

St. John's Reformed Church

March 1, 2026

Second Sunday in Lent

(Please join responsively by speaking aloud the bolded sections.)

Pre-Prelude

Announcements and Hospitality

Our Approach to God

Prelude

Votum "Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth"

*Call to Worship

Tell me something good!

God loves you more than you could imagine.

Tell me something good!

God loves all of creation more than you could imagine.

Tell me something good!

God's love meets us in this service of worship. We are not alone.

This is good news indeed!

Let us worship our compassionate God.

*Hymn *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy* #689 v.1-2

Salutation & Prayer of Invocation

Call and Prayer of Confession

Prayer of confession Merciful God, did we see you hungry and give you something to eat? Did we see you thirsty and give you something to drink? Did we see you alone and offer you compassion? Or did we cross the street? Did we avert our eyes? Did we come up with every excuse in the book? God, we long to be people who love our neighbors with the same overwhelming love that you have for them. But we must admit, we have a long way to go. Forgive us for the times when we let bias, scarcity, or fear get in the way of love. Wash us clean and give us the courage to try again. With hope for a better tomorrow we pray, amen.

Moment of Silence

Kyrie Eleison

"Lord have mercy upon us:

Christ have mercy upon us; Lord have mercy upon us"

Assurance of Pardon

Summary of the Law: Matthew 22:37-40 - "He said to him, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

Response: May the Spirit guide us to be obedient to this Word. Amen.

*Gloria Patri *Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end, Amen. Amen.*

Musical Meditation

The Word of God in Proclamation

Prayer of Illumination

*Lesson from the Gospel: **Luke 7:36-50** (p. 66)

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Lesson from the Gospel: **Matthew 25:35-40** (p. 29)

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Hymn *We Give Thee but Thine Own* #877 v. 1-5

Sermon

Prayer for Blessing

Our Response to God's Grace

Affirmation of Faith:

I believe in the good news of Jesus Christ. It sounds like welcome and feels like home. It sounds like laughter and feels like mercy. It sounds like love and feels like a seat at the table, so I believe in the good news of Jesus Christ. I have seen it alive in the world. And even when my heart aches, even when wars rage, even when mercy feels out of reach, I remember the one who welcomed the children and led with nonviolence. I remember the one who cared for the vulnerable and inspired those around him. I remember that the good news really is good news, for I have seen it alive in the world. Thanks be to God! Amen.

*The Peace The peace of Christ be with you. **And also, with you.**

The Offering Invitation

Offertory

*Doxology *Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above ye
Heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*Prayer of Dedication (unison)
God of creation, we give these offerings in gratitude, rejoicing in the abundance of your gifts to us. We give these offerings in faith, trusting that you will provide for our needs. We give these offerings in hope, knowing you can use them to spread your love in this world. And with these offerings, we give ourselves; May we live with generous hearts, with open hands. Amen

Celebration of the Lord's Supper & Introduction to Communion
Communion Hymn: *Let Us Break Bread Together* #837

Use "to the Rising Sun"

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving 2 #811
(outer rings are wine, inner rings are juice)

Thanksgiving After Communion

Prayers of the people

The Lord's Prayer (use 'trespasses')

**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. Amen.**

Prayer Response *Threefold Amen Amen, Amen, Amen.*

*Hymn *Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service* #928 v.1-4

Benediction

*Congregational Amen **"Go Now in Peace"**

*Go now in peace. Never be afraid. God will go with us each hour
of every day. Go now in faith steadfast strong and true.*

*Know he will guide us in all we do. Go now in love, and show we
believe. Reach out to others so all the world can see. God will be there
watching from above. Go now in peace, in faith and in love.*

*Postlude

*Indicates congregation to stand if able.

