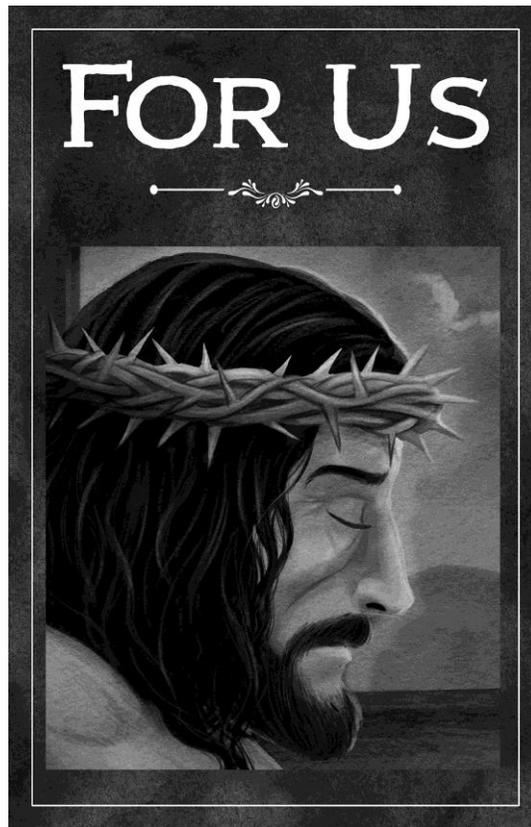


*Bethlehem Lutheran Church—William Penn  
Founded 1860—Lutheran Church Missouri Synod*

## **FIRST WEDNESDAY IN LENT**

**FEBRUARY 25, 2026**

**7:00 PM**



Pastor

Rev. Kelly Dean Krieg

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Ushers

Billy Ashorn

Blane Ashorn

Westin Ashorn

Brian Ashorn

Acolyte

Winston Krieg

*First Wednesday in Lent*

*February 25, 2026 – 7:00 PM*

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Compline: Prayer at the Close of the Day

Order of Service: *Lutheran Service Book, pp 253-259*



*The congregation assembles in silence.*

### THE ROBE OF HUMAN FRAME

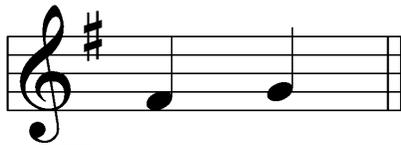
Why did Jesus have to come among us as a human being? Why didn't He come as an angel or some other kind of being that is stronger and more powerful than us? While angels may be a source of endless fascination to the Christian and to the world, they have no power to save us. In this week's sermon, we will hear why taking on the "robe of [our] human frame" was not only a good idea but also necessary for our salvation. Angels are wonderful, but they are not Jesus. He came as one of us so that He could redeem us as His own.

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*Stand*

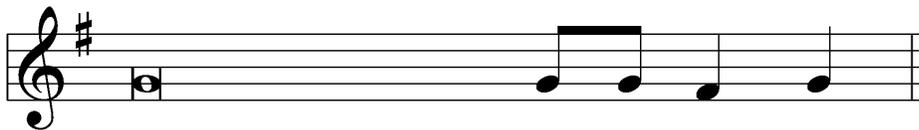
*LSB 253*

**P** The Lord Almighty grant us a quiet night and peace at the last.



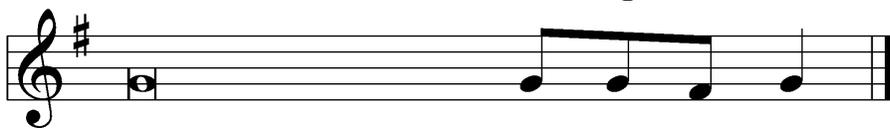
**C** A - men.

**P** It is good to give thanks to the Lord,



**C** to sing praise to Your name, O Most High;

**P** to herald Your love in the morning,



**C** Your truth at the close of the day.

✠ CONFESSIO ✠

LSB 254

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

*Silence for self-examination.*

**P** Holy and gracious God,

**C** I confess that I have sinned against You this day. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to You. In the name of Jesus Christ I ask forgiveness. Deliver and restore me that I may rest in peace.

**P** By the mercy of God we are redeemed by Jesus Christ, and in Him we are forgiven. We rest now in His peace and rise in the morning to serve Him.

**C** Amen.



✠ PSALMODY ✠

*Psalm 104:1-10, 33-35*

Bless the LORD, O my soul! O LORD my God, You are very great!

**You are clothed with splendor and majesty, covering Yourself with light as with a garment, stretching out the heavens like a tent.**

He lays the beams of His chambers on the waters;

**He makes the clouds His chariot; He rides on the wings of the wind;**  
He makes His messengers winds, His ministers a flaming fire.

**He set the earth on its foundations, so that it should never be moved.**  
You covered it with the deep as with a garment; the waters stood above the mountains.

**At Your rebuke they fled; at the sound of Your thunder they took to flight.**

The mountains rose, the valleys sank down to the place that You appointed for them.

**You set a boundary that they may not pass, so that they might not again cover the earth.**

You make springs gush forth in the valleys; they flow between the hills;

**I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being.**

May my meditation be pleasing to Him, for I rejoice in the LORD.

**Let sinners be consumed from the earth, and let the wicked be no more!**

Bless the LORD, O my soul! Praise the LORD!

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

OFFICE HYMN

*From God the Father, Virgin-Born*

*LSB 401*



1 From God the Fa - ther, vir - gin - born To us the  
 2 Be - gin - ning from His home on high, In hu - man  
 3 Glide on, O glo - rious Sun, and bring The gift of  
 4 A - bide with us, O Lord, we pray; The gloom of



on - ly Son came down; By death the font to con - se -  
 flesh He came to die; Cre - a - tion by His death re -  
 heal - ing on Your wing; To ev - 'ry dull and cloud - ed  
 dark - ness chase a - way; Your work of heal - ing, Lord, be -



crate, The faith - ful to re - gen - er - ate.  
 stored, And shed new joys of life a - broad.  
 sense The clear - ness of Your light dis - pense.  
 gin, And take a - way the stain of sin.

5 Lord, once You came to earth's domain  
 And, we believe, shall come again;  
 Be with us on the battlefield,  
 From ev'ry harm Your people shield.

△ 6 To You, O Lord, all glory be  
 For this Your blest epiphany;  
 To God, whom all His hosts adore,  
 And Holy Spirit evermore.

Text: Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt. Tune: Antiphoner, 1753, Grenoble Text and tune: Public domain



## ✠ PASSION READING I: THE LORD'S SUPPER ✠

*Portions selected from Matthew 26:15-27:66, Mark 14:12-15:47, Luke 22:7-23:56, and John 13:1-19:42, arranged chronologically to tell the story of the arrest, trials, suffering, crucifixion, death, and burial of our Lord Jesus.*

*Events occur on Thursday and Friday, 13-14 Nissan (April 2-3), 33AD, in and around Jerusalem*

Now the Feast of Unleavened Bread, also called the Passover, drew near, and Jesus said to his disciples: “You know that after two days is the Feast of the Passover, and the Son of Man will be given over to be crucified.”

Then the chief priests and scribes assembled with the elders of the people in the palace of the high priest, who was called Caiaphas, and consulted how they might take Jesus craftily and put him to death. But they said, “Not on the feast day, lest there be an uproar among the people,” for they feared the people.

Then Satan entered into Judas, surnamed Iscariot, one of the Twelve. He went his way to the chief priests and captains and spoke together with them how he might betray Jesus to them. They were glad to hear him. He said to them, “What will you give me to betray him to you?”

They promised to give him money and agreed with him for thirty pieces of silver. He accepted, and from that time he sought opportunity to betray him in the absence of the multitude.

Then came the first day of Unleavened Bread when they sacrificed the Passover lamb. Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, “Go and prepare the Passover, that we may eat it.”

They said to him, “Where do you want us to prepare it?”

He said to them, “Go into the city and, when you have entered the city, watch for a man bearing a pitcher of water. When he meets you, follow him into the house where he enters. You shall say to the man who lives there, ‘The Master says to you, “My time is at hand; I will keep the Passover at your house. Where is the room for me to eat the Passover with my disciples?’” And he will show you a large upper room, furnished and prepared; there make ready for us.”

The disciples did as Jesus had directed them. They came into the city and found it as he had told them; and they made ready the Passover.

When the hour was come, Jesus sat down and the apostles with him. As they were eating, he said, “I have longed to eat this Passover with you before I suffer, for I say to you I shall not eat of it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.”

As they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me."

In the same way also he took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you; this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

"Truly I say to you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in the kingdom of my Father."

There was also a strife among them as to which of them should be accounted the greatest. He said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and they that exercise authority over them are called 'benefactors.' It shall not be so among you. He that is greatest among you, let him be as the younger; and he that is chief, as he that serves. For who is greater, he that sits at the table or he that serves? Is it not he that sits at the table? But I am among you as a servant. You are they who have continued with me in my temptations. I appoint you to a kingdom, as my Father has appointed me. You shall eat and drink at my table in my kingdom and sit on thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel."

Jesus knew that his hour was come to depart from the world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who are in the world, he loved them to the end. Already Satan had put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him. Jesus knew that the Father had given all things into his hands and that he had come from God and was going to God. He rose from supper, laid aside his garments, and girded himself with a towel. He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel with which he was girded.

When he came to Simon Peter, Peter said to him, "Lord, do you wash my feet?"

Jesus answered and said to him, "What I am doing you do not know now, but after these things you will understand."

Peter said to him, "You shall never wash my feet."

Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no part with me."

Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head."

Jesus said to him, "He who has been bathed does not need to wash more than his feet, for he is clean altogether. You are clean, but not all of you." He knew who was to betray him; that was why he said not every one was clean.

So after he had washed their feet and taken his garments and sat down again, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? You call me the Master and the Lord, and it is good that you say this, for so I am. If I, then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. I have

done this to show you the way to do as I have done to you. Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his lord; neither is he that is sent greater than he that sent him. If you know these things, happy are you if you do them.

“I do not speak of you all; I know whom I have chosen. The Scripture must be fulfilled, ‘He that eats bread with me has lifted up his heel against me.’ Already now I tell you of this, before it happens, so that when it does happen you may believe that I am he.

“Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever receives anyone whom I shall send, receives me; and whoever receives me, receives him who sent me.”

When Jesus had said these things, his spirit was in turmoil. He bore witness and said, “Truly, truly, I say to you that one of you will betray me.”

The disciples looked at one another dumbfounded about whom he spoke. One of his disciples, whom Jesus loved, was leaning on Jesus’ bosom. Simon Peter said to him, “Ask who it is of whom he is speaking.”

That disciple who was reclining on Jesus’ chest said to him, “Lord, who is it?”

Jesus then answered, “It is the one to whom I shall give the piece of bread after I have dipped it.”

He dipped the piece of bread he had in his hand and gave it to Judas, son of Simon Iscariot. After the piece of bread had been dipped, Satan entered into that one. Jesus said to him, “What you are doing, do quickly.”

No one at the table knew what the purpose was of what Jesus had said to him. Because Judas kept the money bag, some thought Jesus had told him to buy what was needed for the feast or to give something to the poor. When that man had received the piece of bread, he went out immediately, and it was night.

When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now is the Son of Man glorified, and in him God is glorified. If God is glorified in him, God will glorify him in himself, and at once he will glorify him.

“Little children, yet a little while I am with you. You will seek me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going you cannot come.’ A new commandment I give you, that you love one another as I have loved you. For this I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

Simon Peter said to him, “Lord, where are you going?”

Jesus answered him, “Where I am going you cannot follow me now, but afterwards you will follow me.”

HYMN OF THE DAY

*O Love, How Deep*

LSB 544 sts. 1-2

1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high,  
2 He sent no an - gel to our race,  
Be - yond all thought and fan - ta - sy,  
Of high - er or low - er place,  
That God, the Son of God, should take  
But wore the robe of hu - man frame,  
Our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake!  
And to this world Him - self He came.

Text: attr. Thomas à Kempis, 1380-1471; tr. Benjamin Webb, 1819-85, alt. Tune: English, 15th cent. Text: Public domain

✠ SERMON ✠

*“Guarded by Angels, Saved by the Son”*

*Hebrews 1*

A reading from the first chapter of Hebrews.

<sup>1</sup>Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, <sup>2</sup>but in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed the heir of all things, through whom also He created the world. <sup>3</sup>He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of His nature, and He upholds the universe by the word of His power. After making purification for sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, <sup>4</sup>having become as much superior to angels as the name He has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

<sup>5</sup>For to which of the angels did God ever say,

“You are My Son,  
today I have begotten You”?

Or again,

“I will be to Him a father,  
and He shall be to Me a son”?

<sup>6</sup>And again, when He brings the firstborn into the world, He says,

“Let all God’s angels worship Him.”

<sup>7</sup>Of the angels He says,

“He makes His angels winds,  
and His ministers a flame of fire.”

<sup>8</sup>But of the Son He says,

“Your throne, O God, is forever and ever,  
the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of Your kingdom.

<sup>9</sup>You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;  
therefore God, Your God, has anointed You  
with the oil of gladness beyond Your companions.”

<sup>10</sup>And,

“You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning,  
and the heavens are the work of Your hands;

<sup>11</sup>they will perish, but You remain;  
they will all wear out like a garment,

<sup>12</sup>like a robe You will roll them up,  
like a garment they will be changed.

But You are the same,  
and Your years will have no end.”

<sup>13</sup>And to which of the angels has He ever said,

“Sit at My right hand  
until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet”?

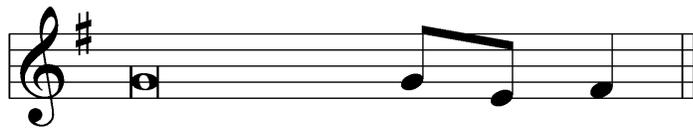
<sup>14</sup>Are they not all ministering spirits sent out to serve for the sake of those who  
are to inherit salvation?

*Stand*

✠ PRAYER ✠

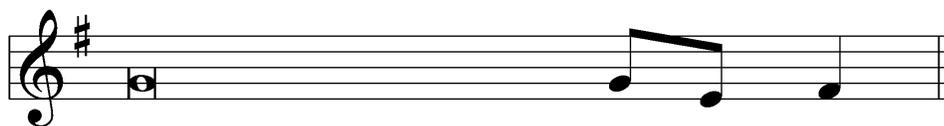
LSB 256

**P** Hear my prayer, O Lord;



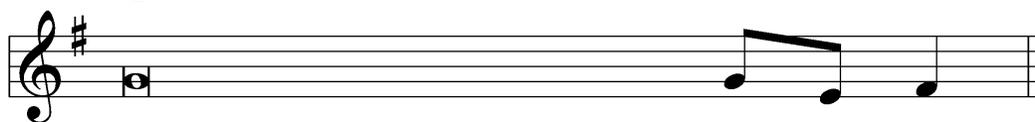
**C** listen to my cry.

**P** Keep me as the apple of Your eye;



**C** hide me in the shadow of Your wings.

**P** In righteousness I shall see You;



**C** when I awake, Your presence will give me joy.

**P** Be present, merciful God, and protect us through the hours of this night, so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of life may find our rest in You; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

**P** O Lord, support us all the day long of this troubled life, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes and the busy world is hushed, the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then, Lord, in Your mercy grant us a safe lodging and a holy rest and peace at the last; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

**P** Be our light in the darkness, O Lord, and in Your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of Your only Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

**P** Visit our dwellings, O Lord, and drive from them all the snares of the enemy; let Your holy angels dwell with us to preserve us in peace; and let Your blessing be on us always; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

**P** Eternal God, the hours both of day and night are Yours, and to You the darkness is no threat. Be present, we pray, with those who labor in these hours of night, especially those who watch and work on behalf of others. Grant them diligence in their watching, faithfulness in their service, courage in danger, and competence in emergencies. Help them to meet the needs of others with confidence and compassion; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

**P** Abide with us, Lord, for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent. Abide with us and with Your whole Church. Abide with us at the end of the day, at the end of our life, at the end of the world. Abide with us with Your grace and goodness, with Your holy Word and Sacrament, with Your strength and blessing. Abide with us when the night of affliction and temptation comes upon us, the night of fear and despair, the night when death draws near. Abide with us and with all the faithful, now and forever.

**C** Amen.



LORD'S PRAYER

*LSB 257*

**P** Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

**C** **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.**

**C** Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -  
 cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,  
 which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,  
 a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy  
 peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and  
 to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,  
 is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

## BENEDICTION

LSB 259

- P** The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
 bless you and keep you.  
**C** Amen.

*Sit*

CLOSING HYMN

*Now Rest beneath Night's Shadow*

LSB 880



1 Now rest be - neath night's shad - ow The wood - land,  
 2 The ra - diant sun has van - ished, Its gold - en  
 3 Now all the heav'n - ly splen - dor Breaks forth in  
 4 Lord Je - sus, since You love me, Now spread Your  
 5 My loved ones, rest se - cure - ly, For God this



field, and mead - ow; The world in slum - ber lies.  
 rays are ban - ished From dark - 'ning skies of night;  
 star - light ten - der From myr - iad worlds un - known;  
 wings a - bove me And shield me from a - larm.  
 night will sure - ly From per - il guard your heads.



But you, my heart, a - wak - ing And prayer and mu - sic  
 But Christ, the Sun of glad - ness, Dis - pel - ling all our  
 And we, this mar - vel see - ing, For - get our self - ish  
 Though Sa - tan would de - vour me, Let an - gel guards sing  
 Sweet slum - bers may He send you And bid His hosts at -



mak - ing, Let praise to your Cre - a - tor rise.  
 sad - ness, Shines down on us in warm - est light.  
 be - ing For joy of beau - ty not our own.  
 o'er me: This child of God shall meet no harm.  
 tend you And through the night watch o'er your beds.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt. Tune: Heinrich Isaac, c. 1450–1517. Text and tune: Public domain



*Bells & Silent Prayer*

*Please remain seated while the acolyte extinguishes the altar candles.*

*The offering will be gathered at the door.*

## *2026 Lent, Holy Week, and Easter Schedule*



| DATE                          | TIME  | SERVICE   |
|-------------------------------|---|---|
| <i>Wednesday, February 25</i> | <i>7:00 PM</i>  | <i>Wednesday Lent Worship</i>   |
| <i>Sunday, March 1</i>        | <i>10:15 AM</i>   | <i>Second Sunday in Lent</i>  |
| <i>Wednesday, March 4</i>     | <i>7:00 PM</i>  | <i>Wednesday Lent Worship</i>   |
| <i>Sunday, March 8</i>        | <i>10:15 AM</i>   | <i>Third Sunday in Lent</i>   |
| <i>Wednesday, March 11</i>    | <i>7:00 PM</i>  | <i>Wednesday Lent Worship</i>   |
| <i>Sunday, March 15</i>       | <i>10:15 AM</i>   | <i>Fourth Sunday in Lent</i>  |
| <i>Wednesday, March 18</i>    | <i>7:00 PM</i>  | <i>Wednesday Lent Worship</i>   |
| <i>Sunday, March 22</i>       | <i>10:15 AM</i>   | <i>Fifth Sunday in Lent</i>   |
| <i>Wednesday, March 25</i>    | <i>7:00 PM</i>  | <i>Wednesday Lent Worship</i>   |
| <i>Sunday, March 29</i>       | <i>10:15 AM</i>   | <i>Palm Sunday with Confirmation</i>  |
| <i>Thursday, April 2</i>      | <i>7:00 PM</i>  | <i>Holy (Maundy) Thursday</i>   |
| <i>Friday, April 3</i>        | <i>7:30 PM</i>  | <i>Good Friday Tenebrae</i>   |
| <i>Sunday, April 5</i>        | <i>7:00 AM</i><br><i>8:00 AM</i><br><i>9:00 AM</i><br><i>9:30 AM</i><br><i>10:15 AM</i> | <i>Easter Sunrise Service (Amphitheater)</i><br><i>Easter Breakfast</i><br><i>Sunday School, Adult Bible Class</i><br><i>Easter Egg Hunt</i><br><i>Easter Celebration Service</i> |