

**Sunday, March 15, 2026**  
**The Fourth Sunday of Lent**



**ST. ANDREW'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**3900 Freemansburg Ave., Easton PA 18045**

**[standrewspalmer.org](http://standrewspalmer.org)**

**(610) 252-2258**

# Sunday, March 15, 2026

9:30am Worship Service

## PRELUDE

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please stand as you are able.*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

*The presiding minister addresses the assembly.*

P God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Most merciful God,

C **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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 God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C **Amen.**

*Healer of Our Every Ill*

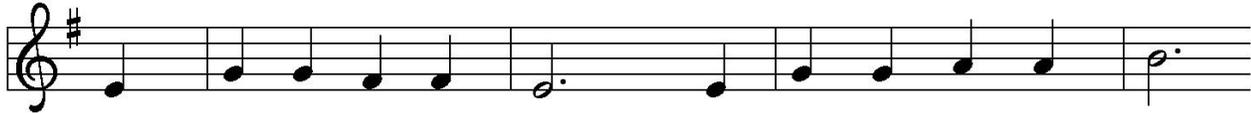
**Red Hymnal #612**

## 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.**

## KYRIE



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.  
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

## HYMN OF PRAISE



- 1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:  
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;  
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.  
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.  
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.  
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.  
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

A Let us pray. 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.

**C Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## PSALM 23 – spoken responsively

P <sup>1</sup>The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

**C <sup>2</sup>The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**

P <sup>3</sup>You restore my soul, O Lord, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

**C <sup>4</sup>Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;  
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

P <sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

**C <sup>6</sup>Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

## SECOND READING

L A reading from Ephesians, the Fifth Chapter.

<sup>8</sup>Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Walk as children of light, <sup>9</sup>for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. <sup>10</sup>Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. <sup>11</sup>Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness; rather, expose them. <sup>12</sup>For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly, <sup>13</sup>but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, <sup>14</sup>for everything that becomes visible is light.

Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake!

Rise from the dead,

and Christ will shine on you.”

L The word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## LENTEN SENTENCE



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

## GOSPEL: John 9:1-41 *(Due to the length of this reading, please feel free to be seated.)*

P The holy gospel according to St. John, the Ninth Chapter.

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

P <sup>1</sup> As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup> His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. <sup>4</sup> We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. <sup>5</sup> As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." <sup>6</sup> 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, <sup>7</sup> saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. <sup>8</sup> 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?" <sup>9</sup> Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am he." <sup>10</sup> But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" <sup>11</sup> 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." <sup>12</sup> They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

<sup>13</sup> They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. <sup>14</sup> Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. <sup>15</sup> 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." <sup>16</sup> Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath." Others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. <sup>17</sup> 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."

<sup>18</sup> 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 <sup>19</sup> and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" <sup>20</sup> His parents answered, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind, <sup>21</sup> 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." <sup>22</sup> 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. <sup>23</sup> Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

<sup>24</sup> 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." <sup>25</sup> He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." <sup>26</sup> They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" <sup>27</sup> 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?" <sup>28</sup> Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. <sup>29</sup> We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." <sup>30</sup> The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. <sup>31</sup> We know that God does not listen to

sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. <sup>32</sup> Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. <sup>33</sup> If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." <sup>34</sup> They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

<sup>35</sup> Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" <sup>36</sup> He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." <sup>37</sup> Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." <sup>38</sup> He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. <sup>39</sup> 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." <sup>40</sup> Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" <sup>41</sup> Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

P The gospel of the Lord.

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

*Please be seated.*

## SERMON

*Please stand as you are able.*

***Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive***

Red Hymnal #605

## APOSTLES' 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.**

OFFERING  
OFFERING MUSIC

*God So Loved the World*

Chancel Choir

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take  
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of  
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

The musical score is written on four staves in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The first staff starts with a 7-measure rest. The lyrics are aligned with the notes on each staff. The piece concludes with a double bar line at the end of the fourth staff.

## **PRAYERS**

**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, our shepherd, we pray that you guide the church. Lead Christians in our community and across the globe in right paths for your name's sake. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

**A** God our provider, we cry out for this planet and the life it holds. Rescue endangered animals and plants, preserve threatened ecosystems, and save creatures from natural disasters. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

**A** God our sovereign, we plead for your peace on earth. Bring an end to war and violence, and raise up leaders in governments, courts, businesses, schools, and community organizations who seek goodness and mercy. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

**A** God our healer, we call to you in our need. Uplift all who are made to feel unimportant, and transform the hearts of all infected by bigotry and prejudice. Care for all in special need this day (*especially.....*). Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

**A** God our friend, we praise you for the diversity of people among us. Awaken us to share and receive the gifts we each possess, and stir up a spirit of understanding, celebration, and welcome for all. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

**A** God our home, we thank you for all who have died and completed their baptismal journeys. Grant us faith to live until we too dwell in your house forever. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

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

**C Amen.**

## **PEACE**

**P** The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C And also with you.**

*Please be seated.*

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**C Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

### **BLESSING**

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

**C Amen.**

*Be Thou My Vision*

Red Hymnal #793

### **DISMISSAL**

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

### **POSTLUDE**

## **TODAY IN WORSHIP**

**Organist:** Mark Jonkman

**Audio/Video:** John Costanzo

**Greeter:** Chris Lynn

**Church Time Nursery:** Linda Baskwell and Ron Roth

**Altar Guild:** Sue Heater

**Offering Counters:** Donna George and Janet Rhymer

## **THIS WEEK AT ST. ANDREW'S**

**Monday, March 16:** 7:00pm Parent Partnership Support Group

**Tuesday, March 17:** 7:00pm Easton Musical Arts

**Wednesday, March 18:** 6:00pm Soup Supper at St. John's

7:00pm Worship at St. Johns's

**Thursday, March 19:** 7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

**Friday, March 20:** 7:30pm Crossroad AA

**Sunday, March 22:** 9:30am Worship Service

3:00pm Easton Musical Arts Concert

### **Zoom link for Live Broadcast:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82677651018?pwd=d1NSZ2V4NTVtMnFJaGp0Mm5GdTZrQT09>

By phone: +1 646-558-8656 (New York) or +1-312-626-6799 (Chicago) TOLL CHARGES MAY APPLY.

Meeting ID: 826 7765 1018

Passcode: 454700

**Members celebrating birthdays this week:** Pat Bean, Edward McIntyre, Linda Trigiani, Robby Welsh, and Ruth Ann Welsh.

**Immediate Prayers:** Eleanore, John Garity, Pam Garity, Rich Heater, Sue Himmelreich, Doug LaFauci, Carol Laustsen, and Jim Pennoyer.

**Members Homebound/Nursing Home:** Margaret Bennett, Shirley Curto, Lisa Detweiler, Carol Ehler, Carl Fisher, Joan Holland, Theresa Lawhead, Irene Neel, Doris Neumeyer, Jean Pleiss, Doris Wanamaker, and Marge Weidner.

**Long Term Prayers:** Jessica Arnoldi, Elaine Bobeck, Rodney Burda, Charlie, Dianna Dillian, Crystal DiLonardo, Michael DiLonardo, Debbie DiLonardo, Carol Ehler, Maj-Britt Enblom, Lori Gilbert, Ryan Gorrie, Karen Israel, David Jackson, Sandy Joyce, Jennifer, Kamilah, Keith, Ingvar Kjellberg, Laura Lee Laustsen, Barbara Lindner, Nancy, Paul, Penny, Dan Philipps, Rachel, Lisa and Jim Reinish, Shirley, Ethel Shive, Andi Steckel, Melissa Steckel, and Doug VonNessen.

**Service Members:** MSgt Courtney Baskwell, Lt. Matthew Baskwell, Airman Levi Birchfield, Staff Sgt. Kyle Callantine, PV Anthony Duginski, Captain Vince Franchino, Lt. Elizabeth Gordon, Major Derek Hartman, Major Kristina Himmelreich, Ensign Jan-Oskar Kjellberg, Lt. Col. (Retired) Sten Kjellberg, Sgt. Rhiannon Perry, Corporal Mark Pollard, and Seaman Recruit Joseph Suhr.

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