

Welcome to
WEST CLERMONT LUTHERAN CHURCH
Member of the Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America
March 9, 2025



Worship 9:30am
Pastor Micheal Erickson

West Clermont Lutheran Church
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1ST Sunday in Lent

March 9, 2025

INTRODUCTION

These forty days called Lent are like no other. It is our opportune time to return to the God who rescues, to receive the gifts of God's grace, to believe with the heart and confess with the mouth the wonder of God's love in Jesus, and to resist temptation at every turn. This is no small pilgrimage on which we have just embarked. It is a struggle Jesus knew. It is a struggle Jesus shares. The nearness of the Lord, in bread and wine, water and word, will uphold and sustain us.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

GREETING

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

C: **And also with you.**

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

WCLC MISSION STATEMENT: *As children of God, called to love God and one another, we proclaim the Word of God through study, prayer, worship, and discipleship. We serve those in need within our congregation, our community, and our world as an expression of God's love for us. LOVE, PROCLAIM, SERVE!*

GATHERING MUSIC: *"I Heard The Voice Of Jesus Say"*

ELW 611

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

C: **Amen.**

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate One,

C: 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.

P: 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.

C: Amen.

KYRIE

ELW pg. 120

CANTICLE OF PRAISE *“Glory to God...”* ELW pg. 121

PRAYER OF THE DAY: 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.

NOISY CAN OFFERING

SPECIAL MUSIC: *“As the Winter Days Grow Longer”*

ACS 924

WORD

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.

R: *The Word of the Lord.*

C: **Thanks be to God!**

Psalm: 91:1-2, 9-16 (Responsively)

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.”

R: *The Word of the Lord.*

C: **Thanks be to God!**

Gospel Acclamation “*Let your steadfast..*” ELW pg. 125

Gospel: Luke 4:1-13

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke. C: **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.

P: *The gospel of the Lord.*

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN’S SERMON

Pastor Mike Erickson

*****Sunday school youth and teachers are dismissed to class.*****

SERMON

Pastor Mike Erickson

HYMN OF THE DAY: *"O Lord Throughout These Forty Days"* **ELW 319**

APOSTLES’ CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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.**

INTERCESSIONS

P: God, in your mercy, **C: Receive our prayer.**

WE SHARE GOD'S PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us offer each other a sign of peace.

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER:

P: 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.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.**

SENDING

BLESSING

P: God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit, † bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING MUSIC: "Bless Now, O God, The Journey"

ELW 326

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Love! Proclaim! Serve!

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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Prayer List

Requested: Karen Kohls, Jeanette (Davisson) Cain, Don Erickson, Jake Noggle, Karen Guyer, Ardell Fortune, Julie Albertson, Larry Kohls, Sarah Updegraff-Murray, Eric Clubb, Bill and Cindy Thias, JoAnn Bishop, Ben Phillips, Meca Loftsgard.

Assisted Living, Nursing Homes & Shut-Ins: Betty Erickson, Bud Siebrecht, Karen Follett, Judy Nelson, Madonna Stumme, Doris Guyer, Evelyn Tague.

In the Military: Jeff Kleppe, Nathan Guyer, Kennedy White.

Mon. 3/10	6pm	Women's Auxiliary
Tues. 3/11	9am	Quilting
Wed. 3/12	10:30am	Copper Creek Service
	2:30pm	Confirmation
	5:30pm	<i>Lenten Meal @ WCLC.</i>
	7pm	<i>Lenten Service @ WCLC.</i>
Sun. 3/16	9:30am	Worship Service
		<i>Sunday School</i>
	10:30am	Fellowship

Sunday, March 2, 2025

Attendance: 39

Loose: \$51.00

Noisy Can: \$136.60

Regular: \$535.00


Total General Fund: \$722.60


Roof: \$180.00

Memorials IMO Lois Miller: \$1,685.00

Solar Memorial IMO Lois Miller: \$20.00



 **Noisy Can Offering** for 1st Quarter will go to JoAnn Bishop to help with expenses incurred during this time of illness.

 **Direct Deposit Offering** is available for your weekly/monthly offering. Simply contact the office for account and routing information. It's fast and easy!



2025 Summer Camp Program Guides are now available in the entryway downstairs. Early bird registration deadline is February 28th. ***West Clermont Camperships are available.*** Please contact the church office for the form.



Church Pictorial Directories are here!! If you had your picture taken or submitted a picture, then there is a directory with your name on it. There are extras, so if you were unable to participate, you can still have one. Extras are on a first come, first serve basis.



4H Omelet Brunch & Silent Auction is TODAY from 9am-1pm @ the Fairgrounds Dance Pavilion. Tickets are \$10, 5 & under are free. Serving: pancakes, made-to-order omelets, applesauce, beverage.



West Clermont Lenten Meal and Service is this Wed., Mar 12th. Meal begins at 5:30pm; Serving: maidrites, salads, and bars. Free will offering. Service begins @ 7pm.



Country in the Hills Spring Craft Show is Sat. March 15th from 9am-4pm @ The Heritage Farm Park. Lunch available 11-2pm. Local crafters. WELCA will have a table with quilts and cookbooks.



2025 Spring Festival @ St. Paul Lutheran in Postville is Sun., March 23rd from 10:30am-until sold out. Serving: roast beef, mashed potatoes W/gravy, Mac-n-Cheese (for the kids), freezer corn, bread & butter, assorted salads & desserts. \$15 per meal (4 & younger are free). Raffle to be held @ 1pm. Raffle tickets are 6-\$5.



Youth Clothing Drive

Luther League and Confirmation students are organizing a clothing drive to donate to Shepherd of the Hills in St. Olaf. **They are currently accepting Spring, Summer Clothing,** Newborn-Adult sizes for boys/girls/men/women. When donating, please make sure items are either new or used in good condition (clean; no holes/tears; zippers work; no missing buttons, etc.)



Sunday, March 16, 2025- “Clothing Care Sunday”

Change a life with kindness - donate spring/summer clothing this Sunday!

Luther League/Confirmation students will volunteer at Shepherd of the Hills the night of March 19 and deliver the items collected from this drive. All items donated are appreciated!

2025 Lenten Schedule

Date	Meal/Service Times	Church
March 12	5:30pm/7pm	West Clermont Lutheran Church
March 19	5:30pm/7pm	Elgin Lutheran Church
March 26	5:30pm/7pm	St. Paul’s United Methodist Church
April 2	No Meal/7pm-dessert following service	Illyria Community Church
April 9	5:30pm/7pm	East Clermont Lutheran Church
April 17 (Maundy Thursday)	No Meal/7pm	West Clermont Lutheran Church
April 18 (Good Friday)	No Meal/7pm	St. Paul’s United Methodist Church
April 20 (Easter Sunrise Service)	No Meal/ 7am @ Elgin Cemetery	IF inclement weather will be at First Baptist



The flower on the organ today is a Clown Amaryllis. It was given to the church in December 2023 from Bev Strong in memory of her daughter, Janet Helgerson. After successfully blooming last March (by the grace of God), I followed the instructions for storage in the hope it might bloom again (since it seemed to have a will to live.)

I cut everything down to the bulbs and put it in the closet under the steps, where I basically forgot about it. Shortly after Christmas, I remembered the pot in the closet and brought it back into the office. I did not replant it (recommended) but just “fluffed” the old dirt around it. I watered it once a week (kind of) and low and behold, the 3 bulbs sprouted, plus 2 additional sprouts. No one was more surprised than I was.

By now, you may have realized I do not have a green thumb.... This miracle plant, by the grace of God, has thrived and blessed us again with these beautiful blooms which we share with you today.