

**First Presbyterian Church of Rolla
Worship Service First Sunday in Lent**

Feb. 22, 2026

Pre-Service Music: *My Faith Has Found a Resting Place* Marty Parks

Welcome and Announcements:

Prelude: *God is Love* Penny Rodriguez

Introit#446: *How Blest Are Those* Psalm 32 Chancel Choir

Responsive Call to Worship/Prayer of the Day

We are the body of Christ, and we depend on God's grace.

We pray to God in times of distress, knowing that we are freed from sin and preserved from trouble.

Steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord.

We will be glad in the Lord and shout for joy!

Prayer of the Day

God of holiness and truth, many voices claim to know what is right and good and clamor for our attention. We pray that you will silence in us any voice but yours until we are compelled to act with justice, to speak with clarity, kindness, and honesty, and to walk humbly in the way of Jesus Christ. Keep his example always before us and stir us out of complacency, making us like children again as we worship with astonished joy. Amen.

Opening Hymn #226 *There in God's Garden* (stand)

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. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

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!

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Passing the Peace of Christ

Lenten Response #775: *I Want Jesus to Walk with Me* vs. 1

Anthem: *O Love How Deep, How Broad, How High* Carl Schalk

Time for sharing joys and concerns, and the prayer list.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Hear us O God. **Your mercy is great.**

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

Hymn #783 *When We are Tested* (seated)

Prayer for Illumination:

Gracious God, our way in the wilderness, guide us by your Word through these forty days, and minister to us with your Holy Spirit, so that we may be reformed, restored, and renewed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Scriptures for the Day:

Old Testament Lesson: Genesis 2: 15 – 17, 3:1 - 7

Second Lesson: Romans 5:12 - 19

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 4:1 – 11

We proclaim Christ crucified—the wisdom and power of God.

Thanks be to God. *1 Corinthians 1:23–25*

Sermon: *Facing Temptation* Susan Murray

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ we bend our knees and lift up our hearts, giving glory to God forever. **Amen.** *Philippians 2:9–11*

Affirmation of Faith *Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.21*

The reconciling work of Jesus was the supreme crisis in the life of humankind. His cross and resurrection become personal crisis and present hope for women and men when the gospel is proclaimed and believed. In this experience, the Spirit brings God's forgiveness to all, moves people to respond in faith, repentance, and obedience, and initiates the new life in Christ.

Dedication of Tithes and Offerings: (please be seated)

Offering #711: *Lord of All Good* vs. 1 and 3

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.

Sending Hymn #166: *Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days*
(stand)

Charge and Benediction: (remain standing)

May the steadfast love of God, the abundant grace of Jesus Christ, and the abiding presence of the Holy Spirit be with you this day and always.
Amen. *Psalms 51:1, 11*

Remember the words of the Lord Jesus: If any wish to be my disciples, let them take up the cross and follow me. **Amen.** *Mark 8:34*

Go in peace. Live in love. **Serve the Lord!**

Postlude: *Beneath the Cross of Jesus* Anna Laura Page

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