

# Gustaf Adolf Lutheran Church

E.L.C.A.



During Lent we journey with all those around the world who will be baptized at the Easter Vigil. In today's gospel Jesus tells Nicodemus that he must be born of water and Spirit. At the font we are given a new birth as children of God. As God made a covenant with Abraham, in baptism God promises to raise us up with Christ to new life. From worship we are sent forth to proclaim God's love for all the world.

## Second Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026

Bulletin Donated By:

**Gustaf Adolf Lutheran Church—E.L.C.A.**

**Second Sunday in Lent  
Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026**

Ministers:

*You, All Members of -G.A.*

Pastor:

**Jaime Decker**

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Prelude Music:

Welcome/Announcements

**Gathering**

**\*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 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 disdain 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.**

**\*Gathering Hymn**

*What Wondrous Love Is This*

*ELW #666*

**\*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.**

**\*Prayer of the Day**

**C: O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world 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

**Psalm**

**(Please Read Responsively)**

**Psalm 121**

<sup>1</sup> I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?

<sup>2</sup> **My help comes from the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth.**

<sup>3</sup> The LORD will not let your foot be moved nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup> **Behold, the keeper of Israel will neither slumber nor sleep;**

<sup>5</sup> the LORD watches over you; the LORD is your shade at your right hand;

<sup>6</sup> **the sun will not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.**

<sup>7</sup> The LORD will preserve you from all evil and will keep your life.

<sup>8</sup> **The LORD will watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth forevermore.**

R: Holy Wisdom. Holy Word.

**Gospel Reading**

**John 3:1-17**

P: The Gospel according to \_\_\_\_\_

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

<sup>1</sup> Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup> He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person." <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." <sup>4</sup> Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" <sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup> What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup> Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' <sup>8</sup> The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." <sup>9</sup> Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" <sup>10</sup> Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? <sup>11</sup> "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup> If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup> No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup> And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup> that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. <sup>16</sup> "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. <sup>17</sup> "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him."

P: The Gospel of our Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Message**

**Hymn of the Day**

*Lift High the Cross*

ELW #660

**\*The 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 the People**

Response: **Your Mercy is Great.**

### **Offering**

**Ways To Give Offering:** In Person, Venmo and Online [www.galutheranchurch.org](http://www.galutheranchurch.org)



*Because you give...  
we worship, fellowship, learn, serve and grow.  
**Thank you for your generosity!***

### **Offering Song**

*Give Thanks*

**Gray #170**

### **\* Offering Prayer**

**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.**

### **Meal**

#### **Holy Communion**

*Great Thanksgiving	Pg. 206
*Holy, Holy, Holy	Pg. 207
*Words of Institution	Pg. 207
*Lord's Prayer	Pg. 208

#### **\*Invitation to Communion**

P: Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy.

Communion Distribution (All Are Welcome to Receive Communion Here at GA Church)

#### **\*Lamb of God**

Pg. 208

#### **\*Post Communion Blessing**

#### **\* Post Communion Prayer**

P: God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **C: Amen.**

# Sending

## **Blessing**

L: May God give you grace never to sell yourself short. Grace to risk something big for something good. And grace to remember that the world is too dangerous for anything but truth and too small for anything but love. The blessing of God Almighty, Creator, Son, and Holy Spirit be with you now and remain with you this day and always. **C: Amen.**

## **\*Sending Hymn**

*Blessed Assurance*

ELW #638

## **\*Dismissal**

P: Go in peace. Believe the good news.

**C: To Share the Good News of God’s Word and to serve the community and the world.  
Thanks be to God.**

## \*Postlude

Mission Statement of Gustaf Adolf Lutheran Church (Adopted in 2022)  
**To share the Good News of God’s Word and to serve the community and the world.**  
*Matthew 22:39* ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’  
*Matthew 28:19* Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name  
of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

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We celebrate weekly Holy Communion. We welcome all who believe in the Risen Christ and who find in the sacrament our Lord’s real presence for the forgiveness of sins and the renewal of life. If you receive communion in your home congregation, you are invited to receive it here at G.A. Red wine and white grape juice will be offered to you in Christ’s name. You may choose your preference. If you are unable to receive wheat bread, or wine, be sure that in a single element you receive the Presence and all the gifts of the sacrament. *From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted and live streamed by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #35904. CCLI# 3138595 and #21256999*

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