

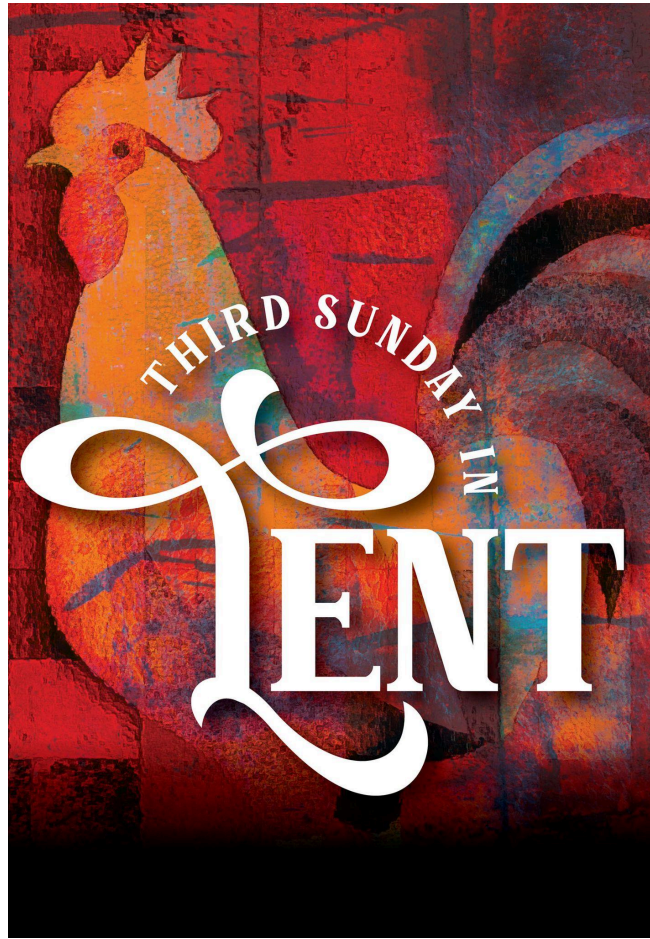
3.8.2026

10:00 am



Third Sunday in Lent

*Sharing God's love so that all  
are served and supported.*



### **Today's Worship Theme**

Today's gospel is about thirst—both for ordinary water and 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 before baptism at Easter. As we journey to the resurrection feast, Christ comes among us in word, bath, and meal—offering us the life-giving water of God's mercy and forgiveness.

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**115 East King Street | Boone, North Carolina | Office 828.264.2206 |  
[www.graceboone.org](http://www.graceboone.org) | [graceboone@graceboone.org](mailto:graceboone@graceboone.org)**



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*Greeter: TBD*  
*Ushers: Ron & Gail Schuette*  
*Altar Guild: Beth Reavis*  
*Coffee Host: Charlene Sox*

*If you are visiting, please review the Welcome Pew Card in the hymnal holder.*

✠ **GATHER** ✠

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*For up-to-date info, see the "Grace Happenings" Thursday e-newsletter and our website's monthly calendar (also displayed in the Narthex & Fellowship Hall).*



**PRELUDE**

*"Hope of the World"*

*James Biery*

*We rise.*

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*Pastor Jonathan Weant*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, 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, as we kneel. 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.**

*We rise.*

### **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

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

*Please share a sign of Christ's peace.*

### **GATHERING HYMN**

*"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"*

*ELW 807*

### **GREETING**

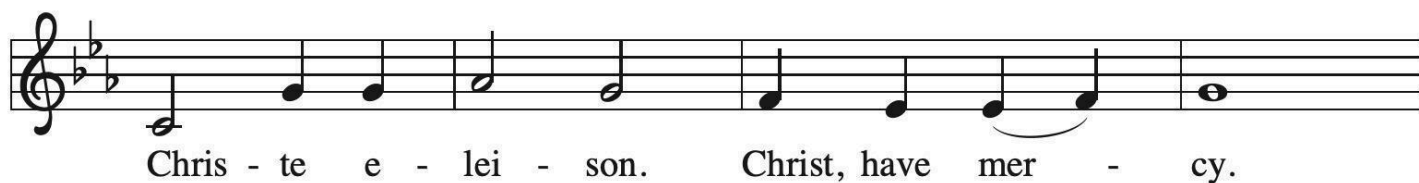
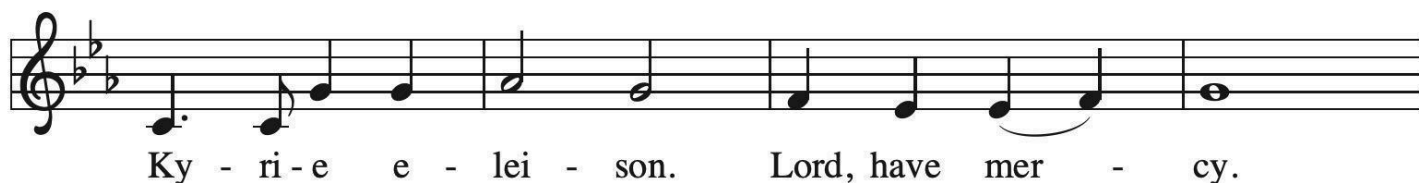
*Assisting Minister: Roger Bodo*

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.**

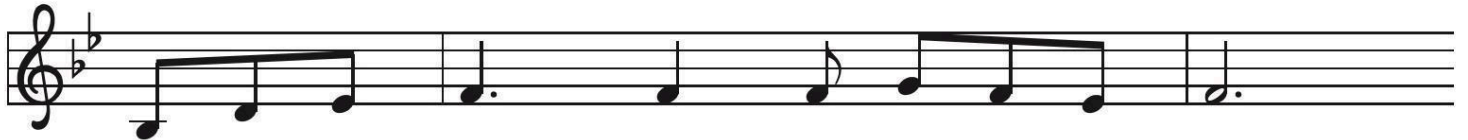
### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. 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. **Amen.**

### **KYRIE**



# HYMN OF PRAISE



1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;  
2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;  
3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;



yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.  
yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.  
yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.



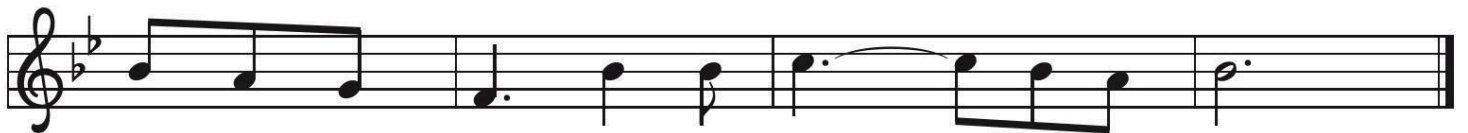
Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;  
Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;  
Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;



ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.



Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;



yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

*Be seated.*

✠ **WORD** ✠

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

*Children may come forward for the Children's Message, then go upstairs for Children's Church & Music, and return for communion.*

*Water from the rock in the wilderness*

<sup>1</sup> 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. <sup>2</sup> 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?" <sup>3</sup> 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?" <sup>4</sup> So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do for this people? They are almost ready to stone me." <sup>5</sup> 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. <sup>6</sup> 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. <sup>7</sup> He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 95** *Read responsively.*

<sup>1</sup> Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

**<sup>2</sup> Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving and raise a loud shout to the Lord with psalms.**

<sup>3</sup> For you, Lord, are a great God, and a great ruler above all gods.

**<sup>4</sup> In your hand are the caverns of the earth; the heights of the hills are also yours.**

<sup>5</sup> The sea is yours, for you made it, and your hands have molded the dry land.

**<sup>6</sup> Come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord our maker.**

<sup>7</sup> 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!

**<sup>8</sup> "Harden not your hearts, as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert.**

<sup>9</sup> There your ancestors tested me, they put me to the test, though they had seen my works.

**<sup>10</sup> Forty years I loathed that generation, saying, 'The heart of this people goes astray; they do not know my ways.'**

<sup>11</sup> Indeed I swore in my anger, 'They shall never come to my rest.'"

## **A READING FROM Romans 5:1-11**

*Reconciled to God by Christ's death*

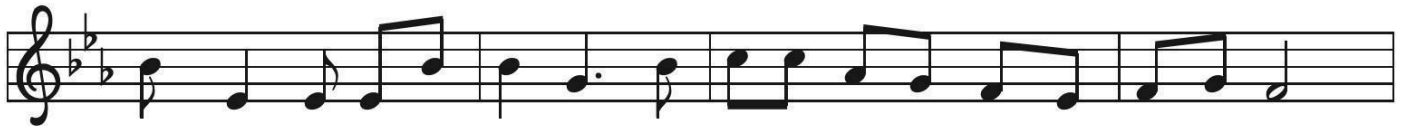
<sup>1</sup> Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup> through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. <sup>3</sup> And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, <sup>4</sup> and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup> 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.

<sup>6</sup> For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup> Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. <sup>8</sup> But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup> Much more surely, therefore, since we have now been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. <sup>10</sup> 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. <sup>11</sup> But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*We rise.*

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



Noth-ing in all cre - a - tion can sep-a-rate us from the love of God.



Noth-ing in all cre - a - tion can sep-a-rate us from the love of God.

### **GOSPEL READING: John 4:5-42**

*Baptismal image: the woman at the well*

The Holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>5</sup> [Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup> Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

<sup>7</sup> A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." <sup>8</sup> (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) <sup>9</sup> 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.) <sup>10</sup> 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." <sup>11</sup> The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?" <sup>12</sup> Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" <sup>13</sup> Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, <sup>14</sup> 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." <sup>15</sup> 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."

<sup>16</sup> Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." <sup>17</sup> The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband,' <sup>18</sup> for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" <sup>19</sup> The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. <sup>20</sup> Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. <sup>22</sup> You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. <sup>23</sup> 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. <sup>24</sup> God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." <sup>25</sup> 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." <sup>26</sup> Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

<sup>27</sup> 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?"

<sup>28</sup> Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. (CONT.)

She said to the people, <sup>29</sup>“Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?”

<sup>30</sup>They left the city and were on their way to him.

<sup>31</sup>Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, “Rabbi, eat something.”

<sup>32</sup>But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.”

<sup>33</sup>So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?” <sup>34</sup>Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of

him who sent me and to complete his work. <sup>35</sup>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. <sup>36</sup>The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and

reaper may rejoice together. <sup>37</sup>For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’ <sup>38</sup>I sent you to reap that for which you did not

labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”

<sup>39</sup>Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.” <sup>40</sup>So

when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. <sup>41</sup>And many more believed because of

his word. <sup>42</sup>They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.”

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

*Be seated.*

**SERMON**

*David Holden*

*We rise.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*“Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty”*

*ELW 777*

**APOSTLES’ CREED**

With the whole church, let us confess our faith. **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.**

We kneel.

## **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

Each portion of the prayer ends with these words:  
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Be seated.

### **OFFERING SONG**

✠ **MEAL** ✠

“As the Deer”

Lloyd Larson

*As the deer pants for the water, so my soul longs after you.  
You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.  
You alone are my strength and shield; to you alone may my spirit yield.  
You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.*

*You're my friend and you are my brother, even though you are a King.  
I love you more than any other, so much more than anything.  
You alone are my strength and shield; to you alone may my spirit yield.  
You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.*

Thank you for partnering with Grace. Visit [www.graceboone.org/donate](http://www.graceboone.org/donate), or place your gift in the Narthex offering box or mail it to the church office.

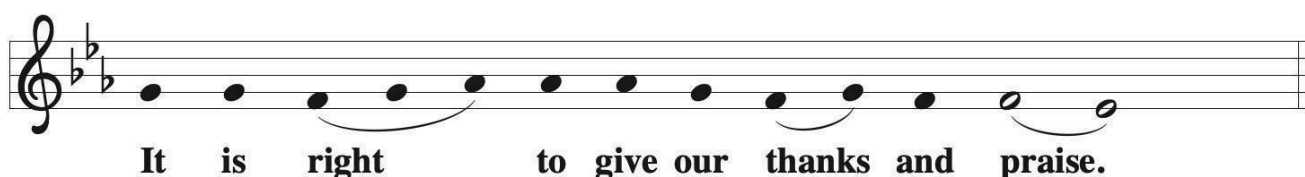
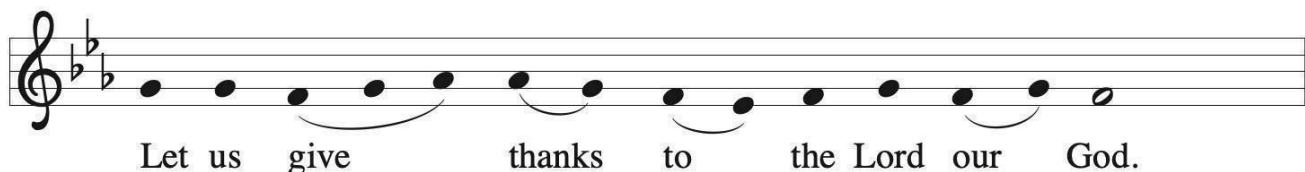
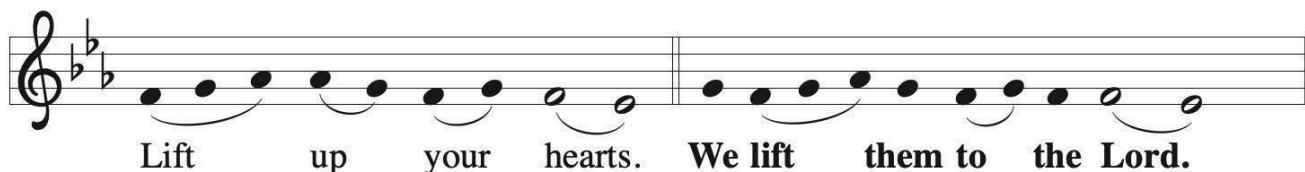
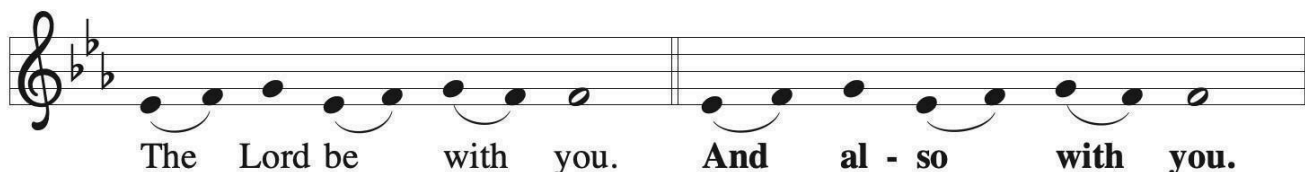


We rise.

### **OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray. 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. **Amen.**

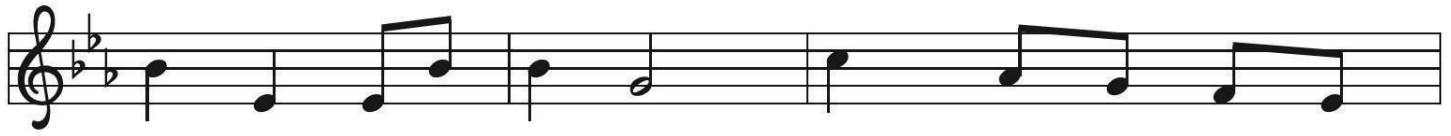
## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**



## PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ... and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



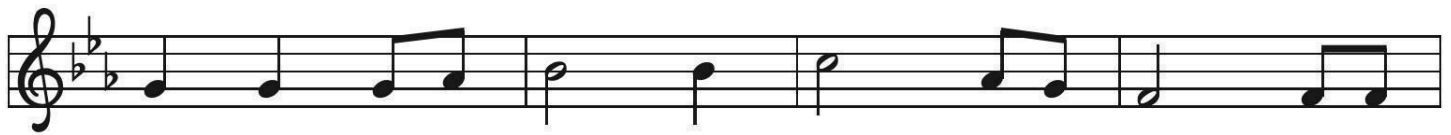
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and



God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your



glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the



Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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."

## LORD'S PRAYER

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

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

*Communion Assistants: Beth Reavis  
and Amy Atkins*

Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy. **Thanks be to God!**

*Please be seated. This is the Lord's Table; all who seek Christ's true presence promised through this bread and wine are welcome and invited to partake in communion at the head of the aisle. You'll receive bread first (gluten-, nut-, soy- & dairy-free) and then wine (grape juice is available). Please alert an usher if you require the sacrament to be brought to you. On the first and third Sundays, healing prayers are offered in the Chapel.*

## COMMUNION SONG



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.

## COMMUNION HYMNS

*"For All the Faithful Women" (vs. 1, 8, last) ELW 419*

*"Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery" (vs. 1-3, Lent 3) ELW 334*

*We rise.*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray. 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. **Amen.**

**✠ SENDING ✠**

**BLESSING**

Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity, God, the Father, 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.**

**SENDING HYMN**

*“O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts”*

*ELW 658*

**DISMISSAL**

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

**POSTLUDE**

*“O Day of Peace”*

*Charles Callahan*

<p><b><u>CHANCEL GREENERY</u></b>          Is given to the glory of God and in honor of the Grace staff and congregation by Suzanne Wise.</p>	<p><b><u>SANCTUARY LAMP</u></b>          Is burning to the glory of God and in celebration of National Quilters’ Day (March 21) and our own Grace Quilters by Ron &amp; Gail Schuette.</p>
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**READINGS FOR MARCH 15**

1 Samuel 16:1-13 | Psalm 23 | Ephesians 5:8-14 | John 9:1-41

**GIVING REPORT**

Giving September 1, 2025 through January 31, 2026

January Giving	January Budgeted Giving	Year to Date Giving	Year to Date Budgeted Giving
\$42,564.00	\$33,333.33	\$185,730.75	\$166,666.65