

# CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Mission Statement – Loving God, Loving People

## *Second Sunday in Lent*

March 1, 2026

### THE SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION –10:00AM

**\*Congregation Standing**

*During Lent we journey with all those around the world who will be baptized at the Easter Vigil. In today's gospel Jesus tells Nicodemus that he must be born of water and Spirit. At the font we are given a new birth as children of God. As God made a covenant with Abraham, in baptism God promises to raise us up with Christ to new life. From worship we are sent forth to proclaim God's love for all the world.*

#### WELCOME

Announcements

Prelude

#### \* Call to Worship

P: Search us, O God, and know our hearts;

**C: Try us, and know our thoughts!**

P: O Lord, you have searched us and known us, ...

**C: Even before a word is on our tongues, O Lord, you know it completely.**

P: Remind us, Father, that we cannot hide from you,

**C: And that there is no need for us to hide from you,**

P: Because you desire not to condemn but to forgive,

**C: And your love, revealed fully in Jesus, our Savior, is faithful and everlasting. Amen**

\* Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin,  
whose mercy endures forever.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt  
and blots out all offenses.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:  
Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:  
Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For failing to recognize your coming reign,  
and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition,  
and for disdaining the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of  
your healing and hope in the world: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent,  
and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P: God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound.

Through faith, the free gift of God,  
you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead dwells in you,  
pours God's love into your hearts, and gives you life and peace.

**C: Amen.**

\* **Gathering Hymn 714****“O God of Mercy, God of Light”**\* Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

\* **Kyrie**

(Setting 4 – page 147-148)



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - - men.

\* Prayer of the Day

**O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

First Lesson: *Genesis 12:1-4a*

<sup>1</sup> 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. <sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> 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.”

<sup>4a</sup> So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalmody: *Psalms 121*

<sup>1</sup> I lift up my eyes <sup>|</sup> to the hills;  
from where is my <sup>|</sup> help to come?

<sup>2</sup> **My help comes <sup>|</sup> from the LORD,  
the maker of heav- <sup>|</sup> en and earth.**

<sup>3</sup> The LORD will not let your <sup>|</sup> foot be moved  
nor will the one who watches over you <sup>|</sup> fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup> **Behold, the keep- <sup>|</sup> er of Israel  
will neither slum- <sup>|</sup> ber nor sleep;**

<sup>5</sup> the LORD watches <sup>|</sup> over you;  
the LORD is your shade at <sup>|</sup> your right hand;

<sup>6</sup> **the sun will not strike <sup>|</sup> you by day,  
nor the <sup>|</sup> moon by night.**

<sup>7</sup> The LORD will preserve you | from all evil  
and will | keep your life.

<sup>8</sup> **The LORD will watch over your going out and your | coming in,  
from this time forth for- | evermore.**

Second Lesson: *Romans 4:1-5, 13-17*

<sup>1</sup> What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? <sup>2</sup> For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup> For what does the scripture say?

“Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as

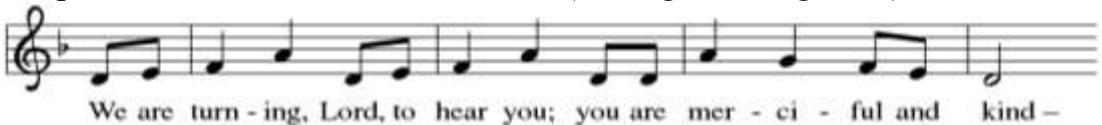
righteousness.” <sup>4</sup> Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup> But to one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

<sup>13</sup> 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. <sup>14</sup> For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup> For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law, neither is there transgression.

<sup>16</sup> 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, <sup>17</sup> 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. Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

\* Gospel Acclamation

(Setting 10 – Page 205)



P: The Holy Gospel according to John the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter.

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

The Holy Gospel: *John 3:1-17*

<sup>1</sup> Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup> 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.” <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” <sup>4</sup> 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?” <sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup> What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup> Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ <sup>8</sup> 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.” <sup>9</sup> Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup> Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

<sup>11</sup> “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. <sup>12</sup> If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup> No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup> And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup> that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup> “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.

<sup>17</sup> “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.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.  
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon

Rev. Daniel Swanson

**Hymn 769**

**“If You But Trust in God to Guide You”**

\* 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**

The Prayer of the Church

\* Sharing of the Peace of the Lord

We Offer Our Gifts to the Lord  
Anthem

Organ Voluntary  
Chancel Choir

\* Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

\* The Offertory

**Hymn 496** (verse 2)

**“One Bread, One Body”**

*Refrain*

**One bread, one body, one Lord of all;  
one cup of blessing which we bless,  
and we, though many throughout the earth,  
we are one body in this one Lord.**

**Many the gifts, many the works,  
one in the Lord of all. *Refrain***

\* Offertory Prayer

L: O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name.

C: **Amen.**

\* The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

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

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

P: It is indeed right .....and join their unending hymn:

\* (Holy, Holy Holy)

(Setting 4, page 153)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

\* The Words of Institution

\* The Lord's Prayer

**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, forever and ever. Amen.**

\* P: Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy.

**C: Amen. Thanks be to God.**

The Agnus Dei (*Lamb of God*)

## Hymn 336



1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, but you have  
 2 Your gift of love we cru - ci - fied, We laughed and  
 3 I was so lost, I should have died, but you have



sent him from your side to walk up - on this guilt - y  
 scorned him as he died. The hum - ble king we named and  
 brought me to your side to be led by your staff and



sod and to be - come the Lamb of God.  
 fraud and sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God. O Lamb of  
 rod and to be called a lamb of God.



God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God. Oh, wash me



in your pre-cious blood, my Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Text: Twila Paris, b. 1958

Music: Twila Paris

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YOUR ONLY SON

LMD

## Distribution of the Sacrament

### \* Post-Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. **Amen.**

### \* The Prayer after Communion

L: God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey.

Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen**

### \* Blessing

P: Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation, † bless you now and always.

**C: Amen.**

### \* **Sending Hymn 779**

**“Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”**

### \* Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Believe the good news.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### \* Postlude

*In Bread and Wine our Lord Jesus meets us and we receive His Body and Blood given and shed for our forgiveness. It is a meal of love, forgiveness and renewal. If you are visiting with us today and are a baptized Christian and desire to commune, please do come to the table of the Lord. Children and youth who have not received instruction in the meaning of the Sacrament are cordially invited to come forward to receive a blessing. Please come forward as directed by ushers by the center aisle and return by the side aisles.*

### **Lectors for our Services**

This Sunday, March 1 – Devon Swanson

This Wednesday, March 4 – Rae Ann Smith

Next Sunday, March 8 – Sally Buser

Next Wednesday, March 11 – Lydia Martin

**Usher** – Paul Chiarenza

**Organist** – Rae Ann Smith

**A/V** – Steve, Dave, Kathy

*The Bulletins have been given to the glory of God in honor of our grandson, JJ's 24<sup>th</sup> birthday by Jim & Shirley Smith.*

*The Communion Bread & Wine have been given to the glory of God in memory of our daughter, Christina at her birthday by Jim & Shirley Smith.*

**We have a hearing assistance system in the sanctuary.** If you are having problems hearing our service, please ask the usher for a receiver.

**Hope that you have picked up your name tags** from the board in the main entrance. They are in alphabetical order. Please return to the board when leaving. Thanks

### **This week –**

This Sunday – March 1 – Worship– 10:00am, followed by Slides and Sliders

Monday – Executive – 6:30pm

Wednesday – **Wednesday Lenten Service – 12:00noon & 6:30pm**

**12:00 noon followed by Soup & Sandwich meal**

Chancel Choir – 7:30pm

Thursday – Bible Study in Pastor office- 10:30am

Friday – Diane's Music classes – 10:00am

Crafts & Arts 11:00am and 1:00pm

Ladybird singers – 11:00am

Fellowship Hall use for Ade Swanson's 7<sup>th</sup> Birthday 5-7:00pm

Next Sunday, March 8 – Worship– 10:00am, followed by Adult SCS (Daylight Saving)

**Church Council has designated our Lenten/Easter offerings for the LaVale Food Pantry.**

**During the four weeks of Lent we will offer two services.** After our Noon service thru March 25 we will offer a Soup & Sandwich lunch or join us for worship at 6:30pm.

**Please pick up your Lenten Devotional** on the round table in the main narthex – A Time of Grace and Peace by Alice Camille and Lent Calendar from the ELCA World Hunger. Please pick up your copies.

**This Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup> following worship we will have a Slides, Snack & Sliders!!!**

Pastor Daniel, Kathy, Lydia Martin and Sonya Cooper-Lathrop will be showing their slides and talking about their trip to Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands. The Fellowship committee will be providing Sliders. Please join us for a fun afternoon.

**Art & Crafts on Friday, March 6, in the upper kitchen** will be hosting a group at **11:00am** from Spectrum Support for an easy St. Pats themed craft. **At 1:00pm** a local casual quilter will come and talk about / demonstrate principles of Easy or Crazy quilt design, and tips and tricks for making beautiful works of art with cloth. You are welcome to join us for one or both. Information see Kathy.

**Thrivent Choice Dollars** - Thrivent Members – Please remember to designate your Thrivent Choice Dollars to Christ Lutheran. If you are a Thrivent member and have Choice Dollars that you have not designated for 2025, **please do so before March 31, 2026.** In April, their year begins and previous year's money will not be available. This money is an enormous help for our fundraising needs. Go to [Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://Thrivent.com/thriventchoice) or call 800-THRIVENT and state "Thrivent Choice®"

**As we collect unopened, unexpired, non-perishable items for the LaVale Food Pantry,** we'd like to specifically request several items that are needed year-round. *Those items are peanut butter, saltines, dry pasta (1 lb box), breakfast cereal (boxed) and canned kale or spinach. Sometimes the Pantry runs very low on these items, so donations would be appreciated! They can also use canned pasta (Chef Boyardee, Spaghettios) for their emergency food boxes.* Thanks for your generosity!

### **Mountain Maryland Lecture Series**

Theme: Wrestling with God: From Lament to Praise

What: Mountain Maryland Lecture Series featuring Dr. Rolf Jacobson

Who: open to religious leaders and lay people alike

When: Friday, April 17 - Sunday, April 19, 2026

Where: St John's Lutheran Church in Cumberland

Cost: \$50 for the entire weekend series

**Don't miss** the Mountain Maryland Lecture Series this spring, Friday, April 17 - Sunday, April 19, 2026 at St. John's Lutheran Church in Cumberland. The speaker is Dr. Rolf Jacobson, Professor of Old Testament at Luther Seminary in St Paul, Minnesota. It is only \$50 for the weekend series. Please contact Pastor Daniel if you plan to attend or if you have any questions. It is not too early to register! Please see the flyer in the narthex for more information.

**Walking a labyrinth is a way for us to reflect on our journey of life.** Following the concentric circuits slowly gives our minds and spirits a chance to rest from fast-paced worries of regular life and presents an opportunity to dwell or meditate on wholeness, in its many forms. A direction might come to us, or a resolution, or strength to take the next step, as we thoughtfully follow the course into the Center, then back out again.

There is lots more to tell you about the labyrinth, about its history which goes back for thousands of years, as well about current ways to possibly use it to deepen our spiritual life, and to give us a sense of peace, as a way of prayer, or simply as a way of listening to let God speak through nature around us. There are so many possibilities. I will make this an ongoing Labyrinth column, where your comments and suggestions and questions are also most welcome. Your comments and questions can also pertain to the Memorial garden, of which the labyrinth is only a part. by Lydia Martin

LAST WEEK'S REPORT – February 22, 2026

Attendance In-Person 10:00am = 47                      Listening Circle - 10  
                   Zoom 10:00am = 8  
 Wed, February 25 – 12Noon - 7  
                   In Person 6:30pm = 9  
                   Zoom = 7

BUDGET OFFERINGS FOR 2026

Received = \$3,944.58  
 Needed weekly = 4,265.56  
                           ( 320.98)

BUDGETED ACCOUNTS – JAN 2026

Actual Income = \$13,685.64  
 Actual Expenses = (17,838.49)  
     (\$ 4,301.92)



**IF YOU WISH TO HELP DECORATE THE SANCTUARY WITH FLOWERS FOR EASTER, please fill out this sheet and return with your payment.**

Please print names exactly as you wish them to appear in the bulletin.

Please make checks payable to Christ Lutheran Church; place payment and this form in envelope. You may place the envelope in the offering plate or bring it to the Church Office. DEADLINE FOR ORDERS is Thursday, March 26<sup>th</sup>.

Flowers will be placed in the Sanctuary for the Easter Worship Services. You may pick-up your flowers to take home after the 10:00 Service on Easter Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup>

Lilies  
 \$19.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Tulips  
 \$19.00 \_\_\_\_\_

To the Glory of God, in Memory of, or in Honor of:

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By: \_\_\_\_\_

## PRAYER LIST FOR MARCH 1, 2026

### PRAYER RECIPIENT - MEMBERS

**Pam Mulligan**  
**Barb Simmons**  
**Elwood & Janet Glass**  
**Mitzie & Jerry Robinette**  
**Patty Wilson**  
**Bill & MarySue Crawford**  
**Jack Zealand**  
**Laura Murray**  
**Beverly Lang**  
**Anna Bruck**  
**Jane Miller**  
**Ed Havens**  
**Gail Dawson**  
**Clem Dawson**  
**Dave & Lisa Ahern**  
**Kim Shoemaker**  
**Charlotte Luy**  
**Fay Crawford**  
**David LaBuda**  
**Rosey & Becky McIntyre**  
**Jonathan and Danielle Ahern**  
**Tammy Faulkner**  
**Pam & Dave Judy**  
**David Tibbetts**  
**Joyce DeMonbrun**  
**Kathy Powell**  
**Sharon McKenzie**  
**Mary Lou Rowles**

### PRAYER RECIPIENT

<b>Brad &amp; Gregg Dawson, Stephen Overtoom</b>	<i>Requested by</i> Gail Dawson
<b>Barbara Williams</b>	Sharon M
<b>Joe Kunsman, Linda Nines, Ellen Hill</b>	Mitzie & Jerry
<b>Brittney Meyers, Talot Omar, Terry Baker</b>	Mitzie & Jerry
<b>Nathan Winters</b>	Dianne Short
<b>Charlotte &amp; Ed Troutman, Arlene Simmons. Amy, Jacie Fairall</b>	Barb Simmons
<b>Carl Chiarenza, Karen Mackert</b>	Paul & Ruth C
<b>Elise &amp; Henry Jack Balber</b>	Jack Zealand
<b>Betty Llewellyn/Cartwright, Cheryl Trusler</b>	Joyce D
<b>Cheri Bielen</b>	Jane Miller
<b>Carolyn Farr, Baby Whetzel, Kevin Mistretta,</b>	Diane
<b>Dan Moore, Graham Tower, Lisa Storm, Jaime Pletcher, Karen Ford</b>	Diane K
<b>Richard Clark, Zachary Sutterfield, Alexis Smith</b>	Anne DeV Vaughn
<b>Diane Davis, Nancy Smith, James Flynn</b>	Antoinette Royster
<b>Joy Kroeger-Mappes Carmen and Lance Jackson</b>	Antoinette Royster
<b>Susie Spiker, Joan Beal, Braden &amp; Carter Durst</b>	Shirley & Jim Smith
<b>Gretchen Burke</b>	Val & Gary Llewellyn
<b>Sally, Roger, James Tibbetts</b>	Dave Tibbetts
<b>Andy Cocco</b>	John Cocco
<b>Marie Turnbull, Steven Suzindlak,</b>	Lita Havens
<b>Dan Carr, Matt Doman</b>	Steven Hansrote
<b>Phil Fisher</b>	Sherry T
<b>Don Ringer, Stephanie Georgiane</b>	Kristan Fazenbaker
<b>Mary Lou Dorsey</b>	Trina Firey
<b>Vic Werner</b>	Barbara Martin
<b>Belinda Keller</b>	Linda McCagh
<b>Barbara Blough</b>	Janice & Dave LaBuda
<b>Galen Dean Krepps</b>	Lisa Ahern
<b>Jared McGensie, Chris Twigg</b>	Patty Wilson and Rosey
<b>Breanna Brown</b>	Debbie Fornwalt
<b>Kamryn Rice</b>	Corinna Hilderbrand
<b>Candy Heverly</b>	Charlotte Luy
<b>Elizabeth Ororke, Brooks Chamers, Barbara Fridengu</b>	L. Marchini
<b>Erin Morrissey</b>	Terri McCagh
<b>Teddy Rankin</b>	Fred & Kathy Powell

*Please keep us updated*

- all people affected by the wildfires and other disasters
- all people of the Ukraine and all affected by the war
- all elected officials
- those who serve in our nation's armed forces including Rick Rounds, Tom Forrest,  
Luke Smith



*Second Sunday in Lent*

**March 1, 2026**