



Pilgrim Lutheran Church

Second Sunday in Lent

March 16, 2025

Ministering to All in the Heart of Superior

Introduction and Announcements

Though we sometimes doubt and often resist God's desire to protect and save us, our God persists. In holy baptism, God's people have been called and gathered into a God-initiated relationship that will endure. Lent provides the church with a time and a tradition in which to seek God's face again. Lent provides another occasion to behold the God of our salvation in the face of the Blessed One who "comes in the name of the Lord."

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, who forgives all our sin, and whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin before God and one another:

Compassionate One, you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world.

We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us. We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people.

We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again. We squander the abundant gifts of the earth.

Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross. Amen.

Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home. In ✚ Christ your sins are forgiven. You have a place in God's house forever. **Amen.**

Gathering Song

My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

ELW 834

Gathering

ELW p.213

The Grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the Communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all! **And also with you!**

Kyrie

ELW p.203

Canticle

Glory be to God

ELW p.204

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you! **And also with you!**

God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Children's Message

Readings

First Reading: Genesis 15:1-18

Molly Warring

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.

Psalm 27

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.

⁶ **Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me. Therefore I will
offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make music to
the Lord.**

⁷ Hear my voice, O Lord, when I call; have mercy on me and answer me.

⁸ **My heart speaks your message— "Seek my face." Your face, O Lord, I will seek.**

⁹ Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger.

Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of my salvation.

¹⁰ **Though my father and my mother forsake me, the Lord will take me in.**

¹¹ Teach me your way, O Lord; lead me on a level path, because of my oppressors.

¹² **Subject me not to the will of my foes,
for they rise up against me, false witnesses breathing violence.**

¹³ This I believe—that I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living!

¹⁴ **Wait for the Lord and be strong. Take heart and wait for the Lord!**

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.

Gospel Acclamation

ELW p.216

We are turning, Lord, to hear you; you are merciful and kind -
slow to anger, rich in blessing, and with love to us inclined

Gospel: Luke 13:31-35

P: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke. **C: Glory to you, O Lord**

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

Thy Holy Wings

ELW 613

The Apostles' Creed

ELW p.217

Prayers of the People

P: God, in your mercy, **C: receive our prayer.**

Peace

Offering

Special Music

Offertory

Create in Me a Clean Heart

ELW 186

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit!

Offering Prayer

God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. **Amen.**

Thanksgiving at the Table

The Lord be with you! **And also with you**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Preface

Holy, Holy, Holy

ELW p.207

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord
Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

ELW p.208

All are welcome at God's table of grace. Today we will receive communion via intinction. At the usher's direction, come forward and receive the bread, then dip your wafer into the red wine or the white grape juice. Gluten free elements are available. You may also come for a blessing – simply cross your arms over your chest when you come forward.

Communion Music

*Lamb of God
In the Garden*

ELW p.208

1) I come to the garden alone
While the dew is still on the roses
And the voice I hear, falling on my ear
The Son of God discloses

2) He speaks and the sound of His voice
Is so sweet the birds hush their singing
And the melody that He gave to me
Within my heart is ringing **chorus**

Chorus: And He walks with me
And He talks with me
And He tells me I am His own
And the joy we share as we tarry there
None other has ever known

3) I'd stay in the garden with Him
'Tho the night around me be falling
But He bids me go; through the voice of woe
His voice to me is calling **chorus**

Blessing of the Meal

Prayer after Communion

Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Benediction and Dismissal

Sending Song

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

ELW 543

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to worship this morning! We're so glad you're here. Please grab a cup of coffee and a snack and then join the conversation immediately following worship this morning as we gather to discuss the gifts of the generations as part of our Generous Together program.

Pilgrim Lutheran Church, 820 Belknap Street, Superior, WI 54880

~ 715- 392-4731

Church email – officemgr@plcsuperior.org

Rev. Tanner Howard, Pastor (email – tanner@plcsuperior.org)

Custodian: Anna Johnson Pianist: Lorelei Holland Violinist: Eliza Wilson

Choir Director: Curt Hanson High School Youth Leader: Noah Holland

SAM – Jenny Dudderar

Website - www.plcsuperior.org



Sunday Evening Prayer: Can't make Sunday mornings? A Sunday night service here at Pilgrim just for you. It's a great way to start your week with a calming and peaceful service to quiet your mind and talk to God. 1st and 3rd Sunday's at 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel. Will also be on March 30th.

Still looking for Greeters! We are in need of greeters. There is a sign up sheet by the big calendar. Pick a Sunday to greet everyone that comes to church.

Blood Drive – March 18th from 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Don't forget to sign up. Call 1-800-733-2767; or go to redcrossblood.org or scan the QR code on the flyer.

Easter Chancel Garden We are currently taking orders Easter Lily's. There are order forms on the Kiosk in the Narthex. Just drop it in the offering plate. Orders must be turned in my March 31st.

Sunday Night Suppers

Join us on Sunday evenings for a **Community Meal at 5:30**.

Following the format of our campus ministry meals last fall, we are excited to open the doors to anyone who would like to join us for food and fellowship every Sunday here at Pilgrim.

There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex for 4 dates that Pilgrim will be hosting. Check out the list.

Adult Education

We are excited to offer a new opportunity for learning together with an Adult Ed class on Sunday evenings at 6:00. Come for the community meal at 5:30 and stick around to learn and discover together. Topics will range for biblical studies to theology, faith traditions to catechism.

PrayGround: Here at Pilgrim, everyone is welcome and wanted in worship. We love having children in worship, and we delight in their ability to see and experience all that is happening in the worship space. We invite you to sit anywhere you are comfortable. There is a special place in the front of the sanctuary on the right side that is our designated PrayGround, where kids can worship, wiggle, play, color, learn, and grow as part of our faith community. Adults are encouraged to sit where children can see them while they are using the PrayGround, in case they need assistance.

Have you connected with us online? Be sure to 'Like' us on Facebook and 'Subscribe' to our YouTube channel. Just jump on those platforms and search for 'Pilgrim Lutheran Church, Superior'. You can also visit our website for updates and events: www.plcsuperior.org

Coins for the Community.

For January and February we will be collecting for The Ruth House

Also on the table by the coins we are collecting pop tops. They will be going to the Ronald McDonald house in Duluth. These go to the funding of having families stay with their kids while they are in the hospital. It means so much to be able to have your family with you when you are going through medical things. Let's fill up the jars.

A reminder: If you or someone you know is in the hospital and you'd like Pastor Tanner to visit or call, please let the church office know. Federal law prohibits hospitals from calling the church and letting us know that you are ill, even if you've indicated who your church is on your forms. Thank you!

Attention all Youth: We have Sunday school on Sunday about 10:15. All kids are welcome. Confirmation is going very well. We meet on Wednesdays at 4:00. Anyone is still welcome to join. Talk with Pastor Tanner if you are interested or have any question.

The new Word in Season and Christ in Our Home devotional books are out. They start on April 1st. If you know someone who would enjoy them please bring them one. We also have large print in both books for those who like bigger print.

2025 EcoFaith Summit of the Upper Midwest: Earth's Cries, Earth's Call: Becoming Midwives of Hope for the Healing of Creation: Saturday, April 5, 9:30am - 5:00pm, First Lutheran Church in Duluth and Online. The day includes impactful speakers, action-oriented engagement sessions, vibrant worship, inspiring art, table exhibits, and networking time to equip disciples in congregations, camps, campuses and communities to respond to God's call in the cries of Creation. To register and for more information including a carpool discount, free registration under age 30 and free childcare provided: ecofaithnetwork.org/ecofaith-summit-2025

~~~~~

## **Prayer Around the Cross – A Pilgrimage Through Lent**



Throughout this season of Lent we will gather around the image of the cross. The cross is so imbued into our faith and traditions that we often don't think about it. So a part of our artwork that we may not notice it. This year you are invited to bring your cross to church.

There will be a special display in the narthex that you can add your crosses to, and we will bless these household crosses before sending them home again during Holy Week. In addition, we will hear stories from members of this congregation reflecting on their experience of the cross and life of faith.

We will gather for midweek meals and worship. The meal begins at 5:30 in the Fellowship Hall and worship will be at 6:00 using Holden Evening Prayer. All are always welcome! ***There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex for the meals.***

~~~~~

Helpers for today, March 16

Ushers – Team 3: Jeffrey Gronski, Capt; Roger Breitzmann and Gary Blaisdell

Sound system – Fred

Worship Asst. – Molly Warring

Altar Guild – Sandy and Theresa

Hospitality – Jan Cummings

Greeter - Sandy Breitzmann

Helpers for Wednesday , March 19 at 6:00 p.m.

Sound system – Jeff

Helpers for next Sunday, March 23

Ushers – Team 4: Tyler Austreng, Capt.; Greg Peterson, Rich Garay, Tim & Julie McLaren

Sound system – Max

Worship Asst. – Noah Holland

Altar Guild – Elaine and Mary

Hospitality – Ken & Julia Kochsiek

Greeter - ?? anyone

This week at a glance:

Tuesday - 11:00 Pastor's Text Study
11:00 – 5:00 Blood Drive
3:15-5:30 Eliza's classes
4:00-5:30 lessons by Teresa
5:00 Step in Line Dancing
5:30 Choir Practice
6:15 Martial Arts Class
6:30 Praise practice

Wednesday – 4:00 Confirmation Class
3:00-8:00 Eliza's classes
4:45 Girl Scouts
5:30 Soup Supper
6:00 Lent Worship
7:00 - Theology on Tap (at Tap on Tower, 1106 Tower Ave.)

Thursday – 8:00-8:45, 10:30-11:30, 3:00-7:00 Eliza's classes
No Bible Study
Pastor's conference gathering
5:45 Martial Arts Class

Friday - 12:00-8:00 Eliza's classes

Saturday 8:00-10:00 Martial Arts class

Next Sunday – 9:30 *Worship*
10:15 Sunday School
10:45 Bell Practice
4:00 NA Group
5:30 Community Meal (free)
6:00 Adult Ed class
6:30 Evening Worship

March 16, 2025

Evie Warring

Please read:

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.

Genesis 15:1-18

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."

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?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." 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." 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." And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Then he said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." But he said, "O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" 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." 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. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him. Then the LORD said to Abram, "Know this for certain, that your offspring shall be aliens in a land that is not theirs, and shall be slaves there, and they shall be oppressed for four hundred years; but I will bring judgment on the nation that they serve, and afterward they shall come out with great possessions. As for yourself, you shall go to your ancestors in peace; you shall be buried in a good old age. And they shall come back here in the fourth generation; for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete."

When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. 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,

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 27 (read responsively)

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.

⁶ **Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me. Therefore I
will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make
music to the Lord.**

⁷ Hear my voice, O Lord, when I call; have mercy on me and answer me.

⁸ **My heart speaks your message— “Seek my face.” Your face, O Lord, I will seek.**

⁹ Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger.

Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of my
salvation.

¹⁰ **Though my father and my mother forsake me, the Lord will take me in.**

¹¹ Teach me your way, O Lord; lead me on a level path, because of my oppressors.

¹² **Subject me not to the will of my foes,
for they rise up against me, false witnesses breathing violence.**

¹³ This I believe—that I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living!

¹⁴ **Wait for the Lord and be strong. Take heart and wait for the Lord!**

March 16, 2025

Evie Warring

Please read:

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.

Philippians 3:17-4:1

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. 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. Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. 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.

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.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please Read: Please stand for the Gospel as you are able

March 16, 2025

Pastor Tanner

P: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke. **C: Glory to you, O Lord**

Luke 13:31-35

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” 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.

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.’ 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! 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.’”

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