

Worship Service ~ February 22, 2026, 9:00

First Sunday in Lent

VISION: Be the body of Christ:

welcoming all, inspired by God, and sent out to live our Faith.

MISSION: Led by the Spirit to share God's grace.

Today's Worship Broadcast is sponsored by Gordon Farrington in memory of his darling wife of 48 years, Phyllis.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SHARING OF THE PEACE

L: The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OPENING SONG

ELW #714 O GOD OF MERCY, GOD OF LIGHT

Stz 1, 2, 3

INVOCATION

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

C: Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

~Silence for Reflection~

L: Compassionate One,

C: 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.

L: 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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray.

C: Gracious God, out of your love and mercy you breathed into dust the breath of life, creating us to serve you and our neighbors. Call forth our prayers and acts of kindness and strengthen us to face our mortality with confidence in the mercy of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

PRAYER LAB MINUTE

SPECIAL MUSIC *“Benediction”* Worship Band

Joel Smallbone Luke Smallbone Josh Kerr Nicolas Balachandran Ran Jackson Ricky Jackson
(based on the recording by for KING & COUNTRY) CCLI Song # 7191024 © 2022 BNA BANGERS
Tunes of Black River Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp. Be Essential Songs Modern Hymns and
Sacred Songs - Songs From Richmond Park Kilns Music Shaun Shankel Pub Designee Method to
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R: A reading from Psalm 32.

Psalm 32:1-5

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

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

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

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

⁵ Then 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.

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ELW page 151 *RETURN TO THE LORD*

R: A Gospel reading from the 4th chapter of Matthew.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

Matthew 4:1-11

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil. ² He 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.

R: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

MESSAGE Pastor John Klawiter

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW #504 A MIGHTY FORTRESS

MUSICAL OFFERING "When Jesus Wept" by William Billings; Faith Choir, Linda Burk, director

When Jesus wept the falling tear
In mercy flowed beyond all bound.
When Jesus groaned a trembling fear
Seized all the guilty world around



OFFERTORY ELW #186 CREATE IN ME

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

L: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BLESSING

The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD's face shine upon you and be gracious unto you, The LORD look upon you with favor, + and give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

RECKLESS LOVE

Words and Music by Caleb Culver, Cory Asbury and Ran Jackson
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DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

1. Which two of these people taught, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near"?

- a) Jesus and John the Baptist
- b) Jesus and the Apostle Peter
- c) Jesus and the Apostle Paul

2. Repentance means...

- a) Fasting and praying
- b) Turning away from sin and back to God
- c) Delighting in sin

1) a
2) b

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Faith Lutheran Church, ELCA, Forest Lake, MN

www.faithfl.org - livestreaming at faithfl.org

Pastor John Klawiter, Senior Pastor; johnk@faithfl.org

Pastor Marlene Elmstrom, Visitation Pastor; marlenek@faithfl.org

Deacon Nina Joygaard, Adult Ministry; ninaj@faithfl.org

Brett Sterling, Children, Youth & Family, brets@faithfl.org

Linda Burk, Worship Arts Director, lindab@faithfl.org



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