

First



SUNDAY

IN LENT

**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH – HAMBURG
The First Sunday in Lent
Sunday, February 22, 2026**

Matthew 4:7 – “Jesus said to him, ‘Again it is written.’” Jesus defeats Satan in our place, not by using His power as God, but by His perfect obedience in His perfect humanity. Jesus defeats Satan not by miracles, but by quoting the Scriptures and living according to them. This should cause us great joy for two reasons. First, we see Jesus win the victory for us. Second, here Jesus shows us how to stand in that victory: on the Word of God alone.



WELCOME VISITORS: We extend a warm welcome to all our visitors today. We pray that your worship with us is rewarding. Please be sure to sign your name and address in our guest

register, located in the narthex. If you are looking for a church home we would like to invite you to be a part of our Bible Based Church family.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Divine Service I

LSB page 151

Opening Hymn

“Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty”

LSB #901

Invocation

*The sign of the cross may be made by all
in remembrance of their Baptism.*

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**
- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God’s Word and for self-examination.

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You**

with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Psalm 32:1-7

P ¹Blessèd is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

C ²Blessèd is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

P ³For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.

C ⁴For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.



P ⁵I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

C ⁶Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to you at a

**time when you may be found;
surely in the rush of great waters,
they shall not reach him.**

- P** ⁷You are a hiding place for me;
you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

Kyrie

LSB 152

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Catechism Review

The Sacrament of the Altar - Part Two

P *What is the benefit of this eating and drinking?*

C **These words, “Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins,” show us that in the Sacrament forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation are given us through these words. For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation.**

P *How can bodily eating and drinking do such great things?*

C **Certainly not just eating and drinking do these things, but the words written here: “Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.” These words, along with the bodily eating and drinking, are the main thing in**

the Sacrament. Whoever believes these words has exactly what they say: “forgiveness of sins.”

P *Who receives this Sacrament worthily?*

C Fasting and bodily preparation are certainly fine outward training. But that person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: “Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.” But anyone who does not believe these words or doubts them is unworthy and unprepared, for the words “for you” require all hearts to believe.

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 3:1–21

¹Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made.

He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden’?” ²And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree

that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.” ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. ⁵For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some



FACING
TEMPTATION

to her husband who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

⁸And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?" ¹⁰And he said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself." ¹¹He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" ¹²The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate." ¹³Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

¹⁴The LORD God said to the serpent,

"Because you have done this,
cursed are you above all livestock
and above all beasts of the field;
on your belly you shall go,
and dust you shall eat
all the days of your life.

¹⁵I will put enmity between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and her offspring;
he shall bruise your head,
and you shall bruise his heel."

¹⁶To the woman he said,

"I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing;
in pain you shall bring forth children.
Your desire shall be for your husband,
and he shall rule over you."

¹⁷And to Adam he said,

"Because you have listened to the voice of your wife
and have eaten of the tree

of which I commanded you,
‘You shall not eat of it,’
cursed is the ground because of you;
in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life;
¹⁸thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you;
and you shall eat the plants of the field.
¹⁹By the sweat of your face
you shall eat bread,
till you return to the ground,
for out of it you were taken;
for you are dust,
and to dust you shall return.”

²⁰The man called his wife’s name Eve, because she was the mother of all living. ²¹And the LORD God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

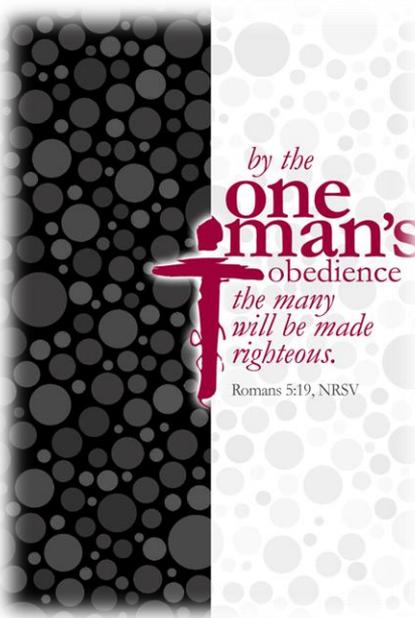
C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Romans 5:12–19

¹²Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned—
¹³for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. ¹⁴Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come.

¹⁵But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man’s trespass,



*by the
one man's
obedience
the many
will be made
righteous.*
Romans 5:19, NRSV

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

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

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:1–11

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ²And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. ³And the tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." ⁴But he answered, "It is written,

"Man shall not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of
God."

⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple ⁶and said 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,
lest you strike your
foot against a stone.”

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

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

“You shall worship the Lord your God
and him only shall you serve.”

¹¹Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were
ministering to him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn

“Jesus, Grant That Balm and Healing”

LSB #421

Sermon

Apostles’ Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of
heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third
day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into



heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life † everlasting. Amen.

Offering

Offertory Response

“We Give Thee But Thine Own” LSB #781 sts. 1–2

Prayers of the Church

Lord’s Prayer

☐ 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.

Benediction

LSB 166

☐ The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

☐ Amen.

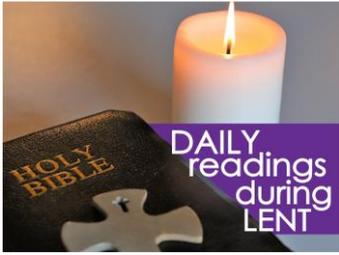
Closing Hymn

“On What Has Now Been Sown”

LSB #921

Acknowledgment. Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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Sunday: Job 17:1-16; John 7:14-31

Monday: Job 18:1-21, 12-25;
John 7:32-53

Tuesday: Job 19:1-12, 21-27;
John 8:1-20

Wednesday: Job 20:1-23, 29;
John 8:21-38

Thursday: Job 21:1-21; Job 21:22 – 30:15; John 8:39-59

Friday: Job 30:16-31; John 9:1-23

Saturday: Job 31:1-12, 33-40; John 9:24-41

Church **FAMILY** —PRAYER LIST—

FAITH and ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCHES

*Please remember the
following in your prayers:*

Gary Baumann

Lisa Burish

Joe Calmes David Czech

Rodney Dahlke Alice Fromm Christopher Emmerich

Wallace Emmerich Duane Grunenwald

Gerhard Hannemann Angie Harkner Dale Janisch

Cecelia & Lucille Klade Jordan Knoble Rob Koebe

Hugo Koppa Karen Love Bob Meyer Gene Mootz

Debbie Olson Sarah Piel Mark Pester Marge Radenz

Karen Rajek Jo Schedler MiKenzie Schultz Audrey

Steckling Lorraine Steckling Carl Uttech

Deb Wiederhoeft Florence Williamson Laurie Young

Susie and Ellie Zastrow



Special Thanks to all who
participated in and helped with our
special Mission Sunday last week.

*We were blessed to have Pastor
Rajek in our midst. And we
continue to pray for all our
outreach projects as well as*

missions throughout the nation and the world.

Again thank you one and all!



**ST. JOHN'S and FAITH
CALENDAR**

Sunday, February 22

**8:30 a.m. Worship at St.
 John's**

Sunday School during Sermon

9:15 a.m. Sunday School at Faith

10:15 a.m. Worship at Faith

11:15 a.m. Bible Study at Faith

Monday, February 23

NO MONDAY WORSHIP

Wednesday, February 25

5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith

6:00 p.m. Lenten Meal at St. John's

6:30 p.m. Worship at St. John's

Thursday, February 26

11:00 a.m. Worship

1:15 p.m. Community Bible Study at St. John's

5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal at Faith

6:30 p.m. Worship

Sunday, March 1

8:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion at St. John's
Sunday School during Sermon

9:15 a.m. Sunday School at Faith

10:15 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion at Faith

Monday, March 2

NO MONDAY WORSHIP

Tuesday, March 3

1:00 p.m. Women of Faith

Wednesday, March 4

5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith

6:00 p.m. Lenten Meal at St. John's

6:30 p.m. Worship at St. John's

7:15 p.m. Mary Martha Guild at St. John's

Thursday, March 5

11:00 a.m. Worship at Faith

1:15 p.m. Community Bible Study at St. John's

5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal at Faith

6:30 p.m. Worship at Faith



St John's - Hamburg Spring Hanging Basket Sale

Order forms are in the back of church.

Your order needs to be paid in full, and

submitted to St. John's Lutheran Church by February 28. Please include your name, address and phone number. Orders will be ready for pickup on Friday, May 8 in St. John's parking lot between noon and 4 pm. Please

mail your orders and a check for the balance to St. John's Lutheran Church 134058 County Road L, Hamburg, WI 54411. Attention: Diane Hinz. *(At Faith, order forms are on the Scrip table)*



GRIEFSHARE begins February 23, 2025 and meets weekly for 13 weeks from 6-7:30 p.m. at Trinity, Merrill Whether it has been recent or many years since the loss of a friend,

spouse, parent, sibling or child, all are welcome, For more information or to register, call 715-536-5482.

**YOUTH EVENT: Watch for details! CIRCUIT
ROLLERSKATING at Melody Gardens, Marshfield, March 27.**

Register by emailing youthgroup@stjohnmerrill.com

**NOTE CHANGE IN COMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY
on Thursdays at St. John's is at 1:15 p.m.**



Easter Lilies

In the beauty and celebration of Easter, we are decorating the Sanctuary and Narthex at Faith with Easter lilies.

Donations will be taken through Sunday, March 29. Forms are available on the Scrip table in the back of church.

2026 Lenten Midweek Series

Set Free: The Gospel in Exodus—



Lenten Midweek 2, February 25-26

*The Good News of a God Who Reveals Himself to Us,
Exodus 3:1–15*

Lenten Midweek 3, March 4-5

The Good News of a God Who Sends a Deliverer, Exodus 4:1–20

Lenten Midweek 4, March 11-12

*The Good News of a God Who Passes over Us in Mercy,
Exodus 12:1–14*

Lenten Midweek 5, March 18-19

*The Good News of a God Who Makes a Way for Us,
Exodus 14:5–31*

Lenten Midweek 6, March 25-26

*The Good News of a God Who Sustains on Our Journey,
Exodus 16:1–18*



Jesus

*paid for our sins not only
in part but in full.*

So if the Son sets you free,
you will be free indeed.

John 8:36

Wednesday Services

6:00 p.m. Lenten Meal at
St. John's

6:30 p.m. Worship at
St. John's

Thursday Services

11:00 a.m. Worship at
Faith

6:30 p.m. Worship at
Faith



LENTEN ORGAN MEDITATIONS

**First Presbyterian Church
406 Grant Street
Wausau, Wisconsin 54403**

**Fridays from
12:15 p.m. – 12:45 p.m.**

*Come for a time of meditation and music
during the lunch hour*

February 27 - Irene Beethe

**March 6 - Patrick Burkhart,
Mark Schroeder, Isaac Tritz**

March 13 - George Felty

March 20 - Dan Larson

**March 27 - Bryan Higgins-Moe,
Jacob Drenkler**

Sponsored by the Wisconsin River Chapter
American Guild of Organists

**Facebook.com/AGO-Wisconsin-River-Chapter-
154526781226983**

Free Will Offering



Lenten Season – Baby Care Kits: Stewardship and Evangelism will be collecting items to make Baby Care Kits that can be given to Homeless Shelters or to Haven in Merrill. Each week during Lent, we will be collecting items that are needed. Items to be collected will be as follows: Diapers, Light weight cotton T-shirts, Receiving blankets, Socks or booties, Bath-size bars of gentle soap, Sleepers and Cotton blend hand towels. Sizes can be from 6 – 24 months. We will put a table up in the overflow area.

WINTER IS STILL HERE! Whatever you have planned with family and friends, make it happen with Scrip! Be sure to pick up scrip cards for all your activities and household needs. Help support the ministry of our church through the Scrip program. ... *All without it costing you an extra penny!*



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank You for your generous sacrificial offerings to the Lord, to help us keep our ministry going. You can also mail your offerings to Our Churches at

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

15425 County Road K South, Merrill, WI 54452 or

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

134058 County Road L, Athens, WI 54411

(Please do not send hard cash through the mail)

Please help us spread the Word. Visit us online at Pastor's (Don Love) Facebook Page, or Faith Lutheran Church, or on the church website at

www.faithlutheranmerrill.com