

Second Sunday in Lent

March 1 and 2, 2026



Exactly What I Need: Faith



198 Westridge Ave., Burlington, Wisconsin
262-763-8229 | stjohnsburlington.org
Rev. Kirk Lahmann | Rev. Kenneth Rodrigue



Welcome to Worship

Thank you for joining us for worship today! We are honored that you are with us. We pray that the Word of God you hear will strengthen your faith and increase your love for the Lord! Please fill out a “Welcome to Worship” card (found in the hymnal racks) and place it in an offering plate, located near the sanctuary doors, as you leave worship. If you are a guest, know that we are thankful you have joined us and hope that you will join us again soon.

Prepare for Worship

To prepare for worship, read through the service focus and the Scripture readings. Ponder the words of the Psalm of the Day. Spend time in prayer, using the prayers on the inside cover of the hymnal or on pages 255-258. For those intending to receive the Lord’s Supper, read through the “Christian Questions” on pages 295-296. Consider reading through portions of the Small Catechism on pages 286-293.

Today’s Focus for Worship – Exactly What I Need: Faith

I recognize that I need to be saved. When Jesus said, “No one can enter the kingdom of God,” that included me. I do not deserve God’s blessing. But long ago, God declared that I would be blessed by a descendant of Abraham who turned out to be Jesus. The blessing is salvation. I receive that salvation by faith in Jesus as my Savior. The good news is that faith is also God’s gift, imparted to me through the gospel.

Serving at Worship

Presiding Minister: Pastor Kenneth Rodrigue

Preacher: Pastor Kirk Lahmann

Accompanists: Tracy Hankwitz (Sunday) & Allison Sorensen (Monday)

Guitarist: Pastor Kirk Lahmann

Vocalist: Dan Borchardt

Acknowledgments

Today’s service is adapted from *Christian Worship: Hymnal*, © 2021 Northwestern Publishing House, p. 278 – “Corporate Confession and Absolution.” Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide. Software distributed in partnership with Northwestern Publishing House. Created by *Christian Worship: Service Builder* © 2022 Concordia Publishing House. The Prayer of the Church is reprinted from *Praying with the Readings...* © Paul C. Stratman. Used with permission. Artwork by Ed Riojas, © higherthings.org.

The Service, Setting 2

Corporate Confession and Absolution



Opening Hymn

By Faith | 868
Please stand to sing stanza five.

Invocation

Matthew 18:20; 28:19-20

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires are known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by your Holy Spirit, that we may love you and praise your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 124:8; 1 John 1:8-9; Ephesians 2:4-5

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
the maker of heaven and earth.

Let us confess our sins to God and ask for his forgiveness.

Almighty God, merciful Father, I confess to you that I have not loved you with all my heart. In what I have done and left undone, I have pursued my ways instead of your ways. I have not loved others as you command. For this I deserve your punishment now and forever. I am sorry for my sins. I repent of them. I beg for your mercy.

Silence for reflection

Forgive us for the sake of Jesus Christ, who suffered and died for us.

Cleanse me from my sins. Release me from my guilt. Grant me your Holy Spirit to amend my sinful life.

Jesus says to his people, “If you forgive anyone’s sins, their sins are forgiven.” Do you believe this?

Yes, I believe.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins.

Amen.

Our Lord Jesus Christ has forgiven us, has reconciled us to God, and has promised us the power to forgive and love one another. Relying on his promise, therefore, be reconciled with one another.

Brothers and sisters, may the peace of Christ rule in our hearts, in our words, and in our actions.

Let us pray.

God, our Father, by the sacrifice of your Son you reconciled the world to yourself. We thank you for the precious gift of forgiveness. Refresh us with the joy of our salvation, that we may walk in the way of peace with our brothers and sisters in Christ. Renew our minds and wills, that daily we may speak your word of peace; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lenten Response

Answer Me, O LORD | Psalm 69-B

During the season of Lent, we replace the jubilant “Gloria in Excelsis” with a more reflective Lenten response. The congregation sings the Lenten response three times.



An - swer me, O LORD, for your love is kind;
in your great com - pas - sion, turn to me.

The Word

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.



Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you see that we have no power to defend ourselves. Guard and keep us both outwardly and inwardly from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Genesis 12:1-8

¹The LORD had said to Abram, “Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you.

²“I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.”

⁴So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Harran. ⁵He took his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, all the possessions they had accumulated and the people they had acquired in Harran, and they set out for the land of Canaan, and they arrived there.

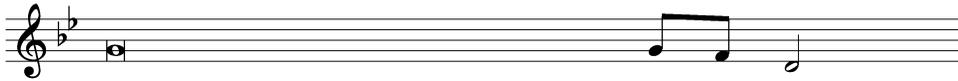
⁶Abram traveled through the land as far as the site of the great tree of Moreh at Shechem. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. ⁷The LORD appeared to Abram and said, “To your offspring I will give this land.” So he built an altar there to the LORD, who had appeared to him.

⁸From there he went on toward the hills east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. There he built an altar to the LORD and called on the name of the LORD.

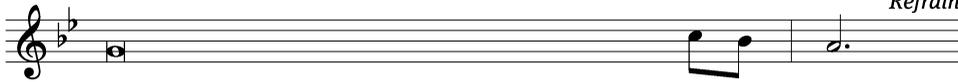
The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Tone



For God so loved the world that he gave his one and on - ly Son,



that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have e - ter - nal life.

Gospel

John 3:1-17

¹Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. ²He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him.”

³Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.”

⁴“How can someone be born when they are old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother’s womb to be born!”

⁵Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. ⁶Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. ⁷You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’ ⁸The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.”

⁹“How can this be?” Nicodemus asked.

¹⁰“You are Israel’s teacher,” said Jesus, “and do you not understand these things? ¹¹Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. ¹²I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? ¹³No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man. ¹⁴Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, ¹⁵that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.”

¹⁶For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Hymn of the Day

God Loved the World So That He Gave | 570

Sermon Text

Psalm 121

¹I lift up my eyes to the mountains—where does my help come from? ²My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth. ³He will not let your foot slip—he who watches over you will not slumber; ⁴indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

⁵The LORD watches over you—the LORD is your shade at your right hand; ⁶the sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night. ⁷The LORD will keep you from all harm—he will watch over your life; ⁸the LORD will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore.

Sermon

Psalm 121

My Help Comes From the LORD

Stand

Nicene Creed *Credo*

Matthew 16:15; Luke 12:8; 2 Corinthians 4:13

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Be seated

Prayer of the Church

Psalm 121:2

O Lord, we put our trust in you. Be our help and protection by day and night.

Our help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.

Refresh your promises in our hearts and minds as we hear them again. Keep us in your grace.

Our help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.

Let the Word of your love in Christ reach the world, that people everywhere may know him as their Savior, and have your new birth and the gift of eternal life.

Our help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.

Let your salvation spread abroad through missionaries who declare your name in places where we cannot go. Keep them safe from all trouble. Be in their hearts and mouths, that they may confess your faith in the world, and bring many to believe and have eternal life.

Our help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.

You watch over your people, and you never slumber nor sleep. Keep watch over those with troubled hearts, those going through tests of faith, and those suffering in mind or body. Do not let their feet slip. Keep them from all harm. Watch over their lives.

Our help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.

O God, you looked on humanity when we had fallen to death and resolved to redeem us by giving your only Son. Grant that we may confess him as our Savior, and remain in unity with him, our Redeemer, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Offertory

The Old Rugged Cross (Sunday)

Offerings given in thanks to the Lord are brought to the Lord's altar. We ask all worshippers to fill out a "Welcome to Worship" card (found in the hymnal racks) and place it in the offering plates at the sanctuary doors following the service.

The Sacrament



Stand

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136:1

The Lord be with you.



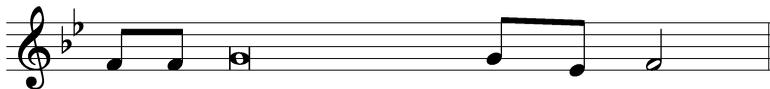
And al - so with you.

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 him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree, would in turn by a tree be overcome. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy *Sanctus*

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

The musical score is written in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. It consists of seven staves of music. The lyrics are: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er, God of might. Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Matthew 26:26

Lord God, you are worthy to receive thanks and praise from all people. You created the world and all who live in it, and in your mercy you saved us. We give thanks to you for the grace of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Though in very nature God, he took the nature of a servant and became obedient to death, even death on a cross. He offered himself as a sacrifice for sin and redeemed us from its curse and penalty. He rescued us from the terrors of death and restored eternal life with you. He conquered our enemies and gained for us the kingdom of grace and glory.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood, and lead us to remember his suffering, death, and resurrection. Forgive our sins and fill us with the hope of new life in heaven. Hear our praise and receive our thanks as we worship you—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer *Pater Noster*

Matthew 6:9-13

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.

Words of Institution *Verba*

Matthew 26:26-28; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

Jesus, Lamb of God *Agnus Dei*

John 1:29

Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first part of the phrase, and the second staff continues it. The lyrics are written below the notes.

sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.
 Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
 sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.
 Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
 sin of the world; grant us your peace.

Be seated

Holy Communion Distribution

St. John's Lutheran Church practices Close Communion. We ask that only members of St. John's, or members of a church in fellowship with St. John's, come forward for Communion. Our pastoral staff would be happy to set up a time to discuss this, and any teaching of Scripture, with you.

Distribution Hymns (Sunday)

Lift High the Cross | 900
 Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice | 557
 To God Be the Glory | 627

Stand

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Lord God, give me confidence that whether I'm awake or sleeping, working or traveling, eating or relaxing, you are watching over me. Every breath I draw, every beat of my heart happens only under your watchful eye and with the strength you provide. So let me face each day with the calm assurance that no real harm can come my way; in the name of Jesus.

Amen.

Blessing *Aaronic Benediction*

Numbers 6:24-26

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

Amen.

Be seated

Closing Hymn

How Deep the Father's Love for Us | 523

Exactly What I Need

Ash Wednesday and Sundays in Lent 2026

Lent is the season of the Church Year when I recognize my greatest needs. During Lent, I realize that in Christ all my greatest needs are met. God knows what I need even when I don't have any idea. The Holy Spirit makes it clear, week after week, that if I lack Christ, I have nothing. But if I have Christ, I have exactly what I need.

Ash Wednesday – February 18

First Sunday in Lent – February 22 & 23

Second Sunday in Lent – March 1 & 2

Third Sunday in Lent – March 8 & 9

Fourth Sunday in Lent – March 15 & 16

Fifth Sunday in Lent – March 22 & 23

Palm Sunday – March 29 & 30

Even when
we don't
know what
we need,
Jesus does.


exactly
what i need

A Lent Series

Exactly What I Need: Forgiveness

Exactly What I Need: A Champion

Exactly What I Need: Faith

Exactly What I Need: Water

Exactly What I Need: Sight

Exactly What I Need: Life

Exactly What I Need: A King

It Is Finished

The Holy Week Prophecies of Zechariah

Wednesdays in Lent 2026



The prophet Zechariah records several profound and specific prophecies regarding Jesus' Holy Week activity, including his triumphal entry into Jerusalem, his betrayal, and his suffering and death, culminating in his cry from the cross, "It is finished!" This midweek Lenten series explores those prophecies and connects them to their Holy Week fulfillment. Join us for worship these Wednesdays in Lent at 3:30pm or 6:30pm as we see our Kingly Priest (Zech 6) sold (Zech 11), pierced (Zech 12), and struck for us, his scattered sheep (Zech 13).

February 25 – Pastor Kirk Lahmann
St. John's Lutheran, Burlington

Look at the One Who Was Pierced
Zechariah 12:10-13

March 4 – Pastor Kenneth Rodrigue
St. John's Lutheran, Burlington

Scattered Sheep
Zechariah 13:7-9

March 11 – Pastor Mike Kuschel
First Lutheran, Elkhorn

The Truth, the Whole Truth, and Nothing but the Truth
Zechariah 8:14-17

March 18 – Pastor Ken Frey
Retired; First Lutheran, Lake Geneva

What's He Worth to You?
Zechariah 11:7-13

March 25 – Pastor Derek Bartelt
First Lutheran, Lake Geneva

The Kingly Priest
Zechariah 6:9-13