

Midday Lenten Worship
February 25, 2026 – 12 Noon



Prayer before Worship

Lord Jesus Christ, draw our hearts and minds to you that we may come before you, and worship you in spirit and in truth. Help us to follow where you are leading in this Lenten season: to the cross and to resurrection. Amen.



Carillon

Selections for the Lenten Season

Welcome

P Holy God, holy and most gracious Father,
G have mercy and hear us.

G 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.

G I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

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

C **slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents over disaster.**

(Joel 2:13)

P Jesus said: If anyone would come after me,

C **let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.** *(Matthew 16:24)*

P Christ was wounded for our transgressions.

C **He was bruised for our iniquities.**

(Isaiah 53:5)

P Let us pray:

Lord God, our strength, the battle of good and evil rages within and around us, and our ancient foe tempts us with his deceits and empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your Word and, when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Scripture Reading: Jesus' Agony in the Garden

Matthew 26:30-46

³⁰And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. ³¹Then Jesus said to them, "You will all fall away because of me this night. For it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.' ³²But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee." ³³Peter answered him, "Though they all fall away because of you, I will never fall away." ³⁴Jesus said to him, "Truly, I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times." ³⁵Peter said to him, "Even if I must die with you, I will not deny you!" And all the disciples said the same.

³⁶Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, "Sit here, while I go over there and pray." ³⁷And taking with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled. ³⁸Then he said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with me." ³⁹And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, saying, "My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will." ⁴⁰And he came to the disciples and found them sleeping. And he said to Peter, "So, could you not watch with me one hour? ⁴¹Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." ⁴²Again, for the second time, he went away and prayed, "My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done." ⁴³And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. ⁴⁴So, leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time,

saying the same words again. ⁴⁵Then he came to the disciples and said to them, "Sleep and take your rest later on. See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. ⁴⁶Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Hymn

"Go to Dark Gethsemane" (LSB 436)



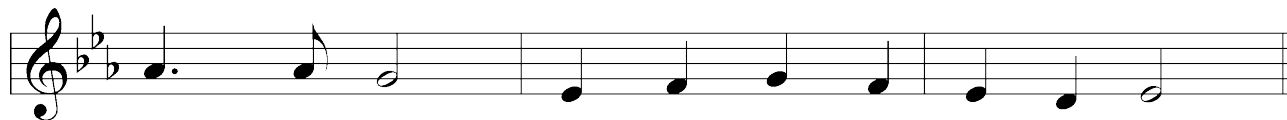
1 Go to dark Geth - sem - a - ne, All who feel the
2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall, View the Lord of



tempt - er's pow'r; Your Re - deem - er's con - flict see,
life ar-raigned; Oh, the worm - wood and the gall!



Watch with Him one bit - ter hour; Turn not from His
Oh, the pangs His soul sus-tained! Shun not suf - f'ring,



griefs a - way; Learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.
shame, or loss; Learn from Him to bear the cross.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854
Tune: Richard Redhead, 1820-1901
Text and tune: Public domain

Meditation

Prayer

Other petitions may be offered, concluding with this prayer:

P Gracious Lord Jesus, who at this hour bore our sins in your own body on the tree of the cross so that we, being dead to sin, might live unto righteousness, have mercy upon us now and at the hour of our death. Grant to us, your servants, with all others who devoutly remember your blessed Passion, a holy and peaceful life in this world and by your grace eternal glory in the life to come, where, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, you live and reign, one God, now and forever.

G Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

G **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

G **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You 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; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

G **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 ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

P 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 ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

G **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Distribution of the Lord's Supper

Dismissal

Post-Communion Prayer

P Let us pray:

Merciful God, we thank you for feeding us with your Son's Body and Blood in this holy Supper. Accompany our journey through these forty days of Lent. Renew in us the gift of Baptism that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure in the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

Blessing

L Let us bless the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

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 ✠ give you peace.

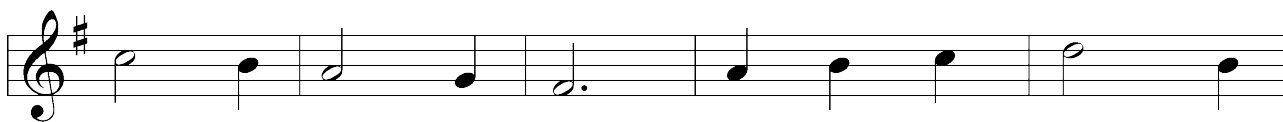
C Amen.

Sending Hymn

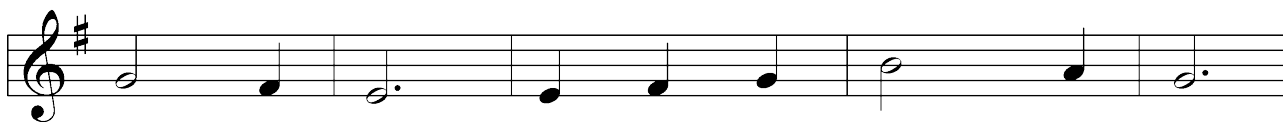
"Drawn to the Cross, Which Thou Hast Blessed" (LSB 560)



1 Drawn to the cross, which Thou hast blessed With heal - ing
2 Thou know - est all my griefs and fears, Thy grace a -
3 Wash me and take a - way each stain; Let noth - ing
4 And then for work to do for Thee, Which shall so



gifts for souls dis - tressed, To find in Thee my
bused, my mis - spent years; Yet now to Thee with
of my sin re - main. For cleans - ing, though it
sweet a ser - vice be That an - gels well might



life, my rest, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.
con - trite tears, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.
be through pain, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.
en - vy me, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.

Text: Genevieve M. Irons, 1855-1928
Tune: Joseph Barnby, 1838-96
Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

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Lent 2026 Worship Schedule

NOTE: livestreaming available for service times with a *

Sundays in Lent

10:30AM* - Worship Services with Holy Communion
March 1, 8, 15, and 22

Sunday, March 29 - Palm Sunday

10:30AM* - Holy Communion

Wednesdays in Lent

12 Noon* - Midweek Lenten Worship with Holy Communion
March 4, 11, 18, 25, and April 1

Thursday, April 2 - Maundy Thursday

7:00PM - Holy Communion and stripping of the altar

Friday, April 3 - Good Friday

12 Noon & 7:00PM* -
(No Communion)

Saturday, April 4 - Holy Saturday/Great Vigil of Easter

7:00PM* - Holy Communion

Sunday, April 5 - Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter Sunday

8:00AM & 10:30AM* - Holy Communion

Easter Breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt between worship services



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A member congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

St. John's Lutheran Church Staff

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Director of Discipleship	Jennifer Hills, DCE
Director of Music	David Leahey
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Finance Administrator	Jennifer Smith

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