



The First Sunday in Lent 2026

Worship at 9:30 a.m.

We gather in the Spirit to begin our Lenten journey to Easter, longing for healing and hope. We are still in a new place, walking an unfamiliar path to the cross and new life. Yet, even as we may be starting in different places, from divergent experiences, we are journeying together, united by the Spirit. On this first Sunday we stand with Jesus as he is tempted – as all the world's power and glory and wealth are offered to Him. But is the temptation just about things? There is a challenge: 'If you are... ' Through his responses to the temptations of the devil, he defines what it means to be called "the Son of God." Through the Word that is in our hearts we learn what it is to hope and trust and live in Jesus. Through our words and actions, others learn to love Him.

*Our worship order is contained in this booklet. The people's parts are indicated by **bold** type. The red hardback hymnal, *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, is our main worship resource for hymns and song. You can find hymns in the second half of the book, and are numbered at the top of each hymn. Occasionally, worship may veer from the printed bulletin – just follow the Spirit!*

A warm welcome whether you are joining us in-house or by social media. Our prayer is that worship today will be a blessing as we sing and pray and hear God's Word together. We welcome you to the Lord's Table this morning. Christ Church is a family of faith deeply rooted in our upper Bucks communities, supporting one another in faith, working together to serve God.

Please take this weekly resource home with you – use it to take notes, jot down reminders, pray, remember dates. You can call (215.766.8730) or email (christpipersville@gmail.com) for prayer needs. In an emergency please call the parsonage at 267-362-8129

Gathering

PRAYER AND WORSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: *A time for prayerful preparation. Please stand at pastor's invitation*

THE KYRIE

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.



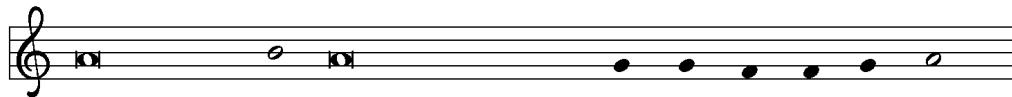
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mercy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mercy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. Amen.

CONFSSION

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, sovereign of the universe,
for you have preserved us and brought us to this day.

Blessed be God forever!

The sacrifice God desires is a contrite and ready heart;
Have mercy on us, O God, according to your unfailing love.
Silence for reflection

Holy God, we confess to you our faults and failings.

We have neglected your holy word;
we keep for ourselves instead of giving to others;
we spoil rather than steward your creation;
we cause hurt though you call us to heal;
we choose fear over compassion.

Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
as we seek to follow in your way of life. Amen.

Hear the good news: God so loved the world that God gave the only Son,
so that all may receive life. This promise is for you!
God embraces you with divine mercy.

Through our Lenten journey renew us, O Lord
that we may grow as disciples of Christ
and live out our faith according to your purpose. Amen.

WE SING THE GATHERING SONG #504, A MIGHTY FORTRESS



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who



to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
 ject - ed. But now a cham-pion comes to fight, whom
 your us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
 fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
 God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
 weap-ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,



has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
 in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
 goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
 they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
 Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther
 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.**

Let us pray: *the Prayer of the Day is offered and concludes: ...*

...one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Word

The first lesson is from Genesis, the 2ndth chapter. (Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7)

¹⁵The 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.”

^{3:1}Now 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. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 32 is read responsively.

¹Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven,
and whose sin is put away!

**²Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt,
and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

³While I held my tongue, my bones withered away,
because of my groaning all day long.

**⁴For your hand was heavy upon me day and night;
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**

⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt.
I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD.”

Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

**⁶Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble;
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.**

⁷You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

⁸“I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; I will guide you with my eye.

⁹Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding;
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will ¹ not stay near you.”

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

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

The Second Reading is from Roman, the 5th chapter.

(Romans 5:12-19)

¹²Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned—¹³sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. ¹⁴Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type 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 free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. ¹⁶And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man’s sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. ¹⁷If, because of the one man’s trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion 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 by the one man’s disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man’s obedience the many will be made righteous. The Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

The Holy Gospel according to the Matthew the fourth chapter.

(Matthew 4:1-11)

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ²He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards 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 splendor; ⁹and he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” ¹⁰Jesus 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. The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The Acclamation Repeats

TEACHING THE WORD (SERMON)

WE SING THE HYMN OF THE DAY ELW #758, YOU ARE THE WAY



1 You are the way; to you a - lone from sin and death we flee;
2 You are the truth; your word a - lone true wis - dom can im - part;
3 You are the life; the rend - ing tomb pro - claims your con-qu'ring arm;
4 You are the way, the truth, the life; grant us that way to know,



all those who search for God, you find and by your grace set free.
you on - ly can in - form the mind and pu - ri - fy the heart.
and those who put their trust in you not death nor hell shall harm.
that truth to keep, that life to win, whose joys e - ter - nal flow.

Text: George W. Doane, 1799-1859, alt.

Music: DUNDEE, *Psalter*, Edinburgh, 1615

Please stand

APOSTLES' CREED *We confess our faith in the words of the church's baptismal creed*
Let us confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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**

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in needs.

A brief silence.

A brief silence. We pray for the world, our community, and all in need of healing and wholeness from God.

Each petition concludes:

... Holy One receive our prayer

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to bring wholeness and peace; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen**

Following the hymn, please stand at Pastor's invitation.

Meal

THE PEACE

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

We greet one another in peace saying, "Peace be with you". Please feel free to step out of your pew and greet one another as you are comfortable: a handshake or a wave, a hug or a hand placed over your heart. Following the peace, please be seated.

COLLECTION OF OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS/ANTHEM

*We offer our love, obedience and lives in thanksgiving as a response to God's gifts and mercies.
The ushers will be gathering the offering. In- house or joining us online tithes and offerings may be gathered and given online at christpipersville.org, using the QR code, or mailed. At Pastor's invitation we stand and sing the OFFERTORY*



PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS
As the offering is presented we stand and sing the OFFERTORY

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.

THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray –*Silence*- Father,
All we call our own comes from You,
gifts of Your mercy and a sign of your love.
Through these gifts of bread and wine,
draw us into the death and life of your Son,
who calls us to bear witness to his saving work.
We ask this in Jesus' name.

The Table is prepared as we pray and prepare our hearts.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is our duty and our joy to give you thanks O God

For you created us in your own image...

The prayer concludes:

... as we pray with trust and hope for the coming of the Kingdom
 in the prayer our Savior gave 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

AGNUS DEI... “Just As I Am,” ELW #592 verses 1 & 3

Just as I am, without one plea
but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou bid'st me come to thee
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, thou wilt receive
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
because thy promise I believe
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Blessed are we who are called to his table.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

THE COMMUNION

We believe Jesus is truly present in the forms of bread and wine. You are welcome-this is the Lord's Table and

He invites you! If you have taken an elements cup and prefer to commune where you are seated, please commune at any time after the invitation that you wish. Those online are communed, followed by the musicians. Then the congregation comes forward by the center aisle, the organ side first, and then the pulpit side. Receive the Host (bread) from Pastor, with the words, 'The body of Christ, given for you.' The assistant offers the chalice of wine for intinction, (dipping the bread into the wine) with the words: 'The blood of Christ, shed for you. The communicant may say: Amen. Please return to your pew by the side aisle. Anyone, child or adult, who does not wish to take communion is invited to come forward, hands folded, to receive a blessing, or remain seated and commune by prayer.

The hymn during communion is #481, Come to the Table:



Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, pre - pared with the wine and the bread.



All who are hun - gry and thirst - y, come, and your souls will be fed.



Come at the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion; re - ceive from his nail - scarred hand.



Eat of the bread of sal - va - tion; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

Sending

When all have communed the Table is cleared. Please stand in body or spirit at Pastor's invitation

TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ

strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen!**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. -Silence- Holy God, loving Father:

You have welcomed us to your Table,

and we have been fed and forgiven.

In this Lenten journey strengthen us to be faithful in prayer,

refreshed by fasting, and generous in charity,

going into the world blessed to be a blessing.

In the name of Jesus our Savior and Lord. Amen.

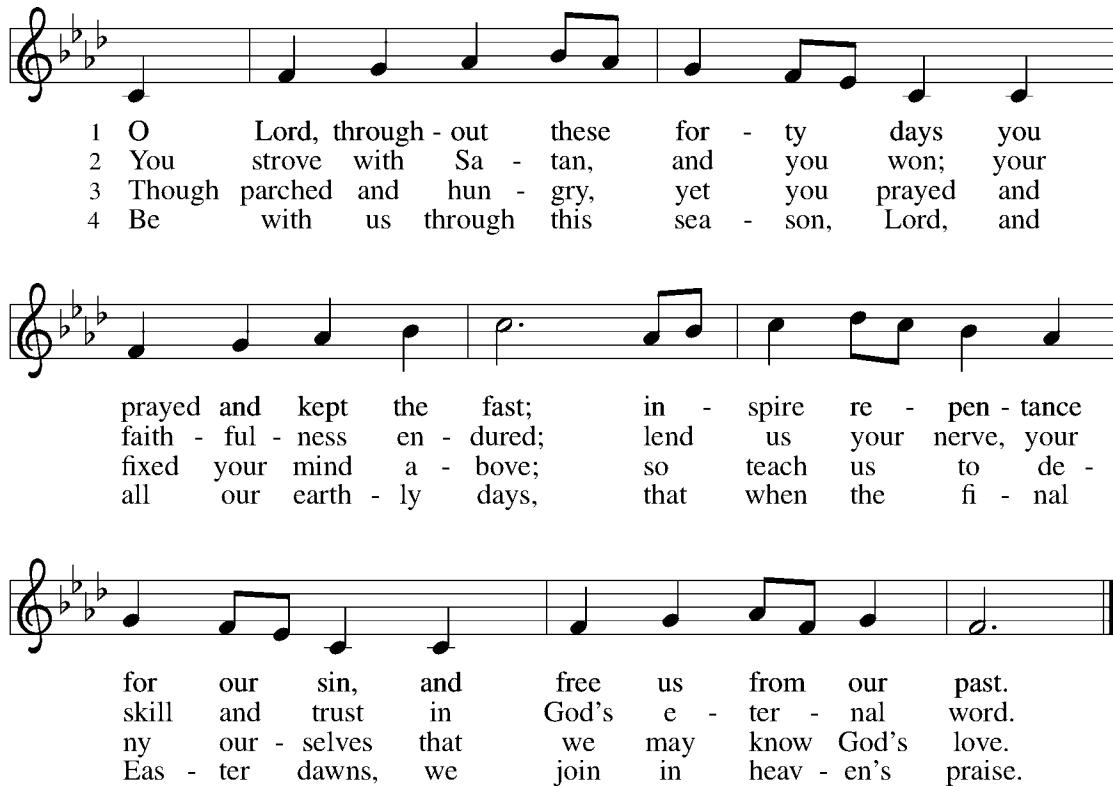
Silence for reflection. Following the announcements, at pastor's invitation, please stand.

THE BENEDICTION

Almighty God, Father + Son and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever. **Amen**

Sending

WE SING THE SENDING SONG ELW #319 O LORD THROUGHOUT THESE 40 DAYS



1 O Lord, through - out these for - ty days you
2 You strove with Sa - tan, and you won; your
3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet you prayed and
4 Be with us through this sea - son, Lord, and

prayed and kept the fast; in - spire re - pen - tance
faith - ful - ness en - dured; lend us your nerve, your
fixed your mind a - bove; so teach us to de -
all our earth - ly days, that when the fi - nal

for our sin, and free us from our past.
skill and trust in God's e - ter - nal word.
ny our - selves that we may know God's love.
Eas - ter dawns, we join in heav - en's praise.

Text: based on Claudia F. Hernaman, 1838–1898; para. Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930

Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davisson, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816

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DISMISSAL & SENDING Go in peace, serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

THE POSTLUDE

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The Rev. Marie Caron, Pastor
Mrs. Kim Campbell, Council President
Mrs. Cynthia Carper, Parish Secretary

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