

C: we give you thanks and praise.

P: Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

BLESSING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious onto you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C: Amen.

SENDING SONG ~ #881 Let All Things Now Living ~ (both verses)

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*~Join us for Lenten brown bag and soup lunch
in Hibbard Hall (lower level)
after today's service.~*



WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT WHITNALL PARK LUTHERAN CHURCH!

Pastor Michael Fazio is presiding. We have come together today as members and guests to worship God and celebrate new life in Jesus Christ. We hope our worship will be uplifting and provide a source of hope and strength for the week ahead. Please sign our Guest Register and introduce yourself to our pastor as you leave worship today.

SERVICE OF THE WORD FEBRUARY 25TH, 2026

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Trusting in the Word of Life given in baptism, we are gathered in the name of the Father, and the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Gracious God,

C: we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. Forgive us and give us strength to turn from sin and to serve you in newness of life. Amen.

P: By water and the Holy Spirit, God gives us new birth, and through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, ☩ God forgives us all our sins. Almighty God strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life.

C: Amen.

GATHERING SONG ~ #876 Let the Whole Creation Cry ~ (all verses)

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray . . . Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING a reading from John 1:1-5, 1:14-16

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as a father's only son, ^(a) full of grace and truth.

¹⁵(John testified to him and cried out, 'This was he of whom I said, "He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.")' ¹⁶From his fullness we have received, grace upon grace. This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

THE 2025 LENTEN SERMON SERIES IS: THE WONDERS OF THE WORD

SERMON ~ CREATE

HYMN OF THE DAY ~ #879 For the Beauty of the Earth ~ (verses 1, 3, 5)

APOSTLE'S 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 INTERCESSION

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

a brief silence.

A: God of all grace, grant faith to your church. Give to all the baptized the will to resist temptation and to worship and serve you alone. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: God of all creation, tend this earth. When human greed and disobedience threaten this planet and the life it contains, lead us by your Spirit into ways of reverence, awe, and gentleness. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: God of all nations, preserve us from trouble. Surround all living in places of violence with your steadfast love and give resilience to all who work for peace. Grant courage to those who speak the truth. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: God of all people, provide for our community. For any among us who hunger for bread, bring nourishment. For any among us who hunger for truth, speak your life-giving word. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: God of all healing, mend our wounds. Bring wholeness to all who are sick, give peace to all who groan in grief, and send companions to all who are lonely or isolated . . . Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: God of all life, bring us to you. We thank you for your free and abounding grace, and for those who, by that same grace, now rest eternally in you. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

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

C: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD OF LIFE

P: Let us pray . . . Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,

C: we give you thanks and praise.

P: By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,

C: we give you thanks and praise.

P: Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,