



Luther Memorial Church

Holy Communion

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 2026 | 10:30 AM

Welcome!

Please silence your cell phone in the nave.

LIVESTREAM BROADCAST

This service is livestreamed on our website at www.luthermem.org and YouTube. Cameras are installed in the nave, and worshipers may occasionally be visible on this broadcast.

PARKING

Free parking is available Sundays in the Grainger Hall parking ramp, one block east of the church, off Brooks Street. For closer access, parking is available in the garage under the church off Conklin Place alley.

RESOURCES

T-coil audio is available in the nave. Ushers can provide hearing assistance and a wheelchair, if needed. Prayer shawls are available in the narthex.

CHILDCARE

Infants and children are welcome in worship. Changing tables are located in the restrooms. A staffed nursery is available Sundays 9–noon.

LEARN MORE

If you would like a pastor to call, or want to learn more:

- Please fill out a pew card and place in the offering plate
- Visit us online at www.luthermem.org or Facebook

PRELUDE

Canzone from Suite for Violin & Organ | Josef Rheinberger (1839-1901)

GATHERING

Please rise.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Cleanse me from sin, O Lord, wash me with hyssop branches; cleanse me from guilt, and I shall be clean as the new snow.

Have mercy on me, O my God, according to your great compassion.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

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

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven, and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life.

Amen.

The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. Amen.

I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven, and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.

The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. Amen.

Please turn and face the cross as the procession approaches the altar.

#609 PROCESSIONAL HYMN Chief of Sinners Though I Be

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, our Savior, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth. Strengthen our faith that by your Spirit we may live and serve you and our neighbor, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

Please sit.

FIRST READING Genesis 12:1-4a

The Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 121

The choir and congregation alternate in the singing of the psalm verses, beginning with the choir.



I lift up my eyes | to the hills;
from where is my | help to come?
My help comes | from the Lord,
the maker of heav- | en and earth.

**The Lord will not let your | foot be moved
nor will the one who watches over you | fall asleep.**

**Behold, the keep- | er of Israel
will neither slum- | ber nor sleep;**

the Lord watches | over you;
the Lord is your shade at | your right hand;
the sun will not strike | you by day,
nor the | moon by night.

**The Lord will preserve you | from all evil
and will | keep your life.**

**The Lord will watch over your going out and your | coming in,
from this time forth for- | evermore.**

SECOND READING Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what

does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law, neither is there transgression.

For this reason the promise depends on faith, in order that it may rest on grace, so that it may be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (who is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations"), in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please rise.

GOSPEL

Choir: The Son of Man must be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

GOSPEL John 3:1-17

Glory to you, O Lord.

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

"Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please sit.

SERMON

Please rise.

#323 HYMN OF THE DAY God Loved the World

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

... Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.
Please greet your neighbor: Peace be with you.

MEAL

Please sit.

OFFERING Agnus Dei | Kristina Vasiliauskaite (b. 1956)
*Agnus Dei qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem. Amen.*

Please rise.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray.
**Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

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.

The musical notation for 'GREAT THANKSGIVING' consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, using quarter and eighth notes with various rests. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes.

SANCTUS

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 in the high - est.

Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

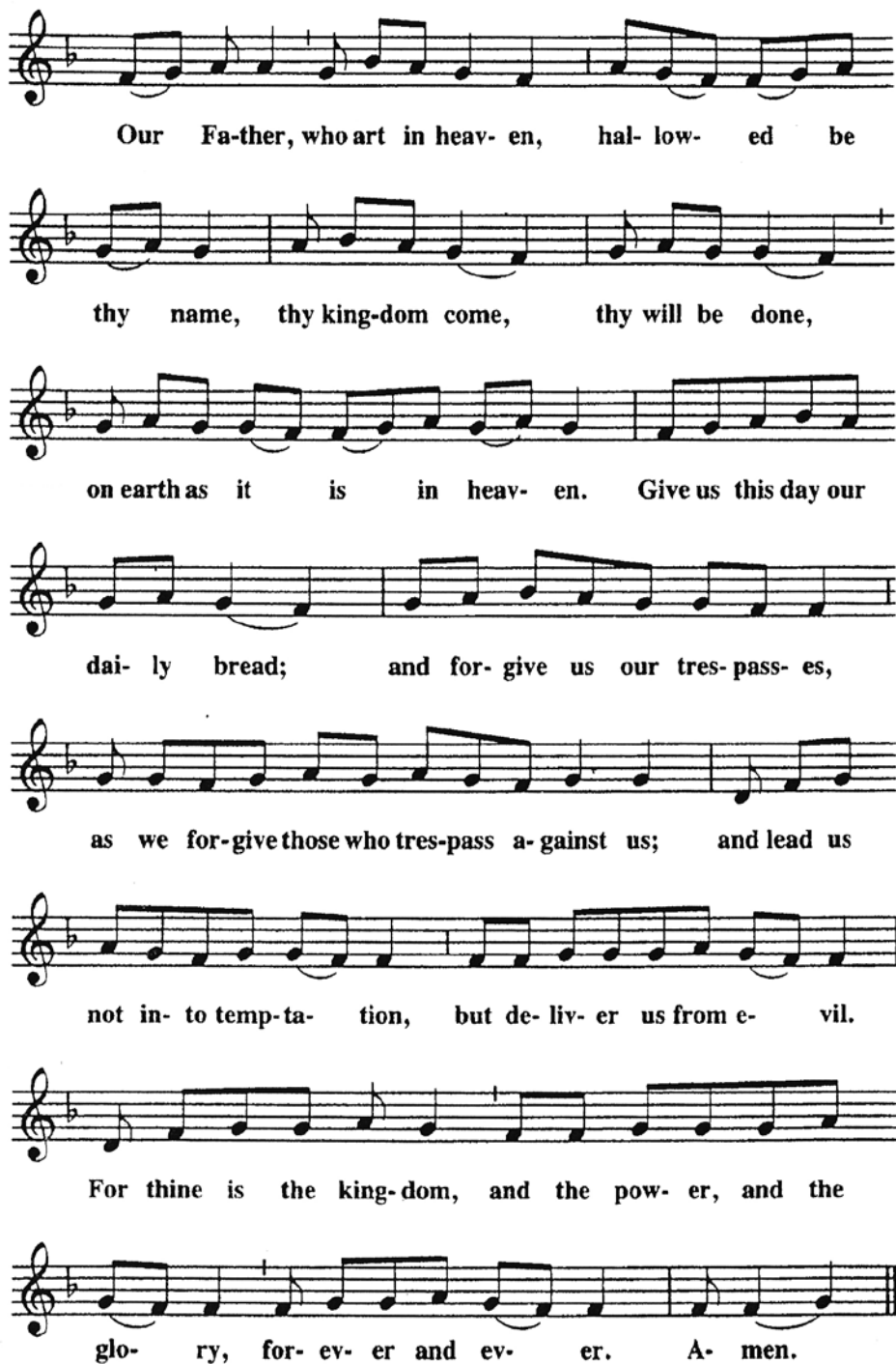
Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The musical notation for 'SANCTUS' consists of five staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, using quarter and eighth notes with various rests. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

We give you thanks, Father... both now and forever.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER



Our Fa-ther, who art in heav- en, hal- low- ed be

thy name, thy king-dom come, thy will be done,

on earth as it is in heav- en. Give us this day our

dai- ly bread; and for- give us our tres- pass- es,

as we for- give those who tres- pass a- gainst us; and lead us

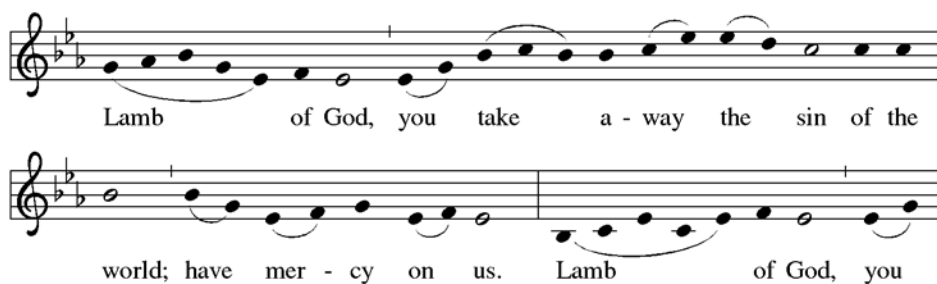
not in- to temp- ta- tion, but de- liv- er us from e- vil.

For thine is the king-dom, and the pow- er, and the

glo- ry, for- ev- er and ev- er. A- men.

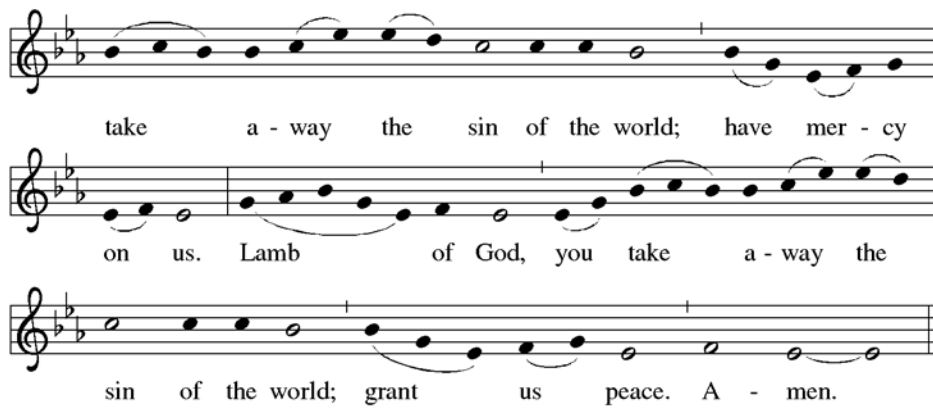
Please sit.

AGNUS DEI



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you



THE COMMUNION

All baptized Christians are welcomed to receive Holy Communion. We receive the Body of Christ (bread) in our open hands. Christ is fully present in both bread and cup. The Blood of Christ (wine) may be received in any of three ways: by drinking from the first chalice, by dipping the bread (intinction) into the chalice, or by drinking from an individual glass poured from a second chalice.*

**Gluten-free bread is available on request.*

MUSIC AT THE COMMUNION Just as I Am | Albert Becker (1834-1899)

The text may be found at hymn #592.

Allemande from Suite for Violin & Organ | Josef Rheinberger

#759 COMMUNION HYMN My Faith Looks Up to Thee

Please rise.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Please turn and face the cross as the procession approaches the font.

#811 RECESSIONAL HYMN On My Heart Imprint Your Image

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Agitato from Sonata II | Josef Rheinberger*

TODAY FROM THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

The Lenten Prayer of St. Ephrem the Syrian

Of all Lenten hymns and prayers, one short prayer can be termed the Lenten prayer. Tradition ascribes it to one of the great teachers of spiritual life, St. Ephraim the Syrian.

O Lord and Master of my life!
Take from me the spirit of sloth,
faintheartedness, lust of power and
idle talk. But give rather the spirit
of chastity, humility, patience and
love to your servant. Yea O Lord
and King! Grant me to see my own
errors and not to judge my brothers
and sisters; for you are blessed unto
ages of ages. Amen.

SERVING TODAY

PRESIDER	Pastor Brad Pohlman
PREACHER	Pastor John Worzala Dumke
ORGANIST	Andrew Schaeffer
VIOLINIST	Rolf Wulfsberg
ACOLYTES	Abrielle Shirek, Michelle Fink
ASSISTING MINISTER	Margaret Miner
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	Michael Bradley, John Pleuss, Phyllis Pleuss
CRUCIFER	Tim Szczykutowicz
LECTOR	Nicole Lane Starr
SACRISTAN	Randy Raasch
AUDIO	Alex Starr
VIDEO	Lee Powell
HEAD USHERS	Robert Steffen
USHERS	Nicole Lane Starr, Kris Gruber-Twardy, Paul Twardy

Recently the ELCA switched to the NRSVue translation of the bible. That translation is printed in this bulletin. However, our lectionary book that we read from during worship is the older NRSV translation. The ELCA is in process to publish a new lectionary book. Until then, you may notice some differences between what is printed and what is spoken during worship.

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