

Fairview Presbyterian Church  
February 22, 2026 • 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent

We Gather Around the Word

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME

PRELUDE

\*CALL TO WORSHIP Clara Gilbert

Leader: People of God, on this wilderness journey, what will you eat?

**People: The word of the Lord is our daily bread.**

Leader: People of God, in this time of temptation, how will you live?

**People: Our faith is in the faithfulness of God.**

Leader: People of God, at this kingdom crossroad,  
whom will you serve?

**People: We worship the Lord our God alone.**

OPENING PRAYER Clara Gilbert

Untamed God of wilderness, as we devote these forty days to you,  
shape us by your Holy Spirit into the image of Christ our Lord, so that  
we may be ready, by your grace, to confront the powers of destruction  
with the truth of God's powerful mercy. Amen.

\*HYMN#486 "Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy" American

CALL TO CONFESSION

When we stay silent, when we do not acknowledge what we need to  
change, we waste away. Our guilt turns into shame that eats away at  
us like a poison. God calls us to repent and be healed; let us turn to  
God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful One, we are so easily tempted.**  
**We turn away from your word so quickly.**  
**We seek anything that claims to save us from discomfort,**  
**inconvenience, pain, fear, and emptiness.**  
**But these are false idols, dissolving in the wind.**  
**You are our true hope and salvation, our hiding place,**  
**our guide, our guardian.**  
**We confess our transgressions to you: forgive our sins.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Be glad in the Lord and rejoice!  
God does not count our sins against us,  
but offers us a free gift of righteousness.  
**Thanks be to God!**

SUNG RESPONSE(Gloria) #126 "Holy Lord" Latin  
**Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty,**  
**Your glory fills the earth, Lord God of Hosts.**  
**Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty,**  
**Your glory fills the earth, Lord God of Hosts.**

We Hear the Word Proclaimed

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Clara Gilbert  
O Lord, may the words of your mouth be our daily bread, and may  
the leading of your Spirit become our way; as we listen and speak, as  
we walk and learn, as we pray and serve. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT Psalm 32

ANTHEM "Calvary Covers It All" Gospel

GOSPEL READING Matthew 4:1-11

SERMON "A Conversation in the Wilderness" Rev. Melissa Tidwell

We Respond to the Word

\*HYMN#562 "When We Are Tested" Contemporary  
(to tune of Be Thou My Vision)  
1 When we are tested and wrestle alone,  
famished for bread when the world offers stone,  
nourish us, God, by your word and your way,  
food that sustains us by night and by day.

2 When in the desert we cry for relief,  
pleading for paths marked by certain belief,  
lift us to love you beyond sign and test,  
trusting your presence, our only true rest.

3 When we are tempted to barter our souls,  
trading the truth for the power to control,  
teach us to worship and praise only you,  
seeking your will in the work that we do.

4 When we have struggled and searched through the night,  
sorting and sifting the wrong from the right,  
Savior, surround us with circles of care,  
angels of healing, of hope, and of prayer.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from the Heidelberg Catechism)  
Question: What is your only comfort in life and in death?  
**Answer: That I am not my own, but belong— body and soul,**  
**in life and in death—to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.**  
**He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood,**  
**and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil.**  
**He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from**  
**my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things**  
**must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him,**  
**Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me**  
**wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.**

PRAYER'S OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

CALL FOR OFFERING

As God so freely offers us the gift of life in Jesus Christ, let us respond  
with gratitude, offering our lives to God.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

\*DOXOLOGY#817 "O Bless the Gifts" Contemporary  
**O bless the gifts our hands have brought,**  
**And bless the work our hearts have planned.**  
**Ours is the faith, the will, the thought,**  
**The rest, O God is in Your hand. Amen.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God of grace, you have gifted us with life in Christ. Today we bring the  
gifts of our work and the gifts of our hearts. May all that we bring and  
all that we are be your means of grace in the world, that all people may  
encounter your good news. Amen.

We Carry the Word into the World

\*HYMN#575 "Leaning On The Everlasting Arms" Gospel

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE#237  
"Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing" English  
**Lord, dismiss us with Thy blessing,**  
**Fill our hearts with joy and peace.**  
**Let us each, Thy love possessing,**  
**Triumph in redeeming grace.**  
**O refresh us, o refresh us,**  
**Traveling thro' this wilderness. Amen.**

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Until we meet again, may the peace of our Lord be with you.  
**And also with you. Amen.**