>6:30 Worship  |



**HELP TACKLE WORLD HUNGER!**

Donations are collected in  
soup pots **During the Month of  
February!** Give Generously!  
Checks to: First Ev Lutheran  
for: ELCA World Hunger.

**Lenten  
Suppers  
&  
Worship**

**2/25, 3/04, 3/11, 3/18, 3/25**  
**Meals at 5:30**  
**Worship at 6:30**  
*Use Sign Up Sheet in the Church  
Basement to offer your help with  
Suppers*



**SATURDAY MARCH 7**

**GARAGE SALE & Bake Sale.**

*For help or Qstns call Susan 907-854-5959*  
**VOLUNTEER SIGN-UPS NEEDED for Garage  
& Bake Sale - Sign Up in the basement**

**GARAGE & BAKE SALE | VOLUNTEER NEEDS**

|                        |                             |   |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| Wed 3-4                | aftr church (7-ish)         | <i>move chairs</i>  |
| Thu 3-5                | 2- 5 pm                     | <i>carry &amp; organize sale items</i>                                      |
| Fri 3-6                | 9 - 11 am                   | <i>carry &amp; organize sale items</i>                                      |
| Sat 3-7<br>Garage Sale | 7:45-Noon<br>(2 time slots) | <i>greet, elevator assist, cashiers,<br/>help customers, final clean up</i> |
| Sat 3-7<br>Bake Sale   | 7:45-Noon<br>(2 time slots) | <i>package food, cashiers,<br/>final clean up</i>                           |