

Emanuel Lutheran Church

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Sister Ruth Ellen Rebelein

Pianist: Roberta Ryskoski

Sunday, February 22, 2026

THE FIRST SUNDAY in LENT:

Today's gospel tells of Jesus' temptation in the desert. His forty-day fast becomes the basis of our Lenten pilgrimage. In the early church Lent was a time of intense preparation for those to be baptized at the Easter Vigil. This catechetical focus on the meaning of faith is at the heart of our Lenten journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. Hungry for God's mercy, we receive the bread of life to nourish us for the days ahead.

Please feel free to sit anytime during the service if the need arises.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please stand for the Confession and Forgiveness)

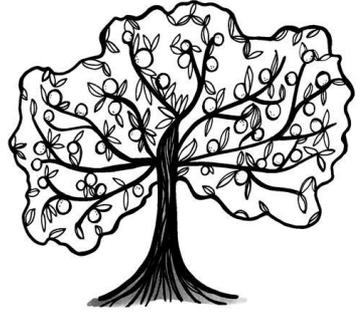
CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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

C: Amen.

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



Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P: For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:

Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

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

Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P: For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P: For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdainning the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P: For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P: For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P: 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.

C: Amen.

(Remain Standing)

OPENING HYMN: "O Lord, throughout These Forty Days" LBW 99

APOSTOLIC 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.**

(Please Sit)

PRAYER OF THE DAY: (Located on the Today's Readings Insert)

GOD'S WORD

PSALM 32:

Please join me in the responsive reading.

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

Human beings were formed with great care, to be in relationship with the creator, creation, and one another. The serpent's promise to the first couple that their eyes would be opened led, ironically, to the discovery only that they were naked.

Reader says: The Word of the Lord.

Congregation respond: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: Romans 5:12-19

Through Adam's disobedience, humanity came under bondage to sin and death, from which we cannot free ourselves. In Christ's obedient death, God graciously showers on us the free gift of liberation and life.

Reader says: The Word of the Lord.

Congregation respond: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation)

Sing: "Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path."

P: The gospel reading is from Matthew Chapter 4 verses 1-11.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

THE GOSPEL READING: Matthew 4:1-11

Jesus experiences anew the temptations that Israel faced in the wilderness. As the Son of God, he endures the testing of the evil one.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please Sit)

SERMON: “Are you ‘Prayed Up’?” Sister Ruth Ellen Reblein

SERMON HYMN: “Oh, Love, How Deep” LBW 88
vs. 1-4

(Please stand for the Apostles Creed and The Sharing of the Peace)

APOSTLES’ CREED:

Green LBW page 85

THE PEACE:

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

Let us share signs of peace with one another.

(Please sit for The Prayers of the People)

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

P: Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

(Please stand and join hands)

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Green LBW page 91

The OFFERING is RECEIVED AND WE STAND and SING

“Create in Me” Green, LBW Page 96

OFFERING PRAYER:

P: 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. Through these gifts of bread and wine, 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.

C: Amen.

THE BENEDICTION:

P: 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.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN: “Chief of Sinners though I Be” LBW 306

DISMISSAL:

P: Go in peace. Believe the good news.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude: Roberta Ryskoski

OUR GUEST DEACONESS THIS MORNING is Sister Ruth Ellen Rebelein. Thank you for leading our Worship, Sister Ruth Ellen.

Attendance: Last Sunday: 23

Last Sunday Facebook Lives: 5

Ash Wednesday: 18

Ash Wednesday Facebook Lives: 7

Facebook Plays:

Sunday, February 8th: 236

Today, Service Schedule, February 22nd, 9:30 A.M.

Reader: Wayne Heitmann

Usher: Verlyn Rebelein

Mid-Week Lenten Service Schedule, February 25th, 6:00 P.M.

Usher: Marlene Connell

Next Week's Schedule, March 1st, 9:30 A.M.

Reader: Charlotte Rebelein

Usher: Wayne Heitmann

February 2026 Altar Schedule

Toby and Pastor Bob Rosenberg

February 2026 Communion Schedule (February 1st, 15th and 18th)

Wayne Heitmann

March 2026 Altar Schedule

Annette Raube and Charleen Strook

March 2026 Communion Schedule (1st and 3rd Sunday)

Annette Raube

THIS WEEK AT EMANUEL:

THERE WILL BE COFFEE THIS MORNING FOLLOWING THE WORSHIP.

MID-WEEK SERVICES:

Lent can mean a variety of things to a variety of people. To some people it's that period of the year which heralds the coming of spring, and since it lasts forty days, not counting Sundays, Spring DOES fall pretty close to Easter Sunday and the end of Lent.

For others, the 40 days of Lent is a reminder of the forty days of fasting which Jesus went through in the wilderness after His baptism, and so for them, Lent is a time of fasting, of "giving something up," symbolic of regret and an expression of a desire on their part of to be changed.

On Wednesday, February 25th, at 6:00 P.M., Pastor Bob will begin a series of sermons on some of the characters who shared Christ's last days and he will also read a portion of the four Gospels which tell us of His suffering and death.

New Council Officers were elected at the Council Meeting on February 9th. Tammy Briskie is our President, Verlyn Rebelein is Vice President, Annette Raube is Financial Secretary and Tom Rivers is Property. Susan Krohn serves as Treasurer.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Spaghetti Dinner today Sunday, February 22, 2026, from 11:30 A.M. – 1:00 P.M., at Bethel Church, 305 W. Main St., Brandon, WI. Free Will Offering. Please see the flyer on the bulletin board in the narthex of the church.

Peniel Welsch Chapel's St. David's Day Celebration March 1, 2026, is St. David's Day. This year's St. David's Day Hymn Sing or Gymanfa Ganu, will be at Waukau/Eureka Community Church, 2644 State Rd., 116, Waukau, WI. The singing begins at 2:30 PM. Please see the flyer on the bulletin board in the narthex of the church.

Brandon Community Blood Drive Tuesday, March 10, 2026, from 12:00 P.M. – 6:00 P.M., at Bethel Church, 305 W. Main St., Brandon, WI. For an appointment, please call Judy Henker at 920-346-2966 or call 1-800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org. Please see the flyer on the bulletin board in the narthex of the church.