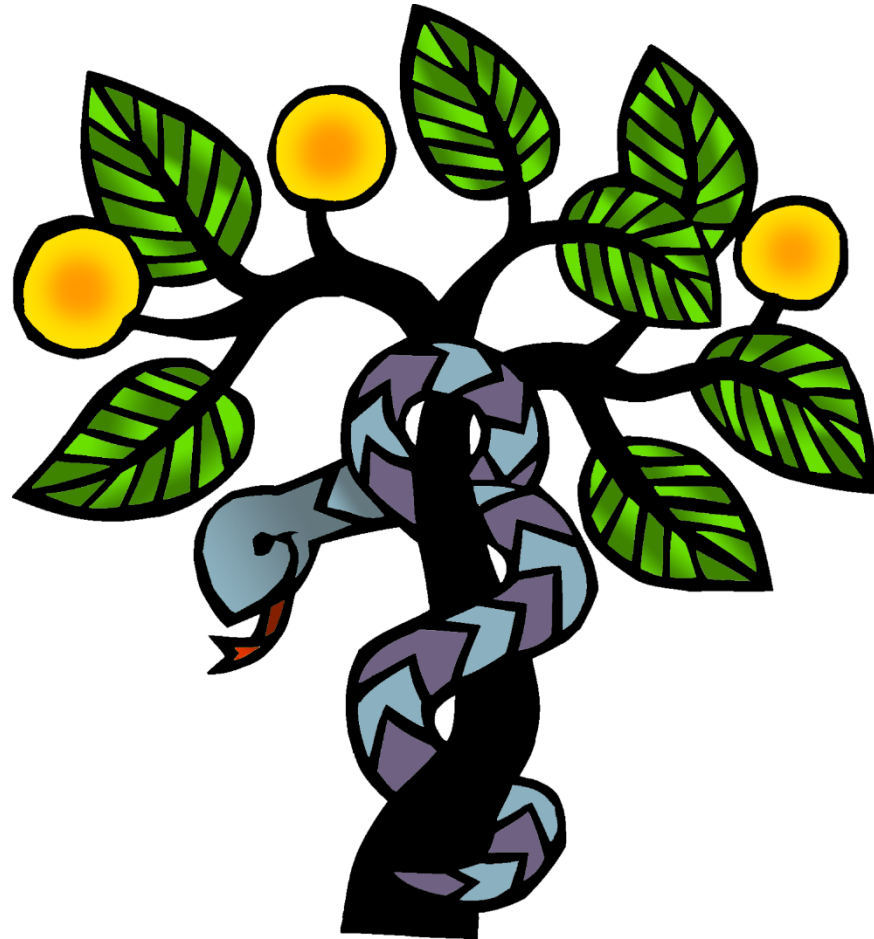


# Overland Park Lutheran Church

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**February 22, 2026**



***"This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it!"***

*Welcome to worship! We are so pleased that you are able to join us today to worship our Lord Jesus Christ. If you are without a church home, please know our door is always open to you. We welcome all our guests. If you are visiting today, **please sign our Guest Book**, so that we may properly acknowledge your visit with us.*



Preaching/Presiding: Pastor Sue Tarkka  
Worship Band: The Enduros  
Pianist/Organist: Becky Brantner  
Reader: Steve Gripp

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.

Gathering Music

Welcome & Announcements

\* Confession and Forgiveness

\* **Gathering Hymn** "There in God's Garden"

ELW #342

\* **Prayer of the Day** --- 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 1:15-17; 3:1-7

A: Word of God, Word of Life

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*SECOND READING*

Romans 5:12-19

Gospel Acclamation --- **One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.** (Matthew 4:4)

A: The holy Gospel, according to Matthew **C: Glory to you, O Lord**

\* **GOSPEL READING:** Matthew 4:1-11

A: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Children's Sermon

\* Hymn for the Message      “Goodness Is Stronger than Evil”      ELW #721

\* *Apostles' Creed*  
*I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.*  
*I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,*  
*who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,*  
*suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;*  
*he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again;*  
*he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,*  
*and he will come 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.*

\* The Prayers      C: Your mercy is great  
\* Sharing the Peace      C: And also with you.

THE OFFERING OF GIFTS AND TITHES

**Offertory**      “Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am”      ELW #814  
\* Offertory Prayer

COMMUNION  
\* **Lord’s Prayer**      ELW pg. 145  
\* Communion Distribution  
\* Communion Blessing

\* Benediction  
\* **Sending Song**      “Surely, Goodness and Mercy”      The Enduros  
\* P) Go in peace. Believe the good news.      C) **Thanks be to God.**

We believe that Christ is really present in the Sacrament, and we hope you gain strength and comfort from that belief as well. All are welcome to Holy Communion. Please come forward as the ushers instruct. Elements will be distributed at altar (wine is red (outside edge), juice is amber (middle). Children who have not received first communion instruction, are invited to come forward for a blessing.

\*- Denotes a time to stand during service. Please stand as you are able.  
**HEARING ASSISTED DEVICES are available. Please see an usher for assistance.**



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Find us on

February 22, 2026

**TODAY’S Verse:**

*“Mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.”*

**Psalm 32:10**


**NEXT WEEK’S READINGS**

Genesis 12:1-4a  
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17  
John 3:1-17  
Psalm 121

Children will be dismissed for  
Children’s Church before the  
Sermon.  
Thank you to today’s volunteers:  
Jenny Cedillo and Monica Boose

**Pastor Sue Tarkka:**  
[revtarkka.oplc@gmail.com](mailto:revtarkka.oplc@gmail.com)  
**Leah (Church Office):**  
[officeopclutheran@gmail.com](mailto:officeopclutheran@gmail.com)

**COFFEE HOUR!**  
*Join us in the fellowship hall after the service.*



*If you can help with treats served with coffee, please sign up at the volunteer area by the mailboxes.*



\*Use this QR code for your online giving today\*

**In Our Prayers**

Isabella Haaland and the Haaland Family, Ted Felling, Ossi Tarkka, Lea Pidgeon, Chris Erickson, Chip Freeman, Donna Morlan, Dan Morlan, Grace Traynor, Jessica, Sophia, Ben, Delia, Amber Morlan, Tanya Wright, Jerry Etsa, Marie Mott Stevenson, Bobbie Neward, Dylan Dossett, Barbara Latham, Doug Cox, Jake Burkholder, Louie Tremonti, Don Mott, Melinda Lickteig

*Please update the office regarding any prayer requests by sending an email or filling out a prayer request card.*

**\*\*UPCOMING EVENTS\*\***

TODAY — **Coffee Fellowship**  
— **Dr. James Brandt-Christian Nationalism** 11:00am ARR

Feb. 25<sup>th</sup> — **MidWeek Events:**  
- **Soup/Salad Supper** 6:00pm FH  
- **Holden Evening Prayer** 7:00pm Chapel  
- **Choir Practice** 8:00pm Chapel

**Sleepy in Heavenly Peace Drive:** WELCA is teaming up with Thrivent Action Team to provide in-kind bedding items to children of families in need. Drive will run from March 1<sup>st</sup>-March 29<sup>th</sup>. Please see bulletin insert for items needed. Thanks for your help! Contact **Jean Stippich** with questions.

The **Mini Food Pantry** needs your help!!

**Urgent Needs: Canned Meat, Cereal, Canned Tomatoes, Canned fruit**

Please drop items in the box in the Narthex each Sunday. Please note any monetary donations for the OPLC Mini Pantry.

Thank you for supporting this important ministry!