

welcome to worship
FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT
March 15, 2026



The Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Atonement
5 Wyomissing Boulevard
Wyomissing, Pennsylvania 19610-2081
phone: 610-375-3512 ♦ www.atonementwyo.org
The Rev. Katie Lyon ♦ Deacon Tom Yenser, director of music

PRELUDE

Open My Eyes, Lord/Be Thou My Vision

arr. Hayes

WELCOME

Deacon Tom

The assembly stands.

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.**

We come as we are to 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 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 HYMN 779

Amazing Grace – stanzas 1, 2, 3

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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.**

The assembly is seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Miss Lauryn

The assembly remains seated for the Gospel.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 9:1-41 (NRSV)

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

¹ As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ² His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" ³ Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. ⁴ We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵ As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." ⁶ 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, ⁷ saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁸ 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?" ⁹ Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am he." ¹⁰ But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" ¹¹ 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." ¹² They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

¹³ They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴ Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵ Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." ¹⁶ Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath." Others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. ¹⁷ So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

¹⁸ The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹ and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" ²⁰ His parents answered, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind, ²¹ but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." ²² His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. ²³ Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

²⁴ So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." ²⁵ He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." ²⁶ They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" ²⁷ He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" ²⁸ Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹ We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." ³⁰ The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. ³¹ We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. ³² Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. ³³ If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." ³⁴ They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

³⁵ Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" ³⁶ He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." ³⁷ Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." ³⁸ He said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him. ³⁹ 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." ⁴⁰ Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" ⁴¹ 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.

The assembly stands.

APOSTLES' 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 INTERCESSION

Each petition concludes Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

The prayers conclude ... through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

The assembly is seated.

OFFERING

If you brought an offering or your pledge card today, please place it in an offering plate that ushers will pass at this time. Thank you for your generous gifts! Did you know you can give using a credit card? Scan the QR code to the right.



OFFERTORY HYMN 780

Shepherd Me, O God
Refrain: All sing | Verses: choir

HOLY COMMUNION

LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION

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

The assembly is seated.

DISTRIBUTION

Everyone is welcome to receive Holy Communion at Atonement. Follow the directions of the ushers to receive bread and a pre-filled cup of wine or grape juice (in purple cups) from the communion assistants. Deposit your empty cup in the basket at the end of the front pew and return to your seat by the side aisles. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. Children are welcome to receive communion with their parents' permission.

Please take a moment to sign and pass the attendance pads found in the pews, check in to Atonement on your favorite social media platform, share a photo with your digital community, and say something gentle in the spirit of Jesus!

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION *Lamb of God*

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Communion Hymn 614

There Is a Balm in Gilead

Come, Bring Your Burdens to God

Come, bring your bur - dens to God; come, bring your
bur - dens to God; come, bring your bur - dens to God, for
Je - sus will nev - er say no.

The image shows three staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff covers the first line of lyrics, the second staff covers the second line, and the third staff covers the third line. The music ends with a double bar line.

"Come, Bring Your Burdens to God," English text Barbara Clark, Mairi Munro, and Martine Stemerick. Arranged by Welile Sigabi. ©2008 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-742295.

The assembly stands.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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

God of all that we hardly notice,
Ruler of the ground under our feet and the sky stretched over our heads,
Send your Spirit to direct our steps and our thoughts as we stumble around this day and night.
We have too much to do, so give us enough silence to hear your voice.
We have too much to worry about, so quiet us with a moment of your peace.
We have too much to carry, so lighten our hearts with your love.
We are your people, eyes cast down on the ground that you made, wary that the sky will fall again. Remind us again that above and below you are here. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN 793

Be Thou My Vision

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Follow Jesus. Serve together. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

arr. Cherwien

Holy Week Schedule

Journey with us through the events during the last week of Jesus' life—from the gates of Jerusalem, to the Upper Room, to the foot of the cross, to the empty tomb!

Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion

March 29 ♦ 10:00 AM in the nave

Music led by adult and children's choirs, Palm Procession, dramatic reading of the Passion according to Saint Matthew

Maundy Thursday

April 2 ♦ 7:00 PM in the nave

Footwashing, Holy Communion, Stripping the Altar

*****NEW*** Good Friday**

April 3 ♦ 12 noon in the nave

Stations of the Cross – quiet service with visual images, readings and prayers

April 3 ♦ 7:00 PM in the nave

Tenebrae (Service of Shadows) and Youth Chancel Drama

Easter Vigil

April 4 ♦ 7:30 PM in Lundin Hall

Lighting the New Fire (outside, weather permitting), entering a darkened worship space to hear of God's mighty acts, singing Alleluias in the light of the resurrection, remembering our baptism, and celebrating Holy Communion, together with Common Ground.

Assisting with Worship

Robin Border, greeters ♦ Fred Kofke, head usher

Peter Calder, reader

Sharon Calder, Tim McGuirk, Lynne Wenz, Carolyn Wheeler, James White, communion assistants

Oliver Lord, Matt Shirk, audio/visual ♦ Madison & Kyleigh McCrae, nursery

Karen Sandloop, altar captain ♦ Matt Lepera, sexton

Atonement Choir

Our final blessing during this Lenten season is from "Have a Beautiful Terrible Day!" by Kate Bowler.

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WARMEST WELCOME to this congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America! We are a Lutheran church, but we're not just for Lutherans—we belong to our community! Together we are on the journey of discipleship with Jesus, who guides us from worship to formation, from formation to fellowship, and from fellowship to Christ-like servanthood.

CHILDREN are very welcome at Atonement! Activity bags and children's bulletins are available at the entrance to the worship space. Children from 3 years of age to 2nd grade are invited to experience worship geared just for them—follow the **CHILDREN'S CHAPEL** leader to the privacy room after the Children's Message. Children will return to their families for communion.

THE NURSERY is available for children preschool age and younger in Room F 126.

HEARING DEVICES for those who have trouble hearing the service are available with the ushers.

RESTROOMS are located in the hall next to the worship space. A **FAMILY RESTROOM** with a changing table is also located in the Privacy Room at the back of the worship space.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS are Monday—Thursday, 10:30am—2:30pm or by appointment.

ATONEMENT VOLUNTEERS SERVE AT OPPORTUNITY HOUSE the third Saturday of every month. Contact Bob Eisenbrown at 484-332-8788 if you would like to join the team.

DONATING TO THE COMMUNITY AID THRIFT SHOP can benefit Common Ground. Use the code **50244** when you make a donation.

FOOD DONATIONS of canned goods, cereal, and other non-perishable, non-expired items for Lutheran Pantry are always accepted in the grocery cart in the narthex.

CLOTHING AND REUSABLE GROCERY BAG DONATIONS FOR COMMON GROUND are being collected in the large bin next to the coatroom in the narthex. You can also donate using our Amazon wish list, available by going to atonementwyo.org and selecting Common Ground from the top menu of the home page.

PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION for the 2026-27 school year is open! Email Mrs. Dauber at jdauber@atonementwyo.org for more information.

FAITH FORMATION FOR ADULTS & CHILDREN meets Sunday mornings, 8:45-9:45. Adults meet in room F122, children meet in the choir room.

HEART TO HEART, a casual gathering of women to share experiences and learn from one another will be held Sundays, March 8, 15, 22, 29, 8:45-9:45am in the parlor. Gather, share, learn together. Email Jen Dauber at jdauber@atonementwyo.org with questions.

A **PLAYGROUND FUNDRAISER** is underway to resurface the playground so that it is accessible for all students. Donations made be made payable to Atonement, with playground in the check memo or notes section of online donations.

WEDNESDAY SERVICES during Lent will be in Lundin Hall with Common Ground at 7:00 pm. A simple dinner will be served at 6:00. Everyone is welcome!

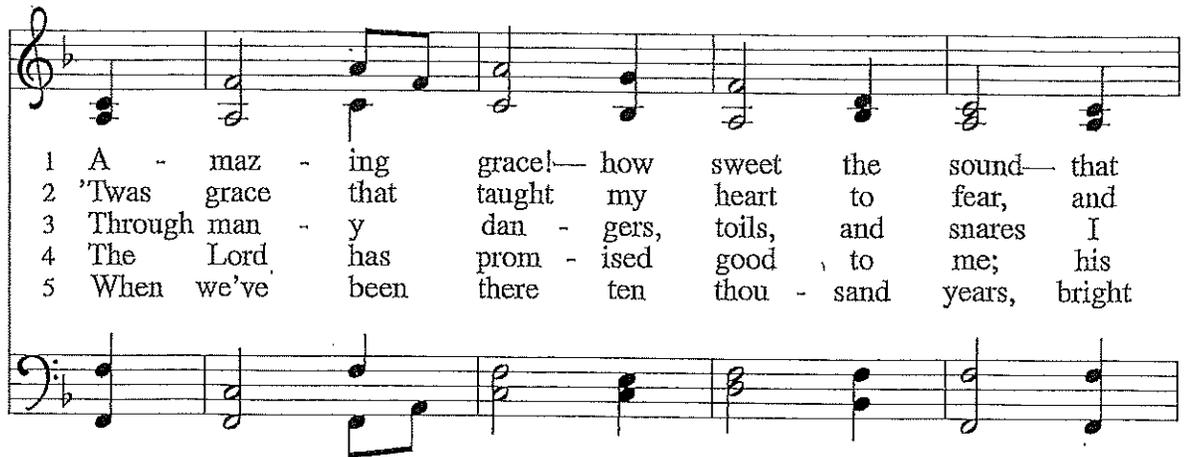
DAVE WATTS will be in concert at Atonement, Saturday, March 28, 4:00pm. Cost is \$20 at the door, use the link from the homepage of atonementwyo.org to RSVP.

PRETZEL SALE fundraiser for the playground resurfacing project will be after church March 22. Cost is \$2 per pretzel.

TODAY'S GATHERING FOR YOUTH in middle school and high school will be 5:30 at St. John's Sinking Spring.

STOP BY THE STEWARDSHIP TABLE in the narthex after worship today to see how you can **REACH OUT** with Atonement!

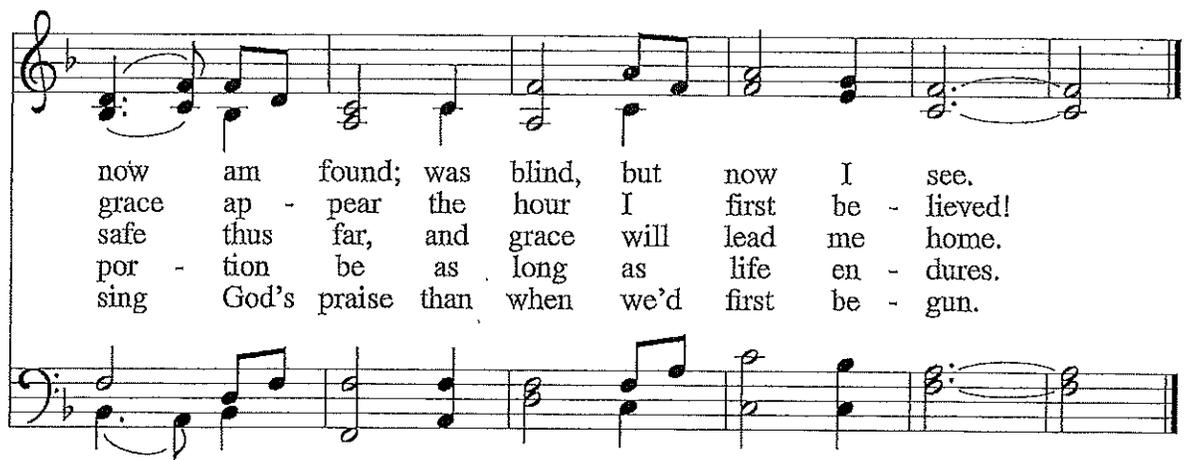
Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound 779



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



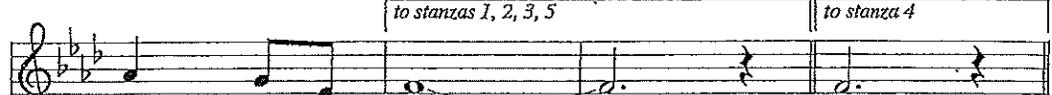
now am found; was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Refrain
All



Shep-herd me, O God, be-yond my wants, be-yond my fears, from

to stanzas 1, 2, 3, 5 *to stanza 4*



death in - to life. life.

Leader or All



1 God is my shep-herd, so noth-ing shall I want, I
2 Gent - ly you raise me and heal my wea - ry soul, you
3 Though I should wan - der the val - ley of death, I



rest in the mead-ows of faith - ful - ness and love, I
lead me by path-ways of righ-teous-ness and truth, my
fear no e - vil, for you are at my side, your

Refrain



walk by the qui - et wa - ters of peace.
spir - it shall sing the mu - sic of your name.
rod and your staff, my com - fort and my hope.

Leader or All



4 You have set me a ban-quet of love in the face of

Refrain



ha-tred, crown-ing me with love be-yond my pow'r to hold.

Leader or All



5 Sure-ly your kind-ness and mer-cy fol-low me all the days of my life;



I will dwell in the house of my God for-ev - er - more.

Final refrain
All



Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be -



yond my fears, from death in - to life.

There Is a Balm in Gilead

614

Refrain

There is a balm in Gil-e-ad to make the wound-ed whole;

there is a balm in Gil-e-ad to heal the sin-sick soul.

1 Some - times I feel dis - cour - aged and think my work's in vain,
 2 If you can - not preach like Pe - ter, if you can - not pray like Paul,
 3 Don't ev - er be dis - cour - aged, for Je - sus is your friend;

Refrain

but then the Ho - ly Spir - it re - vives my soul a - gain.
 you can tell the love of Je - sus and say, "He died for all."
 and if you lack for knowl - edge, he'll ne'er re - fuse to lend.

Be Thou My Vision



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
 4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord,
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,
 Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,
 thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
 great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.