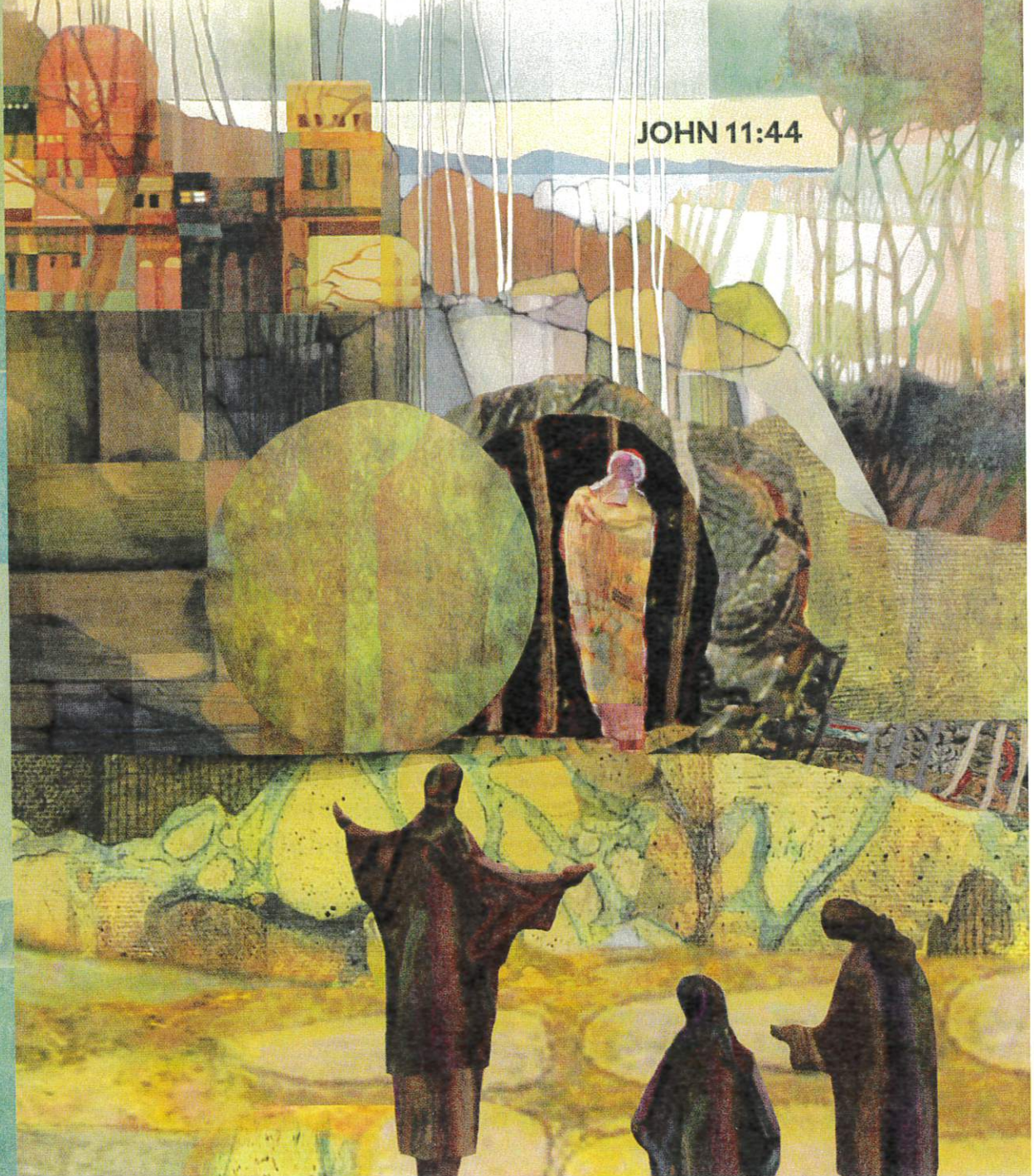


UNBIND HIM, AND LET HIM GO

JOHN 11:44





Fifth Sunday in Lent

Saturday, March 21, 2026—5:00 pm

Sunday, March 22, 2026—9:00 am

In today's gospel Jesus reveals his power over death by raising Lazarus from the dead. The prophet Ezekiel prophesies God breathing new life into dry bones. To those in exile or living in the shadows of death, these stories proclaim God's promise of resurrection. In baptism we die with Christ that we might also be raised with him to new life. At the Easter Vigil we will welcome the newly baptized as we remember God's unfailing promise in our baptism.

PRELUDE (9:00 am)

"A Lenten Meditation"
"Sarabande"

Resounding Joy

GATHERING

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses.
Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you: Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word: Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdaining the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world: Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life: Gracious God,
have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound. Through faith, the free gift of God, you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts, and gives you life and peace.
Amen.

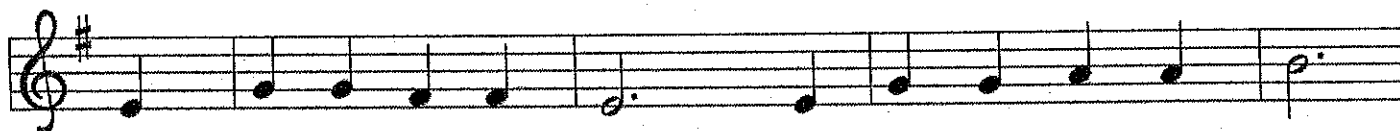
GATHERING SONG "Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service"

ELW #712

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

KYRIE



CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 37:1-14

A reading from Ezekiel.

¹ The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ² He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³ He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." ⁴ Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵ Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶ I will lay sinews on you and will cause flesh to come upon you and cover you with skin and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD."

⁷ So I prophesied as I had been commanded, and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸ I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them, but there was no breath in them. ⁹ Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, 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." ¹⁰ I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

¹¹ 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.' ¹² Therefore prophecy 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. ¹³ And you shall know that I am the LORD when I open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴ 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."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 130

¹ Out of the depths

I cry to you, O LORD;

² O LORD, hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.

³ If you were to keep watch over sins,

- O LORD, who could stand?
- ⁴ **Yet with you is forgiveness,
in order that you may be feared.**
- ⁵ I wait for you, O LORD; my soul waits;
in your word is my hope.
- ⁶ **My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch for the morning,
more than those who keep watch for the morning.**
- ⁷ O Israel, wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is steadfast love;
with the LORD there is plenteous redemption.
- ⁸ **For the LORD shall redeem Israel
from all their sins.**

SECOND READING: Romans 8:6-11

A reading from Romans.

⁶ To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ 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, ⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹ 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. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ 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 word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

GOSPEL: John 11:1-45

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. ³ So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." ⁴ But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather, it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." ⁵ Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, ⁶ after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

⁷ Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." ⁸ The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" ⁹ Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble because they see the light of this world. ¹⁰ But those who walk at night stumble because the light is not in them." ¹¹ After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." ¹² The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." ¹³ Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. ¹⁴ Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. ¹⁵ For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." ¹⁶ Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

¹⁷ When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸ Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹ and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹ Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." ²³ Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴ Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷ She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

²⁸ When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." ²⁹ And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet come to the village but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹ The Jews who were with her in the house consoling her saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her

because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there.³² When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."³³ When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved.³⁴ He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see."³⁵ Jesus began to weep.³⁶ So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!"³⁷ But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

³⁸ Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it.³⁹ Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days."⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?"⁴¹ So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me."⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me."⁴³ When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!"⁴⁴ The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

⁴⁵ Many of the Jews, therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did believed in him.

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

"You Are the Way"

ELW #758

APOSTLE'S 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.

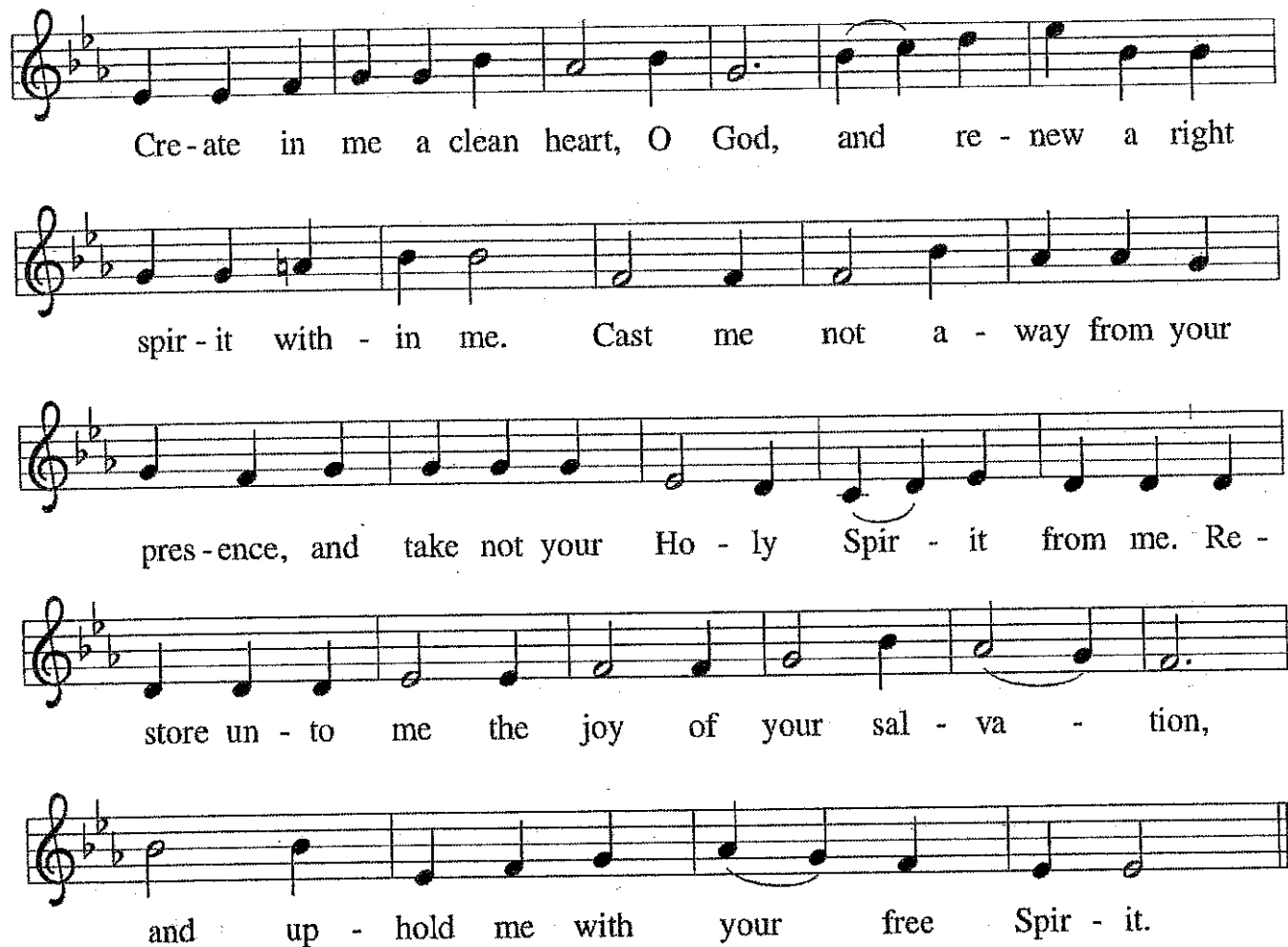
PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Each petition will conclude, "Hear us, O God.,"
The congregation responds, "Your mercy is great."

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

OFFERING SONG "Create in Me A Clean Heart"



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your
pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -
store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,
and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Music: J. A. Freylinghausen, 1670-1739

OFFERING PRAYER

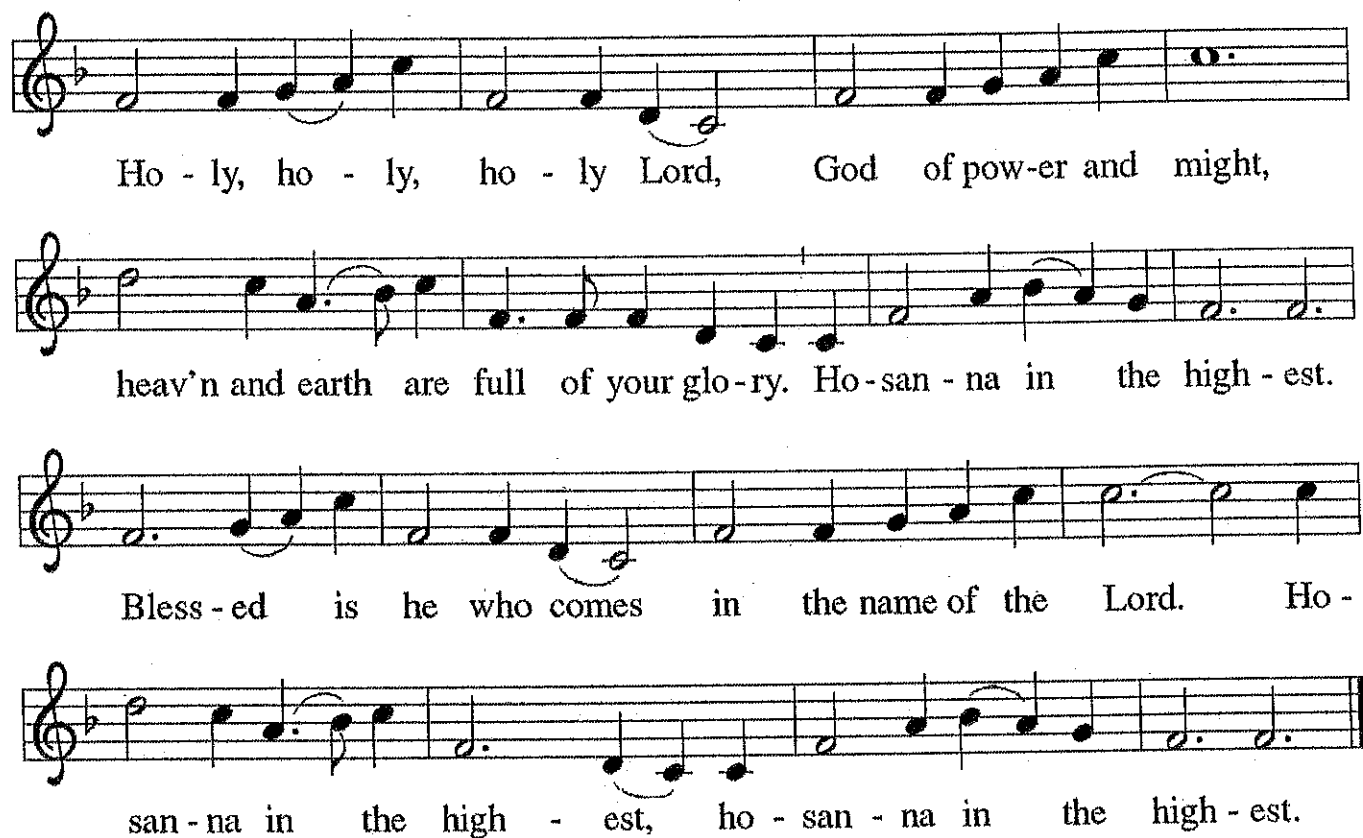
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

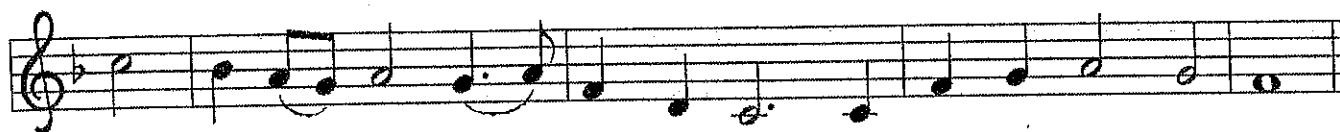
Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy.

COMMUNION SONG

"Lamb of God"



- 1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
- 2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
- 3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

Believing in the real presence of Christ, we invite all present to participate in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. All who are baptized and believe that Jesus Christ is present in the gifts of bread and wine are welcome at the Lord's table. Those who do not wish to receive communion and children who are not yet receiving communion may come forward for a blessing. Those who are unable to come forward for communion, please let an usher know, and we will bring communion to you.

The ushers will direct you to come forward by the center aisle to receive the bread from the pastors. Gluten-free wafers are available in the small gold dish on the paten. Both wine and grape juice are available for communion. The grape juice is the darker color in the middle of the tray. There are baskets at the end of the front pews where you can deposit your cups as you return to your seat. Those who are worshipping with us online are invited to have bread and wine or juice available for worship, and we will commune you at the end of communion.

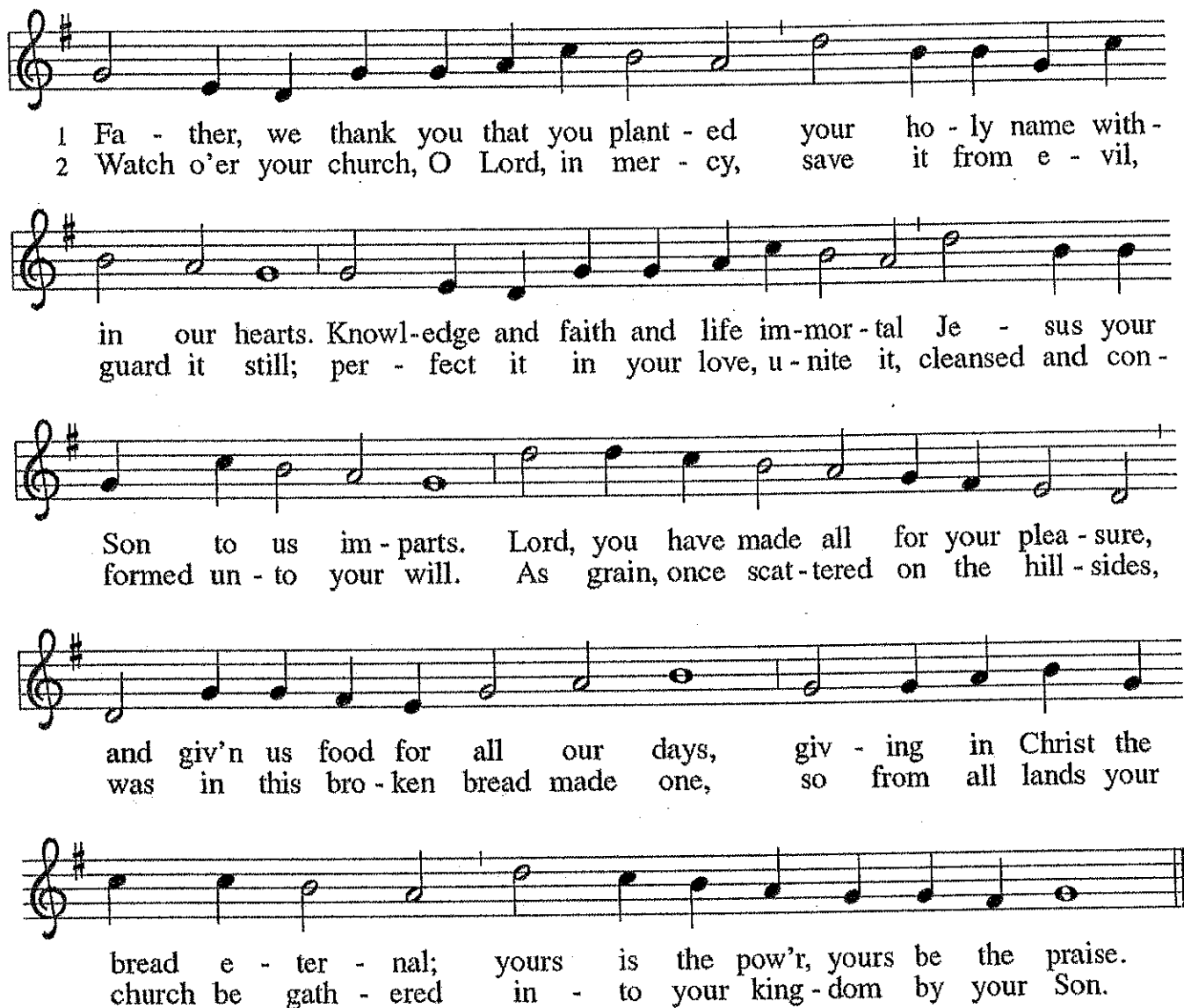
COMMUNION HYMNS "I Am the Bread of Life" "Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

ELW #485
ELW #773

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in his grace.
Amen.

POST COMMUNION SONG "Father, We Thank You"



1 Fa - ther, we thank you that you plant - ed your ho - ly name with -
2 Watch o'er your church, O Lord, in mer - cy, save it from e - vil,

in our hearts. Knowl - edge and faith and life im - mor - tal Je - sus your
guard it still; per - fect it in your love, u - nite it, cleansed and con -

Son to us im - parts. Lord, you have made all for your plea - sure,
formed un - to your will. As grain, once scat - tered on the hill - sides,

and giv'n us food for all our days, giv - ing in Christ the
was in this bro - ken bread made one, so from all lands your

bread e - ter - nal; yours is the pow'r, yours be the praise.
church be gath - ered in - to your king - dom by your Son.

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; para. F. Bland Tucker, 1895-1984, alt.
Music: RENDEZ À DIEU, attr. Louis Bourgeois, 1510-1561
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POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING

Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation, ☩ bless you now and always.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

"O God, Who Gives Us Life"

ACS #1086



- 1 O God, who gives us life and breath, who shapes us in the womb,
- 2 O God, who calls your peo - ple out to ven - ture and to dare,
- 3 O God of cov - e - nant and law, re - vealed in cloud and flame,



who guards our lives from birth to death, then leads us from the tomb:
to plumb the bleak a - byss of doubt and find you e - ven there:
your might - y deeds e - voke our awe; we dare not speak your name.



de - liv - er us from fears that kill the life we have from you.
when we de - spair in wan - der - ing through wastes of emp - ty lies,
Yet we by faith are drawn to you and will your peo - ple prove,



Help us to know your Spir - it still is mak - ing all things new.
re - fresh us with the liv - ing spring of hope that nev - er dies.
as on our hearts you write a - new the cov - e - nant of love.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: NOEL, English melody; arr. Arthur S. Sullivan, 1842-1900

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Believe the good news.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO SHARE IN OUR WORSHIP

	5:00 pm Worship Service	9:00 am Worship Service
Ushers	Bob & Carol Kuehl	Tom & Pam Carlson
Reader	<i>Not Yet Determined</i>	<i>Not Yet Determined</i>
Communion Assistant	Carol Kuehl	Nancy Meyer
Acolytes	Jace Cline	<i>Not Yet Determined</i>
Counters	Mike & Rita Smith	Kenny & Sue Oetzmann
Choir Director	Susan Becker	
Organist	Susan Becker	
Jubilation Leader	Neal Becker	
Online Streaming Crew	Craig Bloomingdale, Lucas Golinghorst, Scott LaPlante, & Kevin Zidarich	

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Roll the Stone Away

You can understand why they don't want to roll the stone away. "Already there is a stench," Martha says (John 11:39). Why open the grave? Why let out that smell? There could be no purpose. After all, Lazarus is dead.

This is not unbelief. "I believe that you are the Messiah," Martha says (v. 27), confident that her brother would one day rise again. But it is a faith that desperately wants God to provide an escape from suffering and struggle: "If you had been here," both sisters say, "my brother would not have died" (vv. 21, 32). The presence of Jesus, they think, should protect them from pain and death.

What they don't understand, though, is that the places of pain and suffering are exactly where Jesus goes. He enters dead places to bring hope to life. He transforms the stench of decay into an aroma of thriving. He summons Lazarus out of the tomb to walk into freedom.

This is why Jesus tells them to take away the stone. He wants to open the place that they are convinced holds only grief, and to expose what they believe to be a shameful smell. Yes, it is difficult to face. However, only when the grave is opened can Lazarus respond to Jesus' call. Martha and Mary must remove the stone that hides what they do not want to bear, so that new life can emerge from the tomb.

What are the stone-covered places in your life? What are the places in your heart that you are convinced hold only pain, decay, and fear? In the tender love of Jesus, you do not need to hide them. Jesus is calling you to open them. He will enter these places with resurrection power, transforming death into life and shame into glory. Facing these tombs takes courage. But you can trust that Jesus will bring healing to your brokenness. He is in the business of calling the dead back to life. Let the stones be rolled away.

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service



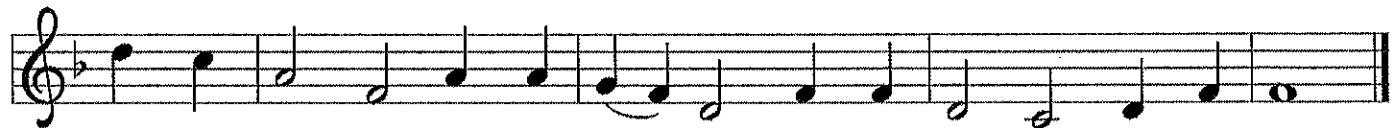
- 1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser - vice bore the weight of hu-man need,
- 2 Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun - gry cry for bread;
- 3 As we wor-ship, grant us vi - sion, till your love's re - veal-ing light
- 4 Called by wor-ship to your ser - vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up - on the cross, for - sak - en, worked your mer-cy's per - fect deed:
still the cap - tives long for free - dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up - on our quick-ened sight,
to the child, the youth, the a - ged, love in liv - ing deeds to show;



we, your ser - vants, bring the wor - ship not of voice a - lone, but heart;
As you, Lord, in deep com-pas - sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
mak-ing known the needs and bur - dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear,
hope and health, good-will and com - fort, coun - sel, aid, and peace we give,



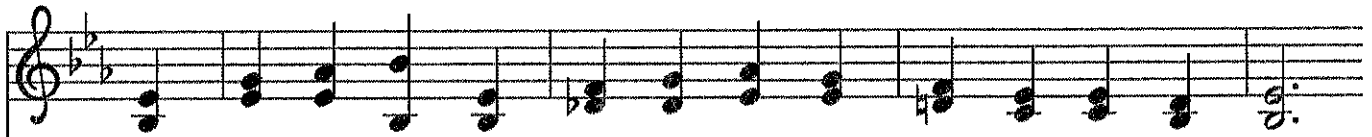
con - se - crat - ing to your pur - pose ev - 'ry gift which you im - part.
by your Spir - it send your pow - er to our world to make it whole.
stir-ring us to ar - dent ser - vice, your a - bun-dant life to share.
that your ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom may your mer - cy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984

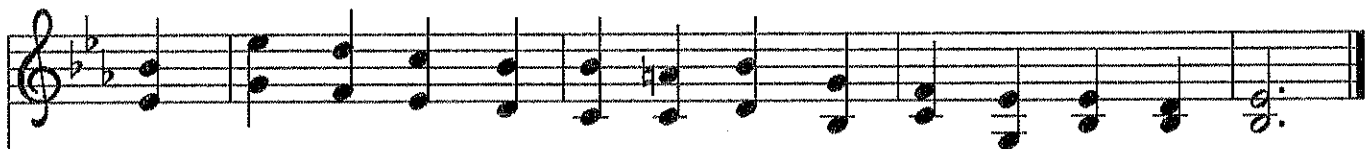
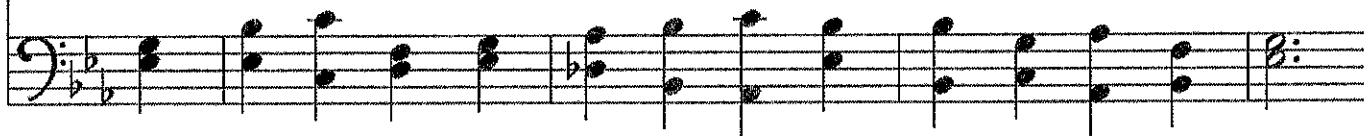
Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844

Text © Oxford University Press

You Are the Way



1 You are the way; to you a - lone from sin and death we flee;
2 You are the truth; your word a - lone true wis - dom can im - part;
3 You are the life; the rend - ing tomb pro - claims your con - qu'ring arm;
4 You are the way, the truth, the life; grant us that way to know,



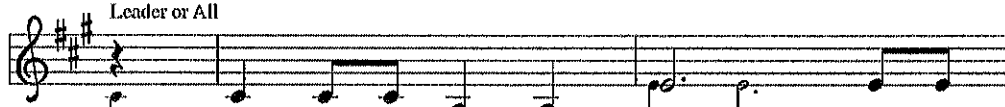
all those who search for God, you find and by your grace set free.
you on - ly can in - form the mind and pu - ri - fy the heart.
and those who put their trust in you not death nor hell shall harm.
that truth to keep, that life to win, whose joys e - ter - nal flow.



Text: George W. Doane, 1799–1859, alt.
Music: DUNDEE, *Psalter*, Edinburgh, 1615

I Am the Bread of Life

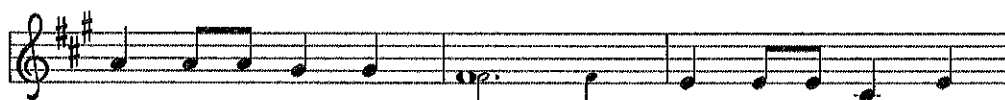
Leader or All



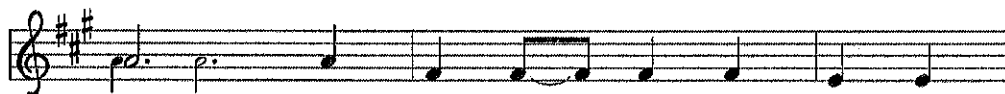
1 "I am the Bread of life. You who
2 "The bread that . . . I will give is my
3 "Un - less . . . you . . . eat of the
4 "I am the res - ur - rec - tion, that . . .
5 Yes, Lord, . . . I be - lieve



come to me shall not hun - ger, and who be -
flesh for the life of the world, . . . and if you
flesh of the Son of Man . . . and . . .
I . . . am the life. . . If you be -
you . . . are the Christ, . . . the . . .



lieve in me shall not thirst. No one can come to
eat . . . of this bread, you shall . . live for -
drink . . . of his blood, and drink . . . of his
lieve . . . in . . . me, e - ven . . though you
Son . . . of . . . God, who . . . have . . .



me un - less the Fa - ther beck - ons."
ev - er, . . . you shall live for - ev - er."
blood, you shall not have life with - in you."
die, . . . you shall live for - ev - er."
come in - to . . . the . . . world. . .

Refrain

All



"And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up,



and I will raise you up on the last day."



Text: Suzanne Toolan, RSM, b. 1927, based on John 6

Music: I AM THE BREAD, Suzanne Toolan, RSM

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Precious Lord, Take My Hand

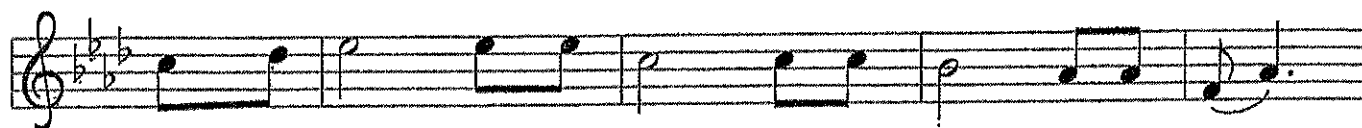
773



1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
 2 When my way grows . . drear, pre-cious Lord, lin - ger near,
 3 When the dark - ness ap - pears and the night draws . . near,



I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
 when my life is . . . al - most . . gone,
 and the day is . . . past and . . . gone,



Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light.
 hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall.
 at the riv - er I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand.



Take my hand, pre-cious Lord, lead me home.

Text: Thomas A. Dorsey, 1899-1993

Music: George N. Allen, 1812-1877, adapt. Thomas A. Dorsey

Text and music © 1938, 1966 Unichappell Music Inc., admin. Hal Leonard Corp.

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PRECIOUS LORD

Irregular

:

FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Senior Pastor Carrie La Plante Pastor Heather Geest
Worship: Saturday 5 pm Sunday 9 am
Telephone: (563) 285-4501 Email: faitheldridge@netins.net



GRACE - GIFTED FAITH - LIFTED
CALLED TO SHARE, SEEK AND SERVE CHRIST.

Fifth Sunday in Lent
March 21 & 22, 2026

WELCOME TO WORSHIP Today we gather to celebrate God's love and grace as revealed to us through Jesus Christ. For those that might be interested in knowing more about the ministries and activities of the congregation there are some printed materials available for you to take. The materials are located on the counter just inside the east entrance of this building. You can also find more information through the church website at faithlutheranelldridge.com.

CHILDREN are always welcome in worship. Special children's bulletins are available for their use.

VISITOR? CHANGE OF ADDRESS? INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES? HAVE A PRAYER REQUEST? Please feel free to complete the information card located in front of you next to the hymnals and pass the card to the outer aisle during announcements and an usher will pick them up during the call to worship.



If you are interested in providing altar flowers, please sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex, or by using the link on our web site, www.faithlutheranelldridge.com



Trusting that God hears our prayers, we keep these people and all who are in need in our prayers.

Steve Mixdorf	Anderson Sears	Marilyn	Donna
Patty Denner	June Mephram	Kelly	Julie
Kathy Stoltz	Anna Mundy	James	Judy
Jan Goettsch	Rebecca Casson	Cindy	Janet
Barb Conklen	Cherri Grimes	Thad	
Meyer Mixdorf	Judy Rigg	Dave	
Cheryl Torey	Judy Feller	Linda	

WELCOME TO church

Feed Our Children During the month of March we are collecting donations of juice pouches. Thank you for your contributions!



If you wish to contribute toward Easter lilies that will decorate the altar area this year, please list your name and the name(s) of those you wish to honor on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex area. We are asking for a contribution of **\$18.00** to help offset the cost of the plants. **Please indicate 'flowers' on your envelope so we know how to allocate the funds, and place the envelope in the offering plate.** Names received by **March 22** will be published in the Easter worship bulletin.



Youth who will be attending the Mission Trip in Connecticut this July of will be making and selling cinnamon rolls next weekend , March 28 & 29, to help raise funds for their trip. You can purchase these delicious rolls in person around worship March 28 & 29 , or pre-order by signing up online (link found on our website and on Facebook) or on the sheet in the gathering space. **Cost is \$3/2 rolls, \$8/6 rolls, and \$15/dozen.** Along with baked rolls, we will have the option to purchase unbaked rolls by the dozen. **Thank you for supporting our youth!**

On Palm Sunday, Saturday, March 28, at 5:00 pm and Sunday, March 29, at 9:00 am, we will begin Holy Week with a procession of the palms, and during worship, we will hear a dramatic reading of the passion story according to the Gospel of Matthew. Palm Branches will be available for pick-up on Friday, March 27, from 9:00 am to noon and on Saturday, March 28, from 2:00-4:00 pm for those worshipping at home.



Our **Maundy Thursday** service on **Thursday, April 2, at 7:00 pm**, will include the celebration of First Communion for several of our children. On **Good Friday, April 3**, we will gather for a Service of Light and Darkness at **7:00 pm**.

Join our **Easter Vigil** service on **Saturday, April 4 at 5:00 pm**.

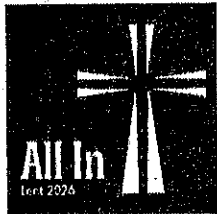
Easter Sunday, April 5

8:00 am – Easter Worship Service

9:30 am—Easter Egg hunt

9:00 am—Easter Breakfast in Fellowship Hall

10:30 am—Easter Worship Service



All In Lenten Series

Join us this Lent as we consider how we go all in for God. Have you ever decided to go all in for something? Maybe it was when you chose a profession or a partner. Perhaps you made the decision to become a homeowner. Maybe it was when you joined this congregation, or if you came to faith later in life, when you decided to be baptized.

As Christians, God calls us to a life of commitment and caring for our neighbors and our world, even when the cultures around us view our caring as naïve and our commitment as pointless. In the face of the condition of the world around us, it can sometimes seem easier to detach from the need around us, to go numb and to care less as we try to guard our hearts and our expectations. But God calls us to deep engagement instead, to care more in the world trying to protect itself by caring less.

Before we can go all in, God shows us the way. God knows that going all in for this beautiful broken world is a challenge, so God goes all in on our behalf first, revealing what it is like to bet it all on love. This Lent, as we learn about God's own commitment, we'll explore how the elements of our liturgy prepare us for active engagement in the world God so loves. Our preaching, prayer, and devotional time help connect us to our neighbors, to the planet we share, and to God.

This Lent, God is all in for us. Let's go all in for God's love, too. Each Saturday and Sunday, we will use the lectionary text as we consider the various ways we can go all in for God's love. Then, on Wednesdays, we will have conversations about ministries in which we are participating, either as a congregation or in partnership with others. There will also be a daily devotion available that will further help us consider each week's theme:

The week of March 22: All In for Letting Go – Letting go of expectations allows us to make way for God to do something wondrous and new, taking flight on a leap of faith.

The week of March 29, Holy Week: All In for the Highs and Lows – Balancing Palm Procession and Passion on this day practices entering into all the highs and lows of human life with our congregations and with Christ.

April 5, Easter Sunday: All In for Resurrection – Embracing resurrection as a key part of our faith frees us to embrace the good news that no part of life or death is out of God's life-giving reach.

Sunday Friday Saturday

WEEKLY

Sneak Peek

Saturday, March 21

5:00 pm Worship in Sanctuary &
Online

Sunday, March 22

9:00 am Worship in Sanctuary
10:15 am Sunday School
10:15 am Fellowship

Monday, March 23 *Office Closed*

Tuesday, March 24

1:00 pm Bible Study
5:30 pm Food Pantry
6:30 pm Sacred Self-Care

Wednesday, March 25

10:45 am Resounding Joy
5:15 pm Confirmation Meal
5:45 pm Confirmation Conversations
6:00 pm People of Praise
7:00 pm Lent Worship Service
7:30 pm High School Youth

Thursday, March 26

9:00 am Ambassador Folding
6:30 pm Women of Faith Bible Study

Friday, March 27

9:30 am Food Pantry
1:15 pm Friday Fun Club

Saturday, March 28

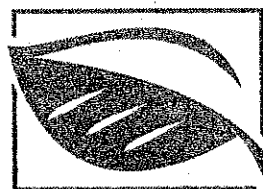
Cinnamon Roll Sale

5:00 pm Worship in Sanctuary &
Online

Sunday, March 29 Palm Sunday

Cinnamon Roll Sale

9:00 am Worship in Sanctuary
10:15 am Sunday School
10:15 am First Communion Class
10:15 am Fellowship



**PASTORAL CARE
& COUNSELING**

Pastor Carrie and Pastor Heather are available for Pastoral Care, but ***we need your help to know when and where that is needed.*** Even though the medical facilities might ask about notifying your church, they do not actually contact us unless a situation is dire. Please contact us at the church office at **(563) 285-4501.** **For after-hour emergencies,** please contact Pastor Carrie at **(641) 275-1326** or Pastor Heather at **(563) 639-9606.**