



# Facing Temptation

## First Sunday in Lent

February 26, 2023

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Portions from *Sundays & Seasons 2023*

*Setting Five*

Today's gospel tells of Jesus' temptation in the desert. His forty-day fast becomes the basis of our Lenten pilgrimage. In the early church Lent was a time of intense preparation for those to be baptized at the Easter Vigil. This catechetical focus on the meaning of faith is at the heart of our Lenten journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. Hungry for God's mercy, we receive the bread of life to nourish us for the days ahead.

Welcome

# Joys & Concerns

Prelude

**Confession and forgiveness**

P. Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace. .

C. **Amen.**

P. Let us acknowledge before God and one another our need for repentance and God's mercy.

*Silence is kept for reflection. You may sit, stand or kneel for the Confession.*

Holy God,

C. **we confess to you our faults and failings. Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word; we take for ourselves instead of giving to others; we spoil rather than steward your creation; we cause hurt though you call us to heal; we choose fear over compassion. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, as we seek to follow in your way of life. Amen**

P. Hear the good news: God so loved the world that God gave the only Son, so that all may receive life. This promise is for you! God embraces you with divine mercy, † forgives you in Christ's name, and revives you in the Spirit's power.

C. **Amen.**

**Gathering Hymn**

*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

ELW 504

**The Greeting**

P. The grace of Jesus Christ our Savior, the reconciling love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C. **And also with you.**

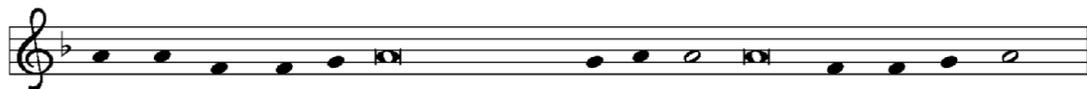
Kyrie



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



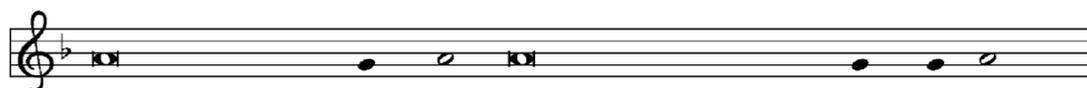
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well - being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

## Prayer of the Day

A. Let us pray

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.**

## First Reading

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

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but 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."

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'?" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but 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.'" But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So 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. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

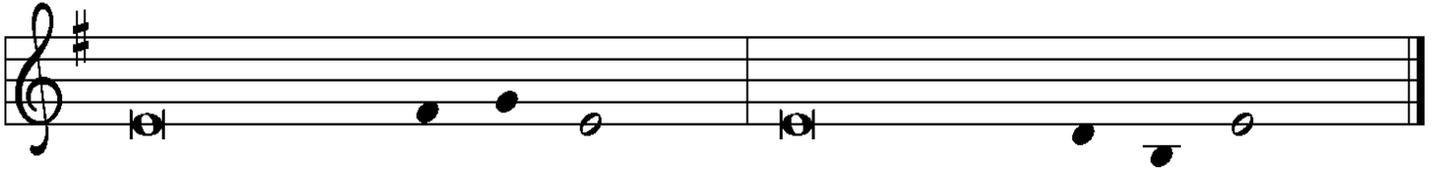
L. Word of God, word of life.

C. **Thanks be to God.**

**Blessed Is The One  
Whose Sin Is Covered**

**Psalm 32**





Happy are they whose transgressions<sup>1</sup> are forgiven,  
and whose sin is<sup>1</sup> put away!

**Happy are they to whom the LORD im-<sup>1</sup>putes no guilt,  
and in whose spirit there<sup>1</sup> is no guile!**

While I held my tongue, my bones with-<sup>1</sup>ered away,  
because of my groaning<sup>1</sup> all day long.

**For your hand was heavy upon me<sup>1</sup> day and night;  
my moisture was dried up as in the<sup>1</sup> heat of summer.**

Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not con-<sup>1</sup>ceal my guilt.  
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD."  
Then you forgave me the guilt<sup>1</sup> of my sin.

**Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in<sup>1</sup> time of trouble;  
when the great waters overflow, they<sup>1</sup> shall not reach them.**

You are my hiding-place; you preserve<sup>1</sup> me from trouble;  
you surround me with shouts<sup>1</sup> of deliverance.

**"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that<sup>1</sup> you should go;  
I will guide you<sup>1</sup> with my eye.**

Do not be like horse or mule, which have no<sup>1</sup> understanding;  
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will<sup>1</sup> not stay near you."

**Great are the tribulations<sup>1</sup> of the wicked;  
but mercy embraces those who trust<sup>1</sup> in the LORD.**

Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice<sup>1</sup> in the LORD;  
shout for joy, all who are<sup>1</sup> true of heart.

## Second Reading

Romans 5:12-19

Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned— sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. Yet 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.



**P.** The gospel of the Lord.

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

**Sermon**

John Petry, Interim Pastor

**Hymn of the Day**

*I Want Jesus to Walk with Me*

ELW 325

## *The Apostles' Creed*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
and born of the Virgin Mary,

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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**

**A.** Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

*A brief silence*

You alone are God. Sustain your church in times of wilderness. Give vision and wisdom to bishops, their staff, and all entrusted with the ministry of administration. Counsel all who faithfully lead your people into the future. Merciful God,

**C.** receive our prayer.

**P.** We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

**C.** Amen.

## The Peace

P. Jesus said: Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled. May His peace be with you always.

C. **And also with you.**

## The Offering

Anthem

*Jesus Walked this Lonesome Valley*  
~ W. Hornibrook

Choir

## Offertory

### As the Deer Runs to the River



1 As the deer runs to the riv - er, parched and wea - ry from the chase,  
2 When your Is - rael crossed the des - ert where no stream or spring was seen,  
3 "Come and drink," I - sa - iah sum-moned, "all who for God's mer - cy plead!  
4 Christ, we come from des - ert plac - es, deep - est thirst un - sat - is - fied.



we have come from hurt and hur - ry, thirst - ing for your heal - ing grace.  
Mo - ses struck the rock, and wa - ter flowed for them, re - fresh - ing, clean.  
God's for - give - ness, like a foun-tain, flows to sat - is - fy your need."  
Lead us to the wa - ters flow - ing from the cross on which you died.



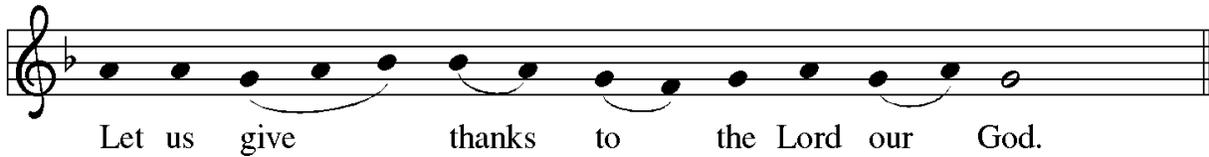
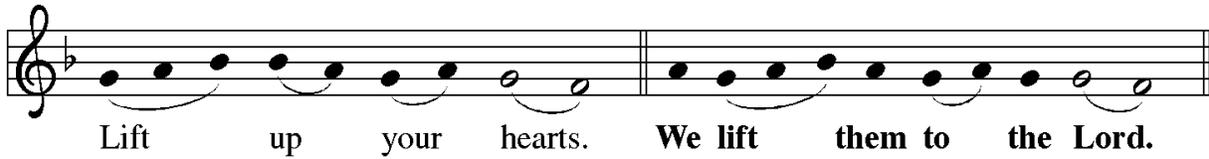
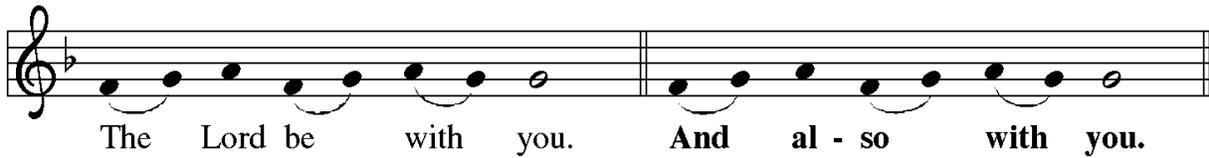
Je - sus, source of liv - ing wa - ter, may we drink of you and live!

## Offertory Prayer

A. God of good gifts, receive these all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life.

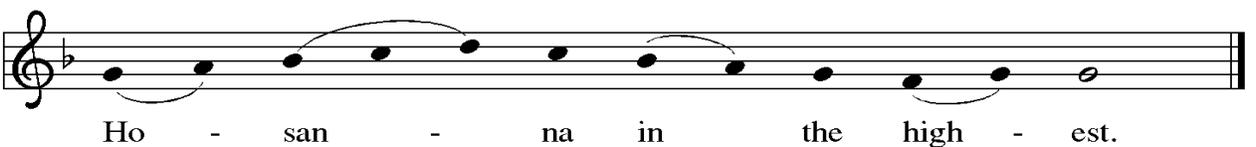
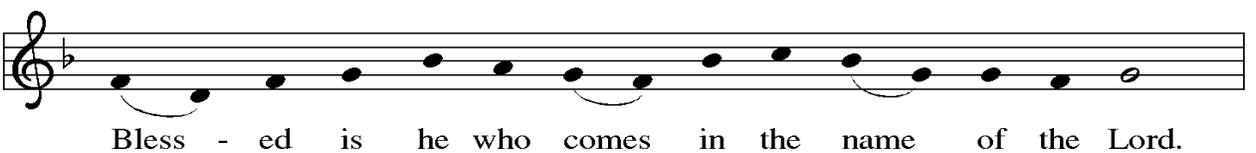
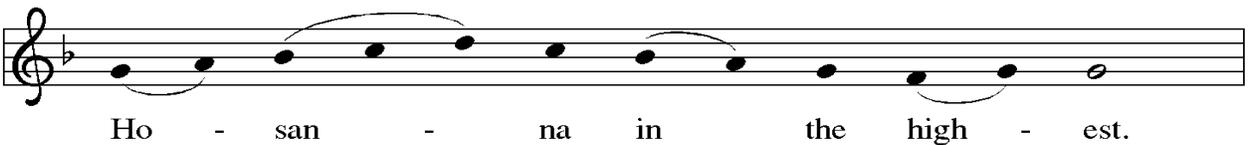
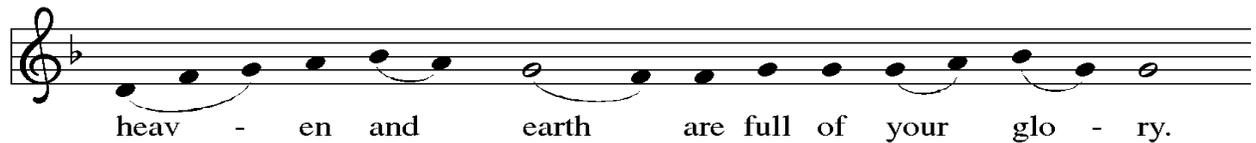
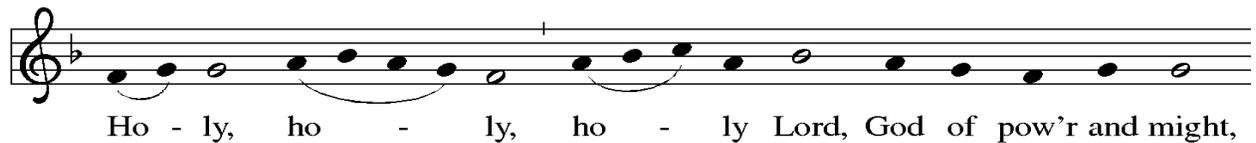
C. **Amen.**

## The Great Thanksgiving

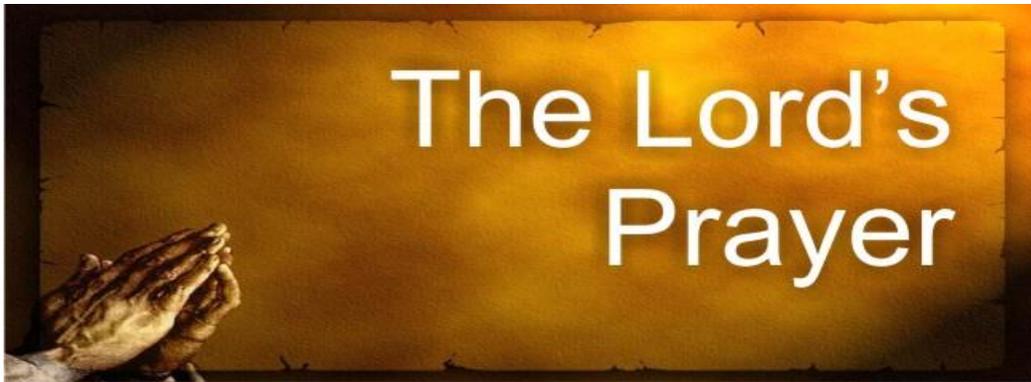


P. It is indeed.....

## The Sanctus



## Eucharistic Prayer



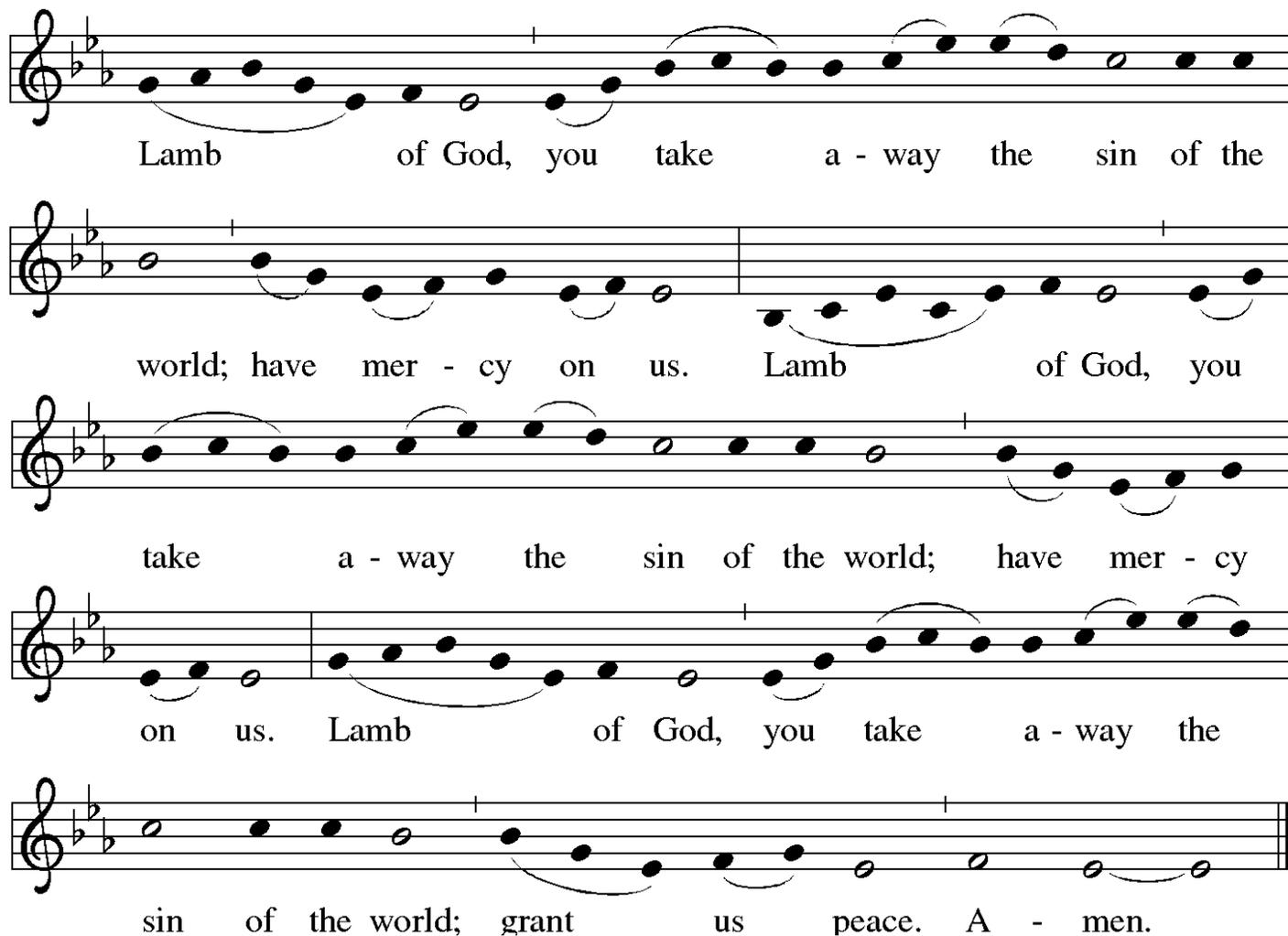
Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,  
your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.  
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we  
for-give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al  
and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,  
and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

### Invitation to Communion

P. Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.

C. Amen.

## Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you  
take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy  
on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace. A - men.

## Communion Hymns

*Bless Now, O God, the Journey*

ELW 326

*When Peace like a River*

ELW 785

*There Is a Balm in Gilead*

ELW 614



## Post Communion Blessing and Canticle

**P.** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C.** Amen.

## Come with Us, O Blessed Jesus

Come with us, O bless - ed Je - sus, with us ev - er - more to be,  
And, in leav - ing now thine al - tar, let us nev - er - more leave thee!  
Let thy bright ce - les - tial cho - rus nev - er cease the heav'n - ly strain;  
but in us, thy lov - ing chil - dren, come with peace, good will to reign.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Come with Us, O Blessed Jesus". It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor), and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are printed below the vocal lines.

## Post Communion Prayer

- A.** Embodied God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love.
- C. Amen.**

## The Blessing

- P.** God, the giver of love, † Christ, the resurrection and the life, and the Holy Spirit of rebirth bless you in this Lenten journey.
- C. Amen.**

Dismissal

- A. Go in peace. Serve in love.
- C. Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Brad Hunnicutt

Servers for Sunday, February 26<sup>th</sup>

- Assisting Minister..... Julie Bogle
- Reader .....
- Altar Guild ..... Helen Holderman
- Acolyte ..... Antonio Smith



Candles for the month of February are given by Julia Lochra.



- Mar 1      6:00 pm      Simple Supper
- 7:00 pm      Lenten Worship
- 7:30 pm      Choir Practice
- Mar 3      7:00 pm      Men's Group Meeting
- Mar 5      9:00 am      Adult Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall
- 10:00 am      Worship Service – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent
- 11:30 am      Social Concerns Meeting



**Become  
Part of  
Our  
Church  
Family**

Reception into membership will take place on Sunday, **March 5<sup>th</sup>**. Please see Pastor John if you wish to officially join our church family.

Mar 8      6:00 pm    Simple Supper  
               7:00 pm    Lenten Worship  
               7:30 pm    Choir Practice



Mar 12      9:00 am    Adult Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall  
               10:00 am    Worship Service – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent  
               11:30 am    Council Meeting

Mar 15      6:00 pm    Simple Supper  
               7:00 pm    Lenten Worship  
               7:30 pm    Choir Practice



Mar 18      9 am – 2:30 **NC SWO Ladies 1-Day Retreat – Becoming a Butterfly**

Mar 19      9:00 am    Adult Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall  
               10:00 am    Worship Service – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

Mar 22      6:00 pm    Simple Supper  
               7:00 pm    Lenten Worship  
               7:30 pm    Choir Practice



Mar 26      9:00 am    Adult Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall  
               10:00 am    Worship Service – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

Mar 29      6:00 pm    Simple Supper  
               7:00 pm    Lenten Worship  
               7:30 pm    Choir Practice



NC SWO  
One-Day Retreat

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# Becoming a Butterfly



**Saturday**  
**March 18, 2023**  
Snow Date: 3/25/23

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**March 18, 2023**

Snow Date: 3/25/23

**Check-in/Fellowship – 9:00am**

**Program - 9:30 am until around 2:30 pm.**

**\$10 Registration Fee - Includes:**  
Continental breakfast, lunch, and the  
program materials

*Women do not have to be Lutheran to  
enjoy this retreat, so bring friends,  
family, and neighbors. Encourage  
teens and young women too.*

**Please bring your Bible!**

**Registration Deadline:**  
**March 8, 2023**

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