



WORSHIP THE LORD YOUR GOD

MATTHEW 4:10

First Sunday in Lent

February 22, 2026

Radio ministry is given in thankfulness to God by the First Lutheran Church Women.

Sunday 2/22	9:00am	Worship w/3yo-4 th gr singing & on Radio & Video
	10:00am	Sunday School and Parent Group
	10:00am	Family & Friends Sunday for 3yo-1 st grade
Monday 2/23	8:30am	Quilting
Tuesday 2/24	4:00pm	Joe & Charlie's Big Book Study – AA Meeting (Fireside Rm)
Wednesday 2/25	8:00am	Bible Study
	1:15pm	Prairie Manor Worship
	5:45pm	Lenten Soup Supper
	6:30pm	Worship – Confirmation students attend with their family
Sunday 3/01	9:00am	Worship w/Holy Communion & on Radio & Video
	10:00am	Sunday School and Parent Group

Acolyte: Linkynn Doocy, Raelynn Holdgrafer **Lector:** Ashley Boehnke

Ushers: Mark Noble, Randy Klemmensen, Dwain Schultz, Rich Schwartz, David Streng

February's Children's Offering is a noisy offering for VBS 2026.
March's offering will be peanut butter for Community Pathways of Steele County.

Today: Feb 22 Maynard Johnson's family have treats for coffee hour to celebrate his 90th birthday (Feb.18). Enjoy some coffee, treats, and time with Maynard and his family.

Lent is coming soon, and we only have one week left open for soup suppers – sign up now!

The Annual Meeting of the First Lutheran Westfield Cemetery Association will be held on Saturday, March 7 at 10:00 a.m. at First Lutheran in the Luther Room. Maps will be available by 9:40 if wanting to view available plots.

BUILD US UP, LORD 2026 is off to a strong start -- because of *you*! Every dollar you give, each minute you volunteer, every person you invite, and each prayer you pray makes ministry happen. Thank you!

Sunday, Feb. 15 – Offering \$4,955.73
Attendance – 128



Prelude / Welcome and Announcements

GATHERING

***Confession and Forgiveness**

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

Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.** For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you: Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.** For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word: Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.** For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.** For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdain the living water Christ offers: Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.** For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world: Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.** For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life: Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound. Through faith, the free gift of God, you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts, and gives you life and peace. **Amen.**

***Gathering Hymn** *Here I Am to Worship* **#108 WT**
***Apostolic Greeting** **page 138**

***Prayer of the Day**
 Let us pray. Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. **Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Special Music *God has a Plan* *3yo-4th Gr SS*

Children's Message

WORD

First Reading: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7
Psalm: Psalm 32
Second Reading: Romans 5:12-19
***Gospel Acclamation** *Change My Heart O God* **#140 WT**
 P. The Gospel according to Matthew. **C. Glory to you, O Lord.**
***Gospel Reading:** Matthew 4:1-11
 P. The Gospel of the Lord. **C. Praise to you, O Christ.**
Sermon
Hymn of the Day *Better is One Day* **see insert**

RESPONDING

***Apostles' Creed** **page 127**
***Prayers of Intercession** (Lord, in your mercy/Hear our prayer)
***Sharing of the Peace**
***Offering**
***Offertory Music** *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying* **#146 WT**
***Offertory Prayer**
***Lord's Prayer** **page 145**

SENDING

***Blessing**
 Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation, †bless you now and always. **Amen.**
***Sending Song** *Shout to the Lord* **#110 WT**
***Dismissal**
 Go in peace. Believe the good news. **Thanks be to God.**
Postlude CCLI #853768 and #20174979 / One License:#A-731987

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH	
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Associate Pastor	Laurel Meester
Director of Children's Ministry	Tracy Madsen
Administrative Secretary	Danielle Hein
The Worship Team	Melissa Stoen, Tom Blome, Dustin Kremer, Dennis Sauke, Jaclyn Schlichter, Allyson Skillestad, Isaac Stoen & Pastor Laurel
Custodians	Gary Thorson, Wanda Edge



Today's Readings

First Sunday in Lent
February 22, 2026

Prayer of the Day

Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

First Reading

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

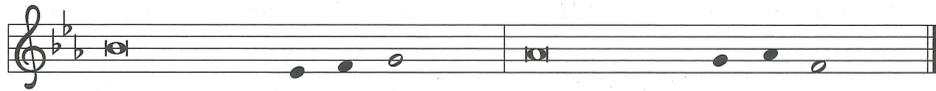
The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. ¹⁶And the LORD God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden, ¹⁷but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

³¹Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?'" ²The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³but God said, 'You shall not eat of the

fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die, ⁵for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶So 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. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked, and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

Psalm

Psalm 32; tone 10



Happy are they whose transgressions ¹ are forgiven, and whose sin is ¹ put away!
²Happy are they to whom the LORD im- ¹ putes no guilt, and in whose spirit there ¹ is no guile!
³While I held my tongue, my bones with- ¹ ered away, because of my groaning ¹ all day long.
⁴For your hand was heavy upon me ¹ day and night; my moisture was dried up as in the ¹ heat of summer.
⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not con- ¹ ceal my guilt. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD."

Then you forgave me the guilt ¹ of my sin.
⁶Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in ¹ time of trouble; when the great waters overflow, they ¹ shall not reach them.
⁷You are my hiding-place; you preserve ¹ me from trouble; you surround me with shouts ¹ of deliverance.
⁸"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that ¹ you should go; I will guide you ¹ with my eye.
⁹Do not be like horse or mule, which have no ¹ understanding; who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will ¹ not stay near you."

continued

Psalm, continued

¹⁰Great are the tribulations ¹ of the wicked; but mercy embraces those who trust ¹ in the LORD.

¹¹Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice ¹ in the LORD; shout for joy, all who are ¹ true of heart.

Second Reading

Romans 5:12-19

Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned—¹³for sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. ¹⁴Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who did not sin in the likeness of Adam, who is a pattern of the one who was to come.

¹⁵But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. ¹⁶And the gift is not like the effect of the one

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

¹⁸Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. ¹⁹For just as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so through the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

Gospel

Matthew 4:1-11

Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil. ²He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. ³The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." ⁴But he answered, "It is written,

'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'

⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶saying 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, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'

⁷Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

⁸Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory, ⁹and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." ¹⁰Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'

¹¹Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

TODAY'S READINGS February 22, 2026

Volume 57, Number 2

Next Sunday's Readings: Genesis 12:1-4a; Psalm 121; Romans 4:1-5, 13-17; John 3:1-17.

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First Sunday in Lent

February 22, 2026

Gathering Hymn

Here I Am to Worship

#108 WT

1 Light of the world, you stepped down into darkness, opened my eyes, let me see. Beauty that made this heart adore you, hope of a life spent with you.

Chorus: So, here I am to worship, here I am to bow down, here I am to say that you're my God. And you're altogether lovely, altogether worthy, altogether wonderful to me.

2 King of all days, oh so highly exalted, glorious in heaven above. Humbly you came to the earth you created, all for love's sake became poor.

(Chorus)

Gospel Acclamation

Change My Heart, Oh God

#140 WT

Chorus: Change my heart, oh God. Make it ever true.

Change my heart, oh God. May I be like you.

Verse: You are the potter. I am the clay.

Mold me and make me. This is what I pray. *(Chorus)*

Hymn of the Day

Better Is One Day

1 How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord almighty, for my soul longs and even faints for you. For here my heart, is satisfied, within your presence.

I sing beneath the shadow of your wings.

Chorus: Better is one day in your courts, better is one day in your house. Better is one day in your courts than thousands elsewhere, than thousands elsewhere.

2 One thing I ask and I would seek, to see your beauty, to find you in the place your glory dwells. One thing I ask and I would seek, to see your beauty, to find you in the place your glory dwells. *(Chorus)*

Offering

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

#146 WT

Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place; Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace. (2x)

Sending Song

Shout to the Lord

#110 WT

Verse: My Jesus, my Savior, Lord there is none like you; all of my days I want to praise the wonders of your mighty love. My comfort, my shelter, tower of refuge and strength; let every breath, all that I am, never cease to worship you.

Chorus: Shout to the Lord, all the earth, let us sing. Power and majesty, praise to the King. Mountains bow down and the seas will roar at the sound of your name.

Bridge: I sing for joy at the work of your hands, forever I'll love you, forever I'll stand, nothing compares to the promise I have in you.

LOVE OUTPOURED

MARCH 2026



First Lutheran Church Council challenges you
to a **CEREAL DRIVE**
(any brand, any size)
FOR COMMUNITY PATHWAYS