



## 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

March 15, 2026

Lord of Life Lutheran Church, North Pole, AK  
(907) 488-6720 [www.lordoflifeak.com](http://www.lordoflifeak.com)

*Assistant Minister = Blue*

*Welcome!* Words in **bold** are said together.

### *The Lord's Prayer*

We pray together with confidence the prayer our Lord Jesus taught us to pray,

**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.**

### *Confession and Forgiveness*

*Leader: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Congregation: Amen.***

*L: Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses. (silence for reflection)*

*L: Gracious God, **C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.***

*L: For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you: Gracious God, **C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.***

*L: For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word: Gracious God, **C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.***

*L: For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God, **C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.***

*L: For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdaining the living water Christ offers: Gracious God, **C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.***

*L: For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world: Gracious God, **C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.***

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

*L: 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. **C: Amen.***

### *Gathering Hymn – Great is Thy Faithfulness #733*

1. Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with thee;  
Thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not; as thou has been, thou forever wilt be.

*Refrain:* Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!

Morning by morning new mercies I see;

all I have needed thy hand hath provided; great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.

2. Summer and winter and springtime and harvest, sun, moon, and stars in their courses above.  
Join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. *Refrain.*
3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, blessings all mine,  
with ten thousand beside! *Refrain.*

*Prayer of the Day* – **Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

### *Scripture Readings*

1 Samuel 16:1-13 p. 226

The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." <sup>2</sup> Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the Lord said, "Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.' <sup>3</sup> Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do, and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." <sup>4</sup> Samuel did what the Lord commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling and said, "Do you come peaceably?" <sup>5</sup> He said, "Peaceably. I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. <sup>6</sup> When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely his anointed is now before the Lord." <sup>7</sup> But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him, for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." <sup>8</sup> Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." <sup>9</sup> Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." <sup>10</sup> Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." <sup>11</sup> Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him, for we will not sit down until he comes here." <sup>12</sup> He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him, for this is the one." <sup>13</sup> Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23 p. 435

<sup>1</sup> The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

<sup>2</sup> He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; <sup>3</sup> he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

<sup>4</sup> Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

<sup>5</sup> You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

<sup>6</sup> Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.

Ephesians 5:8-14 p. 951

<sup>8</sup> For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Walk as children of light, <sup>9</sup> for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. <sup>10</sup> Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. <sup>11</sup> Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness; rather, expose them. <sup>12</sup> For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly, <sup>13</sup> but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, <sup>14</sup> for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

*Gospel Acclamation (sung) p. 102, setting 1*

\*Please stand for the reading of the gospel.

The holy Gospel according to *John*. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

John 9:1-12, 35-41 p. 871

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup> His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. <sup>4</sup> We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. <sup>5</sup> As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." <sup>6</sup> When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, <sup>7</sup> saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. <sup>8</sup> The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" <sup>9</sup> Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am he." <sup>10</sup> But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" <sup>11</sup> He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." <sup>12</sup> They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." <sup>35</sup> Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" <sup>36</sup> He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." <sup>37</sup> Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." <sup>38</sup> He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. <sup>39</sup> Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see may see and those who do see may become blind." <sup>40</sup> Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" <sup>41</sup> Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Sermon*

David Ingram

*Hymn of the Day – Amazing Grace #779*

1. Amazing Grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see.
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;  
how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!

3. Through many dangers, toils and snares I have already come;  
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
4. The Lord has promised good to me; his word my hope secures;  
he will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.
5. When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,  
we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

### *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 God's People*

Each petition ends "Lord, in your mercy," please respond: **hear our prayer.**

*Sharing the Peace – L: The love of God poured into our hearts, the saving grace of Jesus Christ, and the abundant life of the Holy Spirit be with you all. C: And also with you.*

### *Offering*

- ◇ Mail: Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 1005 St. Nicholas Drive, North Pole, AK 99705
- ◇ Online: "giving" tab at [www.lordoflifeak.com/giving](http://www.lordoflifeak.com/giving) or the QR Code →
- ◇ Phone app: download "Give Plus Church" search by zip 99705, choose Lord of Life, and follow the instructions. Giving is secure.



### *Offering Hymn – You Satisfy the Hungry Heart #484 v. 1-4*

*Refrain:* You satisfy the hungry heart with gift of finest wheat.

Come give to us, O saving Lord, the bread of life to eat.

1. As when the shepherd calls his sheep, they know and heed his voice;  
so when you call your fam'ly, Lord, we follow and rejoice. *Refrain.*
2. With joyful lips we sing to you our praise and gratitude  
that you should count us worthy, Lord, to share this heav'nly food. *Refrain.*
3. Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ outpoured?  
Do not one cup, one loaf, declare our oneness in the Lord? *Refrain.*
4. The myst'ry of your presence, Lord, no mortal tongue can tell:  
whom all the world cannot contain comes in our hearts to dwell. *Refrain.*

### *Offering Prayer*

**O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You**

**send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

*The Great Thanksgiving p. 107*

*Holy, Holy, Holy p. 108*

*Christ's Words of Institution and Communion*

*Invitation to Communion*

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

*Post Communion Prayer*

*L: God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls 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. C: Amen.*

*Announcements*

- Signups are out for Easter Breakfast!
- Don't see your special dates in the weekly bulletin? Let the office know!
- Coming up: Apr 24-26 Synod Assembly; Sept 13 GWOH Sunday

*Closing Hymn – I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say #611*

1. I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Come unto me and rest;  
lay down, O weary one, lay down your head upon my breast."  
I came to Jesus as I was, so weary, worn, and sad;  
I found in him a resting place; and he has made me glad.
2. I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Behold, I freely give  
the living water, thirsty one; stoop down and drink and live.  
I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life-giving stream;  
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived And now I live in him.
3. I heard the voice of Jesus say, "I am this dark world's light;  
look unto me, your morn shall rise; and all your day be bright."  
I looked to Jesus, and I found in him my star, my sun;  
and in that light of life I'll walk 'til trav'ling days are done."

*Blessing*

*L: 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. C: Amen.*

*Dismissal*

*L: Go in peace. Believe the good news. C: Thanks be to God.*

***Special Thanks to...***

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***Birthdays & Anniversaries...***

3-15 Rosie Aleshire

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