

# FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT + FEBRUARY 22, 2026

## 418 O LORD, *THROUGHOUT THESE FORTY DAYS*

- 1 O Lord, throughout these forty days  
    You prayed and kept the fast;  
    Inspire repentance for our sin,  
    And free us from our past.
- 2 You strove with Satan, and You won;  
    Your faithfulness endured;  
    Lend us Your nerve, Your skill and trust  
    In God's eternal Word.
- 3 Though parched and hungry, yet You prayed  
    And fixed Your mind above;  
    So teach us to deny ourselves,  
    Since we have known God's love.
- 4 Be with us through this season, Lord,  
    And all our earthly days,  
    That when the final Easter dawns,  
    We join in heaven's praise.

**(The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.)**

**P** In the name of the Father and of the  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** **who made heaven and earth.**

**P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**C** **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

**P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one

another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

- C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**
- P** Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Amen.**

#### *SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY*

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray.

O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

### *OLD TESTAMENT READING*

Genesis 3:1–21

**A** The Old Testament Reading is from Genesis, chapter 3.

<sup>1</sup>Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made.

He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden’?” <sup>2</sup>And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of

the trees in the garden, <sup>3</sup>but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’” <sup>4</sup>But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. <sup>5</sup>For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” <sup>6</sup>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. <sup>7</sup>Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loin cloths.

<sup>8</sup>And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. <sup>9</sup>But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” <sup>10</sup>And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.” <sup>11</sup>He said, “Who told you that you were naked?

Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" 12The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate." 13Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

14The LORD God said to the serpent,

"Because you have done this,  
cursed are you above all livestock  
and above all beasts of the field;  
on your belly you shall go,  
and dust you shall eat  
all the days of your life.

15I will put enmity between you and the woman,  
and between your offspring and her offspring;  
he shall bruise your head,  
and you shall bruise his heel."

16To the woman he said,

"I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing;  
in pain you shall bring forth children.

Your desire shall be for your husband,  
and he shall rule over you.”

<sup>17</sup>And to Adam he said,

“Because you have listened to the voice of your  
wife

and have eaten of the tree  
of which I commanded you,  
‘You shall not eat of it,’  
cursed is the ground because of you;  
in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life;  
<sup>18</sup>thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you;  
and you shall eat the plants of the field.

<sup>19</sup>By the sweat of your face  
you shall eat bread,  
till you return to the ground,  
for out of it you were taken;  
for you are dust,  
and to dust you shall return.”

<sup>20</sup>The man called his wife’s name Eve, because she  
was the mother of all living. <sup>21</sup>And the LORD God made

for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them.

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

*EPISTLE*

Romans 5:12–19

- A** The Epistle is from Romans, chapter 5.

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned— <sup>13</sup>for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. <sup>14</sup>Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come.

<sup>15</sup>But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man's trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many. <sup>16</sup>And the free gift is not like the result of that one man's sin. For the

judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brought justification.<sup>17</sup> If, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.

<sup>18</sup>Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men.<sup>19</sup> For 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.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**(Stand)**

**C** **Return to the Lord, your God,  
for He is gracious and merciful,**

**slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love,  
and abounding in steadfast love.**

**HOLY GOSPEL**

**Matthew 4:1–11**

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourth chapter.
- C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. <sup>2</sup>And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. <sup>3</sup>And the tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” <sup>4</sup>But he answered, “It is written,

“Man shall not live by bread alone,  
but by every word that comes from the mouth of  
God.”

<sup>5</sup>Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple <sup>6</sup>and said 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,  
lest you strike your foot against a stone.”

<sup>7</sup>Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’” <sup>8</sup>Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. <sup>9</sup>And he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” <sup>10</sup>Then Jesus said to him, “Be gone, Satan! For it is written,

“You shall worship the Lord your God  
and him only shall you serve.”

<sup>11</sup>Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## SERMON

### 656 A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD

- 1 A mighty fortress is our God,  
    A trusty shield and weapon;  
    He helps us free from ev'ry need  
        That hath us now o'ertaken.  
  
    The old evil foe  
    Now means deadly woe;  
        Deep guile and great might  
        Are his dread arms in fight;  
    On earth is not his equal.
  
- 2 With might of ours can naught be done,  
    Soon were our loss effected;  
    But for us fights the valiant One,  
        Whom God Himself elected.  
  
    Ask ye, Who is this?  
    Jesus Christ it is,  
        Of Sabaoth Lord,  
        And there's none other God;  
    He holds the field forever.

3 Though devils all the world should fill,  
    All eager to devour us,  
We tremble not, we fear no ill;  
    They shall not overpow'r us.  
This world's prince may still  
Scowl fierce as he will,  
    He can harm us none.  
    He's judged; the deed is done;  
One little word can fell him.

4 The Word they still shall let remain  
    Nor any thanks have for it;  
He's by our side upon the plain  
    With His good gifts and Spirit.  
And take they our life,  
Goods, fame, child, and wife,  
    Though these all be gone,  
    Our vict'ry has been won;  
The Kingdom ours remaineth.

Text: tr. composite; Martin Luther, 1483–1546

Text: Public domain

## *PRAYER OF THE CHURCH*

Psalm 32:1–7

**<sup>1</sup>Blessèd is the one whose transgression is forgiven,  
whose sin is covered.**

**<sup>2</sup>Blessèd is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity,  
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.**

**<sup>3</sup>For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.**

**<sup>4</sup>For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.**

**<sup>5</sup>I acknowledged my sin to you,  
and I did not cover my iniquity;  
I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,”  
and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

**<sup>6</sup>Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to you at a time when you may be**

**found;  
surely in the rush of great waters,  
they shall not reach him.**

**7You are a hiding place for me;  
you preserve me from trouble;  
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.**

*PREFACE*

LSB 208

**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 Him thanks and praise.

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks

for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life.

Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

**SANCTUS**

LSB 208

**C** **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;  
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the  
glory of Your name.  
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to  
the Lord;  
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the  
Lord!**

Text: Stephen P. Starke

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**P** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

At Your command, Abraham prepared to offer his son Isaac as a sacrifice on the mountain; yet, in mercy You provided a ram as a substitute. We give You thanks that on Calvary You spared not Your only Son but sent Him to offer His life as a ransom for many.

As we eat and drink His body and blood, grant us, like Abraham our father, to trust in Your promise now fulfilled in Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

## *LORD'S PRAYER*

**C** 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.**

## *THE WORDS OF OUR LORD*

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\ddagger$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\ddagger$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

*PAX DOMINI*

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**C** Amen.

*AGNUS DEI*

LSB 210

**C 1 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world away;  
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.**

**2 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world away;  
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.**

## 718 JESUS, LEAD THOU ON

- 1    Jesus, lead Thou on  
      Till our rest is won;  
          And although the way be cheerless,  
          We will follow calm and fearless.  
      Guide us by Thy hand  
      To our fatherland.
- 2    If the way be drear,  
      If the foe be near,  
          Let not faithless fears o'ertake us;  
          Let not faith and hope forsake us;  
      For through many\_a woe  
      To our home we go.
- 3    When we seek relief  
      From a long-felt grief,  
          When temptations come alluring,  
          Make us patient and enduring.  
      Show us that bright shore  
      Where we weep no more.

4 Jesus, lead Thou on  
Till our rest is won.  
Heav'ly leader, still direct us,  
Still support, console, protect us,  
Till we safely stand  
In our fatherland.

Text: Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, 1700–60; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–97, alt.  
Text: Public domain

## 425 *WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS*

1 When I survey the wondrous cross  
On which the Prince of Glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss  
And pour contempt on all my pride.

2 Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast  
Save in the death of Christ, my God;  
All the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to His blood.

3 See, from His head, His hands, His feet  
Sorrow and love flow mingled down!

Did e'er such love and sorrow meet  
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

4 Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
That were a tribute far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life, my all!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Text: Public domain

*NUNC DIMITTIS*

LSB 211

**C 1 O Lord, now let Your servant**

**Depart in heav'nly peace,  
For I have seen the glory  
Of Your redeeming grace:  
A light to lead the Gentiles  
Unto Your holy hill,  
The glory of Your people,  
Your chosen Israel.**

**2 All glory to the Father,  
All glory to the Son,  
All glory to the Spirit,**

**Forever Three in One;  
For as in the beginning,  
Is now, shall ever be,  
God's triune name resounding  
Through all eternity.**

*POST-COMMUNION COLLECT*

**P** Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*BENEDICTION*

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and  $\ddagger$  give you peace.

**C** **Amen.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### *424 O CHRIST, YOU WALKED THE ROAD*

1 O Christ, You walked the road

    Our wand'ring feet must go.

    You faced with us temptation's pow'r

    And fought our ancient foe.

2 No bread of earth alone

    Can fill our hung'ring hearts.

    Lord, help us seek Your living Word,

    The food Your grace imparts.

3 No blinding sign we ask,

    No wonder from above.

    Lord, help us place our trust alone

    In Your unswerving love.

4 When lures of easy gain  
With promise brightly shine,  
Lord, help us seek Your kingdom first;  
Our wills with Yours align.

5 O Christ, You walked the road  
Our wand’ring feet must go.  
Stay with us through temptation’s hour  
To fight our ancient foe.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007

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## ***ACKNOWLEDGMENTS***

**Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book**

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