

# SUNDAY ORDER OF WORSHIP

11:00 AM

March 8, 2026 - Third Sunday in Lent

**Nursery Available** - God put the wiggle in children, and the sights and sounds of little ones in our midst are one of the blessings of our multi-generational congregation. Parents are encouraged to worship together with their children for all or part of the service as makes sense for each family. For your use, changing tables are available in the large bathrooms just beyond the fellowship hall when traveling towards the education wing. Our nursery is designed to provide loving care for children from infant through three years old. The nursery is available from 8:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. It is located in the first classroom (end closest to the Fellowship Hall) of the Education Building.

**BUSY (activity) BAGS and Children's Bulletins are available in the narthex.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Please see the bulletin or newsletter for any announcements. All announcements are due in writing by noon on Tuesday to the church office.

[ Please stand, as able, where indicated. ]

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## GATHERING

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### PRELUDE

### INTROIT

*All My Trials*

arr. Donald Moore

### OPENING ANTHEM

*Welcome Home Again*

Ruth Elaine Schram

### MINISTRY OF FRIENDSHIP - ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE DAY:

- **THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT**
- **PLEASE SILENCE ALL CELL PHONES AND SMART WATCHES**
- **WELCOME TO ALL THOSE WHO ARE VISITING WITH US TODAY**

[ Please stand as you are able ]

## **BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION**

P: In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*(silence for reflection and self-examination)*

P: Most merciful God,

**C: we confess that we are in bondage 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.**

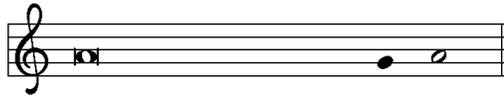
## **THE DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS WILL RETURN HOLY WEEK**

### **APOSTOLIC GREETING**

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

**C: And also with you!**

# KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



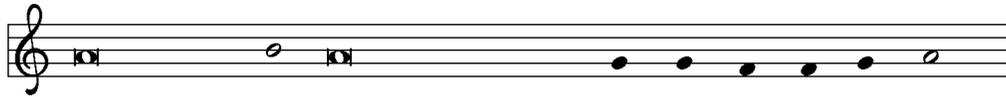
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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



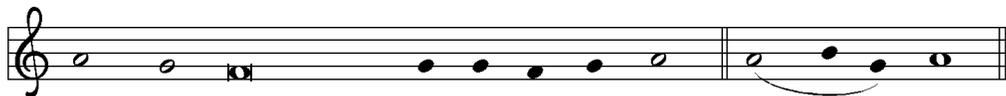
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



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



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

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray...(silence) 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.

C: Amen.

[ Please sit ]

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## WORD

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### FIRST READING Exodus 17:1-7

*Because the thirsty Israelites quarreled with Moses and put the Lord to the test, Moses cried out in desperation to the Lord. The Lord commanded Moses to strike the rock to provide water for the people. The doubt-filled question - "Is the Lord among us or not?" - received a very positive answer.*

Lector: A reading from Exodus.

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 with 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?"

Lector: Here ends the Reading.

### PSALM 95

L: Come, let us sing to the LORD;  
let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

C: **Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving  
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.**

L: For the LORD is a great God,  
and a great King above all gods.

C: **In his hand are the caverns of the earth,  
and the heights of the hills are his also.**

L: The sea is his, for he made it,  
and his hands have molded the dry land.

**C: Come, let us bow down and bend the knee,  
and kneel before the LORD our Maker.**

L: For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.  
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

**C: Harden not your hearts, as your forebears did in the wilderness,  
at Meribah, and on that day at Massah, when they tempted me.**

L: They put me to the test,  
though they had seen my works.

**C: Forty years long I detested that generation and said,  
"This people are wayward in their hearts; they do not know my ways."**

L: So I swore in my wrath,  
"They shall not enter into my rest."

## **SECOND READING    Romans 5:1-11**

*Though we often hear that God helps those who help themselves, here Paul tells us that through Jesus' death God helps utterly helpless sinners. Since we who had been enemies are reconciled to God in the cross, we now live in hope for our final salvation.*

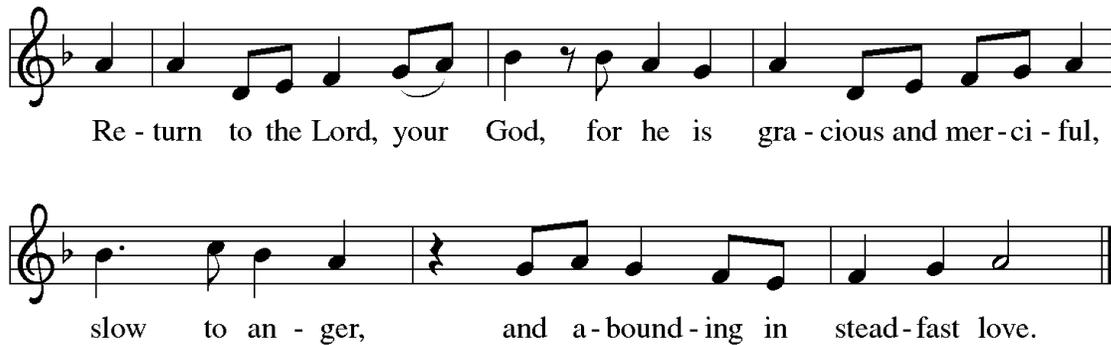
Lector: A reading from Romans.

Therefore, 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 sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, 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 then, now that we have 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.

Lector: Here ends the Reading.

*[ Please stand as you are able ]*

## 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.

## HOLY GOSPEL John 4:5-42

*Jesus defies convention to engage a Samaritan woman in conversation. Her testimony, in turn, leads many others to faith. Jesus defies convention to engage a Samaritan woman in conversation. Her testimony, in turn, leads many others to faith.*

P: The Holy Gospel of our Lord and Savior Christ Jesus according to Saint John.

C: **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."

P: The Holy Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

*[ Please sit ]*

**SERMON**

**Pastor Finley**

*[ Please stand as you are able ]*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say*

**ELW 332**

## PROFESSION OF FAITH: NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven;  
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,  
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

## PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

A: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

A: Gracious God, we are a murmuring and grumbling people. We have all we need and yet we want more. Like your people wandering in the wilderness, send us a message of your continuing care for us and for all creation. Nourish us with your constant presence so that we might proclaim your mighty love to all we meet.

A: Hear us, O God.                   **C: Your mercy is great.**

A: Mighty Creator, King of kings and Lord of Lords, ruler of the universe, keep us mindful of your reign. Inspire leaders of all nations to rule with justice and mercy. Remove prejudice and hatred so that we might end our warring madness. Restore in our hearts a right spirit and receive us with all your saints into eternal rest.

A: Hear us, O God.                   **C: Your mercy is great.**

A: Lord Jesus Christ, your love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit given to us at our baptism. Remind us that while we are yet sinners we have been justified by your blood. May this grace inspire us to serve you with gladness every day of our lives and to reach out to others in your name.

A: Hear us, O God.                   **C: Your mercy is great.**

A: Great healer of all wounds, be present with those who need your wholeness in their lives. We especially lift in prayer today these friends and loved ones who name in our hearts and with our voices now ... (long pause) ... Gather them into your loving embrace.

A: Hear us, O God.                   **C: Your mercy is great.**

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen**

*[ Rather than “passing the plate”, offering plates are located in the narthex as you enter the sanctuary. For your convenience, blank offering envelopes are located in the pews and next to the offering plate. ]*

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

Music: Freylinghausen Public Domain

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Blessed are you,

**C: O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

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MEAL

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### GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

## PROPER PREFACE

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. You bid your people cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast. Renew our zeal in faith and life, and bring us to the fullness of grace that belongs to the children of God. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n 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.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age. Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

*In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; +  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.*

*Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, +  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.*

With the body and blood of your son, we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

P: O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us + and on these gifts of your body and blood. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

**C: Come, Holy Spirit.**

P: Reveal yourself to us in your body and blood. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

**C: Come, Holy Spirit.**

P: With name/s and your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C: **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

## INVITATION AND FRACTURE

P: This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Happy are those who are called to his supper.

C: **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

*[ Please sit ]*

## 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, grant us peace.

## DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION: INTINCTION AND COMMON CUP

## MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION

*[ Please stand as you are able ]*

### **TABLE BLESSING**

P: May this true body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C: Amen.**

### **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

A: Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

### **SENDING OF SHEPHERDS/EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

P: God, whose mercy is everlasting: as the shepherd leaves the flock to search for the one that is missing, bless those who go forth to share your word and sacrament with our absent sisters and brothers. Strengthen those to whom we bring this Holy Eucharist, that through the body and blood of your Son, all may rejoice in your tender mercy and abundant love revealed in Christ Jesus, crucified and risen from the dead.

**C: Amen.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- If you are a visitor, please stop by our information desk after the service to find out more information about Christ the King. You are also welcome to join us for fellowship after the service.
- There will be a New Member class on March 8, 15 and 22. If you would like to attend, please see me after service.
- Rich Albrecht will be taking pictures of member today and next Sunday. If you are a new member, or have not updated your picture in a few years, please go to the fellowship hall during Fellowship time to have your picture taken.
- We are in need of a few more communion assistants at the 11:00 a.m. service. If you are interested, please contact me.

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## SENDING

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SENDING

*Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me*

ELW 623

## BLESSING

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

C: Amen.

## DISMISSAL

A: Glorify God. Spread the Word.

C: Love One Another.

## POSTLUDE