

The Second Sunday in Lent

Morning Prayer

March 16, 2025 10:30 AM



Our Saviour Lutheran Church

www.oslc-warrenton.org

ABOUT THE SERVICE

Because Pastor Michael and Pastor Terri are on vacation, we will celebrate Morning Prayer today, rather than Holy Communion. We will have Communion again next weekend!

Morning Prayer, or Matins, is a part of the cycle of Daily Prayer. It is structurally similar to the Evening Prayer service that we celebrate on Wednesdays in Lent.

Our version is adapted from Evangelical Lutheran Worship. We are grateful to our lay leaders for guiding us in worship today.

OPENING

The assembly stands. The leader begins the dialogue, and the assembly responds, concluding with a doxology.

O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

PSALMODY

MORNING PSALM: PS. 95 *sung to ELW 778 (“The Lord’s My Shepherd”)*

O come, let us sing to the Lord: come, let us ev’ry one
A joyful noise make to the Rock of our salvat –i-- on.
A joyful noise make to the Rock of our salvat –i-- on.

Let us before his presence come with praise and thankful voice;
Let us sing psalms to him with grace, and make a joyful noise.
Let us sing psalms to him with grace, and make a joyful noise.

For God, a great God, and great King, above all gods he is.
Depths of the earth are in his hand, the strength of hills is his.
Depths of the earth are in his hand, the strength of hills is his.

To him the spacious sea belongs, for he the same did make;
The dry land also from his hands its form at first did take.
The dry land also from his hands its form at first did take.

O come, and let us worship him, let us bow down withal,
And on our knees before the Lord our Maker let us fall.
And on our knees before the Lord our Maker let us fall.

The assembly is seated.

The psalmody continues with one or more additional psalms.

PSALM OF THE DAY: PS. 27: 1-5, 14

- ¹ The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?
- ² **When evildoers close in against me to devour my flesh,
they, my foes and my enemies, will stumble and fall.**
- ³ Though an army encamp against me, my heart will not fear.
Though war rise up against me, my trust will not be shaken.
- ⁴ **One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek;
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life; to
gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God in the temple.**
- ⁵ For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter, hide me in the hidden
places of the sanctuary, and raise me high upon a rock.
- ¹⁴ **Wait for the LORD and be strong.
Take heart and wait for the LORD!**

HYMN

Immortal, Invisible God Only Wise
Inspired by 1 Timothy 1:17

ELW 834

- 1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise!
- 2 Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.
- 3 To all, life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.
- 4 Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light;
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render; oh, help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!

Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824-1908, alt.

WORD

The assembly is seated.

First Reading: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

God promises a childless and doubting Abram that he will have a child, that his descendants will be as numerous as the stars, and that the land of Canaan will be their inheritance. Abram's trust in God is sealed with a covenant-making ceremony, a sign of God's promise.

A reading from Genesis.

¹ After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great."

² But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?"

³ And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, so a slave born in my house is to be my heir."

⁴ But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." ⁵ He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." ⁶ And he believed the Lord, and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

⁷ Then he said to him, "I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess."

⁸ But [*Abram*] said, "O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?"

⁹ He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." ¹⁰ He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other, but he did not cut the birds in two. ¹¹ And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

¹² As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him. ¹⁷ When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces.

¹⁸ On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the River Euphrates."

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

- 1 I want Jesus to walk with me;
I want Jesus to walk with me;
all along my pilgrim journey,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

- 2 In my trials, Lord, walk with me;
in my trials, Lord, walk with me;
when my heart is almost breaking,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

- 3 When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;
when I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;
when my head is bowed in sorrow,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

Text: African American spiritual

Second Reading: Philippians 3:17—4:1

Although Paul's devotion to Christ has caused him to be persecuted, he does not regret the course he has taken. Writing from prison, he expresses confidence in a glorious future and encourages other Christians to follow in his footsteps.

A reading from Philippians.

¹⁷ Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸ For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. ¹⁹ Their end is destruction, their god is the belly, and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things.

²⁰ But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹ He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself.

^{4:1} Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel: Luke 13:31-35

Neither Herod's plotting nor Jerusalem's resistance will deter Jesus from his sacrificial mission.

A reading from St. Luke.

³¹ At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus], "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you."

³² He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. ³³ Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' ³⁴ Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵ See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.' "

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

REFLECTION ON THE READINGS

GOSPEL HYMN

Blessed Be the God of Israel

ELW 250

The assembly stands to sing the song of Zechariah, based on Luke 1:68-79.

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|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 Blessed be the God of Israel
who comes to set us free
and raises up new hope for us:
a Branch from David's tree.
So have the prophets long declared
that with a mighty arm
God would turn back our enemies
and all who wish us harm. | that we might worship without fear
and offer lives of praise,
in holiness and righteousness
to serve God all our days. |
| 2 With promised mercy will God still
the covenant recall,
the oath once sworn to Abraham,
from foes to save us all; | 3 My child, as prophet of the Lord
you will prepare the way,
to tell God's people they are saved
from sin's eternal sway.
Then shall God's mercy from on high
shine forth and never cease
to drive away the gloom of death
and lead us into peace. |

OFFERING

OFFERING

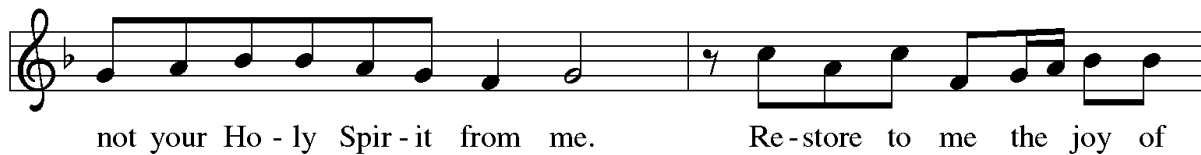
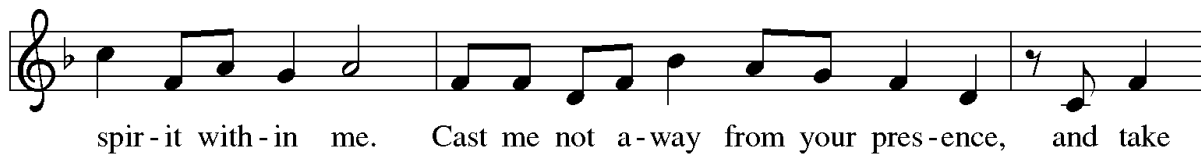
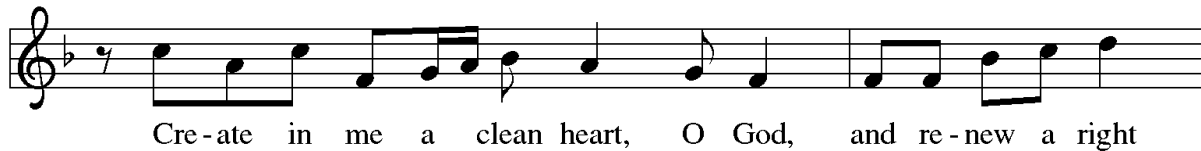
Let us offer back to God what God has first given us: our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of God's gracious love.

An offering is received for the work of the church.

OFFERTORY SONG

ELW 186

We rise to sing



OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together.

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER

The assembly stands.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

A brief silence.

Holy God, you long to gather your church under your wings. Bless the churches of Jerusalem, and all persecuted churches, that your people may take heart and stand firm as they witness and minister in your name. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Holy God, you give shelter to living things as numerous as the stars. Strengthen the voice of prophets who call humanity to faithful care for the planet, that they would not be silenced but heeded as your messengers. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Holy God, you raised up leaders like Abram, Sarai, and Paul to show your people what it means to rely on your promises. Guide today's leaders to work for justice and safeguard the world for future generations. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Holy God, you are the stronghold of our life. Care tenderly for those who are ill in body or mind, and for people living in fear or need (*especially*). May all know they are not alone. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Holy God, you offer us citizenship in heaven. Unite communities of faith who are divided over earthly things, that following the way of your Son, they may set aside grudges and serve their neighbors with generosity and love. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Holy God, you are our light and our salvation. We give thanks for the saints who have gone before us (*especially*). Help us to trust in you as they did and to live according to their example. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

Amen.

LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER

From the Small Catechism, 1529

Let us pray.

We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have protected us through the night from all harm and danger. We ask that you would also protect us today from sin and all evil, so that our life and actions may please you. Into your hands we commend ourselves: our bodies, our souls, and all that is ours. Let your holy angels be with us, so that the wicked foe may have no power over us.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

BLESSING

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Almighty God, the Father, † the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.

Amen.

- 1 Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

Refrain

This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior, all the day long:
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.

- 2 Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love. *Refrain*
- 3 Perfect submission, all is at rest;
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with his goodness, lost in his love. *Refrain*

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820-1915

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

As we leave, let us share a sign of peace with one another.

Adapted from sundaysandseasons.com.

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Lent and Easter

at Our Saviour

Every Weekend

Saturday at 5:30 p.m. – Casual Service

Sunday at 8:00 a.m. – Holy Communion

Sunday at 9:00 a.m. – Sunday School for ALL Ages

Sunday at 10:30 a.m. – Holy Communion

Wednesdays

March 12, 19, 26; April 2 & 9

6:00 p.m. – Soup Supper

7:00 p.m. – Holden Evening Prayer

Holy Week

Palm Sunday

April 16 & 17, usual weekend times

Maundy Thursday

April 17, 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday

April 18, Noon & 7:00 p.m.

Great Vigil

April 19, 5:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday

April 20

Sunrise Matins

at 6:30 a.m.

No 8:00 a.m. service

Festive Communion

at 10:30 a.m.