

The Lutheran Church of The Redeemer

1515 Boundary Street • Newberry, SC 29108

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The First Sunday in Lent

February 22, 2026 - 10:30 am

A warm welcome to The Lutheran Church of The Redeemer!

Lent is a forty-day season of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving that begins on Ash Wednesday and leads us through to the three holy days of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. It is a time for intentional spiritual renewal, designed to mirror Jesus' forty days in the wilderness. By setting aside this season, we are called to pause, look inward, and examine our lives, preparing our hearts for the joy of Easter by embracing a spirit of repentance and reflection.

Rather than a time of gloom, Lent is a journey of returning to God with a sincere heart. Through fasting, we detach from worldly distractions; through prayer, we deepen our relationship with God; and through almsgiving, we express love for our neighbors. Ultimately, Lent invites us to die to ourselves, so that we might walk more closely with Christ on the road to Calvary and experience the transformative power of the Resurrection.

Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

Whether you are a long-time member, a newcomer to our parish, or simply exploring your faith, we are delighted to have you join us. We are a family of faith dedicated to sharing God's love and grace through worship, fellowship, and service.

We invite you to join us for our worship services, participate in our ministries, and become a part of our vibrant parish. May you feel the presence of the Holy Spirit among us and find a spiritual home here at Redeemer.

The Lutheran Church of The Redeemer is a Christian community of diverse people called and guided by the Holy Spirit to nurture with God's love those within and beyond our congregation.

A place where God is at work!
All are welcome. No exceptions.

..... † **GATHERING** †

Voluntaries

Jesus, the Very Thought of You

The Glory of These Forty Days

Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain

Joyce Jones

David Cherwien

Michael Burkhardt

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCA Temple Talk

<We stand.>

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 remembers our guilt and blots out all offenses.

Silence is kept for reflection.

<We kneel.>

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 disdaining 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.**

<We stand.>

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, our 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.**

GREETING

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.**

KYRIE

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, 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 mer - cy.

For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer 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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray together. God of new life, **As Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, renew and restore us to new life, leaving in the grave all that prevents us from loving you fully. Amen.**

<We sit.>

..... † **WORD** †

READING

Psalm 104:27-30

Pew Bible page 484

These all look to you to give them their food in due season; when you give to them, they gather it up; when you open your and, they are filled with good things. When you hide your face, they are dismayed; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust. When you send forth your spirit,^[a] they are created, and you renew the face of the ground.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

LIL' LUTHERAN TALK

<We stand.>

GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

John 11:1-44

Pew Bible page 873

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather, it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble because the light is not in them." After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house consoling her saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?" Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

<At the conclusion of the reading>

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

<We sit.>

SERMON

WELCA

<We stand.>

HYMN OF THE DAY

The Glory of These Forty Days

ELW Hymn 320

NICENE CREED

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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

<We kneel.>

Each prayer petition will end with "Hear us, O God," and the response is "Your mercy is great."

Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.
Amen.

<We stand.>

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also, with you.**

You are invited to share the peace, however you and those around you are comfortable.

<We sit.>

..... ✝ MEAL ✝

RECEPTION OF THE OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

Fanny Crosby

<We stand.>

OFFERTORY

What Shall I Render



☞ What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all his ben - e - fits to me?



I will of - fer the sac - ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing



and will call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal -



va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord.



I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the



pres - ence of all his peo - ple, in the courts of the Lord's house,



in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. 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.

Amen.

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.**

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise ... *here the minister continues with the preface for the day, concluding ...* we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and 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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, ...

... as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ has risen.

Christ will come again.

... Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

... Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

... we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray ...

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.

INVITATION TO THE MEAL

Come to the table.

Feast on God’s goodness and mercy.

<We sit.>

COMMUNION

Participation in Holy Communion is open to all the baptized. We come in faith, trusting Christ is truly present in the bread and wine – given for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen us for proclaiming God’s love in the world. You are invited to come forward to receive the bread and wine. You may dip the bread into the chalice. If you are unable to come forward, communion will be brought to you. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

<We stand.>

THE TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ’s body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

..... ✚ **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 HYMN

Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow

ELW Hymn 327

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Believe the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

VOLUNTARY

Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow

Paul Manz

..... ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU to all of the women who participated in our BOLD Women’s service; you made it a very special one.

Annual Music Showcase & Banquet – the Music Showcase & Banquet has been rescheduled for March 1st. Tickets are on sale through today.

World Day of Prayer will be Friday, March 6, 2026, at 6pm at St. Luke’s Lutheran Church. Light refreshments will be served in the Fellowship Hall following the service.

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
22 Sunday School - 9:30am Worship - 10:30am Children’s Choir Rehearsal - after worship Handbell Choir Rehearsal - 11:40am-12:20pm FLC Reserved - Historical Society Confirmation - 4pm	23 Prayer & Care Card Class - 9:30am	24 Prayer Shawl Ministry - 10am Library Reserved	25 Mid-Week Meal & Lenten Service - 6:15pm - FLC Senior Choir Rehearsal - after worship	26	27	28 FLC Reserved	1 Property Committee Mtg - 9am Sunday School - 9:30am Worship - 10:30am Children’s Choir Rehearsal - after worship Handbell Choir Rehearsal - 11:40am-12:20pm WELCA - 3:45pm FLC Reserved - Musical Showcase Confirmation - 4pm

Worship Leadership – This Sunday
Worship Asst: Derryll Satterwhite
Acolyte: Miriam Titus
Crucifer: Ashleigh Titus
Comm Prep: Christie Whitaker
Altar Flowers: No Flowers During Lent
Ushers: Susan Thomasson, Ann Jacobs, Polly Davis, Cathy Turner

Attendance:
 Sunday School: 23
 In-Person: 63
 Online: 139
Total: 202

Numbers for February 15, 2026:

Sunday, March 1, 2026
Worship Asst: Anne Caughman
Acolyte: McKenzie Garner
Crucifer: JC Hazel
Comm Prep: Ann Jacobs & Susan Thomasson
Altar Flowers: No Flowers During Lent
Ushers: Chad Cary, Norris Long, Zeb Reid, Dennis Caughman

Offering:
 Gen Op Account: \$ 4,510.00
 Major Maint./Cap Imp: \$ 270.00
 Redeemer Music Fund: \$ 100.00
 Facilities Rental Income: \$ 500.00

The Rev. Matthew Titus, Pastor · Haley McBride-Stuhr, Office Assistant & Bookkeeper
Dr. Huger Caughman, Jr., Organist · Nicholas Todd Shumate, Choir Director
A/V Team: Annette Belcher, Wayden Caughman, Nikki Chapman, and Matt Bowers

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Where Did it Go?

There's something you won't hear this Sunday during worship: the word Alleluia! Lent is a serious, sometimes sad, time. You will hear Alleluia again on Easter Sunday.

Alleluia is a word used for praise and celebration. In the word search below, find some other words that celebrate God. Words are forward, backward, up, down, and diagonal. Hint: Every word ends in the letter E.

AWE LOVE ADORE SERVE
PRAISE BELIEVE REJOICE CELEBRATE

A	R	B	W	I	L	J	O	E	V	D	O	M	
S	O	Q	E	F	C	N	H	S	I	W	C	F	
T	H	A	A	L	R	I	E	S	B	X	E	A	
C	N	S	G	O	I	V	K	E	N	E	D	Y	
H	I	J	O	P	U	E	R	R	A	O	D	E	
W	T	Y	T	E	P	H	V	R	V	R	L	O	I
C	E	L	E	B	R	A	T	E	V	O	L	M	
U	A	R	S	T	U	B	S	C	W	Z	E	B	
T	R	E	H	O	L	I	E	I	S	A	Q	U	
I	J	R	O	P	A	U	T	O	S	D	B	I	
L	B	C	D	R	N	O	A	J	E	C	E	B	
O	W	E	P	E	H	Y	R	E	G	I	O	L	
N	M	A	Y	S	D	U	V	R	E	E	P	I	

During Lent, we do not say or sing the word ALLELUIA during worship. That's because Lent is a quiet, thinking time. We use Lent to get ready for Easter. On Easter, everyone celebrates that Jesus is alive. Then we say and sing ALLELUIA again.

Decorate this ALLELUIA. Then hide this paper someplace where you'll remember it on Easter.



Lenten Midweek Services

Join us for a meal beginning at 6:15pm in the Family Life Center followed by an abbreviated worship service

February 25 - Creation - Mark 4:35-41

March 4 - All the Saints - Mark 9:2-8

March 11 - Our Neighbor - Mark 2:1-12

March 18 - Those on the Margins - Mark 5:1-20

March 25 - Walking the Way of the Cross -
Mark 10:32-45