



FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

March 9, 2025

10:00am

**Woodsboro Evangelical Lutheran Church
P. O. Box 27; 101 S. Main Street
Woodsboro, MD 21798
301-845-4533 woodsborolutheranchurch.com
woodsboroevangelical@comcast.net Serving God
and Community**

Reverend Sean DeLawder

Gary Schwartz, Organist

Carolyn Matukaitis, Vocalist



Welcome to Woodsboro Evangelical Lutheran Church

WELCOME! We are delighted that you have joined us for worship today. If you are visiting with us for the first time, we invite you to sign our guest book at the entrance to the sanctuary. Our ushers are happy to assist you in any way. The Pastor would love to meet you so please introduce yourself. Woodsboro Evangelical Lutheran Church is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). We are blessed by your presence today.

March bulletins are given to the glory of God and in memory of my husband, Raymond Cavalier, from Marylou Cavalier

Today's altar flowers are given in honor of Peggy Trimmer's 90th birthday from her family

Lay Reader: Mitzi Smith

Recording Assistant: Donna Droneburg

Ushers: Mitzi Smith

Flower Coordinator: Donna Droneburg

March 9, 2025
First Sunday of Lent

GATHERING

**Please stand as able Congregation responses are in bold.*

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,

who forgives all our sin,

whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate One,

you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,

but our lives do not always reflect you

and your love for the world.

We do not show others the tender compassion

you have shown to us.

We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality

you grant to all people.

We oppress others,

even though you have set us free again and again.

We squander the abundant gifts of the earth.

Transform our lives

and guide us again in the way of the cross.

Amen.

Beloved in Christ,
God's arms are always stretched open wide
to welcome the wandering ones home.

In † Christ your sins are forgiven.

You have a place in God's house forever.

Amen.

***GATHERING SONG**

#774 What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine

***GREETING**

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

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

in unison

O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

¹ When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, ² you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name.

³ You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us."

⁴ When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God, ⁵ you shall make this response before the LORD your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. ⁶ When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, ⁷ we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. ⁸ The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; ⁹ and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. ¹⁰ So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me." You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD

your God. ¹¹ Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks Be to God**

PSALM

PSALM 91:1-2, 9-16

- ¹ You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty—
² **you will say to the LORD, “My refuge and my stronghold,
my God in whom I put my trust.”**
- ⁹ Because you have made the LORD your refuge,
and the Most High your habitation,
¹⁰ **no evil will befall you,
nor shall affliction come near your dwelling.**
- ¹¹ For God will give the angels charge over you,
to guard you in all your ways.
¹² **Upon their hands they will bear you up,
lest you strike your foot against a stone.**
- ¹³ You will tread upon the lion cub and viper;
you will trample down the lion and the serpent.
¹⁴ **I will deliver those who cling to me;
I will uphold them, because they know my name.**
- ¹⁵ They will call me, and I will answer them;
I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and honor them.
¹⁶ **With long life will I satisfy them,
and show them my salvation.**

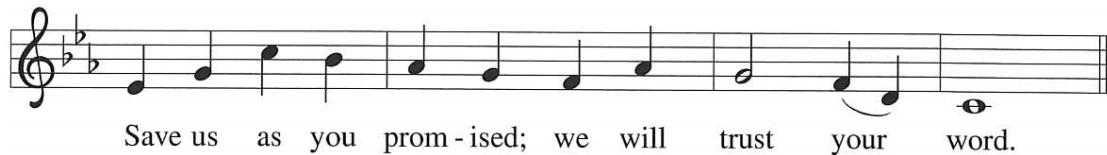
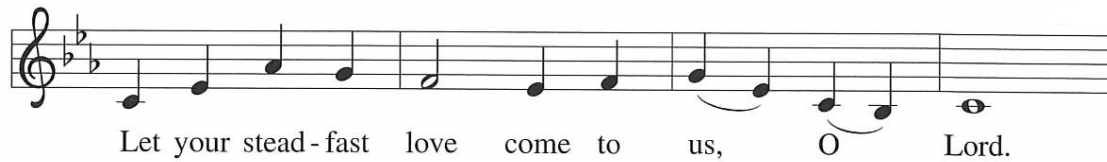
SECOND READING:

Romans 10:8b-13

- ^{8b} “The word is near you,
on your lips and in your heart”
(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹ because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved.
¹¹ The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” ¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³ For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks Be to God**

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



***GOSPEL:**

Luke 4:1-13

Glory to you, O Lord

¹ Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, ² where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. ³ The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.” ⁴ Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone.’”

⁵ Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶ And the devil said to him, “To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. ⁷ If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.”

⁸ Jesus answered him, “It is written,

‘Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him.’”

⁹ Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰ for it is written,

‘He will command his angels concerning you,
to protect you,’

¹¹ and

‘On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’”

¹² Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” ¹³ When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

Praise to you, O Christ

SERMON

Pastor Sean DeLawder

HYMN OF THE DAY

319 O Lord, throughout These Forty Days

***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 THE PEOPLE**

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

Gracious God, speak your word anew among your church. Strengthen it to withstand the temptation to turn inward in fear or complacency. Embolden church institutions to turn from self-preservation toward the self-giving love of Jesus. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Mothering God, speak the word of life into wilderness places and fertile fields. Grant wisdom to your people, that we may quell the urge to strip lands of their resources and instead preserve first fruits for future generations. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Almighty God, speak a word of wisdom to people in positions of power: mayors, councils, and tribal leaders, legislators, judges and juries, presidents, and monarchs. Help them discern your voice and follow your guidance, resisting the temptations of the evil one. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Steadfast God, speak words of courage to your people in the wilderness. Protect migrants and refugees on perilous journeys, that they find safe refuge and a portion in the bounty you have given humanity to share. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Loving God, speak gently to all who are alone. Bless lay ministers, home communion teams, and others who attend to those who are overlooked, vulnerable, or lonely, that all find belonging in your love. We pray for all who are ill. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Living God, we give thanks for all the faithful who have crossed the threshold from death to life. Guide us who are living to learn from their wisdom and follow their example. God, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

Amen.

OUR OFFERING FOR GOD'S WORK

OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious Provider,

you set your immense treasures among us,
opening your heart to the world.

As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love,
deepen our commitment to sharing those
treasures with others,
through our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

Hymn 325 I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

THE LORD'S PRAYER

in unison

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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.

Amen.

BENEDICTION

God our tender parent,

God the crucified one,

God the reconciling Spirit,

✠ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

***SENDING SONG**

#326 Bless Now, O God, the Journey

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

WOODSBORO EVANGELICAL PRAYER LIST

Carolyn Abrecht, Arvella (Artie) Anders, Kelli Angleberger,
Shirley Baker, Larry Beard, Amanda Blank, Jessica Bowers, Juanita Bowers, Mack
Burdette, Donna Carbone, Nancy and Donald Creager, Ruby Darner, Buck and Bonnie
Dixon, Doug Eaves, Shari Eby, Dion and Evgeni Gevezovski, Stephanie Hammond,
Philip Hockman, Bob Hyde, Jana Inskeep, Chris Johnson, Barbara Keyser, Doris Lenhart,
Butch Lewellyn, Sandy Measell, Kasey Melville, Sue Millione, Millie Miller, Patrick
Moseley, Genie Neugebauer, Darren Poindexter, Kizzy Giles-Rayford, Charlotte Shaffer,
Gary Smith, Greg Smith, Nancy O. Smith, Mike Stottlemeyer, Lincoln Tiemann, Donald
Trimmer, Pastor Harry Wolpert and Tom Yealey

WELC ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOTE: In order to keep your membership active, you must take communion, and complete and submit a card once per year.

Pastor Sean's Weekly Office Hours – Every Thursday from 10:00am-2:00pm.

Please feel free to stop by to say hello, give feedback or if you need pastoral care. As always, Pastor Sean can be reached throughout the week at welcpastorsean@gmail.com or 301-606-3632.

Worship Service Social – Join us for coffee, snacks, and fellowship on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month prior to our worship service.

Free Community Dinner – The next dinner is and Saturday, March 15 in cooperation with St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Walkersville. All are welcome so invite your family and friends. Volunteers are always needed. If you have questions, please contact Pastor Sean.

Soup and Sandwich Sale – March 22, pick up from 11am-noon. Chicken Corn and Vegetable Beef Soup, \$9 per quart. Chicken Salad and Country Ham sandwiches, \$5 per sandwich. Sloppy Joe, \$20 per quart. Order on our website or contact Roger Myers – text 301-606-5046 or email rogemyers8815@gmail.com. **Orders due by March 14.** Volunteers are needed on March 21 and 22 from 8am-noon.

Bingo Fundraiser – Come out and support WELC's bingo fundraiser on April 5, 2025 at the Woodsboro American Legion. Doors open at noon and bingo games begin at 1:30pm. Admission is \$30 and includes 6 pack for all 19 regular games, 2 \$100 special, and \$500 jackpot game. Door prizes, food and bake table are available. For reservations and information contact Peggy Esworthy at 301-514-7164.

Thank everyone for their generous sponsorship of our April 5th Bingo to be held in the Woodsboro American Legion. If you haven't already, please give your sponsorship payment (Cash or Check to WELC) to Roger Myers by March 30th. Also, it's not too late to be a Sponsor, just let Roger know. Again, THANK YOU!

The 2025 Flower Chart is posted in the narthex. Please consider volunteering to furnish flowers for Sunday worship. Contact Donna Droneburg at 301-514-0895.

Year-to-Date Offerings – Thank you very much for your continued support. The updated year to date offering as of January 27, 2025, is \$6,474.00 with an annual budgeted amount of \$149,000.00. Again, we appreciate your financial contributions and ongoing support.

Council Meeting – TBA

Bulletin Sponsorship – If you wish to sponsor bulletins for a specific month, the amount is \$40.00. The sign-up sheet is in the Narthex next to the Altar Flower Dedication chart.

Community Partners will be collecting items for their Caring Closet program. March's focus will be on Lotions – hand, body and sunscreen. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

WELC Food Collection – The Latest from the GVCS Food Bank – All donations are greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the foodbank at 301-845-4229 (Leave a message and your call will be returned) or email at GVFB21w@gamil.com. Thank you for all of your continued support!

Currently, the greatest needs are:		
Kid's Cereal	Spaghetti Noodles	Spaghetti Sauce
Canned Beans	Boxed Crackers	Baked Beans

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Woodsboro Seniors' Luncheon Meeting – We are planning to go to The Village Tavern, 122 Walkers Village Way, Walkersville, MD at 11:30am – Wednesday, March 19th. Invite a friend. If you are interested in going, please call Doris at 301-304-5244. New members are always welcome.

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