

**FIFTH WEDNESDAY  
OF LENT**

March 18, 2026

Plattville Lutheran Church

The assembly gathers in silence.

\*We begin our service this evening in the name of the +  
Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen

**\*PRAYER OF LENT**

**Gracious and holy God, give us diligence to seek  
you, wisdom to perceive you, and patience to wait for  
you. Grant us, O God, a mind to meditate on you;  
eyes to behold you; ears to listen for your word; a  
heart to love you; and a life to proclaim you; through  
the power of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, our Savior  
and Lord. Amen**

**\*GATHERING: PSALM 51**

**L: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your  
steadfast love; in your great compassion blot out my  
offenses.**

**C: Wash me through and through from my  
wickedness and cleanse me from my sin.**

**L: For I know my offenses, and my sin is ever before me.**

**C: Against you only have I sinned and done what is  
evil in your sight; so you are justified when you  
speak and right in your judgment.**

L: Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness, a sinner from my mother's womb.

**C: Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me, and would have me know wisdom deep within.**

L: Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

**C: Let me hear joy and gladness; that the body you have broken may rejoice.**

L: Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my wickedness.

**C: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.**

L: Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

**C: Restore to me the joy of your salvation and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.**

L: Let me teach your ways to offenders, and sinners shall be restored to you.

**C: Rescue me from bloodshed, O God of my salvation, and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness.**

L: O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

**C: For you take no delight in sacrifice, or I would give it. You are not pleased with burnt offering.**

L: The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit; a troubled and broken heart, O God, you will not despise.

**C: Favor Zion with your good pleasure; build up the walls of Jerusalem. Then you will delight in the**

**appointed sacrifices, in burnt and whole offerings; then young bulls shall be offered upon your altar.**

**\*Prayer**

**L: The Lord be with you.**

**C: And also with you**

**C: Gracious and holy God, give us diligence to seek you, wisdom to perceive you, and patience to wait for you. Grant us, O God, a mind to meditate on you; eyes to behold you; ears to listen for your word; a heart to love you; and a life to proclaim you; through the power of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen**

**\*Hymn #338 "Beneath the Cross of Jesus"**

**First Lesson – Romans 8:6-11**

**<sup>6</sup> To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup> For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed, it cannot, <sup>8</sup> and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.**

**<sup>9</sup> But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. <sup>10</sup> But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup> If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to**

your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

\*The Holy Gospel of our Lord

Luke 12:35-40

**Glory to you, O Lord**

<sup>35</sup> "Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; <sup>36</sup> be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. <sup>37</sup> Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. <sup>38</sup> If he comes during the middle of the night or near dawn and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

<sup>39</sup> "But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>40</sup> You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

L: The gospel of the Lord.

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

## **SERMON**

### **Offering**

**\*Offertory Prayer "Create in Me" Insert in Pew**

**\*Hymn #715 "Christ, Be Our Light"**

**\*The Lord's Prayer**

**\*The Benediction**

L: May our Lord pour out upon us the unifying Spirit, and awaken in us a holy hunger for unity, peace, love and caring, through God the Father, God the Son + and God the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen**

**\*Sending**

L: Family of Plattville Lutheran Church, you have been gathered to prepare for the sacrifice and resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ. Now go in peace, prepare your heart, and meditate on the precious gift given to all.

**C: Praise be to God!**