

**Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 15, 2026**

**Arlington Hills Lutheran Church
1115 Greenbrier Street
St. Paul, MN 55106**

The North Window *Explanation from the 100th Anniversary Book and other resources.*



An Angel with Children

“For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.” Psalm 91:11



The Apostles

Matthew, Mark, Luke and John



These four pictures often represent the Four Evangelists (Apostles)

Symbolizing the different facets of Christ’s nature and the spreading of the Gospel to the four corners of the world. These symbols are derived from Ezekiel’s vision of the Tetramorph. (Ezekiel 1:10)

The Angel (Winged Man) – Represents **Matthew** and the humanity/genealogy of Christ

The Lion – Represents **Mark** and Christ as King/Resurrection

The Ox - Represents **Luke** and Christ’s sacrifice

The Eagle – Represents **John** and Christ’s divinity.

At the Bottom of the Window

“Remember now Thy Creator in Thy Youth” Ecclesiastes . 12:1

The North Window was installed in 1938. Work of artist Andreas Larson of Minneapolis.

The Sunday School Children contributed money for the North Window.

Sunday, March 15, 2026

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Introduction

Baptism is sometimes called enlightenment. The gospel for this Sunday is the story of the man born blind healed by Christ. “I was blind, now I see,” declares the man. In baptism God opens our eyes to see the truth of who we are: God’s beloved children. As David was anointed king of Israel, in baptism God anoints our head with oil, and calls us to bear witness to the light of Christ in our daily lives.

Welcome and Announcements

(Please take some time to prepare for worship in the quiet as we light the altar candles.... If you are worshipping online, we invite you to have something to eat and something to drink, ready for communion)

Prelude **“Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound” - Robert A. Hobby**

GATHERING

Greeting

John 8:12

P: Jesus says, I am the light of the world, whoever follows me will have the light of life.

All: Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

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

All: Amen.

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

All: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

AM: For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you: Gracious God,

All: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

AM: For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word: Gracious God,
All: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

AM: For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God,
All: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

AM: For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdain the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,
All: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

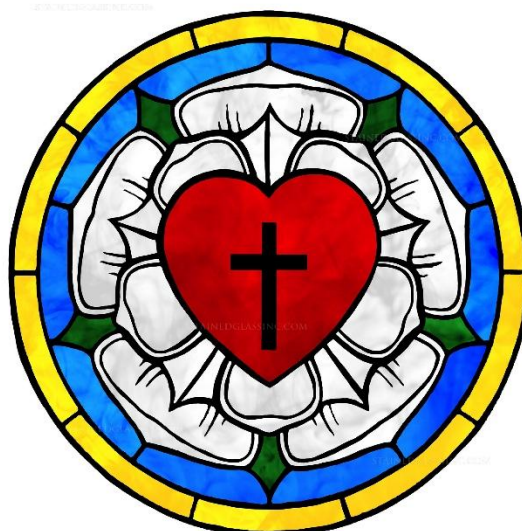
AM: For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world: Gracious God,
All: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

AM: For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life: Gracious God,
ALL: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

AM: 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.

All: Amen.

Please rise, in body and/or spirit, for the Gathering Hymn



Gathering Hymn "O Christ, Your Heart, Compassionate"

ELW #722

Verses 1, 2, and 4 – Large print words found on page 22



1 O Christ, your heart, com - pas - sion - ate, bore ev - 'ry hu - man pain.
2 As once you wel - comed those cast down and healed the sick, the blind,
4 O Love that made the dis - tant stars, yet marks the spar - row's fall,



Its beat - ing was the pulse of God; its breadth, God's vast do - main.
so may all bruised and bro - ken lives through us your help still find.
whose arms stretched wide up - on a cross em - brace and bear us all:



The heart of God, the heart of Christ com - bined in per - fect rhyme
Lord, join our hearts with those who weep that none may weep a - lone,
come, make your church a ser - vant church that walks your ser - vant ways,



to write God's love in hu - man deeds, e - ter - ni - ty in time.
and help us bear an - oth - er's pain as though it were our own.
whose deeds of love rise up to you, a sac - ri - fice of praise!

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923–2007

Music: ELLACOMBE, German melody, 18th cent.; adapt. X. L. Hartig, *Melodien zum Mainzer Gesangbuche*, 1833

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

All: **And also with you.**

Please be seated

KYRIE

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

P: 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.

All: Amen.

WORD

First Reading:

1 Samuel 16:1-13

Assisting Minister

AM: ¹ The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." ² Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.'" ³ Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do, and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." ⁴ Samuel did what the LORD commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling and said, "Do you come peaceably?" ⁵ He said, "Peaceably. I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

⁶ When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely his anointed is now before the LORD." ⁷ But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him, for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." ⁸ Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." ⁹ Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." ¹⁰ Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these."

¹¹ Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him, for we will not sit down until he comes here." ¹² He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. The LORD said, "Rise and anoint him, for this is the one." ¹³ Then

Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

AM: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23 **Read responsively by whole verse**

AM: ¹ The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

All: ² **The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**

AM: ³ You restore my soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

All: ⁴ **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

AM: ⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

All: ⁶ **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

Second Reading: **Ephesians 5:8-14** **Assisting Minister**

⁸ Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Walk as children of light, ⁹ for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. ¹⁰ Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹ Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness; rather, expose them. ¹² For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly, ¹³ but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴ for everything that becomes visible is light.

Therefore it says,

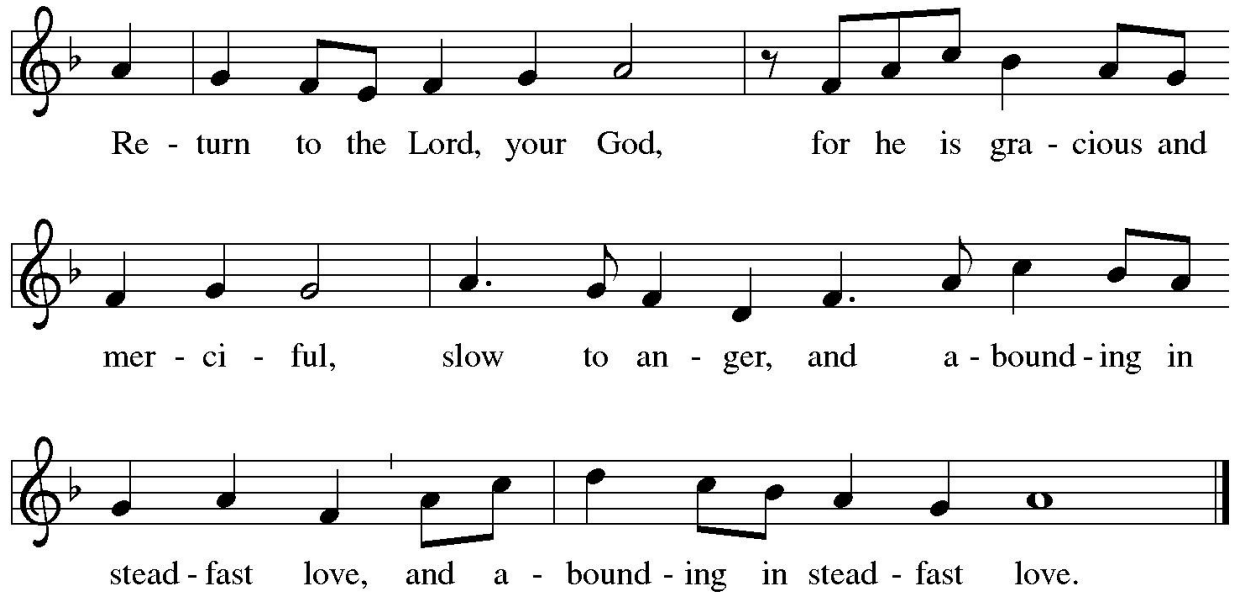
“Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

AM: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Please rise, in body and/or spirit, for the Gospel reading

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.

P: The holy gospel according to John the 9th Chapter
All: **Glory to you, O Lord**

Gospel: **John 9:1-41**

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.”

P: The gospel of the Lord,
All: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

Sermon

Pastor Walter Still

Please rise, in body and/or spirit, for the Hymn of the Day



Hymn of the Day “Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”

ELW# 779

Verses 1, 2, 3 and 5 – Large print words found on page 23



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
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
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.
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

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.

Please be seated for the Prayers of Intercession

Prayers of Intercession

AM: Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

A brief silence.

God, our shepherd, we pray that you guide the church. Lead Christians in our community (*here local congregations may be named*) and across the globe (*here international companion churches and synods may be named*) in right paths for your name's sake. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

AM: God our provider, we cry out for this planet and the life it holds. Rescue endangered animals and plants, preserve threatened ecosystems, and save creatures from natural disasters. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

AM: God our sovereign, we plead for your peace on earth. Bring an end to war and violence, and raise up leaders in governments, courts, businesses, schools, and community organizations who seek goodness and mercy. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

AM: God our healer, we call to you in our need. Uplift all who are made to feel unimportant, and transform the hearts of all infected by bigotry and prejudice. Care for all in special need this day we pray especially for Marjorie Anderson, Sven & Marion Anderson, Sharon Anderson, Brenda Boogren, Carolyn Brusseau, Kurt Dyrhaug, Jerry Ekblad, Richard Edge, Jan Frankenberg, Wayne Hansen, Betty Hasse, Marcia Imsdahl, Patricia James, Jim Jaszczak, Eugene Karls, Gisela Koegh, Velta Krauze, Marilyn Nelson, Dennis Rasmusson, Priscilla Reeve, Marnie Rose, Bev Stickler, Ivanka Vicic, Ken Wagner, MaryAnn Wistrom and those we name in our hearts. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

AM: God our friend, we praise you for the diversity of people among us. Awaken us to share and receive the gifts we each possess, and stir up a spirit of understanding, celebration, and welcome for all. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

AM: God our home, we thank you for all who have died and completed their baptismal journeys. Grant us faith to live until we too dwell in your house forever. Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

AM: Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

All: Amen.

Please stand for the Sharing of the Peace.

Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

All: And also with you.

Please be seated for the Offertory Music

MEAL



Offering Music

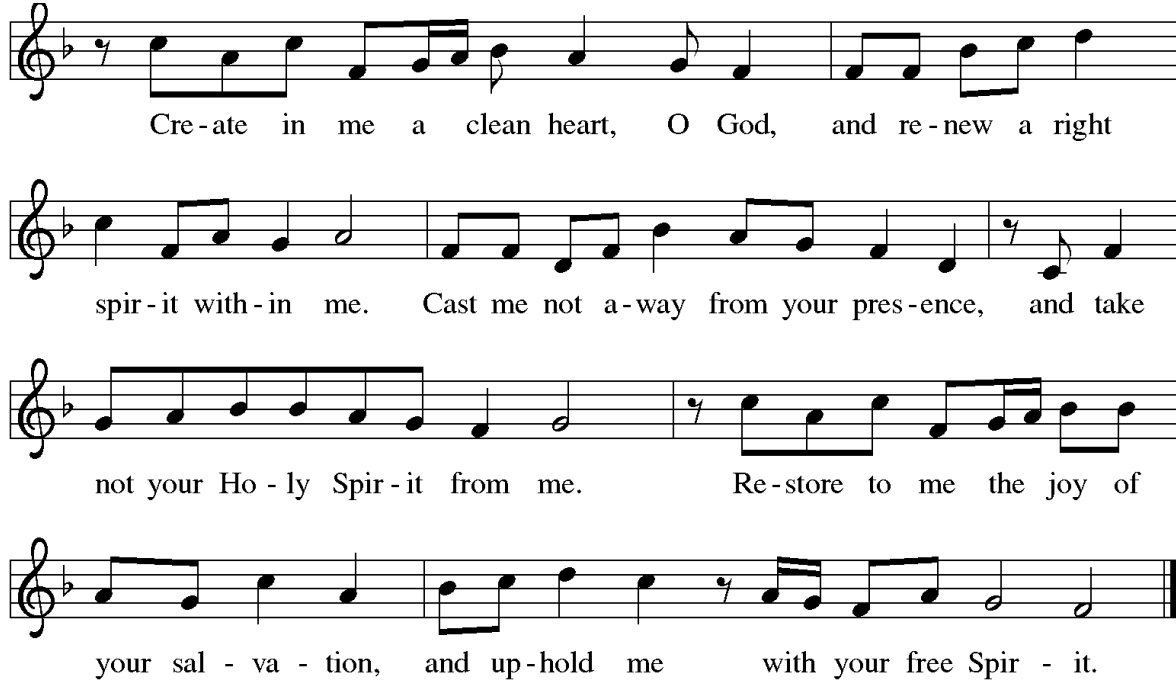
“There Is a Balm in Gilead”
Sunday Morning Choir

- arr. Pam Gervais

Please rise, in body and/or spirit, for the Offering Song.

Offering Song

Create in Me a Clean Heart



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

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923
Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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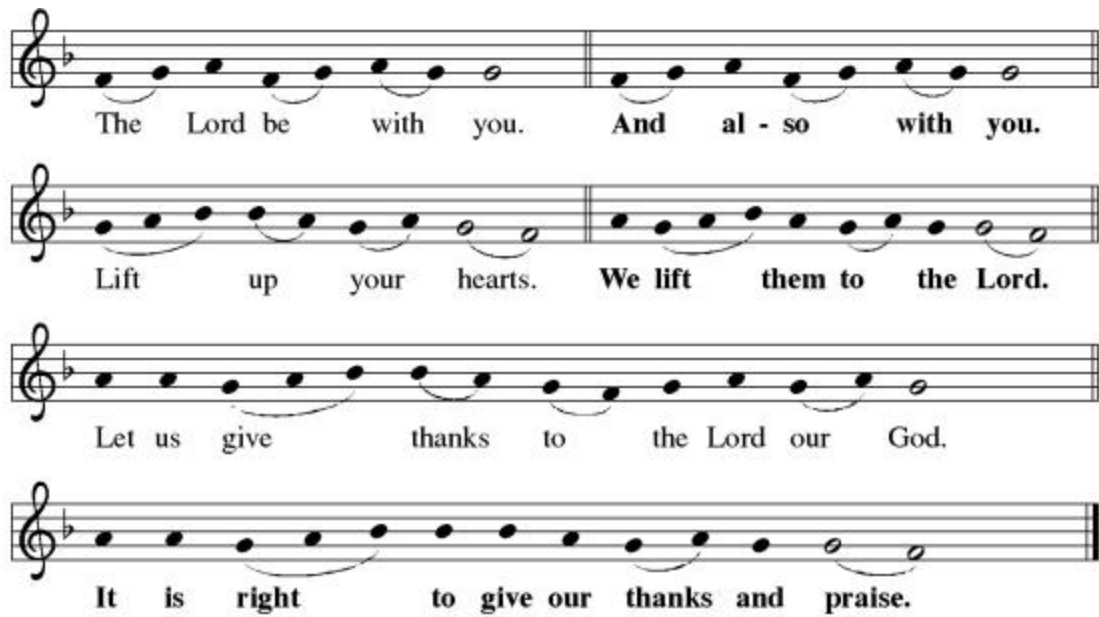
Offertory Prayer

P: O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name.

All: Amen.

Please be seated.

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.

Pastor will sing the Preface:

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

All:



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. Ho -
san-na. 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.

P: Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your people. Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams. Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming. **All: Come, Lord Jesus.**

P: Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth. **All: Come, Holy Spirit.**

P: All praise and glory are yours. Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever. **All: Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**All: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, they 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.**

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

The Pastor will invite those worshipping with us at home to share Christ's presence in the bread/wine/juice that they have prepared. Then the congregation will sing "Lamb of God".

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

As pastor comes down to serve communion you may come forward. Please form a single line to receive the bread from him by holding out your palms to receive the wafer. Once you receive the bread, you may go to the communion assistant on the side closest to where you were seated to receive the wine. If you are unable to come forward, please let an usher know, and we will bring communion to you.

Please feel free to say "Amen" after you receive each element if you wish.

Communion Anthem

"The Lord's My Shepherd"

Larry Shackley

Table Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
All: Amen

Prayer after Communion

P: 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.**All: Amen.**

Sending

Please rise, in body and/or spirit, for the Sending Hymn.

Sending Hymn

"In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

ELW# 324

Verses 1, 2, 3, and 4 - Large, printed words found on page 24



1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r - ing
2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -
3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing, light and
4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the



o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of
ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the
love up - on my way, from the cross the
cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that



sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
cross for - sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.
ra - diance stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.
knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.

Text: John Bowring, 1792–1872

Music: RATHBUN, Ithamar Conkey, 1815–1867

Blessing

P: 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.

Postlude **“ O Christ, Your Heart Compassionate”** arr. Matt Limbaugh

Dismissal

L: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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Leading Worship Today

Pastor: Dr. Rev. Walter Still

Organ/Piano: Barbara Rossow

Assisting Ministers: Jim Persoon and Barb Schmidt

Communion Assistants: Jim Persoon and Barb Schmidt

Ushers: Florence Rasmusson and David Almquist

Hospitality: Valerie and Orval Osumundson

Livestream Producer: Silvester Vicic, Jim Persoon or Ryan Henk

PLEASE PRAY THIS WEEK FOR AHLC MEMBERS AND FRIENDS:

Marjorie Anderson, Sven Anderson, Sharon Anderson, Brenda Boogren, Carolyn Brusseau, Kurt Dyrhaug, Jerry Ekblad, Richard Edge, Jan Frankenberg, Wayne Hansen, Betty Hasse, Marcia Imsdahl, Patricia James, Jim Jaszczak, Eugene Karls, Gisela Koegh, Velta Krauze, Marilyn Nelson, Dennis Rasmusson, Priscilla Reeve, Marnie Rose, Bev Stickler, Ivanka Vicic, Ken Wagner, and MaryAnn Wistrom. If you wish to have Pastor Walter visit with you, please contact Mary in the church office to set up a time.

Upcoming Events

Weekly Sunday Worship Services – 9:30 a.m. in the Reception Room
Sunday Morning Fellowship – 10:30 – 11:30 a.m. in the Reception Room
Monday - Alley Shoppe Volunteers from 9:00 a.m. – noon
Tuesday – Alley Shoppe Volunteers – Devotions at 9:00 a.m.
Tuesday - Alley Shoppe Clients on Tuesdays from 9:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Wednesday – ROMEO’s Breakfast – 7:30 a.m. Perkins County Road F

March 15 Sunday Morning Worship - 9:30 a.m.

March 17 Congregation Council Meeting – 6:00 p.m. – Reception Room

March 18 Wednesday – Soup and Scriptures – 11:30 Soup 12:00 noon Scriptures

March 22 Sunday Morning Worship - 9:30 am.

Congregation Forum – following worship in the Reception Room

March 25 Wednesday -

Easter Memorial Garden Forms and Payment due

Church Member Wayne Hansen is offering his Tax Knowledge and Expertise to church members again and you can always refer my services to others to file a complete and accurate 2025 tax return. If anyone has questions about taxes you may contact Wayne at cell 651-219-2938 (call or text) or his email is wkhanse@comcast.net

Just a reminder that Mary Kowitz will be out of the office all week (March 6-15).

There will be volunteers in the office on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00. If you need to reach someone outside those hours, please call Pastor Walter Still at 239-910-0194.

Gathering Hymn

O Christ, Your Heart, Compassionate

- 1 O Christ, your heart, compassionate,
bore ev'ry human pain.
Its beating was the pulse of God;
its breadth, God's vast domain.
The heart of God, the heart of Christ
combined in perfect rhyme
to write God's love in human deeds,
eternity in time.

- 2 As once you welcomed those cast down
and healed the sick, the blind,
so may all bruised and broken lives
through us your help still find.
Lord, join our hearts with those who weep
that none may weep alone,
and help us bear another's pain
as though it were our own.

- 4 O Love that made the distant stars,
yet marks the sparrow's fall,
whose arms stretched wide upon a cross
embrace and bear us all:
come, make your church a servant church
that walks your servant ways,
whose deeds of love rise up to you,
a sacrifice of praise!

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923

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Hymn of the Day

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

- 1 Amazing grace! how sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
was blind, but now I see.

- 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!

- 3 Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come;
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

- 5 When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.

Sending Hymn

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

- 1 In the cross of Christ I glory,
tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time.
All the light of sacred story
gathers round its head sublime.

- 2 When the woes of life o'ertake me,
hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
never shall the cross forsake me;
lo, it glows with peace and joy.

- 3 When the sun of bliss is beaming
light and love upon my way,
from the cross the radiance streaming
adds more luster to the day.

- 4 Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,
by the cross are sanctified;
peace is there that knows no measure,
joys that through all time abide.

Text: John Bowring, 1792-1872