



PIONEER LAKE LUTHERAN CHURCH
First Sunday in Lent
February 22, 2026

GATHERING

WELCOME!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who is present, who gives life, who calls into existence the things that do not exist.

C: Amen

P: If you were to keep watch over our sins, O Lord, who could stand? Yet with you there is forgiveness, and so we confess.

Silence is kept for reflection

P: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned away from you, knowingly and unknowingly. We have wandered away from your resurrection life. We have strayed from your love for all people. Turn us back to you, O God. Give us new hearts and right spirits, that we may find what is pleasing to you and dwell in your house forever. Amen.

P: Receive the Good News: God turns to you in love. "I will put my spirit in you, and you shall live" says our God. All your sin is forgiven in the name of Jesus Christ, who is the free and abounding gift of God's grace for you.

C: Amen.

HYMN "Lamb of God" #336

GREETING

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

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray together,

C. 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

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

R: A reading from Genesis chapter 2.

¹⁵The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. ¹⁶And the LORD God commanded the man, “You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; ¹⁷but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.” ^{3:1}Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God say, ‘You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?’” ²The 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 middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.’” ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not 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 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 loincloths for themselves.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 32

(Read responsively by verse, the reader begins with the light text and the congregation responds with the dark text. All read the refrain.)

Refrain: Mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.

¹Happy are they whose transgressions | are forgiven,
and whose sin is | put away!

²**Happy are they to whom the LORD im- | putes no guilt,
and in whose spirit there | is no guile!**

³While I held my tongue, my bones with- | ered 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.**

⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not con- | ceal 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.**

⁷You 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.**

⁹Do 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.**

¹¹Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice | in the LORD;
shout for joy, all who are | true of heart.

Refrain: Mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.

SECOND READING: Romans 5:12-19

R: The Second Reading is from Romans chapter 5.

¹²Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned—¹³sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. ¹⁴Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

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

¹⁸Therefore 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. ¹⁹For just 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.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: Matthew 4:1-11

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew chapter 4.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ²He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. ³The 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,

‘One does 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 placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶saying 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.’”

⁷Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘Do 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 splendor; ⁹and he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” ¹⁰Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

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

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

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Andrea Fluegel

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Be Thou My Vision” # 793

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The worship leader leads the prayer petitions indicated with the “P” while worshippers are invited to pray the petitions marked with the “A.”

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

A brief silence.

A: 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.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: 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.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: 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.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: 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. Especially we pray for Jason, Brian, Prissy, Jean, Rita, Mary and Samantha Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: 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.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: 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.

C: Your mercy is great.

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

Amen.

MEAL

GREETING OF PEACE

L: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

L: Share a greeting of peace with those around you.



OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN “We Are an Offering” # 692

Please stand for the last verse

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray.

**C: 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.
Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: You are indeed holy, mighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. Amen

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.**

COMMUNION

HYMN “Lord, Jesus, Think on Me” # 599

SENDING

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P: May the body and blood of our LORD Jesus Christ,
Strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

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.

HYMN “Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling” #608

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lenten “Soup & Table Talk” begin this week on Wednesdays at 5:30
THEME: “A Joy-Filled Life” based on Philippians 4:8

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Live the good news.

C: Thanks be to God.

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Welcome to Pioneer Lake Lutheran Church!

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
3697 Pioneer Church Rd, Conover, WI 54519
Church Office—715-479-4966
www.pioneerlakelc.org
Rev. Kari Vadis
715.437.0770 or kvadis@cometotrinity.com

ALL ARE WELCOME AT THE LORD’S TABLE: We are glad you’re here. You do not need to be a Lutheran, nor a member of PLLC to receive Holy Communion. All who are baptized are welcome to share in the gift of grace that we receive in

the bread and the wine. Children who have not yet received their First Communion are welcome to receive a blessing.

PASTORAL VISIT & PRAYER REQUESTS: Please take a few moments to fill out the white card in your pew rack.

Please pray for the following individuals: Jason, Brian, Prissy, Jean, Rita, Mary and Samantha.

Please take a few moments to fill out the white card in your pew rack. If you would like a visit from Pastor or have other needs or prayer requests, please indicate this on the card.

Serving in Worship

Music Jennifer Anderson and Mark Hovel

Lector: Members of the congregation

Communion Assistants: Members of the congregation

Altar Guild: Worship and Music

Ushers & Greeters: Harold Johnson and Friends

Acolyte: Worship and Music

Attendance

2-15-2026-23

THIS WEEK AT PIONEER

Sunday **9:00** Worship
 10:15 Fellowship

Wednesday **5:30 pm-** Lent Service

Next Sunday **9:00** Worship
 10:15 Fellowship

Jan-2026

Revenue..... \$7437.00
Expenses..... \$9615.00
Balance..... (-\$2178.00)



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

