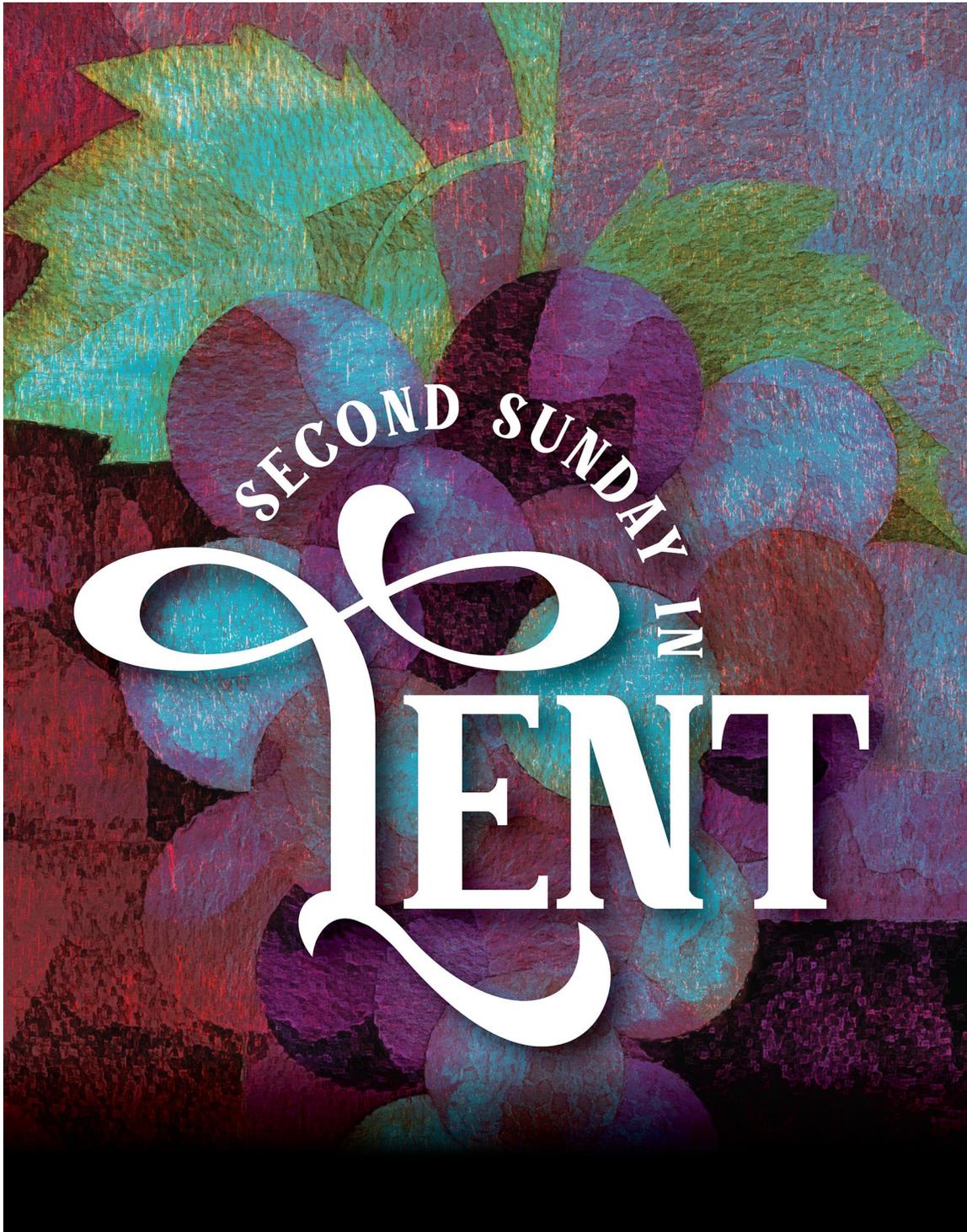


Sunday, March 1, 2026  
Second Sunday of Lent



**Holy Communion Lutheran Church**  
A community called to Worship, Learn, Love, and Serve  
2000 West Sixth St. Racine, WI 53405

*Special thanks to greeter Kay Krause, assisting minister Gregory Berg , lector Sheri Krenzke, AV technician Todd Jansen, ushers David Krueger, Steve Barootian, Gary Lequiaa, and Ed Wosilait, altar guild Grace Deibert, Lynn Sinclair, Sue DiPasquale Peterson and Katie Peterson, coffee fellowship and council person in charge Rose Adamski, the Senior Choir, and organist Randy Fischer for sharing their time and talent with us this morning.*

*Please stand if you are able where there is an asterisk \* in the bulletin.*

**PRELUDE** *A quiet time of reflection, to prepare for worship.*

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who forgives all our sin,  
whose mercy endures forever.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt  
and blots out all offenses.

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 failing to recognize your coming reign,

and for hindering the work of the Spirit: 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.**

# Baptized in Water

456

1 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, cleansed by the  
2 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, dead in the  
3 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, marked with the

blood of Christ our king: heirs of sal - va - tion, trust - ing his  
tomb with Christ our king: one with his ris - ing, freed and for -  
sign of Christ our king: born of the Spir - it, we are God's

prom - ise, faith - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.  
giv - en, thank - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.  
chil - dren; joy - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.

Text: Michael Saward, b. 1932  
Music: Gaelic tune; arr. hymnal version  
Text © 1982 Jubilate Hymns, admin. Hope Publishing Company  
Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress

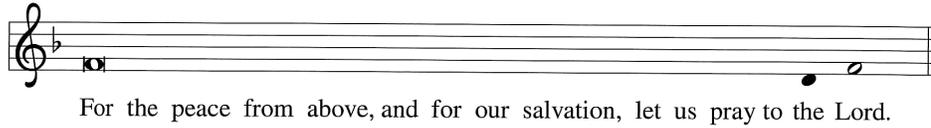
BUNESSAN  
55 8 D

**\*KYRIE**

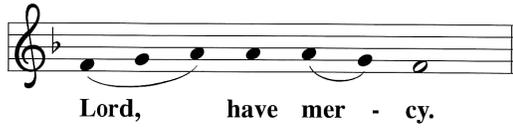
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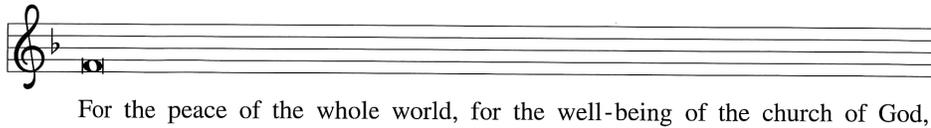
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



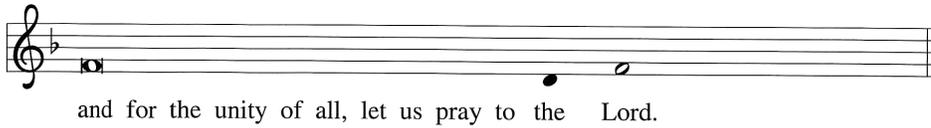
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



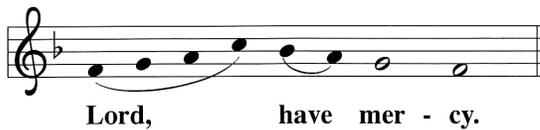
Lord, have mer - cy.



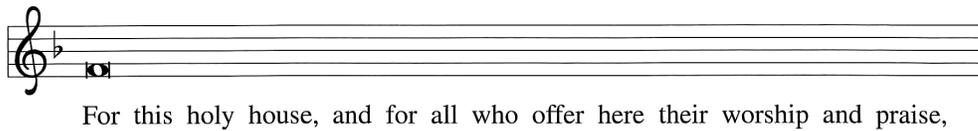
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



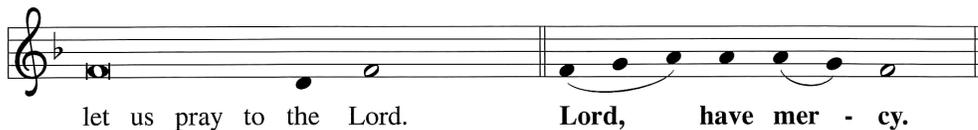
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



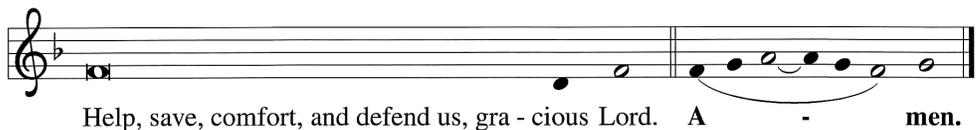
Lord, have mer - cy.



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.

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

**O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**ANTHEM Senior Choir**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Lisa Lequia**

## NOISY OFFERING

### CHILDREN AND YOUTH MAY GO TO CHOIR

#### ANTHEM “Give Me Understanding” from Psalm 119 (GB) Senior Choir

Give me understanding and I shall keep Your teaching.  
Give me understanding and I shall keep it with all my heart.  
Give me understanding- teach me, O Lord, Your Way.  
Give me understanding and I shall keep your ways to the end.

1- Lead me in the path of Your commandments  
for that is my desire.  
2- Turn my eyes away from every falsehood.  
Give me life in Your way.  
3- Remember Your Word, O Lord, to Your servant  
for You have given me hope.

#### CHILDREN’S MESSAGE Lisa Lequia

## NOISY OFFERING

### CHILDREN AND YOUTH MAY GO TO CHOIR

#### First Reading: Genesis 12:1-4a

<sup>1</sup> 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. <sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> 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.”

<sup>4a</sup> So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### PSALM: Psalm 121

<sup>1</sup> I lift up my eyes to the hills;  
from where is my help to come?  
<sup>2</sup> **My help comes from the LORD,  
the maker of heaven and earth.**  
<sup>3</sup> The LORD will not let your foot be moved  
nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.  
<sup>4</sup> **Behold, the keeper of Israel  
will neither slumber nor sleep;**  
<sup>5</sup> the LORD watches over you;  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand;  
<sup>6</sup> **the sun will not strike you by day,  
nor the moon by night.**  
<sup>7</sup> The LORD will preserve you from all evil  
and will keep your life.  
<sup>8</sup> **The LORD will watch over your going out and your coming in,  
from this time forth forevermore.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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 3:1-17**

The holy gospel according John, the third chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup> 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.” <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” <sup>4</sup> 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?” <sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup> What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup> Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ <sup>8</sup> 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.” <sup>9</sup> Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup> Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?”

<sup>11</sup> “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. <sup>12</sup> If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup> No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup> And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup> that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup> “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.

<sup>17</sup> “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.

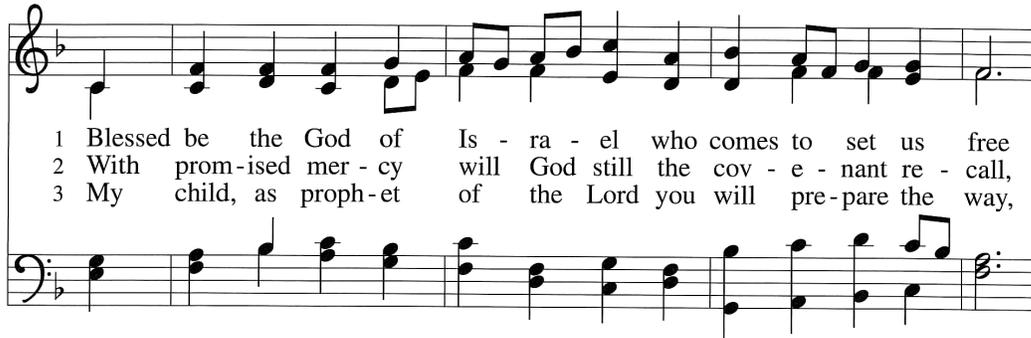
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON Pastor Laura Fladten**

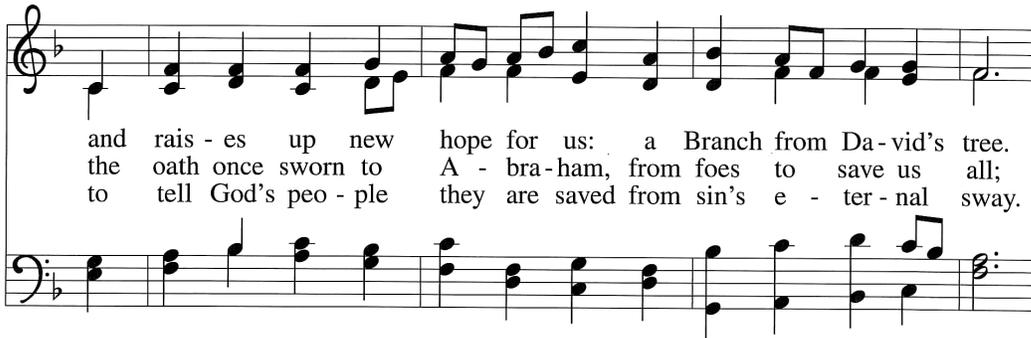
\*HYMN OF THE DAY

250

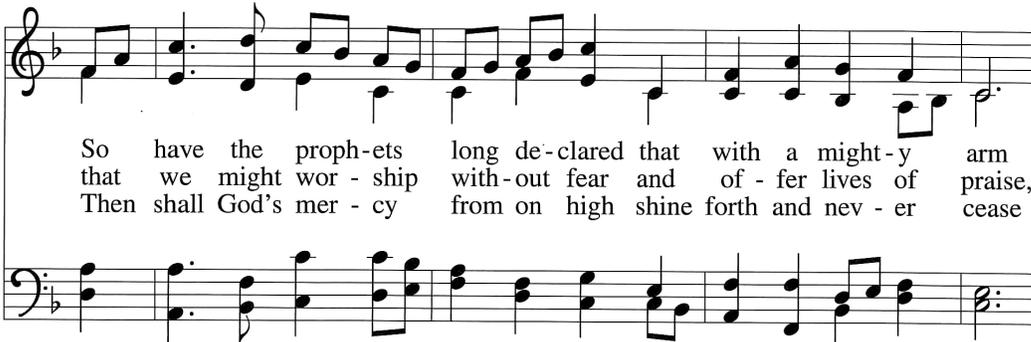
Blessed Be the God of Israel



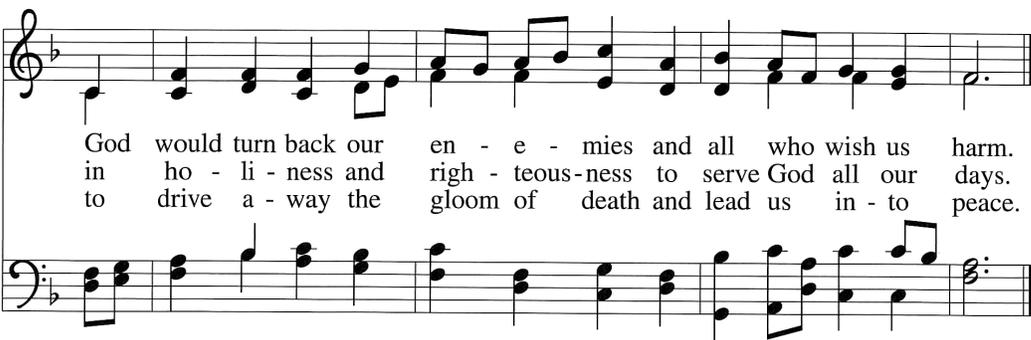
1 Blessed be the God of Is - ra - el who comes to set us free  
2 With prom-ised mer - cy will God still the cov - e - nant re - call,  
3 My child, as proph-et of the Lord you will pre-prepare the way,



and rais - es up new hope for us: a Branch from Da - vid's tree.  
the oath once sworn to A - bra - ham, from foes to save us all;  
to tell God's peo - ple they are saved from sin's e - ter - nal sway.



So have the proph-ets long de - clared that with a might - y arm  
that we might wor - ship with - out fear and of - fer lives of praise,  
Then shall God's mer - cy from on high shine forth and nev - er cease



God would turn back our en - e - mies and all who wish us harm.  
in ho - li - ness and righ - teous - ness to serve God all our days.  
to drive a - way the gloom of death and lead us in - to peace.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944, based on Luke 1:68-79  
Music: English folk tune; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958  
Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company  
Arr. © Oxford University Press

FOREST GREEN  
CMD

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**\*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**

**MEAL**

**\*WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**\*LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it in heaven.  
Give us this day is 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.**

**DISRIBUTION OF COMMUNION**

**LAMB OF GOD**

S 146

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.

## POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The Body and Blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ,  
strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

**Amen.**

## \*PEACE

**The peace of the Lord be with you always.**

**And also with you.**

## CHILDREN MAY GO TO SUNDAY SCHOOL

## OFFERING

## \*OFFERTORY

# Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

184



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that



we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of



all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble



with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927

Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.  
(brief silence)

God, you love this world which you have made and in which we live. Help us to love it and care for it as the priceless and irreplaceable gift that it is. Curb our indifference and enrich our gratitude for all that makes life possible. Loving God,

**We thank you for hearing our prayer.**

God, You love people everywhere - from one end of the globe to the other. You see them all as your precious children. Open our eyes and hearts to embrace our common humanity, and help us rise above the inconsequential differences that so often breed mistrust. Help us love others - even those we might be tempted to call strangers or even enemies. Loving God,

**We thank you for hearing our prayer.**

God, you love to see acts of kindness and compassion, especially when they are done in sincerity and humility. Help us in this holy season of Lent to relinquish selfishness and pride, that we might embrace the gifts of grace with which we can live more godly lives. Loving God,

**We thank you for hearing our prayer.**

God, you love us in both our strength and in our weakness. Uplift with your love all who are weighed down with pain of any kind or encumbered with worry or despair. We pray for (names). Help them to know that you love them and are with them in their need. Loving God,

**We thank you for hearing our prayer.**

God, you love all of your children - throughout our journey on Earth and when that journey is over. Bless everyone in the hour of death that they may find comfort and hope in your promised resurrection. Loving God,

**We thank you for hearing our prayer.**

Hear these prayers and the unspoken prayers of our hearts, through the merit of Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

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.

**Amen.**

\*CLOSING HYMN #779

## Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound



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.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5  
Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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### \*DISMISSAL

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

*Please join us for coffee and fellowship in the lounge.*



## Announcements

### Altar Flowers

The flowers on the altar this morning are a in celebration of the birthdays of the grands, Pixie, Spitfire, and Whippersnapper, given by Kate Potter Barrow.

### Welcome Visitors!

A special welcome to any visitors worshipping with us this morning. Please fill out one of the yellow cards in the pew rack in front of you so we can acknowledge your visit with us. You can put your completed card into the offering plate or give it to an usher or a pastor before you leave. Please join us in the lounge after the worship service for a cup of coffee, a treat, and fellowship.

### Communion By Intinction

All are welcome to come to the table for Communion. We offer Holy Communion through Intinction (dipping of the wafer into chalice of wine). There are also gluten free wafers and grape juice available in the center. If you feel more comfortable communing in your pew, there are individual wafer/juice cups available on the tables in the back of the sanctuary.

### Time For Reflection During the Prelude

During the season of Lent, we want to be sure that those who want to have a time of contemplation and reflection before worship are able to do so. As the service begins, the pastors will be calling for people to quiet themselves and prepare their hearts for worship as the final prelude piece is played.

### 2nd - 5th Grade Youth Group

All 2nd - 5th Grade Youth are invited to meet with the pastors after Sunday School until noon on Sunday, March 1, for snacks Bible time, and games. We look forward to seeing you all!

### Lenten Worship and Suppers

For the next five Wednesday evenings we will gather for a meal at 6:00 p.m. and then go to the sanctuary for a Lenten worship service. Our theme is "Out of Darkness, Into Light." We hope you will be able to join us.

### Please Note! Ketchup Club Date Changed to March 10th!

We're gathering for lunch at Dragon Pit BBQ, 322 6th St. at **11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, March 10th**, because they will be closed March 3rd. These gatherings are a fun way to "catch up" with old friends and make some new ones! Please let Pastor Laura, [pastorlaura.hclc@gmail.com](mailto:pastorlaura.hclc@gmail.com) or the office, [office.hclc@gmail.com](mailto:office.hclc@gmail.com), know if you will be joining us so we can reserve a table. If you unexpectedly find yourself available come join us and we will happily make some room at the table for you!

### Food Pantry

During the month of March the pantry is asking for donations of 1 lb. pkgs. of rice, 1 lb. pkgs. of spaghetti, side dishes, canned pineapple, and saltines. They always need clean, lightly used grocery store size plastic shopping bags, large brown paper grocery bags, and reusable shopping bags to packing groceries into. Thanks to all who contribute and to our volunteers. We couldn't do it without your help!

### March Birthday Club, Thursday, March 12th

If you were born in March, you should come join the pastors at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, March 12th for a birthday donut, a cup of coffee, a birthday song, and some fun conversation.

### Finance Update

January Finance Numbers  
Revenue: \$75,436.60  
Expense: \$66,130.92  
Net Income: \$9,305.68

Year to Date Finance Numbers  
Revenue: \$75,436.60  
Expense: \$66,130.92  
Net Income: \$9,305.68

*In person attendance on Sunday, February 22, 2026 - 115    Households watching online - 28*  
*In person attendance on Wednesday, February 25, 2026 - 69    Households watching online - 11*

### **Diaper Ministry**

Kristin Hahner has sponsored the March Diaper Depot delivery in memory of Teresa McMorris. Thank you! Please consider supporting the Diaper Ministry by sponsoring a month of Diaper Depot delivery for \$30. Our March distribution dates are March 11<sup>th</sup> from 11AM – 1PM and March 25<sup>th</sup> from 4 – 6PM. Contact Kylee Albright kygregg@mac.com or Amy Larsen amylarsen2406@att.net with questions or to volunteer.

### **Men's Group March 13th**

The Men's Group will meet on Friday, March 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. in the lounge. All men are invited to come for coffee and conversation!

### **Book Club**

For March, the book club is reading The Second Mrs. Astor, A Novel of the Titanic by Shana Abe. We are meeting by Zoom on Wednesday, March 11 at 10:00. You can call Julie Burton at 262-639-5914 to get the link. Or call Rondi Jenkins at 262-221-5619, we will meet at her home, 6010 Potomac Place, to share the Zoom link. For those who want to read ahead, at our April 8<sup>th</sup> meeting, we will be discussing Band of Sisters by Lauren Willig.

### **Belle City Brassworks Concert, Sunday, March 22nd**

Belle City Brassworks, Racine's long-running community brass band, will be back with another free concert in our sanctuary on Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>. The program, entitled "Hymns From the Highlands", will begin at 3:00 p.m.

### **Blankets for the Hospitality Center**

Do you have gently used blankets you no longer need? We are collecting them for the Hospitality Center at St. Luke's Episcopal Church to give out during the winter months. You can drop your blankets off in the church on Sunday morning or in the church office during the week.

### **Upcoming Worship, Education, Fellowship, and Service Opportunities**

Sunday, March 1 - 9:30 Worship/Sunday School  
10:45 2nd - 5th Grade Youth Group  
Monday, March 2 - 10:00 Monday Morning Bible Study  
12:30 Food Pantry  
Tuesday, March 3 - 11:30 Ketchup Club at Dragon Pit BBQ  
Wednesday, March 4 - 6:00 Lenten Supper  
7:00 Lenten Worship  
Friday, March 6 - 12:30 Food Pantry  
Sunday, March 8 - 9:30 Worship/Sunday School  
10:30 Confirmation Class  
Monday, March 9 - 10:00 Monday Morning Bible Study  
12:30 Food Pantry  
Tuesday, March 10 - 1:00 Quilting Group  
Wednesday, March 11 - 10:00 Book Group  
11:00 - 1:00 Diaper Ministry  
6:00 Lenten Meal  
7:00 Lenten Worship  
Thursday, March 12 - 10:00 Birthday Club  
Friday, March 13 - 9:00 Men's Group  
12:30 Food Pantry

**Church Council** - President Joleen Carlson, Vice President Gary Wood, Secretary Laurie Knudson, Treasurer Kylee Albright, Members at Large Rose Adamski, Steve Barootian, Dave Knudson, Rebecca Mason, and Polly Timmerman.

### **Office Hours**

The church office is open Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

# The deadline for ordering plants is this Wednesday, March 4th!

**1. Easter Lily**



**2. Tulip**



**3. Hyacinth**



**4. Mum**



**5. Regal Geranium**



**6. Committee Choice**

## Easter Garden Plant Order

What a beautiful sight it is to see our sanctuary on Easter morning filled with flowering plants! You can choose to purchase Easter Lilies, Hyacinths, Tulips, Chrysanthemums, or Regal Geraniums. We are ordering the plants from Milaeger's. If you will pick up your plants, please select the kind you want. If you are not picking up your plants and there is not a specific plant you want to order, you can choose "committee's choice" and a plant will be chosen to balance the color and variety of our display on Easter morning.

- Orders MUST be in the office no later than Wednesday, March 4th.
- Each flowering plant costs \$16.00. You may order as many as you wish.
- Please refer to the numbers above the pictures when choosing your plants.
- Plants may be picked up after the worship service on Easter or the following week.
- Any questions? Call or email the office - 262-632-8802 or office.hclc@gmail.com.

Your name \_\_\_\_\_ Envelope # \_\_\_\_\_

I will pick up my plants \_\_\_\_\_

Number of plants ordered \_\_\_\_\_ Total Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of:	Given by:	Plant choice:

In honor or celebration of:	Given by:	Plant choice: