

# AES MINISTRIES ~ AUGUSTANA LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Augustana office: 375-4792 website: www.aeslutheran.org

Organist: Heidi Engel Lector: Leora Ask Greeters: Lisa Carlson

Missionary Sponsor for the Month of March: Gene & Carol Zarn

Radio Broadcast Sponsored by: Tom & Cathy Anderson

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The Third Sunday in Lent

March 8, 2026 9:00 AM

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*"Congregations joined in faith and fellowship to spread God's love."*

AES Ministries mission statement

Welcome to all who worship with us today! All are welcome at the Lord's Table

## PRELUDE, WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

LEFT COLUMN, ELW p. 94

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

In the name of the Father,  
and of the ✠ Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

*The presiding minister may lead one of the following or another prayer of preparation.*

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

*One of the following or another confession is prayed.*

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God,  
**we confess**  
**that we are captive to sin**  
**and cannot free ourselves.**  
**We have sinned against you**  
**in thought, word, and deed,**  
**by what we have done**  
**and by what we have left undone.**  
**We have not loved you**  
**with our whole heart;**  
**we have not loved**  
**our neighbors as ourselves.**  
**For the sake**  
**of your Son, Jesus Christ,**

have mercy on us.

Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,  
so that we may delight in your will  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

*The presiding minister announces God's forgiveness with these or similar words.*

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

“Gather Us In”

ELW #532



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness  
2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who  
3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the  
4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings  
yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,  
bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,  
light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.  
called to be light to the whole hu - man race.  
call us a - new to be salt for the earth.  
now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in, the  
Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the  
Give us to drink the wine of com-pas - sion, give us to eat the  
Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,  
proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,  
bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion  
make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.  
give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.  
lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.  
fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

## GREETING

ELW p. 138

*During this time, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.*

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

*A Kyrie may be sung in dialogue between an assisting minister and the assembly.*



In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



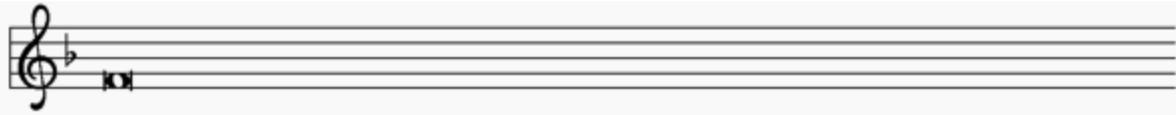
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



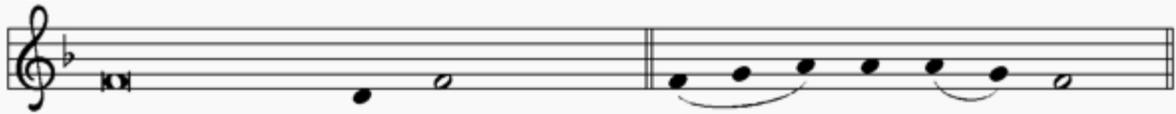
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



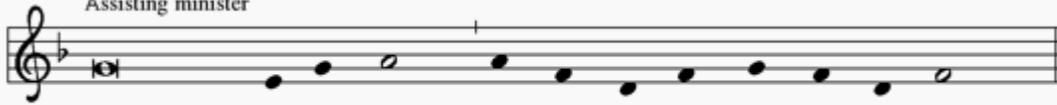
Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE

## *“Glory to God”*

ELW p. 140

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



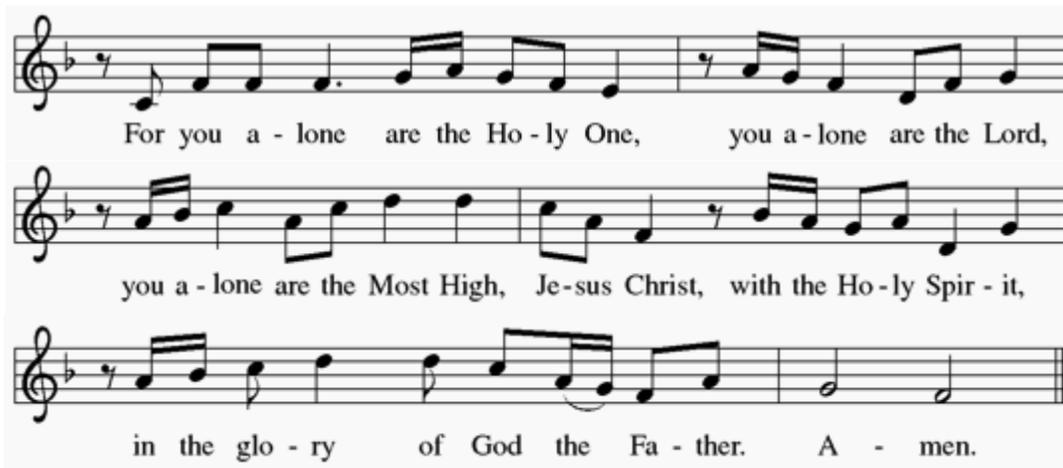
Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



## PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray....

**C: Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## FIRST READING: EXODUS 17:1-7

<sup>1</sup> From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. <sup>2</sup> The people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" <sup>3</sup> But the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" <sup>4</sup> So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do for this people? They are almost ready to stone me." <sup>5</sup> The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile and go. <sup>6</sup> I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup> He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

L: Word of God, Word of Life. **C: Thanks be to God**

## PSALM: 95

<sup>1</sup> Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

<sup>2</sup> **Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving  
and raise a loud shout to the Lord with psalms.**

<sup>3</sup> For you, Lord, are a great God, and a great ruler above all gods.

<sup>4</sup> **In your hand are the caverns of the earth; the heights of the hills are also yours.**

<sup>5</sup> The sea is yours, for you made it, and your hands have molded the dry land.

<sup>6</sup> **Come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord our maker.**

<sup>7</sup> For the Lord is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand.

Oh, that today you would hear God's voice!

<sup>8</sup> “Harden not your hearts, as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert.

<sup>9</sup> There your ancestors tested me, they put me to the test, though they had seen my works.

<sup>10</sup> Forty years I loathed that generation, saying,

‘The heart of this people goes astray; they do not know my ways.’

<sup>11</sup> Indeed I swore in my anger, ‘They shall never come to my rest.’”

## SECOND READING: ROMANS 5:1-11

<sup>1</sup> Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup> through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. <sup>3</sup> And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, <sup>4</sup> and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup> and hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

<sup>6</sup> For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup> Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. <sup>8</sup> But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup> Much more surely, therefore, since we have now been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. <sup>10</sup> For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. <sup>11</sup> But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

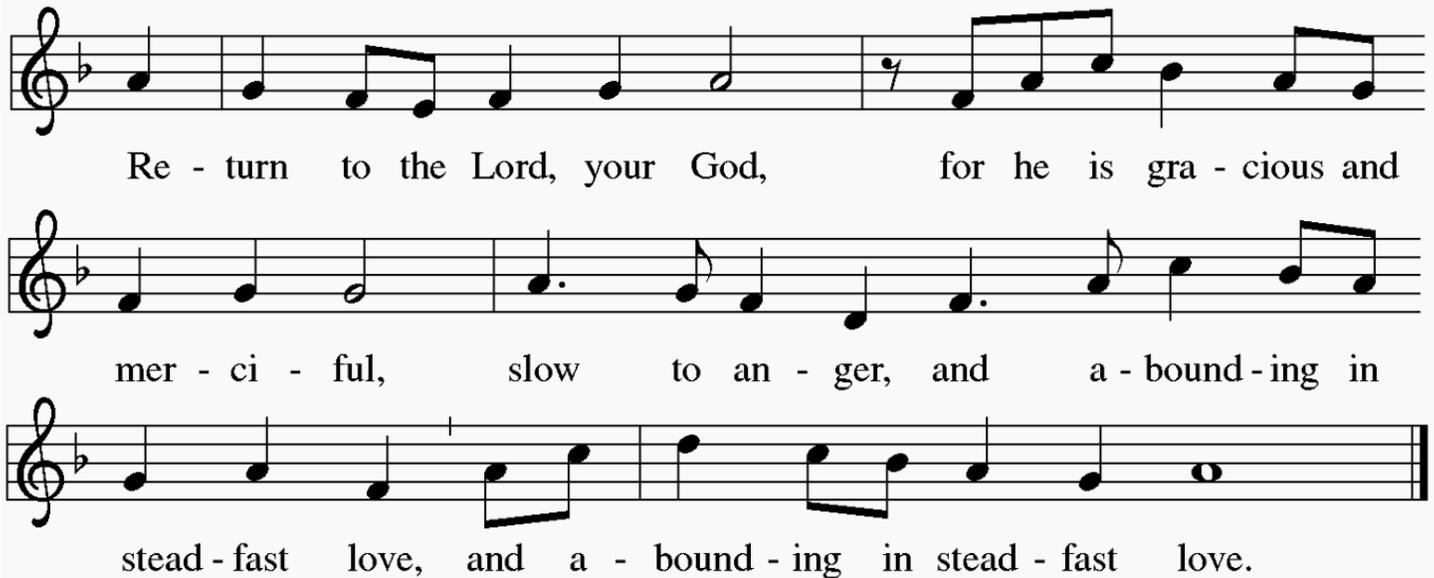
L: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*“Return to the Lord, Your God”*

ELW p. 142



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in  
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

## GOSPEL: JOHN 4:5-42

P: The Holy Gospel According to St. John, the 4<sup>th</sup> Chapter

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>5</sup> [Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph.<sup>6</sup> Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

<sup>7</sup> A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink."<sup>8</sup> (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.)<sup>9</sup> The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.)<sup>10</sup> Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water."<sup>11</sup> The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?"<sup>12</sup> Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?"<sup>13</sup> Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again,<sup>14</sup> but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life."<sup>15</sup> The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

<sup>16</sup> Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back."<sup>17</sup> The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband,'<sup>18</sup> for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!"<sup>19</sup> The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet."<sup>20</sup> Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem."<sup>21</sup> Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem."<sup>22</sup> You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews."<sup>23</sup> But the hour is coming and is now here when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him."<sup>24</sup> God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."<sup>25</sup> The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us."<sup>26</sup> Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

<sup>27</sup> Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?"<sup>28</sup> Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people,<sup>29</sup> "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?"<sup>30</sup> They left the city and were on their way to him.

<sup>31</sup> Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something."<sup>32</sup> But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about."<sup>33</sup> So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?"<sup>34</sup> Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work."<sup>35</sup> Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting.<sup>36</sup> The reaper is already receiving wages and is

gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. <sup>37</sup> For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' <sup>38</sup> I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

<sup>39</sup> Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." <sup>40</sup> So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. <sup>41</sup> And many more believed because of his word. <sup>42</sup> They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world." P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.

## MESSAGE

### HYMN OF THE DAY

### *"I Heard the Voices of Jesus Say"*

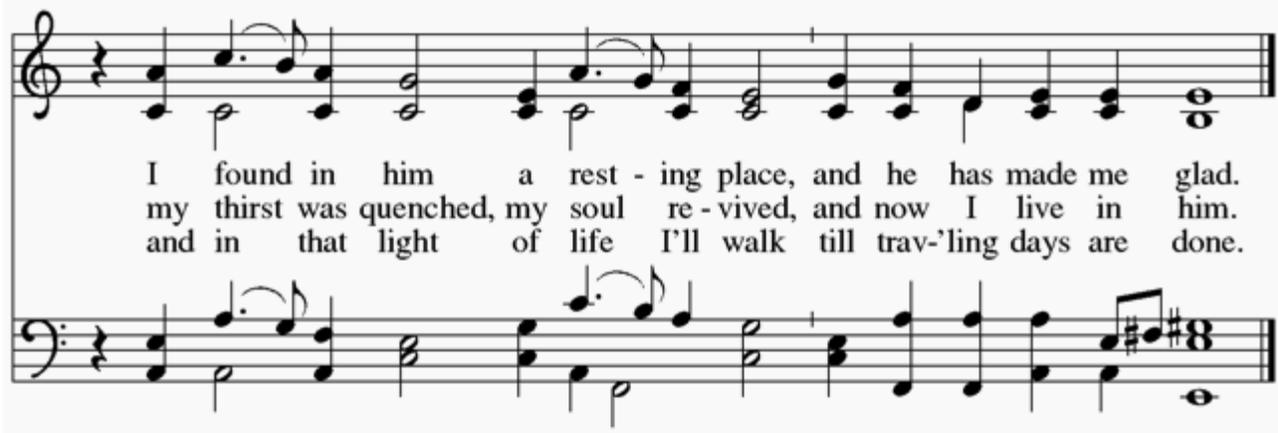
ELW #332

1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest;  
2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give  
3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light;

lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on my breast."  
the liv - ing wa - ter, thirst - y one; stoop down and drink and live."  
look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."

I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea - ry, worn, and sad;  
I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream;  
I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my star, my sun;

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The first system contains three verses of lyrics. The second system contains the main body of the hymn's lyrics. The third system contains the concluding lines of the hymn. The music is written in a common time signature (C) and features a mix of chords and melodic lines.



**APOSTLE'S CREED**

ELW p. 105

**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.**

**PRAYER'S OF INTERCESSION**

L: Lord in your Mercy . . .

C: Hear our Prayer

**SHARING GOD'S PEACE**

**OFFERING**

Offertory Hymn

*"Create in Me a Clean Heart"*

ELW #186



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 to me the joy of  
your sal-va-tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it.

### Offertory Prayer

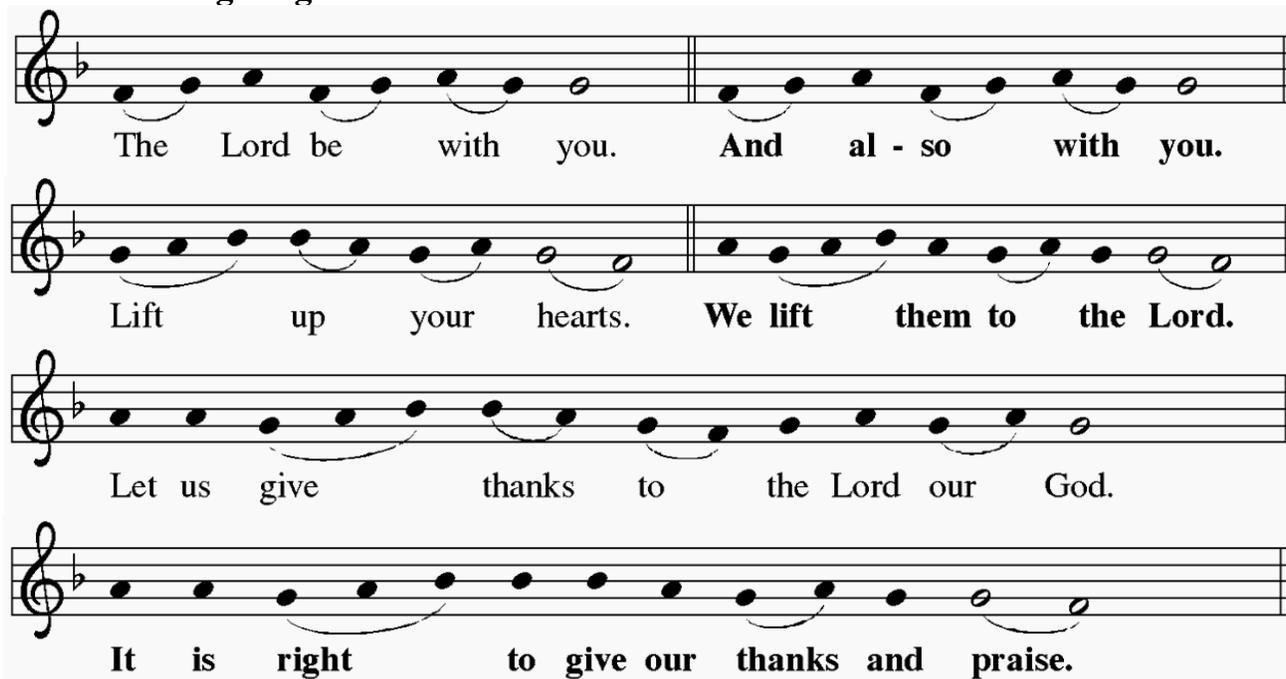
Scan this QR Code to give Electronically!



### HOLY COMMUNION

*Here at Augustana we are committed to the inclusion of all God's people, with no exception. Therefore, we practice open communion, welcoming all to the table to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion. Juice (light color) and wine (dark red) are both available. Individually wrapped gluten free wafers are available as well. If you would like to receive communion, but are unable to physically come forward, please indicate that to an usher and communion will be brought to you.*

### Great Thanksgiving



The Lord be with you. And al-so 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.

**Congregation Responds: "Holy, Holy, Holy"**

**ELW p. 144**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. 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.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Holy, Holy, Holy". It consists of four staves of music in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final cadence at the end of the fourth staff.

**Words Of Institution**

**ELW p. 144**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**ELW p. 145**

**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.**

**Distribution**

**Post Communion Prayer**

**Communion Hymn**

*"Here is Bread"*

**ELW p. 146**

**ELW #483**



1 Here is bread, here is wine, Christ is with us, he is with us.  
 2 Here is grace, here is peace, Christ is with us, he is with us.  
 3 Here we are, joined in one, Christ is with us, he is with us.



Break the bread, taste the wine, Christ is with us here.  
 Know his grace, find his peace, feast on Je - sus here.  
 We'll pro - claim till he comes Je - sus cru - ci - fied.



In this bread there is heal - ing, in this cup is life for - ev - er.



In this mo - ment, by the Spir - it, Christ is with us here.

## BLESSING

P: Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit,  
 bless you now and forever.

C: Amen

## SENDING HYMN

### “Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me”

ELW #623

1 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee;  
 2 Not the la - bors of my hands can ful - fill thy law's de - mands;  
 3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring; sim - ply to thy cross I cling.  
 4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, when mine eye - lids close in death,

let the wa - ter and the blood, from thy riv - en side which flowed,  
 could my zeal no res - pite know, could my tears for - ev - er flow,  
 Na - ked, come to thee for dress; help - less, look to thee for grace;  
 when I soar to worlds un - known, see thee on thy judg - ment throne,

be of sin the dou - ble cure; cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.  
 all for sin could not a - tone; thou must save, and thou a - lone.  
 foul, I to the foun - tain fly; wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.  
 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.

**DISMISSAL**      P: Go in peace. You are God's beloved.      C: Thanks be to God.

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**Prayer Concerns:** *Lucy Christenson, Lindsey Kulseth, Debbie McGuire, Roger Hagen, Nolan O'Connor, Judy Berg, Darrell Ask, Dennis Johnson, Mike Larson, Jamie (Noren) Seiner, Marie Christenson, Darryl Jensen, Phyllis Jurgens, Dave Finnegan, Tim Knaak, Don Flater, Bruce Ohland, Sam Christenson, Melissa Anderson, Steven Olson, Tom Anderson, Chloe Anderson, Orval Larson, Dennis Madison, Linda Madison, and Emma Overson.*

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**General Offering: \$2,269.00**  
**Vanco/Online Offering: \$ 559.50**  
**Total Offering for March 1<sup>st</sup>: \$2,828.50**  
**Amount needed each week is \$3,867 to make budget.**

**Activities this week: March 9 – March 15**

- Monday    3:00 pm – (E) Study Group
- Tuesday    1:00 pm – Ministerium
- 2:15 pm – Augustana worship on cable tv
- Wednesday 5:30 pm – (A) Supper
- 6:00 pm – (A) ROAR
- 6:30 pm – (A) Lenten Service
- 7:00 pm – (A) Council
- Thursday    7:00 pm – (E) Council
- Sunday      9:00 am – (A) Worship
- 10:00 am – (A) Coffee Hour / St. Patrick's Day Breakfast & BINGO Fundraiser
- 10:30 am – (E) Worship

## 2026 Lenten Schedule

**March 11** - "Jesus Calms the Storm" – Pastor Mandy. 5:30 pm Supper; 6:30 pm Service at **Augustana**

**March 18** - "Jesus Walks on Water" – Deacon Lyla. 5:30 pm Supper; 6:30 pm Service at **East**

**March 25** - "River of Life" – Pastor Mandy. 5:30 pm Supper; 6:30 pm Service at **Augustana**

**April 2** – Maundy Thursday/First Communion , 6:30 pm at **East**

**April 3** – Good Friday, 6:30 pm at **Augustana**

**April 5** – Easter 8:00 am at Augustana, 10:00 am at East

## Church Announcements

- ✝ **Education Committee will meet TONIGHT at 6 pm.**
- ✝ Youth are hosting **Bingo at the Nursing home TODAY** from 2 PM - 3 PM.
- ✝ **Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>**, there is a **National Youth Gathering Meeting** for youth and 1 Parent at 6:30 pm @ Augustana.
- ✝ **AES Youth are hosting a St, Patrick's Breakfast and Bingo Fundraiser Sunday March 15<sup>th</sup>** following 9 AM service at Augustana. Breakfast Menu: Build your own Breakfast Sandwich, and Yogurt Parfaits. Breakfast is free will-donation and Bingo will be \$5 for 5 games. Hope to see you all!
- ✝ **Youth in Grades 6-8** are invited are invited to **Ecumenical Youth Night** at First Lutheran Church Sunday, March 22 from 6-7 pm.
- ✝ **First Communion Class** for 2<sup>nd</sup> graders will be held Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup> from 1-4pm at Augustana. First Communion will take place Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 pm at Augustana.
- ✝ We are now taking orders for **Easter Lilies & Pastel Mums**. Cost is \$15 per plant. Order forms are on tables by bulletins and are due Tuesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>. You can take your plant home after worship on Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup>.
- ✝ Palm Sunday is Sun, **March 29<sup>th</sup> will be a Joint Worship at Augustana** at 10 am. Lunch and Easter Egg hunt for grades infant – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade following Worship. **Registration closes TODAY!**
- ✝ If you **volunteer at the food shelf--Neighborhood Pantry**, you are invited to an appreciation evening Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 pm at First Presbyterian Church. RSVP (phone or text) 507-621-4264 or email [npfoodshelf@gmail.com](mailto:npfoodshelf@gmail.com).