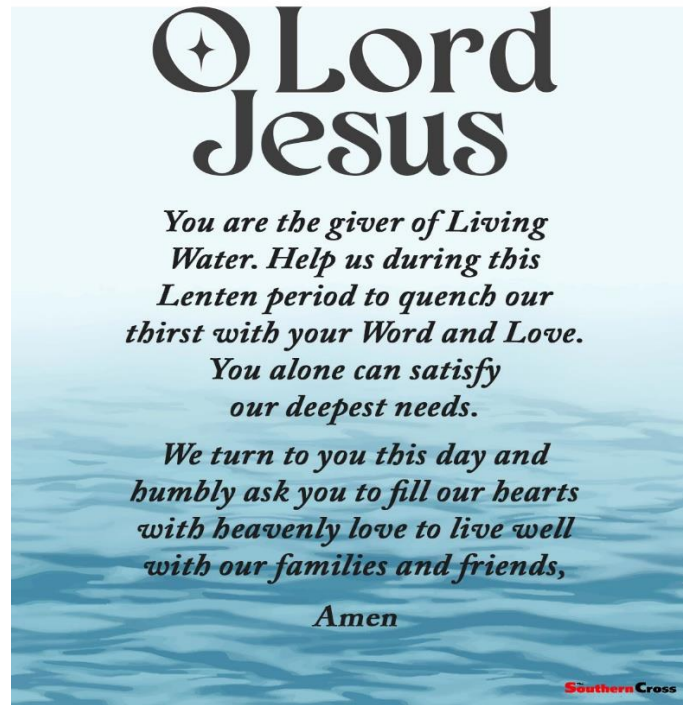


Third Sunday of Lent

March 23, 2025

Worship will begin at 9:00 am



St. John's Lutheran Church
PO Box 210
1613 Key Street
Waller, TX 77484
936-372-2903

Serving God by serving people! And we will...!!!

Log in on Zoom to participate in Worship services and Adult Bible Studies.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/3613569565>

Meeting ID: 361 356 9565

Welcome all! To those who are here with us and to those who will join us online: Welcome to worship this morning at St. John's Lutheran Church!

If you are a visitor with us this morning, we are delighted that you have joined us. We hope in your worship experience you will be reminded of God's presence and be drawn into a deeper relationship with God in your faith life.

If you would like to become a member of St. John's, please contact the church office.

Restrooms can be found in the entry area of the church. As you walk out through the glass doors, the men's room is on the left and the women's on the right.

We are an open communion table here at St. John's, which means that all are welcome to join us in encountering God's grace during Holy Communion. Those of you sharing communion with us at home are welcome to prepare some wine or grape juice and bread that you will share with one another during communion.

There is a time set aside for you to make your offering. You may give online at Tithe.ly.com or you can write your check and mail it to PO Box 210, Waller, Tx 77484 or drop it in the offering plate during the offering time.

You are all invited to join us for ongoing Christian Education:

- **Women's Bible Study** on Women of the Bible meets the 1st Tuesday at 10:30 a.m.
- **Hope Circle**-Women's Bible Study is the 3rd Tuesday at 10:30 a.m.
- **LAMP**- 2nd Wednesday of the month at 11:30 a.m.
- **Wednesday Night Dinner** – Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. for \$2.00
- **Youth Hangout** – Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.
- **Adult Bible Study**- Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom
- **Adult Sunday School**-10:30-11:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary classroom
- **The Coffee Clatch**-10:30-11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall for ages 18-106
- **High School Sunday School**-10:30-11:30 a.m. in the Education Bldg.
- **Elementary Sunday School**-10:30 -11:30 a.m. in the sandbox room for Pre-K to 5th grades
- **Lou's Kitchen** 10:15 a.m. on Sundays in the Fellowship Hall

Church Office Hours:

Monday: 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Tuesday: 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Wednesday: 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Thursday: 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

PRELUDE

The warnings are plentiful and blunt on the third Sunday in Lent. Cut it out or get cut down! The warnings are accompanied by God's invitation to attentiveness: "Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live." The landowner's ultimatum is forestalled by the gardener's readiness to till the ground one more year. That is good news for all of us. Thanks be to God!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING *The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

You are invited to stand as you are comfortable and able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Amen.

P: Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

A brief silence is kept for reflection.

A: Compassionate One,

C: you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world. We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us. We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people. We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again. We squander the abundant gifts of the earth. Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross. Amen.

P: Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home. In ☩ Christ your sins are forgiven. You have a place in God's house forever.

C: Amen.

GATHERING SONG *Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters* **ELW #445**

- 1 Wash, O God, our sons and daughters, where your cleansing waters flow.
Number them among your people; bless as Christ blessed long ago.
Weave them garments bright and sparkling; compass them with love and light.
Fill, anoint them; send your Spirit, holy dove and heart's delight.
- 2 We who bring them long for nurture; by your milk may we be fed.
Let us join your feast, partaking cup of blessing, living bread.
God, renew us, guide our footsteps; free from sin and all its snares,
One with Christ in living, dying, by your Spirit, children, heirs.
- 3 Oh, how deeply your holy wisdom! Unimagined, all your ways!
To your name be glory, honor! With our lives we worship, praise!
We your people stand before you, water-washed and Spirit-born.
By your grace, our lives we offer. Recreate us; God, transform!

Text: Ruth Duck .b. 1947 Music: The Sacred Harp, Philadelphia, 1844. Selected Hymns, 1985, Text © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House, admin. The Copyright Company. arr. © 1985 Augsburg Fortress, Reprinted/Podcast/Streamed. All rights reserved.

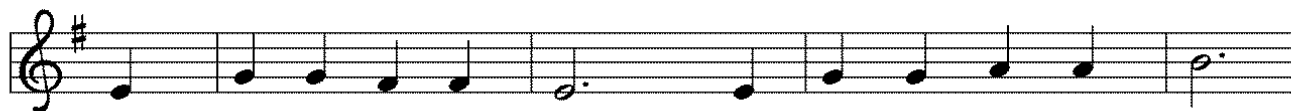
GREETING

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

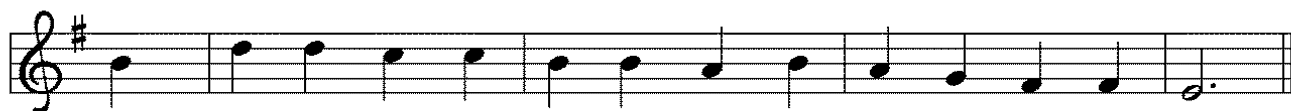
C: And also with you.

KYRIE

ELW p.203



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.

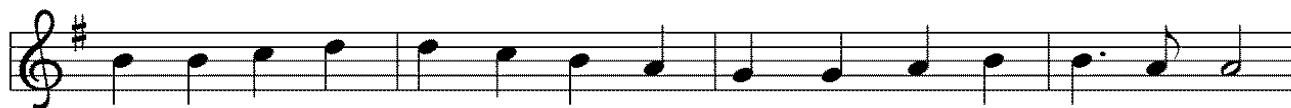


We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

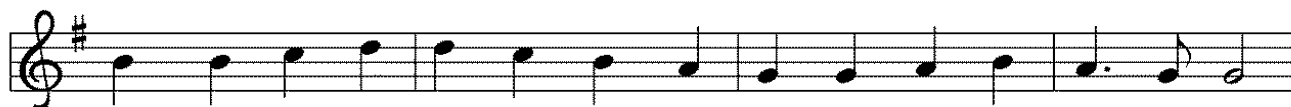
CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Glory be to God in Heaven

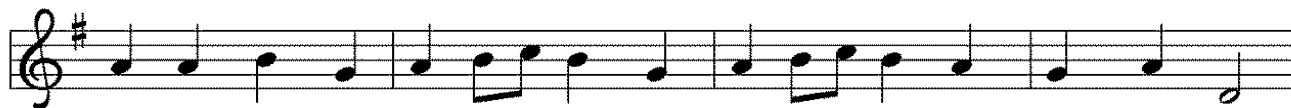
ELW p.204



- 1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

A: Let us pray.

C: Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD *God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 55:1-9

To those who have experienced long years in exile, the return to their homeland is a celebration of abundant life. God calls them into an everlasting covenant of love. Those who return to God will enjoy new life and forgiveness, because God's ways are not our ways.

¹ Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. ² Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. ³ Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. ⁴ See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. ⁵ See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. ⁶ Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; ⁷ let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. ⁸ For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. ⁹ For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

L: *Please join in saying the Psalm responsively.*

PSALM 63:1-8 *O God, eagerly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you.*

¹ O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

² **Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place,
that I might behold your power and your glory.**

³ For your steadfast love is better than life itself; my lips shall give you praise.

⁴ **So will I bless you as long as I live and lift up my hands in your name.**

⁵ My spirit is content, as with the richest of foods,
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,

⁶ **when I remember you upon my bed, and meditate on you in the night watches.**

⁷ For you have been my helper, and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.

⁸ **My whole being clings to you; your right hand holds me fast.**

SECOND READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 10:1-13

Paul uses images from Hebrew Scriptures and prophecy to speak the truth of Jesus Christ: He is our rock, our water, our food, and our drink. Christ is the living sign of God's faithfulness.

¹ I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ² and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³ and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴ and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. ⁵ Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

⁶ Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. ⁷ Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." ⁸ We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. ⁹ We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. ¹⁰ And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. ¹¹ These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. ¹² So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. ¹³ No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

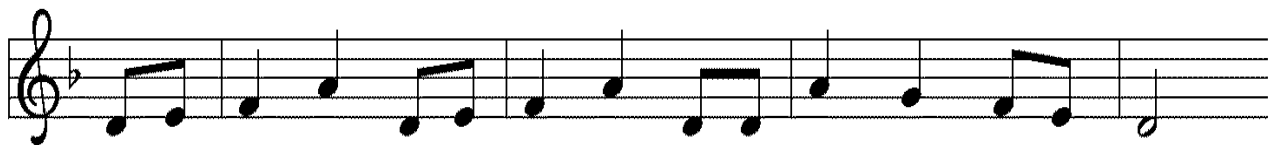
L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

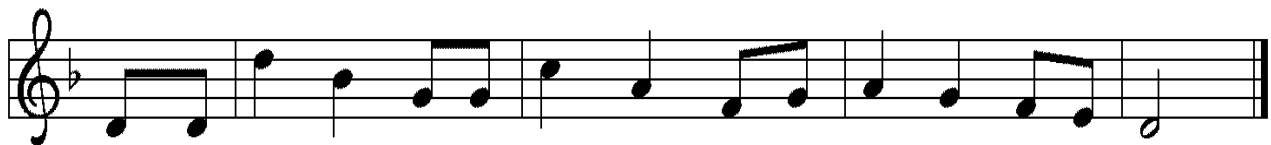
L: *You are invited to stand as you are comfortable and able for the Lenten Acclamation.*

LENTEN VERSE

ELW p. 205



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: LUKE 13:1-9

Asked about current tragic events, Jesus turns a lesson about whether suffering is deserved into a hard call to obedience. He then tells a parable that holds out hope that the timeline for ultimate judgment will be tempered by patience.

P: The holy gospel according to Luke.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.² [Jesus] asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans?”³ No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. ⁴ Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? ⁵ No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.” ⁶ Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. ⁷ So he said to the gardener, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’ ⁸ He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. ⁹ If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’ ”

P: This is the gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

CHILDREN’S SERMON – Danny Calderon

SERMON – Pastor Jerry Wirtley

(My take aways from today’s sermon)

You are invited to stand as you are comfortable and able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Jesus, Still Lead On

ELW #624

- 1** Jesus, still lead on, till our rest be won;
and, although the way be cheerless, we will follow, calm and fearless;
guide us by your hand to the promised land.
- 2** If the way be drear, if the foe be near,
let no faithless fears o’ertake us, let not faith and hope forsake us;
safely past the foe to our home we go.
- 3** When we seek relief from a long-felt grief,
when temptations come alluring make us patient and enduring;
show us that bright shore where we weep no more.
- 4** Jesus, still lead on, till our rest be won;
heav’nly leader, still direct us, still support, console, protect us,
till we safely stand in the promised land.

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APOSTLE'S CREED

A: With the whole church let us proclaim our faith in the words of the Apostle's Creed:

C: 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 INTERCESSION

P: Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A: We pray for the church, called to be a witness to all peoples. Grant humility and wisdom to bishops, pastors, deacons, elders, councils, and congregations, that they may call upon you in making decisions.

A: God, in your mercy, C: receive our prayer.

A: We pray for the earth, called to provide abundantly. Teach your people the goodness of your generosity, that in sharing what we have been given, all life may flourish on the planet that is our shared home.

A: God, in your mercy, C: receive our prayer.

A: We pray for the nations, called to protect their inhabitants and collaborate in the work of justice and peace. Forge bonds of compassion and mutual care across human borders and boundaries, that all the world may have enough to live.

A: God, in your mercy, C: receive our prayer.

A: We pray for those in need, called to receive your compassion. Comfort those whose lives have been disrupted through natural disasters and human conflict. Aid communities in coming together to mourn, heal, and rebuild. We pray for all who are ill:

(Silent Prayer...)

Jeanell, Lane, Herman, Betty Jean, Sam, JoAnne, Richard, Jean, Don, Etta, Juan, John, Derrick, Ashley, Johnny, Gabrielle, Charles, Robbie, Marion, Betty, Ronald, Bubba, Tim, and Frances. A: We pray for the Dolly Schultz Family upon her entering the church triumphant. *God, in your mercy,* **C: receive our prayer.**

A: What else do the people of God wish to lift up to God this day? *(Wait for responses...)*

A: God, in your mercy, C: receive our prayer.

A: Master builder, guide us as your builders to use your limestone and beams to create towers that will not fall. Help us to remember where you have brought us from, what you are helping us to do now, and give us a dream of what will be when we continue to follow you and raise those whom you have chosen as leaders of the Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod. Help us to sing your song and see what marvelous things you have done, are doing, and will do in the future.

A: God, in your mercy, C: receive our prayer.

A: We pray for this assembly, called to welcome its neighbors to the table of your grace. Bless food pantries, community gardens and kitchens, clean water projects, and all ministries that address human hunger and thirst.

A: God, in your mercy, C: receive our prayer.

A: We give thanks for the faithful lives of those who proclaimed your gospel in times of challenge and strife, and for all those whose lives of love and service have ended. May their witness inspire our own.

A: *God, in your mercy, C: receive our prayer.*

P: Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

C: Amen.

SHARE THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us share Christ's peace with one another.

Please be seated.

OFFERING

A: Holy God, gracious and merciful,

C: you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior, and Lord. Amen.

A: We worship God through our offering!

OFFERING HYMN *Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me* ELW #623

- 1** Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee;
let the water and the blood, from thy riven side which flowed,
be of sin the double cure; cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.
- 2** Not the labors of my hands can fulfill thy law's demands;
could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever flow,
all for sin could not atone; thou must save, and thou alone.
- 3** Nothing in my hand I bring; simply to thy cross I cling.
Naked, come to thee for dress; helpless, look to thee for grace;
foul, I to the fountain fly; wash me, Savior, or I die.
- 4** While I draw this fleeting breath, when mine eyelids close in death,
when I soar to worlds unknown, see thee on thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee.

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(You may also make your offering online at tithe.ly.com or write your check and mail it to PO Box 210 or drop it by the church office.),

As the offering is brought forward during the Offering Canticle Hymn, you are invited to stand as you are comfortable and able.

**OFFERING PRAYER**

A: Gracious Provider,

C: you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world.

As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give God our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, 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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age. Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

A: As we break bread together, as we drink from the same cup, unite us as people who are grateful for the journey, for each other's company, and for your guiding presence. And hear us as we are bold to say together the prayer Jesus taught.

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. Lead us not into temptation and deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness. All are welcome.

Please be seated.

LAMB OF GOD

ELW p. 208



- 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.

COMMUNION HYMN

Love Divine. All Loves Excelling

ELW #631

- 1 Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
Fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation, enter ev'ry trembling heart.
- 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit into ev'ry troubled breast;
let us all in thee inherit; let us find thy promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.
- 3 Come, Almighty, to deliver; let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

- 4 Finish then thy new creation, pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee!
Changed from glory into glory, till in heav'n we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise!

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COMMUNION HYMN *O God, Our Help in Ages Past* **ELW #632**

- 1 O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home:
- 2 Under the shadow of your throne your saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is your arm alone, and our defense is sure.
- 3 Before the hills in order stood or earth received its frame,
from everlasting you are God, to endless years the same.
- 4 A thousand ages in your sight are like an evening gone,
short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.
- 5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream, bears all our years away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the op'ning day.
- 6 O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
still be our guard while troubles last and our eternal home.

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You are invited to stand as you are comfortable and able.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P: May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ, strengthen and keep you by his grace unto life everlasting.

C: Amen!

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: God our redeemer,

C: Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

SENDING HYMN *Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer* **ELW #618**

- 1 Guide me ever, great Redeemer, pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but you are mighty; hold me with your pow'rful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me now and evermore,
feed me now and evermore.
- 2 Open now the crystal fountain where the healing waters flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer, shield me with your mighty arm,
shield me with your mighty arm.

3 When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs and praises, songs and praises, I will raise forevermore,
I will raise forevermore.

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SENDING *God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world*

BLESSING

P: God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit, ✠ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

C: Thanks be to God. AND WE WILL!

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EXTRA! EXTRA! EXTRA! EXTRA!

**** Youth and Family will be going to the Tomball Park** for a picnic lunch that is provided March 23rd at 10:30 a.m. All are welcome. Please check the sign-up sheet in the narthex or let Cindy know at 281-881-7842 if you will be going. ******

**** On March 25th there will be an Evangelism meeting at 6:00 p.m. ****

**** There will be a First Communion Class on March 30th, April 6th and April 13th for anyone in 5th grade and up. Please contact the church office if you want to attend these classes to participate in the First Communion Milestone, Maundy Thursday, April 17th. ****

**** Easter Lily envelopes** are available to order an Easter lily in honor of or in memory of a loved one for \$12.00 a plant. Please return the envelopes by April 13th. ******

**** Available dates for the flower calendar are April 6 & 13. ****

**** Egg cartons with plastic eggs** to fill are available in the narthex. Please take a few to fill with trinkets or individually wrapped candies (no chocolate please). You may return the filled eggs to the narthex for the Children's Easter Egg Hunt at 10:30 a.m. April 20th. ******

***** Looking Ahead to Lent, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday Services. *****

- **Lenten services will only be at 6:30 p.m.** on March 26 and April 2 and 9. A meal will be served prior to these services at **5:30 p.m. (Dinner for \$2)** and then the service will be held in the Fellowship Hall.
- **The Maundy Thursday service, April 17th,** will be at 6:30 p.m. in the church with communion. No meal will be served on this day.
- **Good Friday service, April 18th,** will be at 6:30 p.m. in the church with no communion. No meal will be served on this day.

**** Please send cards or make phone calls** to our shut-ins to let them know we are praying for and thinking of them. The new **peach** lists are in the narthex and church office. **

**** WARM** needs jelly and peanut butter, along with all canned veggies, dried pinto beans, soups and cereal to help people in need. You may bring donations to place in the container provided in the Narthex on Sundays. **

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS...

We ask for prayers of healing for: Jeanell Hart (healing at home), Lane Mercadante (his heart to be ok & fix itself), Herman Hoff (healing), Betty Jean Hoff (healing), Sam Thomas (healing), and JoAnne Leland (healing).

Friends in need of prayers: Richard and Jean Stell (relatives of Karen Shaver for healing), Don Koop (friend of the Lamson's for healing), Etta Hart (Jeanell's great, great granddaughter born with an autoimmune disease), Juan Hernandez (healing), John Perkins, Derrick Suehs (healing), Ashley Brye (God's healing hands), Johnny Frey (healing), Gabrielle Werner (healing), Charles Neumann (Kathleen Hargrave's nephew), and Robbie Smart (healing).

We remember our members who are either homebound or in care facilities: Waller – Jeanell Hart, Sam Thomas, Marion Gollmer, Betty & Ronald Wollgast, Bubba Ploss; Hempstead – Tim Perkins; Brenham – Frances Frey (Kruse Village).

We offer our sympathy and prayers to the Dolly Schultz Family upon her entering the church triumphant.

MINISTRY/FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Log in on Zoom to participate in Worship services and Adult Bible Studies:

<https://zoom.us/j/3613569565> Meeting ID: 361 356 9565

March 23- Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Worship – Pastor Jerry Wirtley Third Sunday of Lent Change for Children
	10:15 a.m.	Lou's Kitchen
	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School for all ages
	10:30 a.m.	Y&F - Tomball Park for lunch
March 25-Tuesday	6:00 p.m.	Evangelism Meeting
March 26-Wednesday	5:30p.m.	Dinner for \$2.00 –chicken noodle casserole
	6:30p.m.	Fourth Lenten Service
March 30- Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Worship – Pastor Jerry Wirtley Fourth Sunday of Lent
	10:15 a.m.	Lou's Kitchen
	10:30 a.m.	First Communion Class with Pastor Jerry
	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School for all ages

2025 CAMPUS MINISTRY MADNESS

Ministry Madness is a month-long digital friendraising event for ELCA Campus Ministry organizations held in March. It's an opportunity for campus ministries to work together to raise awareness about campus ministry and to connect campus ministry alumni and supporters to ministries in the organizations they serve!

From Monday, March 3 to Tuesday, April 1, support your team's campus ministry and help them earn points! Check back every Monday to see the standings! 100% of your donations will go to the Lutheran Campus Ministry site you choose to support! Support Your Favorite Ministry at: www.campusministrymadness.org

"My soul yearns, even faints, for the courts of the LORD;" -Psalm 84:2a It's March and that means it is time for the 3rd Annual March Ministry Madness "friend"-raiser! Each year campus ministry sites from around the country compete in a friendly competition to raise awareness for campus ministry and funds for their sites. Each week there will be different bonuses in play and at the end of the month we will crown a winner! Keep your eyes on @luminelca for updates and stories from the various sites. Donations can be made at

<http://luminelca.org/madness>, don't forget to share with friends and use the hashtag #ministrymadness; please also use #luminelca to share the news!

Week 4 is 3/24 - 3/30

Week 4- It's the final week of March Ministry Madness! This week sites will receive bonus points for eclipsing their prior weekly average. One bonus point awarded for every \$10 above your weekly average! This is a great opportunity for sites to rise in the standings quick. Donations can be made at <http://luminelca.org/madness> and don't forget to share with friends!

GRATITUDE FOR GIFTS SHARED

Needed for Budget each month for 2025-----	\$20,714.33
Total Collected for March 16, 2025-----	\$ 3,857.00
Total Collected so far for the month of March-----	\$12,199.00

Flowers are placed on the altar today by David Wilkinson in honor and congratulations of Rayce Loewe's graduation.

STEWARDS OF WORSHIP

Ministry	Sun. Mar. 23	Sun. Mar. 30
Pastor	Pastor Jerry Wirtley	Pastor Jerry Wirtley
Assisting Minister	Danny Calderon	Tom Wildrick
Lay Reader	Kathleen Reynolds	Tom Wildrick
Children's Sermon	Danny Calderon	Cindy Calderon
Acolyte	Cindy Calderon	Tyler Beazzo
Usher	Pat Shelfer Stacia Mercadante	Jackie Bremer Laurie Loya
Greeter	Betty Hoff Herman Hoff	Stacia Mercadante
Altar Flowers	David Wilkinson	David Wilkinson
Altar Guild	Rhonda Singh	Rhonda Singh
Bake Bread	Karen Shaver	Angela Wilson
Comm. Cleanup	Bill Piper	Kathleen Reynolds
Launder Robes	Kathleen Reynolds	Kathleen Reynolds
Musician	Donna Suggitt	Kathy T or Alternate Music
Attendance	Sue Paben	Pat Shelfer
Production Crew	Keith Guindon Deb Guindon	Danny Calderon Butch Wilson
Lou's Kitchen	Angela Wilson Kathy Reinhardt	Kathleen Hargrave Melissa Hargrave
Menu	Pigs in a Blanket	Biscuit & Sausage Gravy

Please contact the church office in advance if you cannot serve on that date