

The First Sunday in Lent

03/09/2025

Greg Fetzner, Pastor

J.V. Trautwein, Pastor Emeritus

P In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

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

P Most merciful God,

C **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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 us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

GATHERING HYMN: [ELW#320 "The Glory of These Forty Days"](#)

- P** The boundless grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the wisdom of God, and the light of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C** **And also with you.**



A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** **Lord, have mer - cy.**



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



C **Lord, have mer - cy.**



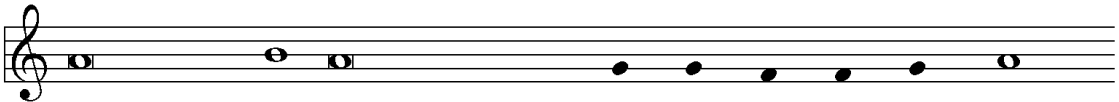
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



C **Lord, have mer - cy.**



A 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

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. O Lord God, your mercy delights us, and the world longs for your loving care. Hear the cries of everyone in need, and turn our hearts to love our neighbors with the love of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen**

Please be seated.

PSALM 25:1-10

L ¹To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

C ²**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

L ³Let none who look to you be put to shame; rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

C ⁴**Show me your ways, O Lord, and teach me your paths.**

L ⁵Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

C ⁶**Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.**

L ⁷Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.

C ⁸You are gracious and upright, O Lord; therefore you teach sinners in your way.

L ⁹You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.

C ¹⁰**All your paths, O Lord, are steadfast love and faithfulness to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.**

LUKE 10:25-37

L A reading from Luke: ²⁵An expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" ²⁶He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" ²⁷He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself." ²⁸And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."

²⁹But wanting to vindicate himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

³⁰Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and took off, leaving him half dead.

³¹Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. ³²So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³But a Samaritan while traveling came upon him, and when he saw him he was moved with compassion. ³⁴He went to him and bandaged his wounds, treating them with oil and wine. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. ³⁵The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him, and when I come back I will repay you whatever more you spend.' ³⁶Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" ³⁷He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

HYMN OF THE DAY: [ELW#617 "We Come to You for Healing, Lord"](#)

SERMON: [\(Sermon Audio Link\)](#)

Pastor Greg's Context-O-Meter for the Gospel of Luke



The Prologue	1:1–4
The Infancy Narratives	1:5–2:52
Preparation for the Ministry of Jesus	3:1–4:15
The Ministry of Jesus in Galilee	4:16–9:50
The Journey to Jerusalem	9:51–19:27
The Ministry of Jesus in Jerusalem	19:28–21:38
The Suffering and Death of Jesus	22:1–23:56
The Resurrection of Jesus	24:1–53

P Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

C 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

OFFERING*: ([On-Line giving Link](#))

The Offering is received and is presented at the altar.

RESPONSE: [“Create in Me”](#)

C Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir -
 it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
 not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store to me the
 joy of your sal-va - tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir - it.

L Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

L Gracious God, speak your word anew among your church. Strengthen it to withstand the temptation to turn inward in fear or complacency. Embolden church institutions to turn from self-preservation toward the self-giving love of Jesus. God, in your mercy,

C **receive our prayer.**

L Mothering God, speak the word of life into wilderness places and fertile fields. Grant wisdom to your people, that we may quell the urge to strip lands of their resources and instead preserve first fruits for future generations. God, in your mercy,

C **receive our prayer.**

L Almighty God, speak a word of wisdom to people in positions of power: mayors, councils, and tribal leaders, legislators, judges and juries, presidents, and monarchs.

Help them discern your voice and follow your guidance, resisting the temptations of the evil one. God, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

L Steadfast God, speak words of courage to your people in the wilderness. Protect migrants and refugees on perilous journeys, that they find safe refuge and a portion in the bounty you have given humanity to share. God, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

L Loving God, speak gently to all who are alone. Bless lay ministers, home communion teams, and others who attend to those who are overlooked, vulnerable, or lonely, that all find belonging in your love. We pray for all who are ill, especially Heidi Brackbill, Rebecca Brennan, Michelle Drayson, the Elshafei family, Jeff Fultz, Lydia Hendersen, Mark Hughes, Kaitlyn Leedy, Charlotte Leer, Wendy Neumann, Rick Newman, Peter Olsen, Claudia Schober, D. J. Singer, Jack Smith, the Spiegler family, Esther Trautwein, and Pastor Jack. God, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

L For whom or what else shall we pray?

The congregation is invited at this time to lift up prayers quietly or aloud.

L Living God, we give thanks for all the faithful who have crossed the threshold from death to life. Guide us who are living to learn from their wisdom and follow their example. God, in your mercy,

C receive our prayer.

L 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.

C Amen

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**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**

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: [ELW#704 “When the Pain of the World Surrounds Us”](#)

P Go in peace. Serve the risen Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

*Offering to be sent to
Robert Brackbill
10274 Raleigh Tavern Lane
Ellicott City, MD 21042

Epiphany Lutheran Church
9122 Sybert Drive
Columbia Hills
Ellicott City, MD 21043
<https://www.epiphanylutherancolumbia.org>

Please note that you now have the opportunity of online giving with the link found after the offering designation or here: https://tithe.ly/give_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/2627291

ANNOUNCEMENTS and Upcoming Events

- Sunday, 3/2/2025 3:00 pm – Memorial Service for Dottie Reitz
- Tuesday, 3/4/2025 Pancake Supper by the Venture Crew, 5:00 – 8:00 pm
- Wednesday, 3/5/2025 Ash Wednesday, 7 pm
- Wednesday Lenten Series – Soup-and-Bread Supper beginning 3/12/2025 6 pm

Upcoming Worship

Date	Liturgical Day	Preaching Texts	Worship Leader
March 9	1 Lent	Luke 10:25-42	Julie and Dave
March 16	2 Lent	Luke 13:1-9, 31-35	Ron
March 23	3 Lent	Luke 15:1-32	Monica
March 30	4 Lent	Luke 16:19-31	Pastor Greg
April 6	5 Lent	Luke 18:31-19:10	Heidi and Bob
April 13	Palm Sunday	Luke 19:29-44	Julie and Dave

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