



*Loved by God,
Sent to Serve.*

**3rd Sunday in Lent
March 3, 2024
10:30 am**

Evangelical Lutheran Worship
Setting Eight

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Prelude: *Jesus Is a Rock in a Weary Land*

ELW 333

Confession and Forgiveness

ELW p. 94

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

Amen.

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.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,

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 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.

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.

Amen.

Gathering Song: *Blessed Be Your Name*

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

ELW p. 184

The assembly joins in with the refrain when invited.

let us pray to the Lord, **let us pray to the Lord**
Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,
Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.

Canticle of Praise

ELW p. 185

Refrain

Glory to God in the highest, the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

- 1 Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. **Refrain**
- 2 Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. **Refrain**
- 3 For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen. Amen. Amen. **Refrain (x2)**

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading: Exodus 20:1-17

After escaping from slavery, the Israelites come to Mount Sinai, where God teaches them how to live in community. The Ten Commandments proclaim that God alone is worthy of worship. Flowing from God, the life of the community flourishes when based on honesty, trust, fidelity, and respect for life, family, and property.

¹God spoke all these words: ²I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me.

⁴You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

¹²Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you. ¹³You shall not murder. ¹⁴You shall not commit adultery. ¹⁵You shall not steal. ¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. ¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

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

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

The word of the cross is pure foolishness and nonsense to the world because it claims that God is mostly revealed in weakness, humiliation, and death. But through such divine foolishness and weakness, God is working to save us. The center of Paul's preaching is Christ crucified.

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.” ²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

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

Gospel Song: *Word of God, Speak*

Word of God speak, would You pour down like rain
Washing my eyes to see Your majesty
to be still and know that You're in this place
Please let me stay and rest, in Your holiness
Word of God speak **(repeat)**

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Gospel: John 2:13-22

The holy gospel according to John.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus attacks the commercialization of religion by driving merchants out of the temple. When challenged, he responds mysteriously, with the first prediction of his own death and resurrection. In the midst of a seemingly stable religious center, Jesus suggests that the center itself has changed.

¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, “Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father’s house a marketplace!” ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, “Zeal for your house will consume me.” ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, “What sign can you show us for doing this?”

¹⁹Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.”

²⁰The Jews then said, “This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?” ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

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

Children’s Time

Sermon

The Rev. Karla Wildberger

Song of the Day: *Because of Your Love*

Affirmation of Faith

Let us profess our faith together:

I believe that the God I see in scripture is a God of love. I believe that God created me and delights in that creation. I believe the psalmist who says, “I am fearfully and wonderfully made.” I believe that, just as God called Jesus “beloved,” God extends this same term of endearment to us.

I believe that no matter our earthly challenges, nothing could strip me of that sacred title. I could fail every test, miss every goal, drop every ball, and I would still be God’s beloved.

Therefore, I cling to this promise like a rock in the storm. I anchor myself with this good news, allowing the anxiety of the day to roll over me as best I can, because I know where I belong.

I am a child of God. I am beloved. I strive to live this way.

Amen.

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Prayers of Intercession

...Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**
...through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace

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

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering Song: *Jesus Is a Rock in a Weary Land*

ELW 333

Refrain – All



Je - sus is a rock in a wea - ry land, a wea - ry land, a
wea - ry land; my Je - sus is a rock in a
wea - ry land, a shel - ter in the time of storm.

Leader or All



1 No one can do like Je - sus, not a
2 When Je - sus was on earth, the . .
3 Yon - der comes my Sav - ior, him . .

mum - bling word he said; he went walk - ing down to Laz -
flesh was ver - y weak; . . he took a towel and gird -
whom I love so well; . . he has the palm of vic -

Refrain



- a - rus' grave, and he raised him from the dead.
ed him - self and he washed his dis - ci - ples' feet.
- to - ry and the keys of death and hell.

Offering Prayer

Let us pray,

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Dialogue

ELW p. 190

The Lord be with you.

And also 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.

Preface

ELW p. 190

Holy, Holy, Holy (*spoken*)

ELW p. 190

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of pow'r and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Thanksgiving at the Table

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Lord's Prayer

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

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 to Communion

Lamb of God

ELW p. 191

Communion Distribution Song: *Eat This Bread*

ELW 472

Refrain

"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."

Let us pray.

Merciful God, accompany our journey through these forty days. Renew us in the gift of baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure in the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Announcements

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

Amen.

Sending Song: *All the People Said Amen*

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude: *All the People Said Amen*

Announcements

Altar Flowers today are provided by Nancy Davis in celebration of her and Clarence's 56th anniversary.

Midweek Lent Services

Midweek services continue Wednesday at 6:00 pm. This week's focus will be "In Community with Our Neighbor" and will be led by Seminarian Matthew Walsh with Jill as the musician.

This Week at Lord of Life

Sunday, March 3	8:00 AM	Worship in-person
	9:15 AM	Intergenerational Faith Formation
	10:30 AM	Worship in-person or online
Wednesday, March 6	6:00 PM	Midweek Lent Worship in-person or online
	6:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal (after worship)
Thursday, March 7	1:00 PM	Prayer Shawl Ministry
Saturday, March 9	8:30 AM	Men's Breakfast

Prayer List

Bill Thurm
Troy & Maria Troftgruben & family
Logan & Lydia VanderBush & family
Todd & Tanya Vanderlinde & family
Van & Shirley Waggoner
Betty Westemeier
Daryl & Rose Wickre

This Week's Worship Servants

Readers:	8:00 Jenn Cartee	10:30 Nancy Davis
Ushers:	8:00 Sam & Sue Deaver	10:30 Jerry Merrick
Tech/PPT:	8:00	10:30

Acknowledgments

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Lord of Life Lutheran Church
2899 Hales Mill Road
Dubuque, IA 52002
(563) 582-7371
lordoflife.online

Lord of Life Lutheran Guest Wireless
Password: Lutheran

Interim Pastor
Rev. Karla Wildberger
pastor@lordoflifedbq.org

Administrative Assistant
Rita Dienst
office@lordoflifedbq.org

Musician
Jill Klinebriel
jill@lordoflifedbq.org

NOW Worship Leader
Bri Ensign
bri.ensign@gmail.com

Choir Director
Susan Hansen

Administrative Office Hours
Monday - Thursday
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Worship Online

Zoom:

<https://bit.ly/2PvSCQJ>
Meeting ID: 563 582 7371
Passcode: Luther

Phone in at:

(312) 626-6799
Meeting ID: 563 582 7371
Passcode: 456037

