

THE WAY



1st Sunday in Lent
February 22, 2026

Ascension Lutheran Church
1105 N. Washington Blvd.
Ogden, UT 84404
801.782.2810

Welcome to Worship...

Welcome to all God's guests, including those who call themselves "members" of this church named Ascension Lutheran Church more than 65 years ago.

A special welcome to guests who are here for the first time or who call yourselves "visitors" among the people of this community. It is at God's invitation, through worship, the Holy Spirit calls each of us to come to a place of **community, communion** and **commitment**. Each of us brings a different lens to worship, and yet, in a worshiping community, these differences become celebrations of diversity.

Children are always welcome in worship services;

However, please know the cry room at the back of the sanctuary is available for parents who need to tend to their little ones.

Welcome to Worship

Centering Breath—

Music plays softly behind—when finished congregation sings



Meet me in the still-ness, Lord, be the
air I breathe; meet me in the still-ness,
Lord, free me to receive.

Today we embark on our Lenten Journey. It is an intentional journey of reflection. Making intentional journeys has been a ritual of humankind across time and traditions. Inspired by passages in the scriptures that talk about the journeys, roads and pathways of life, we will make our way together through this time.

The popular and poignant movie, *The Way*, about a father's pilgrimage in honor of his late son on the famed Camino de Santiago in France and Spain, accompanies us as our modern-day inspiration to live the life we've been given to the fullest.

A Wilderness Wandering People

The musical score is written in 4/4 time and consists of two systems. The first system includes a vocal line and a bass line. The lyrics for the first system are: "We are a wil-der-ness wand-ring peo-ple on a". The second system also includes a vocal line and a bass line. The lyrics for the second system are: "jour - ney of the soul. May we find our des - ti - na - tion in our long - ing to be whole." The music features a mix of chords and single notes, with a steady bass line.

Jesus went on a pilgrimage into the wilderness after his baptism by John in the Jordan River. Jesus was led into the wilderness by the Holy Spirit where he encounters what we all encounter along the paths of life—temptations to stray from the path that God has intended for us. But “all who wander are not lost,” as the saying goes, for it is in the wandering often that we find our true selves.

Our Ho-ly God is call - ing to us. With Je - sus by our
 side may com - pas - sion be our com - pass may the Spir - it be our
 guide, on The Way, on The Way, on The Way.

Confession and Forgiveness

P Let us join together in opening our hearts to the love of God.

All Amen.

P Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Mighty God, lover of justice,

All You call us to a full life in community and service
 But we get stuck in our own lives of doubt and regret.

We are full of anxious questions and short on reasonable answers.

**We are trapped by our own inability to make decisions
 that move us to service.**

**We are afraid of consequences and want a guarantee
 that everything we do will work to our benefit.**

**We fear that we are not strong enough, nor wise enough,
 nor caring enough.**

All Forgive us.

Turn our eyes to you. Show us the way to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God.

Amen.

P Hear this: No matter what juncture you find yourself on in your journeys, you are never alone in your “wondering while wandering.” Whether or not you know it, believe it, or feel it, Jesus is with you now because Jesus has been on this road and knows just how hard it can be. You are forgiven and carried, ✝ especially when you think you are at the end of the road.

All Amen.

Prayer for This Day

WA God of the Pilgrimage, be with us on The Way.

All At times, we don't know if we are on the path that you would have us travel.

How do we know the direction for our lives?

We come seeking your guidance, as Jesus showed us to do.

Help us to be at home even in our wanderings,

knowing that you are ever with us. Amen.

Through Adam's disobedience, humanity came under bondage to sin and death, from which we cannot free ourselves. In Christ's obedient death, God graciously showers on us the free gift of liberation and life.

A Reading from Romans, the 5th chapter

¹² 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 ¹³ for sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law.

¹⁴ Yet 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.

¹⁵ But 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. ¹⁶ And 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. ¹⁷ If, 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.

¹⁸ Therefore 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. ¹⁹ For 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.

Romans 5:12-19

WA The Word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God!

Gospel Acclamation [Please stand in body or spirit.](#)

♪♪ Meet me in the stillness, Lord ♪♪
Be the air I breathe
Meet me in the stillness, Lord
Free me to receive

Gospel Reading

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 4th chapter.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus experiences anew the temptations that Israel faced in the wilderness. As the Son of God, he endures the testing of the evil one.

¹ 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. ³ The

tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.”⁴ But he answered, “It is written,

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

⁵ Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple,⁶ saying 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.’ ”

⁷ Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’ ”

⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory,⁹ and he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.”

¹⁰ Then Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written,
‘Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him.’ ”

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

Matthew 4:1-11

P The Gospel of our Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

[You may be Seated](#)

Children’s Sermon & Noisy Offering

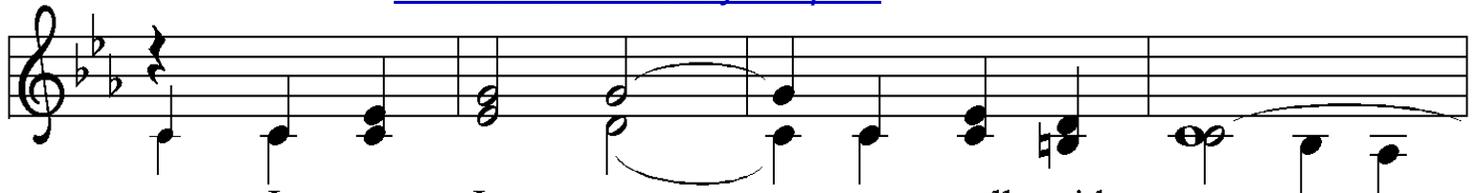
Message

Pr. Gordon Young

Hymn of the Day

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

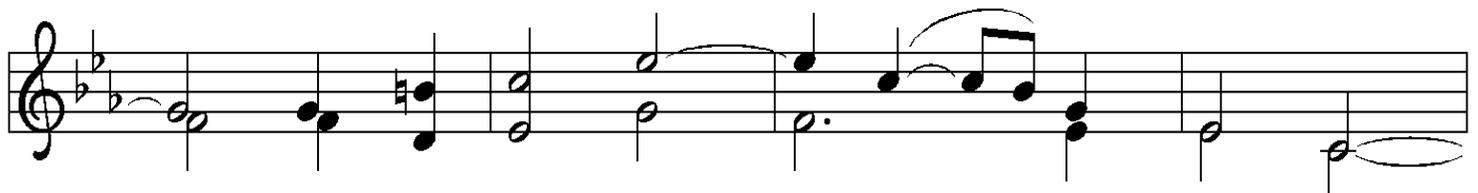
Please stand in body or spirit.



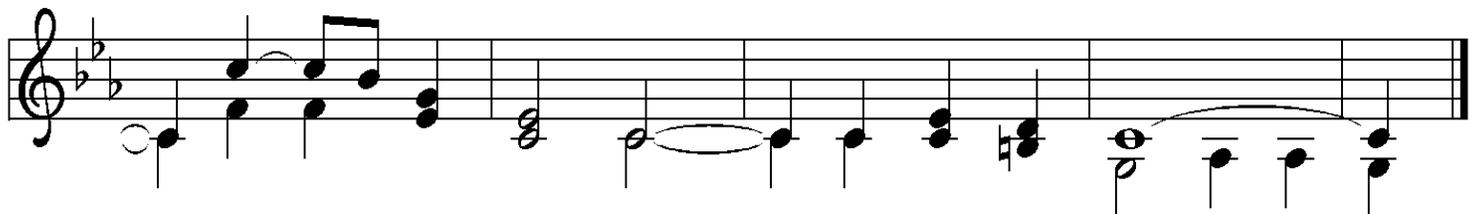
1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;
2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me; walk with
3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;



me; I want Je - sus to walk with me;
in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me; walk with
when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;



me; all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,
when my heart is al - most break - ing,
when my head is bowed in sor - row,



Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me. walk with me.
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

Apostles' Creed

P Let us join together with the saints across the ages confessing our faith with the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**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.**

Prayers of the People

You may be Seated

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

**♪ ♪ Meet me in the stillness, Lord ♪ ♪
Be the air I breathe
Meet me in the stillness, Lord
Free me to receive**

(each prayer petition ends with)

WA: Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

Sharing the Peace of Christ

Please stand in body or spirit.

In our continued physical distancing out of love for the health of one another, we will share the Peace of our risen Lord by "speaking" that Peace through sign language.

P Christ become Peace with you.

All And also with you.

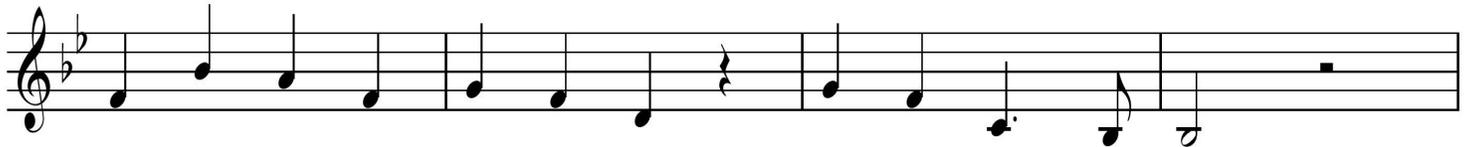
You may be Seated

Offering

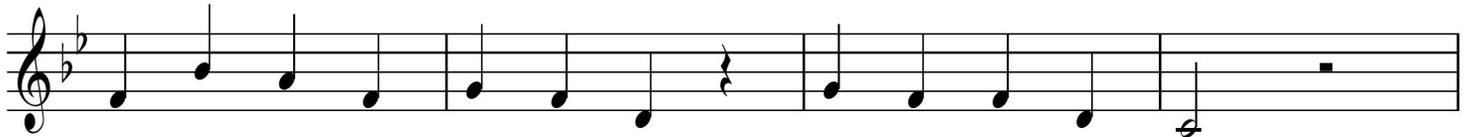
Offering plates are available at the entrance to receive your offerings.



All I am, I lay it down, for you, my God and friend;



take my life in - to your hands, here I am to send.



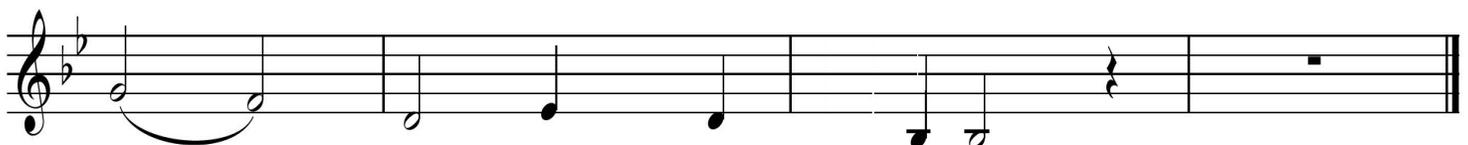
Search my heart, and you will find will - ing - ness to serve,



for your cross has co - vered me with grace I don't de - serve.



Oh _____ Lord lead me _____ on. _____



Oh _____ Lord lead me _____ on. _____

Offertory Prayer

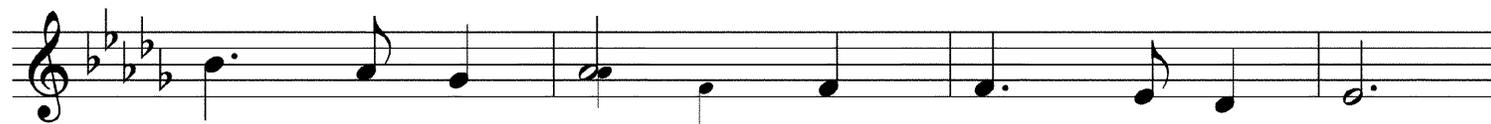
P O God, maker of heaven and earth,
your steadfast love embraces all creation.

All Use what we have gathered on our journey to feed the hungry,
house the poor and embrace all with the reign of God come near,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Come to Us



Come to me, come to us, you who are bur-dened.



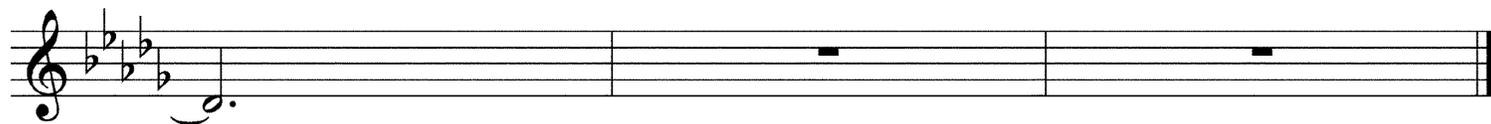
Come to the word, and come to the meal.



Come with-out ques - tion or pres - sure or price:



Come, be em - braced by the bod - y of Christ.



The Great Thanksgiving and Words of Institution

P The Lord be with you

All And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give God thanks and praise.

P You led those who could not see by a road they did not know.
You have turned nighttime before them into light.
You have smoothed out the rough places and made them plain.
You have released the prisoners from the dungeon.
You have made all things new.

In the night in which he was betrayed
our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks;
broke it and gave it to his disciples saying:

Take and eat; this is my body given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

After supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

**♪ ♪ Come to me, come to us, pilgrim or stranger, ♪ ♪
looking for change, or challenge, or light.
We all are people whose calling is care,
bearers of mercy, nourished in prayer.**

P Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
that we may be for the world the body of Christ,
redeemed by his blood.

All Amen

The Lord's Prayer

[Please stand in body or spirit.](#)

P Let us together pray as Jesus taught us:

**All 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.**

**♪♪ Come to me, come to us, broken or building, ♪♪
come with your children, your choices, your chains.
All are invited to friendship and rest,
to share in our struggle, our call, and our quest.**

The Invitation

P Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!
Come to the table; taste and see.

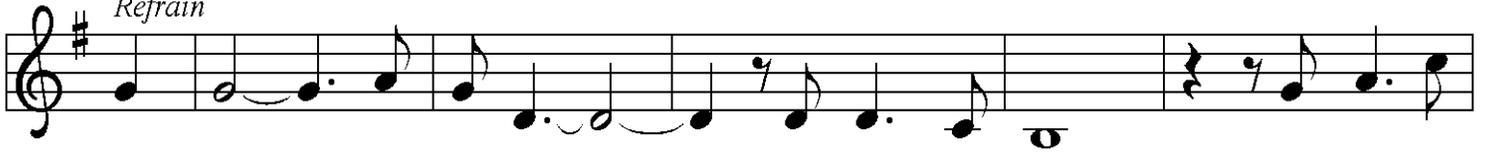
[You may be Seated](#)

Note: the communion cups on the periphery of the tray contain red wine while the cups in the center contain white grape juice.
Gluten Free wafers available –ask the communion attendant

Communion Songs

One Bread, One Body

Refrain



One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all; one cup of



bless-ing which we bless, and we, though man-y



through-out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.



- | | | | | |
|---|------------|-------------|--------------|------------|
| 1 | Gen - tile | or Jew, | ser - vant | or free, |
| 2 | Man - y | the gifts, | man - y | the works, |
| 3 | Grain for | the fields, | scat - tered | and grown, |



wom - an or man, no more.
 one in the Lord of all.
 gath - ered to one for all.

Refrain

Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

Words and Music by
Helen H. Lemmel



- | | | | | |
|----|-----------------------|---------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| 1. | O soul, are you | wea - ry and | trou - bled? | No light in the |
| 2. | Through death in - to | life ev - er - last | - ing | He passed, and we |
| 3. | His Word shall not | fail you- He | prom - ised; | Be - lieve Him, and |



dark - ness you see? _____ There's _ light for a look at the Sav -
 fol - low Him there; _____ O - ver us sin no more hath do - min -
 all will be well: _____ Then _ go to a world that is dy -



-ior, and life more a - bun - dant and free! _____ Turn your
 -ion- for more__ than con-q'rors we are! _____
 -ing, His per - fect sal - va - tion to tell! _____



eyes up - on Je - sus, look full in His won - der - ful face; _____



_____ And the things of earth will grow strange - ly



dim in the light of His glo - ry and grace. _____

I Love You Lord

Words and Music by
Laurie Klein



I love You, Lord, _____ and I lift my voice _____ to



wor - ship You, O my soul, re - joice! Take



joy, my King, _____ in _____ what You hear: _____ May it be a



sweet, sweet _____ sound in _____ Your ear. _____

Post Communion Blessing and Prayer

[Please stand in body or spirit.](#)

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

All Amen

P Let us pray,
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.

**All 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

[You may be Seated](#)

Stewardship of Life and Ministry Announcements

Benediction

[Please stand in body or spirit.](#)

P The Creator God filled you with breath,
inviting you to this journey called Life.

All We will follow on the way

P Jesus, our Guide, showed us what it means
to make a new way with Love.

All We will follow on the way

P The Spirit gives us strength to move forward
with Courage and Compassion for all we meet.

All We will follow on the way

P May this week be filled with opportunities to choose
good over evil; humility over pride;
and loving God over loving the things that do not last.

✝ “Buen Camino!”

All Amen

Sending

Will You Come and Follow Me
The Summons



“Will you come and fol - low me if I but call



your name? Will you go where you don't



know and nev - er be the same?



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my



name be known, will you let my life be



grown in you and you in in me?”

Dismissal

WA Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

All Thanks be to God.

I COULD *NEVER*
DO WHAT JESUS
DOES HERE.

WELL,
SURE...

IF YOU
COULD,

YOU WOULDN'T
NEED *JESUS!*



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MATTHEW 4:1-11



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Readings for next Sunday,
March 1st

First Reading:

Isaiah 55:1-9

Psalm:

Psalm 121

Gospel:

John 3:1-17

Revised Common Lectionary,
March 1st

First Reading:

Genesis 12:1-4a

Psalm:

Psalm 121

Second Reading:

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

Gospel:

John 3:1-17

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