

St Peter Lutheran Church

Order of Worship

Lent 1: Mercy in Temptation

February 25, 2026

Welcome

God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape. 1 Corinthians 10:13

(Please stand, as you are able)

Invocation and Call to Worship

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C Amen.

P All we like sheep have gone astray.

C Lead us not into temptation.

P We have turned every one to his own way.

C Lead us not into temptation.

P The Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

C Deliver us from evil.

P But he was wounded for our transgressions.

C Deliver us from evil.

P He was crushed for our iniquities.

C Deliver us from evil.

P Upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace.

C Deliver us from evil.

P And with his stripes we are healed.

C Amen.

Opening Hymn LSB 436 Go to Dark Gethsemane

- 1 Go to dark Gethsemane,
All who feel the tempter's pow'r;
Your Redeemer's conflict see,
Watch with Him one bitter hour;
Turn not from His griefs away;
Learn from Jesus Christ to pray.
- 2 Follow to the judgment hall,
View the Lord of life arraigned;
Oh, the wormwood and the gall!
Oh, the pangs His soul sustained!
Shun not suffering, shame, or loss;
Learn from Him to bear the cross.
- 3 Calv'ry's mournful mountain climb; There, adoring at His feet,
Mark that miracle of time, God's own sacrifice complete.
"It is finished!" hear Him cry; Learn from Jesus Christ to die.

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Confession and Absolution

P "Let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall" (1 Corinthians 10:12). We confess to God that we have often fallen into temptation and succumbed to sin.

C **Holy God, we acknowledge our guilt before you. We have sinned against you in thought, word and deed. When tempted by the evil one, we have desired evil. Our sinful appetites have been attracted to what you forbid. We have submitted to our lusts and succumbed to temptation. Forgive our transgression and lead us from temptation.**

P We cry to you for mercy!

C **Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

(Please silently reflect on the fact that though our sin is great, God's mercy is greater.)

P Hear the good news! God's Word declares that "God is faithful" and "he will provide the way of escape" from temptation and sin (1 Corinthians 10:13). In the mercy of Almighty God, his Son Jesus was given to die for you to remove the guilt of your sin. For Christ's sake God forgives you all your sin and renews a right spirit within you. His mercy endures forever because his love for you is steadfast.

C **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

P Gracious Lord, as we continue our Lenten pilgrimage, we do so in view of your mercy. We are surrounded by all kinds of temptations to sin. Strengthen us by your Holy Spirit so that we resist temptation and instead do what pleases you. We pray through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen** *(Please be seated)*

Old Testament Reading, Deuteronomy 6:4-6

Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart.

L This is the Word of the Lord **G** **Thanks be to God**

Epistle Reading, 1 Corinthians 10:6-13

Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play." We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

L This is the Word of the Lord **G** **Thanks be to God**

(Please stand as you are able)

The Holy Gospel, Matthew 4:1-11

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. And the tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said 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, lest you strike your foot against a stone.'" Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'" Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. And he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Then Jesus said to him, "Be gone, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.'" Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

L This is the Gospel of the Lord **G** **Praise to You, O Christ!**

(Please be seated)

Sermon Song, LSB 424 O Christ, You Walked the Road

- 1 O Christ, You walked the road
Our wand'ring feet must go.
You faced with us temptation's pow'r
And fought our ancient foe.
- 2 No bread of earth alone
Can fill our hung'ring hearts.
Lord, help us seek Your living Word,
The food Your grace imparts.
- 3 No blinding sign we ask,
No wonder from above.
Lord, help us place our trust alone
In Your unswerving love.
- 4 When lures of easy gain
With promise brightly shine,
Lord, help us seek Your kingdom first;
Our wills with Yours align.
- 5 O Christ, You walked the road Our wand'ring feet must go.
Stay with us through temptation's hour To fight our ancient foe.

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Sermon

Offering

Prayers of the Church

- P** Almighty and merciful God, we approach your throne of grace today as those who are prone to wander into sin because of the temptations of the evil one.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** When we face the temptations of the devil—who entices us to doubt and deny your true Word—keep our eyes on Jesus who conquered Satan in the wilderness and on the cross.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** When we face the temptations of the flesh—our sinful appetites and lusts—keep our eyes on Jesus who lived purely as our substitute and Savior.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** When we face the temptations of the world—our sinful pride and the quest for more possessions—keep our eyes on Jesus who provides for all we need in this life and the life to come.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** When temptations come alluring, make us patient and enduring.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**

P We praise you that you are faithful and that with every temptation you provide a way of escape.

C Lord, have mercy.

P Fill us with your Spirit so that we will say no to sin and yes to righteousness

C Lord, have mercy.

P Lead us away from temptation and deliver us from evil.

C Lord, grant me your grace both to will and to do what pleases you.

P All these things we pray in the name of Jesus, who triumphed over temptation.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C 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.

Benediction

P May the merciful God, who is faithful and just to forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness, empower you to live according to his good and gracious will, through Jesus Christ to whom be the glory forever.

C Amen.

Closing Song, LSB 718 Jesus, Lead Thou On

1 Jesus, lead Thou on
Till our rest is won;
And although the way be cheerless,
We will follow calm and fearless.
Guide us by Thy hand
To our fatherland.

2 If the way be drear,
If the foe be near,
Let not faithless fears o'ertake us;
Let not faith and hope forsake us;
For through many_a woe
To our home we go.

3 When we seek relief
From a long-felt grief,
 When temptations come alluring,
 Make us patient and enduring.
Show us that bright shore
Where we weep no more.

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4 Jesus, lead Thou on
Till our rest is won.
 Heav'nly leader, still direct us,
 Still support, console, protect us,
Till we safely stand
In our fatherland.

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