



Fourth SUNDAY IN LENT

American Lutheran Church

Newport, Washington - (509) 447-4338

americanlutheranchurch.net

Interim Pastor Bob Albing

Ministers: All the People of God

Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 15, 2026

*Thank you for being the Body of Christ
gathered here this morning.*

Welcome to Worship!

**It is good to be together. Your presence here is
a gift to God and to others this morning.**

We have committed as a church to pray for all those in our community who are living in the darkness of addiction. We have lit a candle in the front of the sanctuary as we pray for the light of Christ to break into their lives. Before worship begins, you are invited to light a candle for a friend or family member for whom you are praying.

**Prelude
Welcome
Announcements**

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God, the sower, the seed, the fruit;
our lifeboat, our treasure, our leaven. Blessed be God forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

God of heaven and earth, we name before you the sin that enslaves us, the sin that wounds us and others, the sin that scars our world. Forgive us and heal us. Guard us from all evil. Give to us and the whole creation the freedom of the glory of the children of God. Amen.

Come, all who are weary, all who carry heavy burdens. As tender as a parent to child, so gentle is God to us.

As high as heaven is above earth, so vast is God's love for us. As far as east is from west, so far God removes our sin from, us, renewing our lives in Jesus Christ. Amen.

Prayer of the Day

Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Choir

1 Samuel 16: 1-13

Reader: Christian Britton

The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons."

Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the Lord said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you."

Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord." But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one."

Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here."

He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel: John 9: 1-41

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see.

The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight."

They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind.

Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?"

His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself."

His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out. Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

"God Loves the World"

#323

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 Intercession

Each petition will end with "Lord, in your mercy,"
the congregation responds with "hear our prayer."

Offering

*You may put your offerings in the basket on the table in the back of the sanctuary -
or you are invited to make your offerings online on our website – americanlutheranchurch.net --
or mail them to American Lutheran Church at PO Box 653- Newport, WA 99156*

Great Thanksgiving
"Holy, Holy, Holy"

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The Words of Institution

Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again.

Lord's Prayer -See call and response on screens

Invitation to Communion - *All are welcome at the Lord's Table. This is God's gift, God's grace, God's life — given freely in love for you. Grape juice and gluten, soy, dairy and corn-free wafers are available. If you need communion brought to you at your seat, please let the usher know.*

Lamb of God

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Communion Hymns: 325, 337, 357

Blessing

Prayer

Benediction

Sending Hymn

"Blessed Be the Name"

#797

Go in Peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

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A gentle reminder: Please show care for one another and wear a mask if you are feeling under the weather at all.

This Week

Monday	10 am	Bible Study
	Noon	Al-anon
Tuesday	10 am	Quilting
Wednesday	5:45pm	Lenten Soup Supper
Wednesday	6:30pm	Lenten Service
Wednesday	7pm	Choir (after service)
Saturday	1pm	WWW Women's Fellowship
Saturday	3pm	Recovery & Support Group
Sunday	10 am	Worship

Remember in Prayer: Lucy Anderson (at the request of Mary Bug Smith), Anita (at the request of Terry Zakar), Cyndy Akre Grady, Scone Bender, Rudy Bergen, Roger Brandt, Annika Britton, Barbara Campbell, Justin Carnie (Ruth and Mitch Carnie), , Shae Courtney (son-in-law of the Lewis'), Susan Fox, Dorothy Funden, Gladys Gerow, Larry Gerow, Ed and Lynda Heckman, Gary Heckathorn, Annika Hughes, Kurt Johnson , Imo Jones, Kapple family, Leroy Leland, Garrett Levers, Moses (at the request of Sark Ratliff), Steve Morey (Phyllis and Wilson's grandfather), friends and family of Carl Pitts, Sark Ratliff, Jeanette Reiter, Joel Robertson, Carol Rock, Sandy Rock (Joy Peralta's sister-in-law), Sara Rogers (at the request of Christian Britton), Judy Schoesler, Jason (at the request of Terry Zakar).

***Please note:** Prayer requests will normally be kept on the list for one month unless requested for longer.

Announcements:

From Katie Kersting, Council President: "Greetings to the ALC Congregation! This Sunday will be Pastor Bob's last day at the pulpit. We have been so blessed to have him as our interim pastor since December 2023. Although Pastor Bob will be around until the end of March to help our incoming pastor, Brendan, with this transition we want to thank him for his time and dedication to our church. Please plan to stay for coffee hour to wish both Bob and Mary the best!"

Ordination: Brendan Wiechert will be ordained on Saturday March 28th 10am at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Spokane.

WWW Women's Fellowship: WWW will meet Saturday March 21st at 1pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Scam: If you receive a text or email claiming to be from the Pastor asking for money or gift cards, it is a scam.

Newsletter: Please email your submissions for the April Newsletter to the office (alc.churchoffice@gmail.com) by March 23rd. This is YOUR newsletter.

Lenten Soup Suppers: - **WE NEED MORE SOUP!** - Please sign up in the Narthex. Soup Supper served at 5:45, followed by a short service at 6:30. Choir practice will follow. There will be a Maundy Thursday (7pm April 2) and Good Friday (7pm April 3) service as well.

Recovery & Support Group: Christian Britton and Sark Ratliff are hosting a support group for all addictions. They meet on Saturdays at 3pm.

If you would like to be on our church email list for announcements and prayer concerns, please send your email address to alc.churchoffice@gmail.com.

Reminder: Please don't forget to set the alarm before leaving the church. If you do not have a code please text/call Laretta 509-447-3440

