

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER, E.L.C.A.
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Fourth Sunday in Lent March 8, 2026

* Stand as you are able

GATHERING

INVOCATION

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

C: Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *

P: 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.

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are captive 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 hearts; 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.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, ✝ and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

GATHERING HYMN*

ELW # 533 "Open Now Thou Gates of Beauty"

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 (pages 184-185 in front of hymnal)

C: Sing refrain

Lori: For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all: ... let us pray to the Lord.

C: Sing refrain

Lori: That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor...let us pray to the Lord.

C: Sing refrain

Lori: For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family ... let us pray to the Lord.

C: Sing refrain

Lori: For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word ... let us pray to the Lord.

C: Sing refrain

Prayer of the Day *

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.

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

EXODUS 17:1-7

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

P: The Word of the Lord:

C: Thanks be to God

PSALM 95

¹ O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

² **Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!**

³ For the Lord is a great God and a great King above all gods.

⁴ **In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also.**

⁵ The sea is his, for he made it, and the dry land, which his hands have formed.

⁶ **O come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!**

⁷ For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. O that today you would listen to his voice!

⁸ **Do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah, as on the day at Massah in the wilderness,**

⁹ when your ancestors tested me and put me to the proof, though they had seen my work.

¹⁰ **For forty years I loathed that generation and said, "They are a people whose**

hearts go astray, and they do not regard my ways.”

¹¹ Therefore in my anger I swore, “They shall not enter my rest.”

Romans 5:1-11

¹Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we^[a] have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have obtained access^[b] to this grace in which we stand, and we^[c] boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³And not only that, but we^[d] also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and 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. ⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. ⁹Much more surely, therefore, since we have now been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God.^[e] ¹⁰For 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. ¹¹But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

P: The Word of the Lord: **C: Thanks be to God**

Gospel Acclamation *

C: The Son of Man must be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. (John 3:14-15)

P: THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO John 4:5-42

C: Glory to you O Lord.

⁵So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. ⁷A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.” ⁸(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) ⁹The 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.) ¹⁰Jesus 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.” ¹¹The woman said to him, “Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? ¹²Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?” ¹³Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴but 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.” ¹⁵The 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.” ¹⁶Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come back.” ¹⁷The woman answered him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband,’ ¹⁸for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!” ¹⁹The woman said to him, “Sir, I see that you are a prophet. ²⁰Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.” ²¹Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²²You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³But 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. ²⁴God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” ²⁵The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.” ²⁶Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to

you.”²⁷ 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?”²⁸ Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people,²⁹ “Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah,[j] can he?”³⁰ They left the city and were on their way to him.³¹ Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, “Rabbi, eat something.”³² But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.”³³ So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?”³⁴ Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work.³⁵ 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.³⁶ The reaper is already receiving[k] wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together.³⁷ For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’³⁸ I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”³⁹ Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.”⁴⁰ So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days.⁴¹ And many more believed because of his word.⁴² 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 Gospel of the Lord: **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day *

ELW # 332 “I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say”

The Apostle’s Creed * (Printed inside the back cover of the hymnal.)

Welcome to our WTKM radio and online worshipers, Good News and Prayer Petitions

Prayers of the Church

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

Sharing the Peace

P: The Peace of Christ be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

(you are encouraged to turn to one another and share the peace of the Lord.)

Offering Hymn *

ELW # 708 “Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love”

Offering Prayer *

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.

MEAL

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 our thanks and praise.**

The Preface *

P: Lord, it is indeed right and our joy that at all times and in all places we give thanks and praise to you. And so with the angels and archangels and with the church on earth and in heaven, we give glory to you O God, through Jesus Christ, as we praise your name and join in the unending hymn:

C: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna, in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest** (pg. 144 ELW)

The Words of Institution and The Lord's Prayer *

Invitation to Communion

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

Hymn

ELW # 146 "Lamb of God"

Distribution

Communion Hymn *

ELW # 461 "All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly"

SENDING

Communion Blessing *

Prayer After Communion *

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.

Blessing *

Receive the blessing of the Holy Trinity: God the Father, who calls all things into existence, God, the Son, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and God the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation,
✚ bless you now and always.

Amen.

Sending Hymn *

ELW # 623 "Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me"

Dismissal *

P: Go in peace. As we serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Redeemer Announcements

- Today's Lector Tom Hostad, and our ushers are Kurt & Wendy Hintz.
- Next week's Lector is Kurt Hintz and our usher is Don Horen.
- The next Women's Bible Study is **Monday, March 9th**, at noon. Bring a lunch and join us.
- A Church Council Meeting will be held on **Monday, March 9th** at 4:00PM.
- Ecumenical Lenten Service will be **Wednesday, March 11th at St Aidan Episcopal Church** with a potato bar from 5:00-6:15pm with a social reception following
- Future Lenten Services are at 6:30pm: Wednesday, **March 18th at First United Methodist Church** preceded with soup and salad bar, and Wednesday, **March 25th at St. Olaf Lutheran Church** followed by a social/reception..
- Pastor will be in the office on **Thursday, March 12th** from 9:00am - 12:00pm. Appointments are appreciated, but not necessary. If you wish to meet with Pastor at other times, please contact him directly. Looking ahead, he will be in the office he will be in on **Wednesday March 18th, and Thursday March 26th** from 9am-12pm.
- Roof Replacement.. To take advantage of the Matching Pledge Offer, please return your Pledge Form by **March 15, 2026**. The due date for the Pledge Forms is **March 31, 2026**. Monies due by **May 1, 2026**.
- The next "Conversations with God" will be held on **Thursday, March 26th at 10am**. Please note the date change. This group will now meet the 4th Thursday of each month. We will take this time to gather for prayer, Scripture, and conversation on a different topic each month. March's topic will be "Change".

Ministry Partners

- Special Giving for March is Habitat for Humanity
- Community Lunch will be served on **Saturday, March 28th**, 11:30am, at First United Methodist Church. Fellowship prior to lunch.
- Lincoln Elementary School

In the Nest:

- Casa Guadalupe English Language Learners "ELL" meets Monday & Wednesdays from 6-7:30PM.
 - Al-Anon Meetings are held Thursdays at 7:00PM.
 - Girl Scouts meet the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays.

The Needs of Our Partners:

Lincoln Elementary School.

Clothing winter clothes for children in various sizes snowpants, winter coats, socks, sweatpants for both elementary and middle school, regular gloves, and caps, gloves for playing in the snow. **Snacks** include: Goldfish, Individually wrapped food items, Animal Crackers, and Granola Bars... **NO** bags of nuts.

Food drive/pantry (most helpful in Feb – Summer) cereal, shelf stable microwave meals, canned goods and mac and cheese with cheese sauce (not add milk and butter).

Casa Guadalupe

Clothing: winter coats, boots, mittens, warm clothes, winter hats, socks (gently used items are ok) **Snacks:** Kid snacks - **NO NUTS**, fruit cups, cereal, canned goods. **Other Items:** Books (gently used is ok), new toys.

See The Herald and the giving tree in the coffee area for these and other needs.

PLEASE JOIN US AFTER TODAY'S SERVICE FOR COFFEE AND SNACKS IN THE GATHERING ROOM