



St. Lawrence

Episcopal Church

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT
HOLY EUCHARIST
March 1, 2026 at 9 AM

During the season of Lent, we will be lighting incense before each service in our columbarium. Incense is an ancient and powerful symbol and is often said to serve as a representation of our prayers ascending to God. Because using incense in our sanctuary poses health challenges to some in our congregation, we are experimenting with this new liturgical practice and focusing on the visual dimensions of smoke. If engaging with incense is meaningful to you, you might pray the following prayer, or something like it: "Oh God, let my prayers arise in your sight as incense. Bless me with your presence, for you are nearer to me than my own breath."

Prelude

O Mensch, Bewein' dein Sünde Gross, J.S. Bach

Please stand as you are able.

Opening Hymn

The God of Abraham Praise

Hymnal 401

1 The God of A - braham praise, who reigns en - throned a - bove;
2 He by him - self hath sworn: we on his oath de - pend;
3 There dwells the Lord, our King, the Lord, our Right - eous - ness,
4 The God who reigns on high the great arch - an - gels sing,
5 The whole tri - um - phant host give thanks to God on high;

1 An - cient of ev - er - last - ing days, and God of love;
2 we shall, on ea - gle - wings up - borne, to heaven a - scend;
3 tri - um - phant o'er the world and sin, the Prince of Peace;
4 and "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly," cry, "Al - might - y King!
5 "Hail, Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost!" they ev - er cry;

1 the Lord, the great I AM, by earth and heaven con - fessed;
 2 we shall be - hold his face, we shall his power a - dore,
 3 on Zi - on's sa - cred height his king - dom he main - tains,
 4 Who was, and is, the same, and ev - er - more shall be:
 5 hail, A - braham's Lord di - vine! With heaven our songs we raise;

we bow and bless the sa - cred Name for ev - er blest.
 and sing the won - ders of his grace for ev - er - more.
 and, glo - rious with his saints in light, for ev - er reigns.
 e - ter - nal Fa - ther, great I AM, we wor - ship thee."
 all might and ma - jes - ty are thine, and end - less praise.

Words: Thomas Olivers (1725-1799), alt.; Music: *Leoni*, Hebrew melody; harm. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1875, aalt.; Public Domain

Opening Acclamation

Presider Blessed be the God of our salvation.
All **Who bears out burdens and forgives our sins.**

Collect for Purity

Presider Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.
All **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

Presider Let us confess our sins to God.
All **God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.**

Absolution

Presider Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

All **Amen.**

Trisagion

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly Im -
mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us. Ho - ly God,
Ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy
up - on us. Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,
Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950), © 1981, GIA Publications, Inc.; Permission to reprint and stream this hymn obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-722523. All rights reserved.

Collect of the Day

Presider May God be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

Please be seated.

First Reading

Genesis 12:1-4a

Reader The LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.

All Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 121 *(spoken antiphonally; street side will read the odd verses in black and columbarium side will read the even verses in blue)*

- All*
- 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; ***
from where is my help to come?
 - 2 My help comes from God, ***
the maker of heaven and earth.
 - 3 God will not let your foot be moved; ***
the One who watches over you will not fall asleep.
 - 4 Behold, the One who keeps watch over Israel ***
shall neither slumber nor sleep;
 - 5 The Holy One watches over you ***
and is your shade at your right hand,
 - 6 So that the sun shall not strike you by day, ***
nor the moon by night.
 - 7 God shall preserve you from all evil ***
and is the One who shall keep you safe.
 - 8 God shall watch over your going out and your coming in, ***
from this time forth for evermore.

Text: Order of Saint Helena, © 2006, Church Publishing, Inc.

Second Reading

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

Reader What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations") —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

All

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

All children are invited to join the Gospel procession! Take an instrument from the basket and with joy & enthusiasm herald the proclamation of the Gospel!

Sequence Hymn

The great Creator of the worlds

Hymnal 489

1 The great Cre - a - tor of the worlds, the sov - er - eign God of heaven,
 2 He sent no an - gel of his host to bear this might - y word,
 3 He sent him not in wrath and power, but grace and peace to bring;
 4 He sent him down as send - ing God; in flesh to us he came;
 5 He came as Sa - vior to his own, the way of love he trod;

1 his ho - ly and im - mor - tal truth to all on earth hath given.
 2 but him through whom the worlds were made, the ev - er - last - ing Lord.
 3 in kind - ness, as a king might send his son, him - self a king.
 4 as one with us he dwelt with us, and bore a hu - man name.
 5 he came to win us by good will, for force is not of God.

6 Not to oppress, but summon all
 their truest life to find,
 in love God sent his Son to save,
 not to condemn mankind.

Words: Epistle to Diognetus, ca. 150; tr. F. Bland, Tucker (1895-1984), rev. © 1985, Church Publishing, Inc.; Music: *Tallis' Ordinal*, Thomas Tallis (1505?-1585); Permission to reprint and stream this hymn obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-722523. All rights reserved.

Holy Gospel

John 3:1-17

Gospeler
All

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Gospeler

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?"

"Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

All

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

Homily

The Rev. Stefi Baiju

Nicene Creed

All

**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 the People

Intercessor As those born from above for new life in Christ, we pray:
All **Hear us, and have mercy.**

Intercessor That the disciples of Jesus may always seek their renewal in the Spirit, we pray:
All **Hear us, and have mercy.**

Intercessor That those preparing for baptism may trust in the love of the God who brings them life, we pray:
All **Hear us, and have mercy.**

Intercessor That the descendants of Abraham and Sarah may walk together in peace and friendship, we pray:
All **Hear us, and have mercy.**

Intercessor That the world's people may join in a common search for justice and righteousness, we pray:
All **Hear us, and have mercy.**

Intercessor That the sick may experience the saving power of the one sent in God's name, including those we now name, we pray:
All **Hear us, and have mercy.**

Intercessor For what else do we pray? For these and all the prayers of our hearts,
we pray:

All **Hear us, and have mercy.**

Intercessor That the dead may wake to the life promised to all beloved by God, including
those we now name, we pray:

All **Hear us, and have mercy.**

Presider Grant, O God, that the prayers we offer may be your channel for new
and abundant life not only hoped for, but worked for, through faithful word and
deed, through Christ our life.

The Peace

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

Offertory Music

When Christ was lifted from the earth

Hymnal 603

1 When Christ was lift - ed from the earth, his
2 Still east and west his love ex - tends and
3 Where gen - er - a - tion, class, or race di -
4 Thus free - ly loved, though ful - ly known, may

arms stretched out a - bove through ev - ery cul - ture,
al - ways, near or far, he calls and claims us
vide us to our shame, he sees not la - bels
I in Christ be free to wel - come and ac -

ev - ery birth, to draw an an - swering love,
as his friends and loves us as we are.
but a face, a per - son, and a name.
cept his own as Christ ac - cept - ed me.

Words: Brian A. Wren (b. 1936), © 1980, Hope Publishing Company; Music: *St. Botolph*, Gordon Slater (1896-1979), © 1978, Oxford University Press; Permission to reprint and stream this hymn obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-722523. All rights reserved.

Please stand as you are able.

The Great Thanksgiving Enriching Our Worship Prayer 3

Presider The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them to the Lord.**

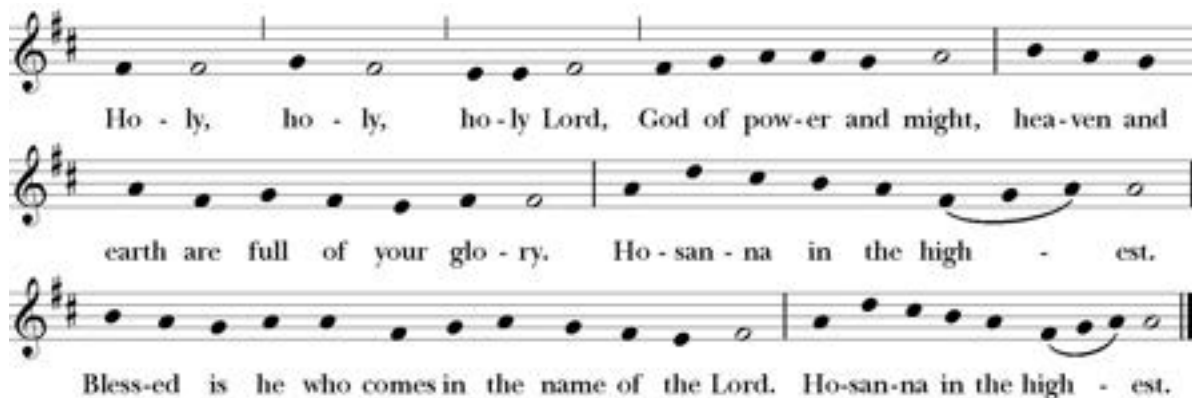
Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Presider It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950), © 1981, GIA Publications, Inc.; Permission to reprint and stream this hymn obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-722523. All rights reserved.

Presider Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.

Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

All **Dying, you destroyed our death.
Rising, you restored our life.
Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

Presider Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love.

Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with blessed Lawrence, and all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

All **Blessed are you now and for ever. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Presider As our Savior Christ has taught us we now pray,

All **Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

Presider We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.

All **We who are many are one body,
for we all share the one bread.**

Fraction Anthem

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

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Music: From New Plainsong; David Hurd (b. 1950), © 1981, GIA Publications, Inc. Permission to reprint and stream this hymn obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-722523. All rights reserved.

Ushers will guide you to the front of the congregation, where you will have the option to receive regular or gluten-free bread.

We offer two options for receiving wine. If you wish to drink directly from the common cup, please proceed to the communion ministers holding chalices, directly next to the bread stations. If you wish to receive by intinction (dipping the bread into the wine), please proceed to the external communion stations, where you will find Eucharistic ministers holding intinction bowls.

1 I to the hills will lift mine eyes; from whence shall come my aid?
 2 He will not let thy foot be moved, his own he safe - ly keeps;
 3 Thy faith - ful guard-ian is the Lord, thy shelt - er and thy shade;
 4 From e - vil he shall keep thee safe and shall thy strength re - store

My help is from the Lord a - bove who heaven and earth hath made.
 with watch - ful and un - tir - ing eye he slum - bers not, nor sleeps.
 nor sun by day, nor moon by night, need make thy soul a - fraid.
 and guard thy go - ing out and in, both now and ev - er - more.

Text: *The Psalms of David in Meeter*, 1650, alt.; st. 4, F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984); para. of Psalm 121, st. 4 © 1985, Church Publishing, Inc.; Music: *Burford*, attr. Henry Purcell, from Chetham's *A Book of Psalmody*, 1718; Permission to reprint and stream this hymn obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-722523. All rights reserved

The sending forth of Eucharistic Visitors

When Eucharistic Visitors are sent out the following words are used.

All ***In the name of God and this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body. We who are many are one body because we share one bread, one cup.***

Postcommunion Prayer

All **God of abundance,
 you have fed us
 with the bread of life and cup of salvation;
 you have united us
 with Christ and one another;
 and you have made us one
 with all your people in heaven and on earth.
 Now send us forth
 in the power of your Spirit,
 that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world
 and continue for ever
 in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Communion Chant *(sung three times)*

Lord Je - sus Christ, lov - er of all, trail
wide the hem of your gar - ment. Bring heal - ing, bring peace.

Words: John L. Bell (b. 1949) Music: John L. Bell (b. 1949) © 1987, The Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent; Permission to reprint and stream this hymn obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-722523. All rights reserved

Prayer over the People

Presider Keep this your family, Lord, with your never-failing mercy, that relying solely on the help of your heavenly grace, they may be upheld by your divine protection; through Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

O love, how deep, how broad, how high

Hymnal 448

1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high, how pass - ing
2 For us bap - tized, for us he bore his ho - ly
3 For us he prayed; for us he taught; for us his
4 For us to wick - ed hands be - trayed, scourged, mocked, in
5 For us he rose from death a - gain; for us he
6 All glo - ry to our Lord and God for love so

1 thought and fan - ta - sy, that God, the Son of
2 fast and hun - gered sore; for us temp - ta - tions
3 dai - ly works he wrought: by words and signs and
4 pur - ple robe ar - rayed, he bore the shame - ful
5 went on high to reign; for us he sent his
6 deep, so high, so broad; the Trin - i - ty whom

1 God, should take our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake.
 2 sharp he knew; for us the tempt - er ov - er - threw.
 3 ac - tions, thus still seek - ing not him - self, but us.
 4 cross and death; for us gave up his dy - ing breath.
 5 Spi - rit here to guide, to strength - en, and to cheer.
 6 we a - dore for ev - er and for ev - er - more.

Words: Latin, 15th cent.; tr. Benjamin Webb (1819-1885), alt.; Music: *Deus tuorum militum*, from Antiphoner, 1753; adapt. *The English Hymnal*, 1906, alt.; harm. after Basil Harwood (1859-1949); Public Domain

Dismissal

Presider Let us bless the Lord.
All **Thanks be to God.**

In this season of preparation as we join with Jesus in his journey to Jerusalem, our liturgy moves into the world today with the silence of reflection.

WELCOME!

New to St. Lawrence? Please complete the top part of the newcomers card found in the pews and either drop it in the collection plate or hand it to an usher.

If you need assistance with the Hearing Aid Loop, please see an usher.

Welcome to the **Soft Space!**

This special area is for children age 5 and under a cozy place to wiggle, wonder, and worship. Here, little ones can experience our liturgy, worship, and communion in a comfortable and engaging way. Here, little ones can feel at home in God's presence just as they are!

Join us for coffee hour in the narthex immediately following the service

Those attending a worship service at St. Lawrence are entering an area where photography, video, and audio recording may occur on behalf of St. Lawrence. Please be aware that these images may be used for promotional purposes, including on our website or social media, without obtaining express written permission.

Community Prayers

The Universal Church, its members and its mission; The Nippon Sei Ko Kai; and for our Companion Dioceses of Southeast Mexico and Renk

The concerns of the local community, especially those who are affected by gun violence

Those who suffer and are in any trouble and those who have requested our prayers: Sherry, Joe, Celeste, Danny, Kristine, Valorie, Craig, Jane, Evelyn, Cara, Debi, Jack, Carl, Steve, Tom, Jennie, Ryan Li, Dave, Duke, Robin, Phyliss, Mike, Dirimar, Danielys, Wilquer, Larry, Nancy Ben, Chris, Steve, Marian, Marianne, Shelia, Ruby

Marion, Ruby

We pray for those who are incarcerated, especially: Karlondo, Jermain, Christino, Maurice, Rickie, Apolinar

We pray for those awaiting children, especially: Diana and Shane; Ashton and Cory, Amerin and David

We give thanks for the arrival of children

We pray for those who have died, especially: Freda

For those who have lost loves ones, especially: the Smith family, the Frank family, Amanda, Andrea, Anna

We pray for our beloved animal companions, especially: Buster

We pray for peace and healing in our nation and the world

We pray that peace and justice may come soon in places of war and conflict, and for all whose life of service puts them at risk; and for all victims of religious, racial and gender oppression throughout the world.

If you have a loved one you would like mentioned in the Prayers of the People list, please write their first name on the clipboard located at the rear of the church. You may also visit www.stlawrencechurch.org and click on "worship" and look for "Online Prayer Group". Names are checked and updated weekly and refreshed every month.

Dear St. Lawrence Family,

Hellos and goodbyes are a constant presence in parish life and, this month, they seem to be concentrated in the area of our church finances.

Those of you who were at church on Sunday got to join me in thanking and celebrating Carolyn Finch, who has generously and ably served as our treasurer for the past two years. In her time as treasurer, Carolyn has helped us make vital changes in the way we invest our funds and has helped the vestry better understand our finances - which, while favorable, can also be hard to understand for non-finance folks! While Carolyn is taking a step back to tend to herself and her family, I'm delighted to share that Jason Smith has agreed to step in as interim treasurer for the remainder of 2026! As a recent warden and long time member of our finance committee, Jason knows our finances inside and out and his help will be invaluable as we continue to work to make the treasurer role sustainable in the long term. We are thrilled to welcome him to the team!

Additionally, Carol Hebert, our part-time bookkeeper since 2017, has announced that she will end her time with St. Lawrence at the end of March to take on a full time position elsewhere in the diocese. I am extremely grateful to Carol for her relentless hard work and dedication and she will be dearly missed. I am, however, pleased to say that the wardens and I have successfully hired a fabulous new bookkeeper, Jackie O'Sullivan. Jackie brings a wealth of experience in bookkeeping and financial services and is excited to be part of the St. Lawrence family. She is training with Carol to ensure a seamless transition and will take over the role fully in April.

Bottom line: our parish finances continue to be held in extremely capable hands. Financial transparency is extremely important to us and, if you have any questions about either of these transitions, please don't hesitate to reach out to me.

Blessings,

Kristin

Exploring the Lesser Known Sacraments of the Episcopal Church

Join us for an exploration of how God comes meets us,
in symbol, and sacrament, through these liturgies

March 1: Laying the Foundations

March 15: Confession

April 12: Healing Prayer

April 19: Confirmation

April 26: Marriage.

May 3: Ordination



St. Lawrence
Episcopal Church

SUNDAY MORNING
10:15 AM - 11:00 AM
Fireside Room

A very common question asked by those new to our denomination is: "What does the Episcopal Church believe about sacraments? The easiest answer is, "It's complicated." Our Prayer Book is extremely clear that our two foundational sacraments are Baptism and Eucharist, both of which we encounter regularly in the Sunday liturgy. However, our tradition also provides rich and beautiful liturgies for what the Prayer Book calls "sacramental rites:" confession, healing, confirmation, marriage, and ordination. While well known to our Roman Catholic siblings, these rites often go unexplored in the Episcopal Church.

Join us today at 10:15 AM in the Fireside Room for an exploration of how God comes meets us, in symbol, and sacrament, through these liturgies.



This Coming Sunday in Godly Play: Celebrating the Agape Meal

This coming Sunday, our Godly Play children will gather to celebrate a special Agape Meal/ Love Feast, a tradition that reminds us of God's boundless love and the joy of sharing with one another. They will participate in a simple and celebratory liturgy, blessing the bread, the cup, and one another as a sign of God's love and the gift of community.

During the meal, the children will experience the sacredness of simple food, share blessings with their friends, and reflect on ways to care for and love those around them. A simple Taizé-style chant, such as "*Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est*" ("Where there is charity and love, God is there"), will accompany the gathering, helping the children feel the peace and presence of God in their hearts.

Through this joyful experience, our young parishioners practice generosity, kindness, and community learning that even the simplest moments, shared in love, are holy. We give thanks for our volunteers and teachers who help guide the children in this meaningful celebration. May the spirit of the Agape Meal continue to inspire all of us to share God's love in our daily lives.

Wednesday Evenings in Lent Journeying with John

EVERY THREE YEARS, OUR SUNDAY LECTIONARY OFFERS US A SERIES OF POWERFUL STORIES FROM JOHN'S GOSPEL DURING LENT

Join us for a simple soup supper in a comfortable setting as we explore what these readings have to offer our lives today

February 25
March 4, 11, 18 and 25
6:00 – 8:00 PM

Please find the signup link in the weekly email or contact office@stlawrencechurch.com



St. Lawrence
Episcopal Church

LENT MIDWEEK EUCHARIST

Join us for a simple, contemplative Eucharist in the sanctuary - a chance to pause and encounter Christ in this season.

Thursdays in Lent

February 26
March 5
March 12
March 19
March 26
8:30 am

QUIET DAY *Be Still and Reflect*

- Lectio Divina**
Prayerful reflection on scripture
- Short Taizé Chant**
Simple, meditative singing
- Prayer Stations**
Lighting candles and incense, scripture reflection, and optional confession

Everyone is welcome!

SATURDAY, MARCH 7
9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

St. Lawrence Episcopal Church
125 W Chruch St.
Libertyville

2026 Lent Resources

There are many resources available to aid in your self-examination, reading, and meditating for the forty days of Lent. Below are a few suggestions to get you started. Available in the Narthex (foyer) or online.

Resources available in the Narthex

Give Up Plastic for Lent

A Lenten calendar offers practical ideas for each day of Lent to help us reduce our plastics consumption.

Coming Back to Life: Devotions and Activities for Lent

When spring arrives, nature awakens after winter. This devotional offers weekly readings and activities to help you prepare for Easter, inspired by scripture and the natural world.

Join the Journey Through Lent

Join the Journey Through Lent offers a thoughtful guide for the Lenten season. This poster is ideal for display or daily coloring.

Resources available Online

Living Compass; LIVING WELL THROUGH LENT 2026: Cultivating Healing and Wholeness In Heart, Soul, Strength, and Mind. You'll get 47 emails—one for each day of Lent and one for Easter.

livingcompass.org/lent

Episcopal Relief and Development Lenten Meditations 2025

Sister Monica Clare, author of the 2026 Lenten Meditations, discusses her inspiration for "Holy Habits" and extends an invitation for all to participate in this season's habit-building and reflective practices.

episcopalrelief.org/church-in-action/lent/

Forward Movement Daily Devotions

Forward Movement provides devotions, Bible studies, courses, and other resources to help people grow as disciples and evangelists in their faith journey.

prayer.forwardmovement.org/home

Society of Saint John the Evangelist - SSJE

We are a community dedicated to living the Gospel of Jesus Christ, drawing from monastic traditions and engaging with modern culture. Our shared life centers on worship, prayer, and our Rule of Life. Learn more about our practices, tradition, and daily calling through these pages.

ssje.org/word/

Lent Madness

Thirty-two saints compete in a single-elimination tournament. Each round, people vote for their favorite until 16 reach the Saintly Sixteen, eight advance to the Elate Eight, four make the Faithful Four, two go to the Championship, and one wins the Golden Halo.

lentmadness.org/

**SUPPORTING
OUR LOVED
ONES WITH
MEMORY LOSS**

Join a discussion providing practical help for individuals and families

Sunday, March 8
10:15 AM
Fireside Room

 **St. Lawrence**
Episcopal Church

Are you supporting a friend or family member who is experiencing memory loss?
If so, assistance is available.

Several members of our congregation have encountered challenges related to memory loss. Mary Grace Sharp, Program Manager at the Chicago Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association, will present strategies for effectively responding to dementia-related behaviors in loved ones.

She will also provide additional resources for further support.

 **ALZHEIMER'S
ASSOCIATION**

During Lent, we will highlight organizations in Lake County that provide valuable services and offer opportunities for volunteering. For more information contact, Deacon Jackie Lynn, jllynneldercare@gmail.com.



At ZCenter, we provide quality, comprehensive, client-centered services to survivors of sexual assault and abuse. These services are provided in partnership with the survivor in the spirit of equality, free from judgment or oppression. There are many different ways to volunteer with ZCenter depending upon your skills and interests. Whether you want to be there for a survivor when they call in on the support line, or help the development team on creating events and fundraisers—there's a place for you here. ZCenter volunteers are passionate and dedicated individuals who are looking to support survivors, as well as educate our community about prevention. We also have a 40 hour sexual assault training which helps volunteers to be supportive of our clients. For more information call: 847-244-1187

HOLY WEEK & EASTER



St. Lawrence
Episcopal Church

stlawrencechurch.org

Palm Sunday - March 29

Eucharist with procession in Cook Park at 9 AM at St. Lawrence

Maundy Thursday - April 2

Eucharist with foot washing and Agape meal at 6:30 PM
onsite and online at St. Gregory's, Deerfield

Good Friday - April 3

Solemn Liturgy with Communion from Reserved Sacrament at Noon
onsite at St. Lawrence

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) - available on a drop-in basis
in the St. Lawrence Sanctuary from 9 - 10:30 AM

Solemn Liturgy with Communion from Reserved Sacrament at 7 PM
onsite and online at Trinity, Highland Park

Holy Saturday - April 4

Holy Saturday Morning Prayer at 9 AM at St. Lawrence

Great Easter Vigil with Holy Baptism - The primary liturgy of our church
year - Eucharist at 7 PM at St. Lawrence. Reception to follow

Easter Morning - April 5

Festival Eucharist - 9 AM at St. Lawrence

On the STL calendar (see the entire calendar on the STL website, stlawrencechurch.org)

Thursday, March 5 - Lent Midweek Eucharist, Sanctuary, 8:30 AM; Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary, 7 PM

Saturday, March 7 - Quiet Day, Sanctuary 9 AM-11 AM

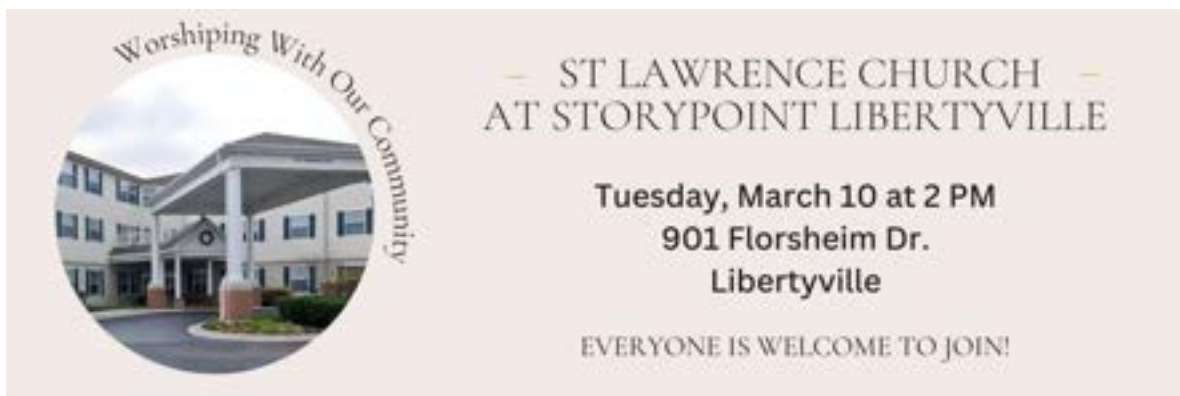
Monday, March 9 - St Lawrence Book Group, Fireside Room, 7 PM

Tuesday, March 10 - StoryPoint Service, Libertyville, 2 PM

Wednesday, March 11 - Wednesday Evenings in Lent, Fireside Room, 6 PM

Thursday, March 12 - Lent Midweek Eucharist, Sanctuary, 8:30 AM; Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary, 7 PM

Saturday, March 14 - Hope Food Pantry, Narthex, 8-10 AM





St. Lawrence
Episcopal Church

125 West Church Street
Libertyville, IL 60048
847 362-2110 • www.stlawrencechurch.org