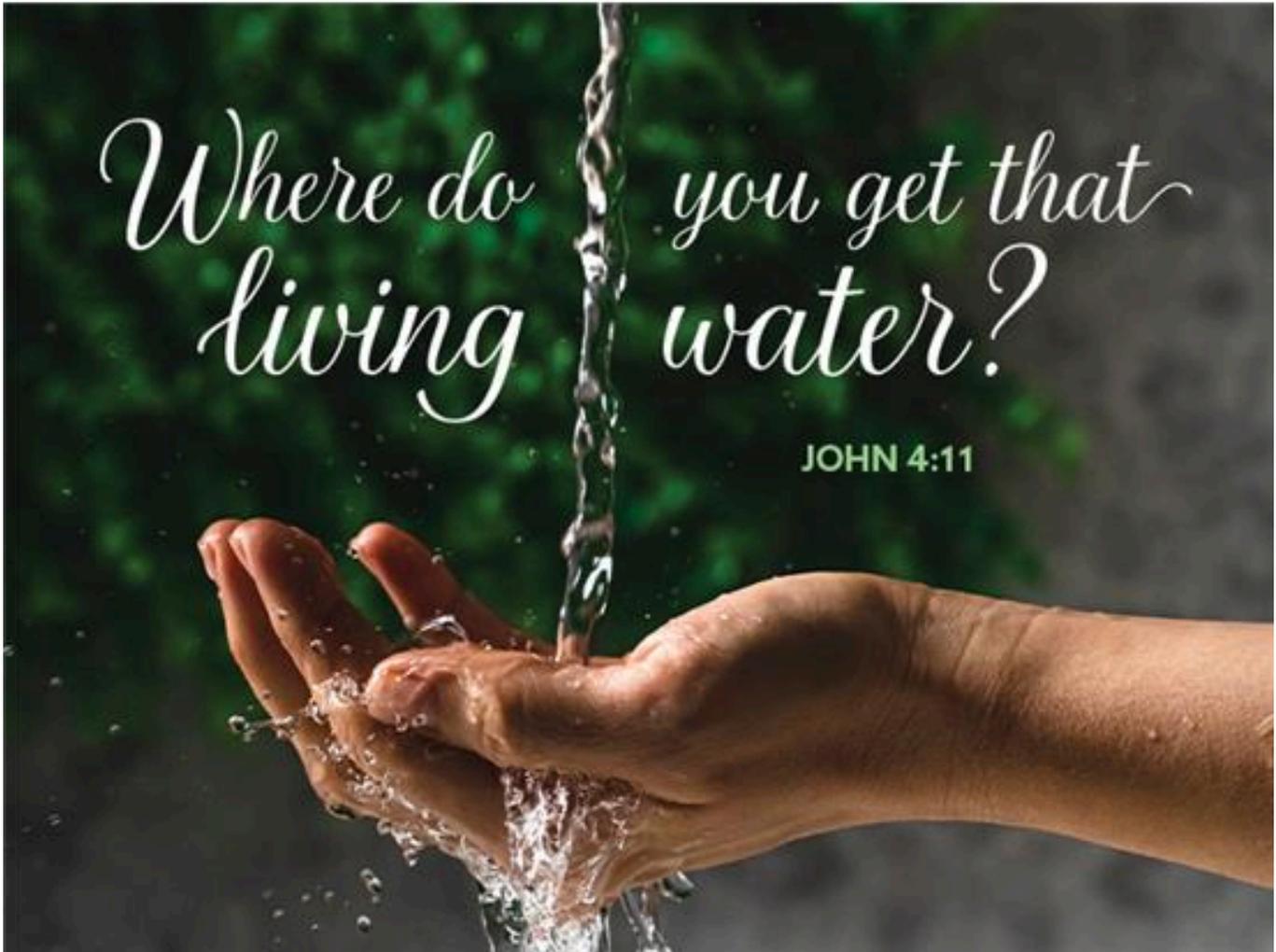


Faith Lutheran Church | Worship and Communion
March 8, 2026 at 9:30 AM | Third Sunday in Lent
If You Knew the Gift



Welcome! Whoever you are, whatever road brought you here—welcome to Faith Lutheran. We gather each Sunday in this sanctuary to receive God's grace freely given, to pray for one another, and to be nourished at Christ's table before we go out to love and serve our neighbors and the world. Thank you for worshiping with us today. Let us know how we can walk alongside you and help you feel at home.

In this season in Lent we are using **Setting Four** of the ELW. Congregation responses appear in bold throughout the bulletin and hymnal.

Children's Bulletins are available in the narthex (entrance area), providing activities on today's scripture readings. Please enjoy.

God is present in **Holy Communion** and welcomes all who are hungry. You are welcome to the table. Non-communing children and adults may come forward for a blessing. Let an usher know if you would like communion at your seat.

In Our Worship on the Third Sunday in Lent: In today's gospel the Samaritan woman asks Jesus for water, an image of our thirst for God. Jesus offers living water, a sign of God's grace flowing from the waters of baptism. The early church used this gospel and those of the next two Sundays to deepen baptismal reflection during the final days of preparation for baptismal celebrations at Easter.

Serving Today: *Greeter:* Debbie H *Reader:* Davyann S *Asst Minister:* Louis L

Cantor: Louis L *Usher:* Zack W *Altar Guild:* Annette W & Betty T

Tech Support: Eric W *Musicians:* Heinz D

Pastor: Shaun O'Reilly *Counters:* Linda Z & Alissa S *Coffee Host:* Bob & Sharon Scott

-GATHERING-

PRELUDE

Meditation on 'The Old Rugged Cross

arr. Bradshaw

ANNOUNCEMENTS

moment of centering

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.

Silence is kept for reflection.

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 disdain 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, 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.**

GATHERING HYMN

Bless Now, O God, the Journey*

ELW #326

Bless now, O God, the journey
 that all your people make,
 the path through noise and silence,
 the way of give and take.
 The trail is found in desert
 and winds the mountain round,
 then leads beside still waters,
 the road where faith is found.

Bless sojourners and pilgrims
 who share this winding way;
 your hope burns through the terrors,
 your love sustains the day.
 We yearn for holy freedom
 while often we are bound;
 together we are seeking
 the road where faith is found.

Divine eternal lover,
 you meet us on the road.
 We wait for land of promise
 where milk and honey flow,
 but waiting not for places,
 you meet us all around.
 Our covenant is written
 on roads, as faith is found.

GREETING

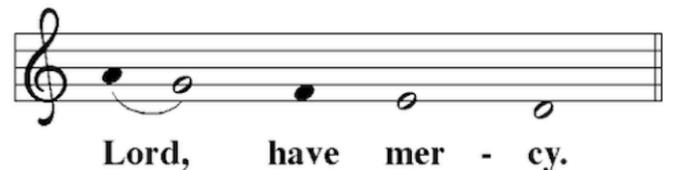
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
 the love of God,
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit
 be with you all.

And also with you.

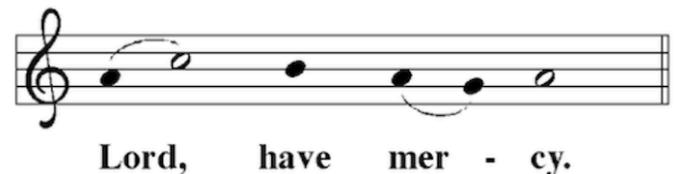


KYRIE

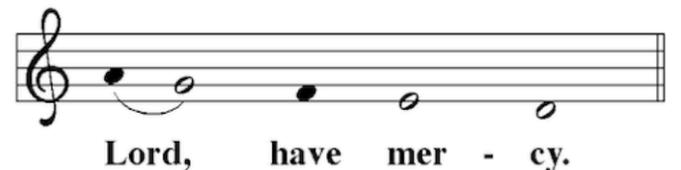
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



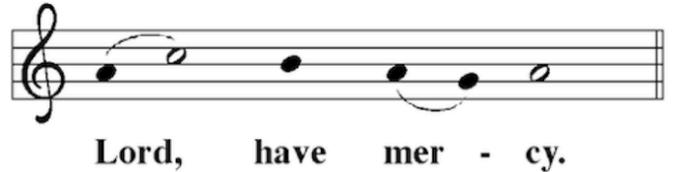
For the peace from above, and for
 our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



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.



For this holy house, and for all who offer
here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord.



Help, save, comfort and defend us gracious Lord.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

-WORD-

FIRST READING: Exodus 17:1-7

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

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?"

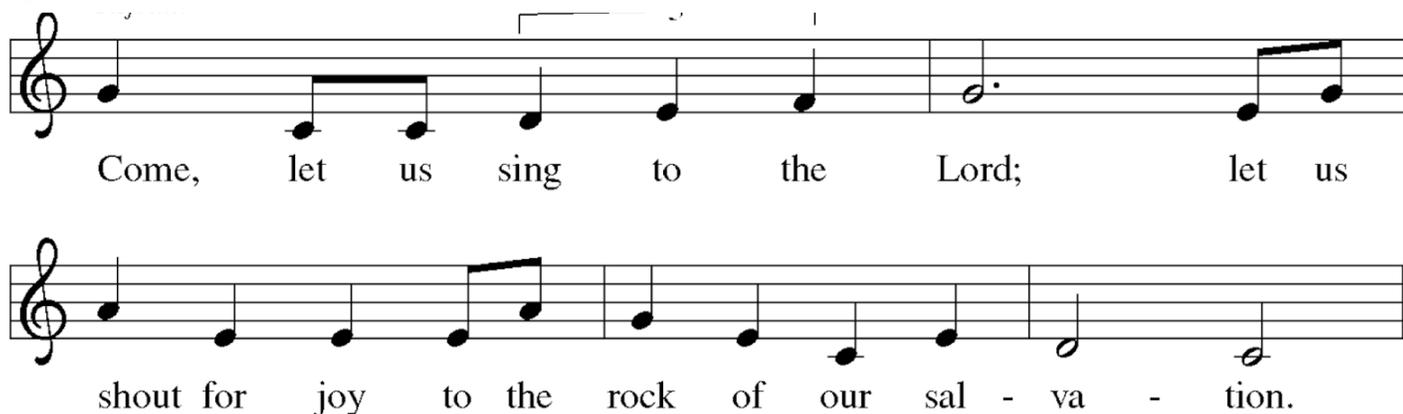
But the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with

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?"



Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALMODY: Psalm 95

Refrain


Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us
shout for joy to the rock of our sal - va - tion.

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. *Refrain***

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.'

Refrain

Come, let us worship | and bow down,
let us kneel before the | LORD our maker.

Come, let us sing | to the LORD;

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

Refrain

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.

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.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

please stand as you are able



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.

The Holy Gospel according to John, the fourth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

HOLY GOSPEL: John 4:5-42

[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" ... (verses 16 and onward not printed) ...

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O Christ.**

SERMON

If You Knew the Gift

Pastor Shaun O'Reilly

"Come to me, all pilgrims thirsty; drink the water I will give.
If you knew what gift I offer, you would come to me and live."

Refrain **Jesus, ever flowing fountain,
give us water from your well.
In the gracious gift you offer
there is joy no tongue can tell.**

"Come to me, all trav'lers weary; come that I may give you rest.
Drink the cup of life I offer; at this table be my guest." ***Refrain***

"Come to me, believers burdened; find refreshment in this place.
Come, receive the gift I offer, turn to me and seek my face." ***Refrain***

"Come to me, repentant sinners; leave behind your guilt and shame.
Come and know divine compassion, turn to me, I call your name." ***Refrain***

"Come to me, distressed and needy; I would be your trusted friend.
Come and seek the gift I offer, come, your open hands extend." ***Refrain***

"Come to me, abandoned, orphaned; lonely ways no longer roam.
Come and take the gift I offer, let me make in you my home." ***Refrain***

RESPONSE OF FAITH A: Let us confess our faith in the words of the Apostle's 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

God of belonging, **hear our prayer.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

- MEAL -**OFFERING**

Meditacion - Filimon Sotto (piano solo)



We are a community together.
Consider giving a one-time or
recurring donation to support
our ministry!



(you can scan the QR code
or visit our website)

PRESENTATION HYMN

Create in Me a Clean Heart

ELW #186

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

OFFERING PRAYER**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

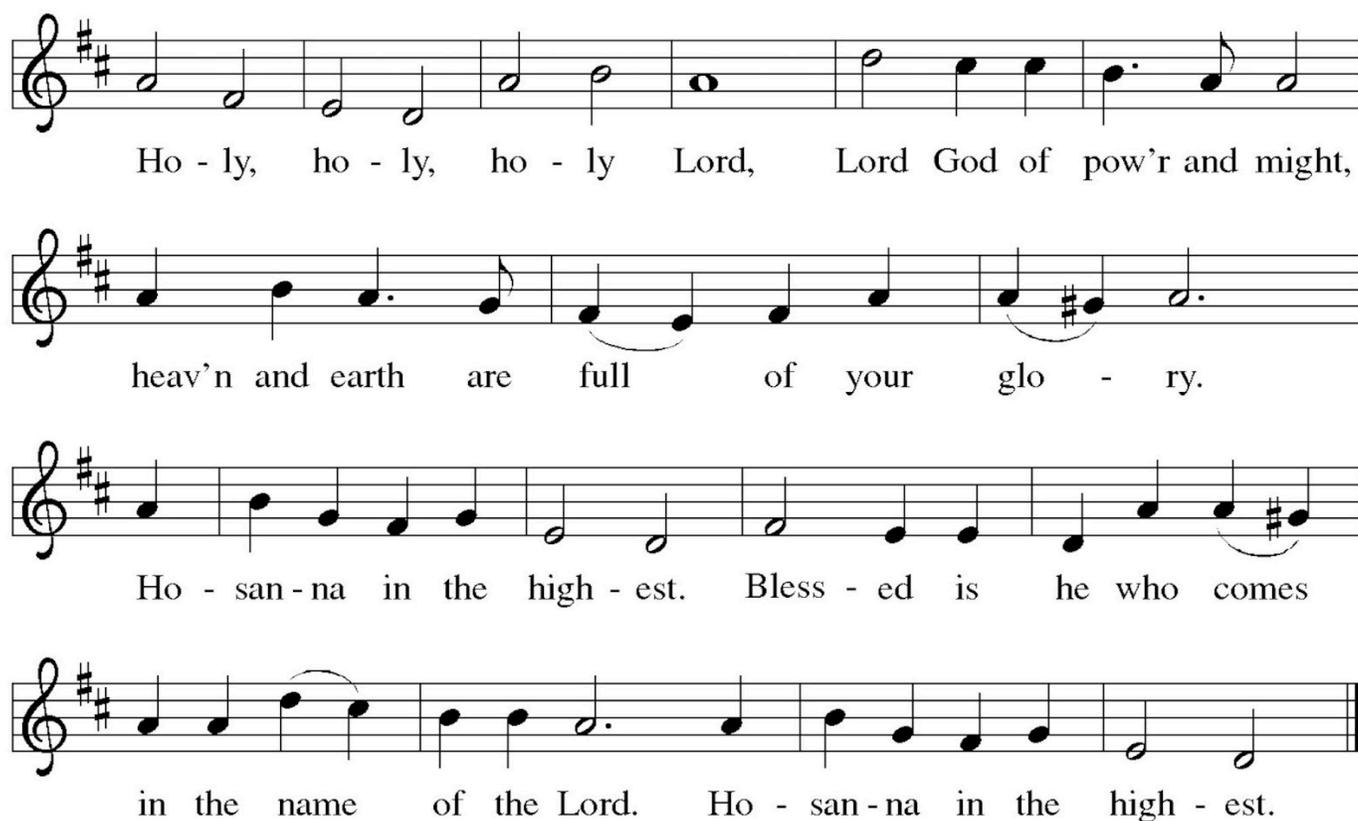
And also with you.

We lift them to the Lord.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you,
 O God of the universe.
 Your mercy is everlasting ...

... With this bread and cup
 we remember our Lord's
 passover from death to life
 as we proclaim
 the mystery of faith:

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



O God of resurrection and new life:

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.

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. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

With 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. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,

thy kingdom come, thy 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, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

COMMUNION

COMMUNION AND HYMNS

AGNUS DEI

ELW pg. 154

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION

Eat this Bread*

ELW #472

Eat this bread, drink this cup,

come to me and never be hungry.

Eat this bread, drink this cup,

trust in me and you will not thirst.

COMMUNION

Because of the Blood

(Pam Shannon)

COMMUNION*Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love****ELW #708****Refrain**

**Jesu, Jesu,
fill us with your love,
show us how to serve
the neighbors we have from you.**

Kneels at the feet of his friends,
silently washes their feet,
master who acts as a slave to them. **Refrain**

Neighbors are wealthy and poor,
varied in color and race,
neighbors are nearby and far away. **Refrain**

These are the ones we will serve,
these are the ones we will love;
all these are neighbors to us and you. **Refrain**

Kneel at the feet of our friends,
silently washing their feet:
this is the way we will live with you. **Refrain**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- SENDING -

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES FOR MARCH**BLESSING**

God our tender parent,
God the crucified one,
God the reconciling Spirit,
✠ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Guide me ever, great Redeemer,
 pilgrim through this barren land.
 I am weak, but you are mighty;
 hold me with your pow'rful hand.
 Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
 feed me now and evermore,
 feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain
 where the healing waters flow;
 let the fire and cloudy pillar
 lead me all my journey through.
 Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer,
 shield me with your mighty arm,
 shield me with your mighty arm.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
 bid my anxious fears subside;
 death of death and hell's destruction,
 land me safe on Canaan's side.
 Songs and praises, songs and praises,
 I will raise forevermore,
 I will raise forevermore.

DISMISSALGo in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.****POSTLUDE**

**denotes favorite hymn of congregation*

March Worship Schedule 2026					
Task	1	8	15	22	29
Greeter	Jean C	Debbie H	Alissa S	Linda Z	Betty T
Reader	Kristine S	Davyann S	Wes G	Pam S	Judi H
*Asst. Minister	Erica W	Louis L	Matthew R	Sharon S train Sam S	Todd M
*Cantor	Wes G	Louis L	Matthew R	Sharon S	Todd M
Usher	Debbie H	Zack W	Tom L	Debbie H	Sam S
*Altar Guild	Eileen Kathy	Annette Betty	Sharon Diane Y	O'Reillys	Sophia G
Tech Support	Alex K	Eric W	Alex K	Eric W	Alex K
Musicians	Juliana C Heinz D Olivia K				
*Counters	Sigrun Linda	Alissa Linda	Alissa Sigrun	Davyann Theresa	Davyann Theresa
Coffee after Worship	Eileen	Scotts	Zimmermans	Diane Y	Kathy W

Activities at Faith

~This Lent, we invite you to join us in giving to Lutheran World Hunger. However you choose to give this season, we hope this might be one way we give *together*. Pick up a Lenten Calendar in the narthex — it includes daily prayers and prompts, along with creative ways to participate in this global hunger initiative.

Check out our improved
online ELCA Good Gifts
catalog experience!



[ELCA.org/goodgifts](https://www.elca.org/goodgifts)



~**LENTEN Wednesdays** - February 25th - March 25th. *Join us at the following times!*
Lenten Soup Supper at 5:30pm | Evening Prayer at 6pm

~Please sign-up to bring soup and/or bread for the **Soup Suppers on Wednesdays during Lent**. The sign-up sheet is in the Narthex.

~ This Lent, we're gathering for an **Adult Forum** on Sundays following worship; we're in the fireside room! This class explores the meaning of Jesus as — **Jesus the Forgiving Victim**. Whether you're a longtime Christian or someone wrestling with fresh questions, this is an invitation to draw closer to God and go

deeper in faith. James Alison's teaching opens up the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus in genuinely surprising ways, and we'll follow his lead together as a kind of devotional journey through the season. Join us as we let Lent do what Lent does best — bring us face to face with who Jesus is, and who we are becoming.

~**Easter Altar Flower Order Forms:** Please fill out your order forms, deadline for order and payment is **March 29th**. Cost \$15.00 per planted Spring Flower. You can pay by check, cash or using the QR code on the order form, please place completed order forms in the basket in the Narthex.

~ **Faith's Supper Club - Thursday, March 26th at Skipolini's at 11:30am - 2pm**. Due to restaurant capacity, we're limited to 14 guests total — so be sure to sign up soon! You'll find the sign-up sheet in the Narthex. If it's already full and you'd still like to join us, please don't hesitate to reach out to me directly. Jean Carter

~ A Church Directory is available in the Narthex — **we'd love for you to take a moment to look your information over and make sure everything is up to date**. If any of your information needs to be corrected, please reach out to Amy Zimmerman or the church office and we'll be happy to help!

Come to Worship. Go to Serve. Embrace the Community.
www.faithlutheranreno.org

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Church Office Phone: 775-747-3246