



FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

**February 22, 2026
10:00am**

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

Reverend Sean DeLawder

Bernadette Harper and Gary Schwartz, Music Directors



Welcome to Woodsboro 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.

February bulletins are given to the glory of God by Cheryl Lenhart.

Today's altar flowers are given in honor of Cheryl Lenhart's daughter, Stephanie Ott, who celebrated her 43rd birthday on February 19th.

Lay Reader: Cheryl Lenhart
Recording Assistant: Donna Droneburg
Usher: Peggy Esworthy
Flower Coordinator: Donna Droneburg

FEBRUARY 22, 2026
First Sunday In Lent

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDRENS MESSAGE

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:

Gracious God,

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 disdaining 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 SONG**

#319 –O Lord, Throughout These Forty Days

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

Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises.

Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son,

Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

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

PSALM

Psalm 32

- ¹ Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven,
and whose sin is put away!
- ² **Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt,
and in whose spirit there is no guile!**
- ³ While I held my tongue, my bones withered away,
because of my groaning all day long.
- ⁴ **For your hand was heavy upon me day and night;
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**
- ⁵ Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt.
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." Then you forgave me the
guilt of my sin.
- ⁶ **Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble;
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.**
- ⁷ You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.
- ⁸ **"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go;
I will guide you with my eye.**
- ⁹ Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding;
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."
- ¹⁰ **Great are the tribulations of the wicked;
but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.**
- ¹¹ Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD;
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

SECOND READING:

Romans 5:12-18

¹² Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned ¹³ for sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. ¹⁴ Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who did not sin in the likeness of Adam, who is a pattern of the one who was to come.

¹⁵ But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. ¹⁶ And the gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the gift following many trespasses brings justification. ¹⁷ If, because of the one man's trespass, death reigned through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

¹⁸ Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. ¹⁹ For just as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so through the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

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



Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.



Save us as you prom-ised; we will trust your word.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*GOSPEL:

Matthew 4:1-11

Glory to you, O Lord

¹ Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil. ² He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. ³ The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread."

⁴ But he answered, "It is written,

'One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'

⁵ Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶ saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you,'
and 'On their hands they will bear you up,

so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’ ”

⁷ Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’ ”

⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory, ⁹ and he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

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

¹¹ Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

Praise to you, O Christ

SERMON

Pastor Sean

***HYMN OF THE DAY**

#504 – A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

***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**

Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

A brief silence.

God of all grace, grant faith to your church. Give to all the baptized the will to resist temptation and to worship and serve you alone. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of all creation, tend this earth. When human greed and disobedience threaten this planet and the life it contains, lead us by your Spirit into ways of reverence, awe, and gentleness. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of all nations, preserve us from trouble. Surround all living in places of violence with your steadfast love and give resilience to all who work for peace. Grant courage to those who challenge, especially around issues of racism and systemic oppression. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of all healing, mend our wounds. Bring wholeness to all who are sick, give peace to all who groan in grief, and send companions to all who are lonely or isolated. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of all people, provide for our community. For any among us who hunger for bread, bring nourishment. For any among us who hunger for truth, speak your life-giving word. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of all life, bring us to you. We thank you for your free and abounding grace, and for those who, by that same grace, now rest eternally in you. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

Amen.

OUR OFFERING FOR GOD'S WORK

OFFERING PRAYER

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.

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 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, forever and ever. Amen.

BENEDICTION

Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity:

God, who calls all things into existence,

Jesus Christ, who redeems us,

and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation,

✠ bless you now and always.

Amen.

***SENDING SONG**

#624– Jesus, Still Lead On

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Believe the good news.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

WOODSBORO LUTHERAN PRAYER LIST

Carolyn Abrecht, Arvella (Artie) Anders, Kelli Angleberger, Shirley Baker, Larry Beard, Amanda Blank, Jessica Bowers, Mack Burdette, Donna Carbone, Nancy and Donald Creager, Ruby Darner, Bonnie Dixon, Donna Droneburg, Doug Eaves, Shari Eby, Ed Esworthy, Luke Gavin, Dion and Evgeni Gevezovski, Stephanie Hammond, Philip Hockman, Bob Hyde, Jana Inskeep, The family of Dennis Jenkins, Chris Johnson, Tom and Terri Johnson, Barbara Keyser, Doris Lenhart, Butch Lewellyn, Rev. Dale Lind, Cathy Long, Sandy Measell, Kasey Melville, Sue Million, Mark Moler, Patrick Moseley, Genie Neugebauer, Darren Poindexter, Kevin Riffle, Gary Smith, Greg Smith, Mike Stottlemyer, Lincoln Tiemann, Donald Trimmer, Emily Vietti, 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.

WLC Soup and Sandwich Sale - Vegetable Beef and Chicken Corn Soup - \$10 per quart, Chicken Salad, Country Ham and Sloppy Joe Sandwiches - \$5 each. Order by March 9th, pickup on March 14th between 10am - 11am. To place an order call or text Roger Myers (301-606-5046), or order online.

We are also looking for volunteers to help prepare the food the morning of March 13th.

WLC BINGO - Hold the date, March 28th at the Woodsboro Legion, games at 1:30, doors open at 12 noon (more information to come). We are looking for sponsors to offset the cost of payouts (\$50 games, \$150 specials, \$500 jackpot) and expenses (rental, permits, supplies, food, etc.). Please contact Roger Myers (301-606-5046) to sponsor.

Easter Flowers – Order forms for Easter flowers are in the back of the sanctuary and all orders and money need to be turned into Robin Delauter by March 15th. Tulips, \$7, Hyacinth, \$7, and Lily, \$12.

Free Community Dinner – The next dinners are March 3rd from 5 to 6:30pm and March 21st, cosponsored with St. Pauls’s Lutheran Church. All are welcome so invite your family and friends. Volunteers are always needed. If you have questions, please contact Pastor Sean.

The 2026 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 February 11th 2026, is \$19,007.33 with an annual budgeted amount of \$169,000.00. Again, we appreciate your financial contributions and ongoing support. If you would like a copy of the financial statement please contact Robin Rippeon at robinrnest@comcast.net.

Council Meeting TBA. To request a copy of minutes please contact Suzanne Yusko at smy196914@gmail.com. If anyone would like a copy of the financial report, please email Robin Rippeon at robinrnest@comcast.net.

Community Partners will be collecting items for their Caring Closet program. March’s focus will be on lotions and sunscreen. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

WLC 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 food bank at 301-845-4229 (Leave a message and your call will be returned.) or email at GVFB21w@gmail.com. Thank all of you for your continued support!

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

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Woodsboro Lunch Bunch Meeting – Wednesday, March 18th, at 11:30 am, we are planning to go to Rocky's Pizza at 205 Tippin Drive, Thurmont, MD. Invite a friend. If you are interested in going, please call Doris at 301-676-8742. New members are always welcome.



Use the QR Code to donate to WELC

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