

Welcome to  
**St. Luke Union Church**

Presbyterian Church (USA) • United Church of Christ  
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Sunday Worship Service — Second Sunday in Lent

March 1, 2026 10:30am

*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. John 3:16*

**WELCOME**

**PRELUDE**

**OPENING SONG**

“His Mercy Is More”

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

As God set Abram, Sarai, and Lot on a journey, God calls us to follow in trust.

**God is able to make us more than we have been and blesses us on the way.**

As Jesus invited Nicodemus to be born again, Christ invites us to become a new creation.

**Christ calls us out of darkness into his marvelous light, and we are saved through him.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

God our helper, our shade, our protector, you are able to give life to the dead, to call into being things that do not exist. We trust in your power to make all things new; to keep us in sunlight and moonlight, along rocky paths and pathways unknown; until all our going and coming brings us at last to your kingdom promised in Christ, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

**\*HYMN #483**

“Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above”

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

We cannot earn God’s grace or favor. It comes to us, not as something owed, but as a gift freely given. Confident in God’s love for us, even when we are ungodly, let us confess our sins in faith.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Gracious God, we come before you in need of forgiveness and grace. You call us to trust in you completely, but we do not. We are timid and fearful as we follow your lead. We justify our actions and words, though we know they are not what you require. We struggle to understand the new life Christ offers, preferring old habits to difficult change. Forgive us, we pray. Help us to be born again into the life of Christ, trusting that you have included us by grace in the family of faith. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.

**SILENT REFLECTION**

**DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

Friends, God is for us and not against us! For that very reason, God sent the Son into the world not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. Believe the good news, in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE #280 (Verse 1)**

“Amazing Grace”

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

## PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

God of signs and wonders, we come to your word again and again, seeking understanding and the new life it offers. By the power of your Holy Spirit, illumine our hearts and minds so that we may believe this testimony and have eternal life. In the name of Jesus Christ, our teacher and Savior, we pray. **Amen.**

## OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalm 121

## ANTHEM

"There Is None Like You"  
SLUC Choir

## EPISTLE LESSON

Romans 4:1-5, 1-17  
Philippians 4:1, 4-9

## SERMON

"Following In Faith"  
Rebecca Schaefer

## \*HYMN #527

"Near to the Heart of God"

## OFFERING

### OFFERTORY

\*HYMN #428 (Verse 1) "We Give Thee but Thine Own"

### \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### \*HYMN #443

"O Christ, the Great Foundation"  
(Verses 1/2/4)

### \*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

### \*HYMN #593 (Doxology)

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### \*POSTLUDE