



Epiphany Lutheran Church
 2375 GA Hwy 20 SE, Conyers, GA 30013
 (770) 483-6222
 www.conyerselc.org

February 22, 2026 – 10:00 AM

First Sunday in Lent

WELCOME VISITORS! We welcome all who believe in Jesus Christ to the Lord’s Supper as we partake in the breaking of the bread and the sharing of the cup. For those who would prefer, grape juice is available in the center ring of each serving tray. If you do not wish to receive communion you are invited to come forward for a blessing. God’s forgiveness and love is for everyone.

We are honored that you are with us today and we ask everyone to please sign the *Friendship Register* in each pew. Visitors are asked to also complete a *Visitors Card* from the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. Again, Welcome!

***Invites the congregation to stand.**

HOLY COMMUNION – *Setting 6*

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

***Confession and Forgiveness**

[P] Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

[C] **Amen.**

[P] Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses.

Silence is kept for reflection.

[P] Gracious God,

[C] **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

[P] For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you: Gracious God,

[C] **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

[P] For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word: Gracious God,

[C] **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 disdain 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.

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, your 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.

***Gathering Hymn:** “O Lord Throughout These Forty Days” ELW #319

As the hymn begins, the congregation turns toward the entrance to face the processional cross.

***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.**

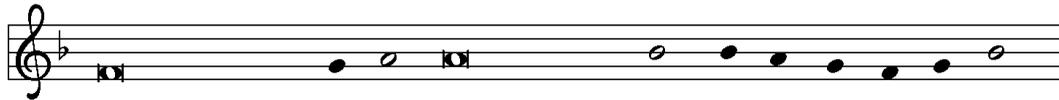
***The Kyrie**



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



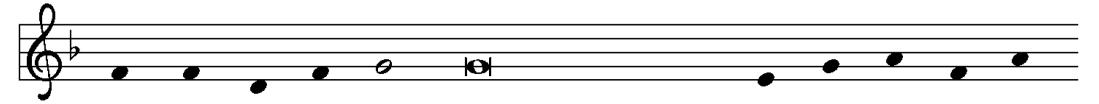
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of



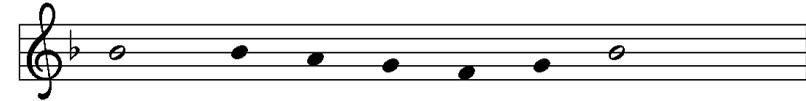
God, and for the uni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



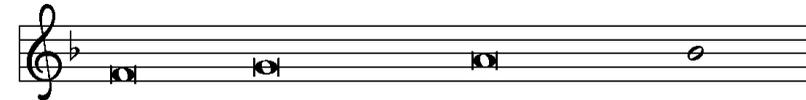
For this ho - ly house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and



praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gracious Lord.



A - men.

***The Prayer of the Day**

[P] The Lord be with you.

[C] **And also with you.**

[P] Let us pray...

Insert

[C] **Amen**

Children’s Message

Pastor David Armstrong-Reiner

Children’s Church (*Children are invited to the Fellowship Hall for further worship/education.*)

The First Lesson: *Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7*

Insert

[L] The Word of the Lord.

[C] **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: *32; refrain, Ps. 32:10*

Insert

(*Congregation sings verses in **bold** print only.*)

The Second Lesson: *Romans 5:12-19*

Insert

[L] The Word of the Lord.

[C] **Thanks be to God.**

***Gospel Acclamation:**

ELW, Page 151

Re - turn to the Lord, your God, re - turn to the Lord, your
 God, who is grac - ious and mer - ci - ful, slow to
 an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

***The Gospel:** [P] The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 4th chapter.

[C] **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Matthew 4:1-11

Insert

[P] The Gospel of the Lord.

[C] **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor David Armstrong-Reiner

***Hymn of the Day:** “*When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*” ELW #803

***The Apostle’s Creed**

ELW, Page 105

**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.**

***The Prayers**

Insert

After each portion of the prayers:

[A] Hear us, O God.

[C] **Your mercy is great.**

***The Peace** is shared by all.

[P] The peace of the Lord be with you always.

[C] **And also with you.**

*The minister and congregation greet one another with a gesture of peace, using these or similar words: **Peace be with you.***

The Offering

Choral Offertory

“Have Thine Own Way Lord”

***The Offertory Hymn**

“Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful”

ELW #182

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
 bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
 fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -
 nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
 pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

***Offering Prayer**

[A] Let us pray together.

[C] **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.**

***The Great Thanksgiving**

[P] The Lord be with you.

[C] **And also with you.**

[P] Lift up your hearts.

[C] **We lift them to the Lord.**

[P] Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

[C] **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

[P] It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow - er 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.

[P] 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. Again, 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.

[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.**

The Communion (Please follow the instructions of the ushers in coming to receive communion.)

Praise Chorus: "Christ, We Adore Thee"

"Lamb of God"

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion Hymns: *"The Holy Wings"* ELW #613
 "Lord Jesus, Think On Me" ELW #599

***Post-Communion Blessing**

***Post-Communion Prayer**

[A] 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.

[C] **Amen.**

***Benediction (Blessing)**

[P] God bless us with discomfort at easy answers, half-truths, and superficial relationships, so that we may live deep within our hearts.

God bless us with anger at injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people, so that we may work for justice, freedom and peace.

God bless us with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation and war, so that we may reach out our hands to comfort them and turn their pain into joy.

And God bless us with enough foolishness to believe that we can make a difference in this world, so that we can do what others claim cannot be done.

The God of all grace ✝ bless you now and forever.

[C] Amen.

***Recessional Hymn:** “*Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song*” ELW #808

As the cross is carried out during the singing of the hymn, the congregation turns to face the cross.

***Dismissal**

[All] **Follow Christ, Live Faithfully, Serve All. Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

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