

**IMAGES OF GOD:
A Lenten Journey
Through Sacred Objects**



WIND/BREATH

God who gives life and moves where God wills

**St. Paul Lutheran Church
February 25, 2026**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Spirit of the living God, You move where You will. Breathe life into dry places, stir faith where hope feels thin, and gather us as living people made alive by Your breath.

PRELUDE *“Wind of the Spirit” Handt Hanson and Paul Murakami*

OPENING HYMN: LBW #488 *“Breathe on Me, Breath of God”*

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit
Amen

OPENING DIALOG

L: Spirit of God, You move where You will.

C: We cannot see You, but we know Your power.

L: You breathe life into dry bones and weary hearts.

C: Revive us, O Lord, and make us live.

L: You stir faith where hope has grown thin.

C: Breathe Your Spirit into us again.

L: Gather us as living people, formed by Your breath.

C: We open ourselves to Your renewing life. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray,

Life-giving God, You breathed life into dust and raised dry bones to stand again. Breathe upon us in this season of Lent, revive what is weary, restore what feels lifeless, and make us witnesses to Your renewing Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

“Thy Word” (sing twice)

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

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FIRST READING: Ezekiel 37:9-14

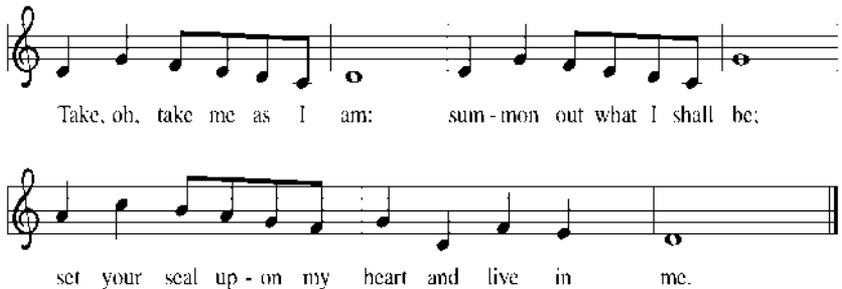
Then he said to me, “Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the

four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.” I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. Then he said to me, “Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.’ Therefore prophesy and say to them: Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people, and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord when I open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord.”

SECOND READING: John 20:19-23

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

HYMN OF RESPONSE: ELW #814 *“Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am”*
(sing 2 times)



Take, oh, take me as I am: sum - mon out what I shall be;
set your seal up - on my heart and live in me.

MESSAGE

HYMN: ELW #407 "O Living Breath of God"



- 1 O liv-ing Breath of God, wind at the be-gin - ning up-on the wa - ters;
- 2 O liv-ing Breath of God, by whose pow'r the Son came to birth a - mong us;
- 3 O liv-ing Breath of God, bear-ing us to life through bap-tis-mal wa - ters:



- O liv-ing Breath of God, bear-ing the cre - a-tion to won-drous birth;
- O liv-ing Breath of God, who to the cre - a-tion gives life a - new;
- O liv-ing Breath of God, sigh-ing with cre - a-tion for free-dom's birth:

Refrain



Come now, and fill our spir - its; pour out your gifts a - bun - dant.



O liv-ing Breath of God, Ho-ly Spir-it, breathe in us as we pray.

THE LITANY

L: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For pastors in Christ, for all servants of the Church, and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, Have mercy.

L: For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits and the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For the faithful who have gone before us and are at rest, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

OFFERING: *“Meditation on “Adoro te devote” Gregory Hamilton*

OFFERTORY: LBW #406 *“Take My Life, that I May Be”*
(verses 1 & 2)

- 1 Take my life, that I may be
consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise.
- 2 Take my hands and let them move
at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Great and merciful God, Source and Ground of all goodness and life, give to your people the peace that passes all understanding, and the will be live your Gospel of mercy and justice, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

L: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray::

C: 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

BENEDICTION

May the breath of God fill your lungs and your life, reviving what is weary, and carrying you forward in hope. **Amen.**

DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, alive in the Spirit.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *"Light the Candle"* Maureen Griepentrog