



Luther Memorial Church

Holy Communion

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 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

Largo appassionato *from Sonata 2* | Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)

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.

#618 PROCESSIONAL HYMN Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer

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.

#160 TRISAGION Holy God

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly God, ho - ly and might - y,
ho - ly and im - mor - tal, have mer - cy on us.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Lord of living water, flood your church with the crucified and risen life of your Son, quench our thirst, pour your Spirit into our hearts that we might live and serve you 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 Exodus 17:1-7

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. 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?" 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?" So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do for this people? They are almost ready to stone me." 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. 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. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

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

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 95

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

Come, let us sing | to the Lord;

let us shout for joy to the rock of | our salvation.

Let us come before God's presence | with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to the | Lord with psalms.

**For you, Lord, | are a great God,
and a great ruler a- | bove all gods.
In your hand are the caverns | of the earth;
the heights of the hills are | also yours.**

The sea is yours, | for you made it,
and your hands have molded | the dry land.
Come, let us worship | and bow down,
let us kneel before the | Lord our maker.

**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!**

**“Harden | not your hearts,
as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah | in the desert.**

There your ancestors | tested me,
they put me to the test, though they had | seen my works.
Forty years I loathed that gener- | ation, saying,
‘The heart of this people goes astray; they do not | know my ways.’
Indeed I swore | in my anger,
‘They shall never come | to my rest.’”

SECOND READING Romans 5:1-11

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 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. And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, 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.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely, therefore, since we have now been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. 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. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please rise.

GOSPEL

Choir: Lord, you are truly the Savior of the world; give me this living water that I may never thirst again.

GOSPEL John 4:5-42

Glory to you, O Lord.

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

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.” (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) 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.) 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.” The woman said to him, “Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who

gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?” Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, 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.” 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.”

Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come back.” The woman answered him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband,’ for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!” The woman said to him, “Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.” Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. 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. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” 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.” Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.”

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?” Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, “Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?” They left the city and were on their way to him.

Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, “Rabbi, eat something.” But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.” So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?” Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. 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. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’ I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.” So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. 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.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please sit.

SERMON

Please rise.

#332 HYMN OF THE DAY I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

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 Offertoire | Johannès Donjon (1839-1912)

Please rise.

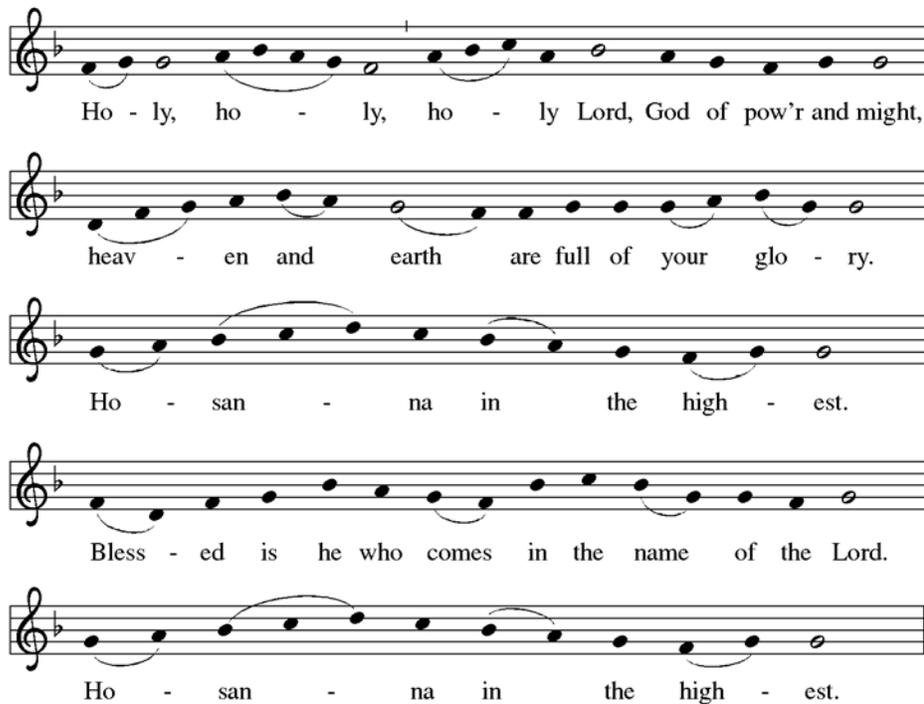
OFFERTORY PRAYER

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.

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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

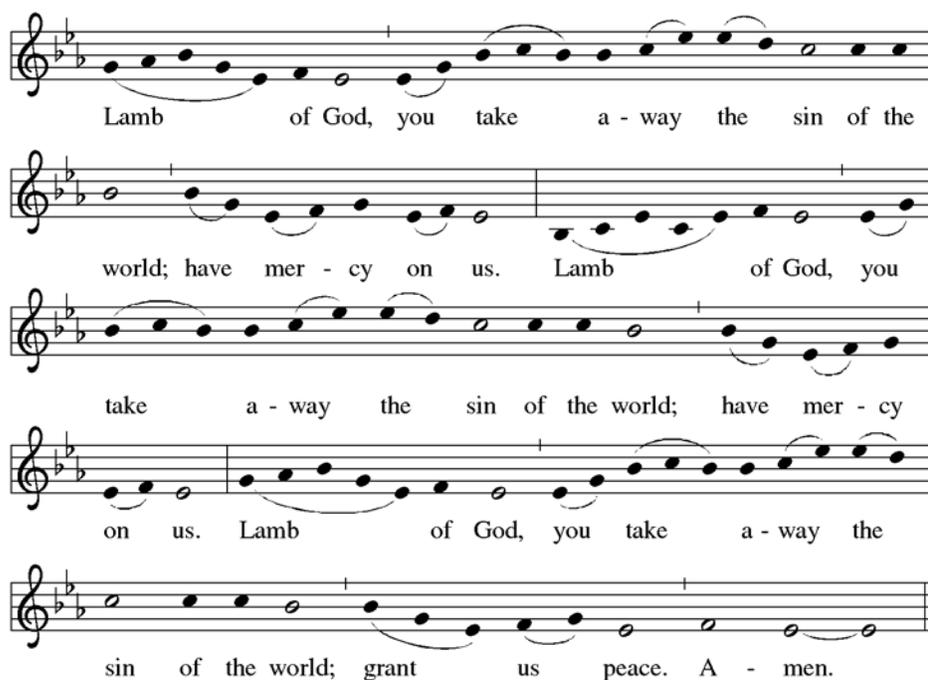
We give you thanks, Father... both now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER *(See inside back cover of hymnal)*

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
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. A - men.

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 How Beautiful | Twila Paris

COMMUNION HYMNS

#335 Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

#623 Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

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 Allegro assai *from Kinderstücke* | Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

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 spritual 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 John Worzala Dumke
PREACHER	Pastor Brad Pohlman
PIANIST	Andrew Schaeffer
ACOLYTES	Kendall Oelkers, Hattie Thiele
ASSISTING MINISTER	Mary Jean Huston
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	Mary Powell
CRUCIFER	Rolf Wulfsberg
LECTOR	Lynn Washington
SACRISTAN	Dan Ruge
AUDIO	David Heins
VIDEO	Lee Powell
HEAD USHERS	Derren Slinde
USHERS	Corbin Slinde, Calvin Slinde

Our thanks to Casey Oelkers, flute, Dave Bray, guitar, and Meredith Bray, alto, for offering music this morning.

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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