



**Lord of Life**  
Lutheran Church



*Loved by God,  
Sent to Serve.*

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent  
March 19, 2023  
10:30 am**

**Evangelical Lutheran Worship**  
Setting Eight

**GATHERING**

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

**Prelude: “Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”**

**ELW 779**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

**ELW p. 94**

In the name of the Father,  
and of the † Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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: *Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness*

ELW 843

- 1 Praise the One who breaks the darkness  
with a liberating light;  
praise the One who frees the pris'ners,  
turning blindness into sight.  
Praise the One who preached the gospel,  
healing ev'ry dread disease,  
calming storms and feeding thousands  
with the very bread of peace.
- 2 Praise the One who blessed the children  
with a strong yet gentle word;  
praise the One who drove out demons  
with a piercing, two-edged sword.  
Praise the One who brings cool water  
to the desert's burning sand;  
from this well comes living water  
quenching thirst in ev'ry land.
- 3 Praise the one true love incarnate:  
Christ, who suffered in our place;  
Jesus died and rose for many  
that we may know God by grace.  
Let us sing for joy and gladness,  
seeing what our God has done.  
Praise the one redeeming glory;  
praise the One who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955      Music: J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813  
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## 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.**

**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.

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.

**Amen.**

**WORD**

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

**First Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1-13**

*Samuel anointed David even though he was the eighth-oldest son of Jesse and did not match his brothers in height or other physical characteristics. With the anointing came endowment with the Spirit of the LORD, designating David as the LORD's chosen successor to Saul.*

<sup>1</sup>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." <sup>2</sup>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.'" <sup>3</sup>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." <sup>4</sup>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?”<sup>5</sup> 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.

<sup>6</sup>When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the LORD’s anointed is now before the LORD.”<sup>7</sup> 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.”<sup>8</sup> Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.”<sup>9</sup> Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.”<sup>10</sup> Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The LORD has not chosen any of these.”<sup>11</sup> 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.”<sup>12</sup> 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.”<sup>13</sup> 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.

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

## **Second Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14**

*Because we now live in the divine light which is Jesus Christ, we conduct our lives in ways that reflect the light of Christ, so that our activity is truly pleasing to God.*

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

“Sleeper, awake!

Rise from the dead,

and Christ will shine on you.”

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

## Children's Time

### 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 9:1-41

The holy gospel according to John.

#### Glory to you, O Lord.

*Jesus heals a man born blind, provoking a hostile reaction that he regards as spiritual blindness to the things of God.*

<sup>1</sup>As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup>His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. <sup>4</sup>We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. <sup>5</sup>As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” <sup>6</sup>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, <sup>7</sup>saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. <sup>8</sup>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?” <sup>9</sup>Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” <sup>10</sup>But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” <sup>11</sup>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.” <sup>12</sup>They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

<sup>13</sup>They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. <sup>14</sup>Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. <sup>15</sup>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.” <sup>16</sup>Some of the Pharisees said,

“This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. <sup>17</sup>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.”

<sup>18</sup>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 <sup>19</sup>and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” <sup>20</sup>His parents answered, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; <sup>21</sup>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.” <sup>22</sup>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. <sup>23</sup>Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

<sup>24</sup>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.” <sup>25</sup>He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” <sup>26</sup>They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” <sup>27</sup>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?” <sup>28</sup>Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. <sup>29</sup>We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” <sup>30</sup>The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. <sup>31</sup>We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. <sup>32</sup>Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. <sup>33</sup>If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” <sup>34</sup>They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.

<sup>35</sup>Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” <sup>36</sup>He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” <sup>37</sup>Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” <sup>38</sup>He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. <sup>39</sup>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.” <sup>40</sup>Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” <sup>41</sup>Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

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

## **Song of the Day: *Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)***

Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me  
I once was lost, but now I'm found was blind, but now I see

'twas grace that taught my heart to fear and grace my fears relieved  
how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed

My chains are gone, I've been set free my God my Savior, has ransomed me  
and like a flood, His mercy rains, unending love, amazing grace

The Lord has promised good to me His word, my hope secures  
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures

My chains are gone, I've been set free my God my Savior, has ransomed me  
and like a flood, His mercy rains, unending love, amazing grace

My chains are gone, I've been set free my God my Savior, has ransomed me  
and like a flood, His mercy rains, unending love, amazing grace

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow the sun forbear to shine  
but God, who called me here below will be forever mine  
will be forever mine You are forever mine

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## **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.



## Prayers of Intercession

...Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**  
...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.*

## Offertory Music: *Lead Me, Guide Me*

ELW 768

### Refrain

Lead me, guide me, along the way;  
For if you lead me, I cannot stray.  
Lord, let me walk each day with thee.  
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

- 1 I am weak and I need thy strength and pow'r  
To help me over my weakest hour.  
Help me through the darkness thy face to see.  
Lead me, O Lord, lead me. **Refrain**
- 2 Help me tread in the paths of righteousness,  
Be my aid when Satan and win oppress.  
I am putting all my trust in thee.  
Lead me, O Lord, lead me. **Refrain**
- 3 I am lost if you take your hand from me,  
I am blind without thy light to see.  
Lord, just always let me they servant be.  
Lead me, O Lord, lead me. **Refrain**



Scan code to give now.

## 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.**

## Great Thanksgiving

### Dialogue

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

### Holy, Holy, Holy

ELW p. 190

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, 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, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## **Thanksgiving at the Table**

### **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**

#### **Lamb of God**

**ELW p. 191**

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, Lamb of God.

#### **Communion Distribution Song: *Come To the Table***

**ELW 481**

Come to the table of mercy,  
prepared with the wine and the bread.  
All who are hungry and thirsty,  
come, and your souls will be fed.  
Come at the Lord's invitation;  
receive from his nail-scarred hand.  
Eat of the bread of salvation;  
drink of the blood of the Lamb.

## **Prayer after Communion**

Let us pray.

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## **SENDING**

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

## **Announcements**

### **Blessing**

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **Sending Song: *This Is Amazing Grace***

Who breaks the power of sin and darkness  
Whose love is mighty and so much stronger  
The King of Glory the King above all kings

Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder  
And leaves us breathless in awe and wonder  
The King of Glory the King above all kings

This is amazing grace  
This is unfailing love  
That You would take my place  
That You would bear my cross  
You laid down Your life  
That I would be set free  
Oh Jesus I sing for all that You've done for me

Who brings our chaos back into order  
Who makes the orphan a son and daughter  
The King of Glory the King of Glory

Who rules the nations with truth and justice  
Shines like the sun in all of its brilliance  
The King of Glory the King above all kings

Yeah this is amazing grace  
This is unfailing love  
That You would take my place  
That You would bear my cross  
You laid down Your life  
That I would be set free  
Oh Jesus I sing for all that You've done for me

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain  
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave  
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain  
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave  
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain  
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave  
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain  
Worthy worthy worthy, Oh

This is amazing grace  
This is unfailing love  
That You would take my place  
That You would bear my cross  
You laid down Your life  
That I would be set free  
Oh Jesus I sing for all that You've done for me

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## **Dismissal**

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude: “*This Is Amazing Grace*”**

## Announcements

### **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

**Altar Flowers** today are provided by Dale & Jan Helwig-Schrobilgen in celebration of their wedding anniversary.

### **This Week at Lord of Life**

Today	8:00 AM	Worship in-person or online
	9:15 AM	Sunday School
	9:15 AM	Adult Faith Formation
	10:30 AM	NOW Worship in-person or online
	3:00 PM	Dubuque Interfaith Green Coalition @ LOL
Wednesday, March 22	6:00 PM	Confirmation
	7:15 PM	Midweek Lent Worship in-person/online
Thursday, March 23	11:30 AM	Senior Lunch – Happy’s Place
	6:30 PM	Stephen Ministry

### **Attention Parents!**

We are looking to the future of faith formation at Lord of Life and we want YOU to be a part of the conversation. Join us for lunch and great conversation on April 2 from 11:30-1:00. Childcare provided. Please RSVP to Maria, the church office, or Pastor Paul so we can plan food accordingly. 😊😊😊

### **Parenting Today Conference**

Join us for a FREE conference for parents and grandparents on Sunday April 30 from 1:30-3:00 pm at Lord of Life. Experts and professionals in the field helping you understand what your children are facing today and offering resources for you to use. For more information please visit:

<https://www.lordoflife.online/parentingtodayconference.html>

## **Dear Thrivent Members...Start 2023 on a generous note!**

If you haven't already done so, you can still direct 2022 Choice Dollars® until end of March 2023 to the causes that matter most to you.\* In fact, there are more than 45,000 organizations in our Thrivent Choice® catalog including Lord of Life Lutheran Church from which to choose. Don't miss this opportunity to recommend where Thrivent gives back! If you have any questions do not hesitate to contact Dan Decker at 563-556-0469 or [deckerdbq@aol.com](mailto:deckerdbq@aol.com). Thanks

## **First Communion Instruction**

Each year, during Lent, we invite parents and children in 5th grade to participate in First Communion Instruction. The process is fairly simple. Visit our website to watch a video and learn how to bake communion bread, answer questions on the questionnaire included on the page, and join Pastor Paul and Maria Troftgruben for an in-person session. You can start the process at <https://www.lordoflife.online/firstcommunion.html> then let Pastor Paul know that you are ready to meet.

## **Prayer List**

Ken & Christine Resch  
Tonia Ricke and family  
Alec & Tricia Roschen and family  
Willeen Sass

Steve & Brandie Seay and family  
Tim Shade  
Lance & Laura Sherlock

## **Servants:**

### **Sunday, March 19**

	<b>Tech</b>	<b>Assisting Min.</b>	<b>Reader</b>	<b>Ushers</b>
<b>8:00 AM</b>	Nate Frambach	Diane Frambach	Kris-Erickson Eipperle Steve Geisert	Sam & Sue Deaver
<b>10:30 AM</b>				

### **Sunday, March 26**

<b>8:00 AM</b>			Sandy Heer	Jim & Bernita Gilbertson
<b>10:30 AM</b>			Barb Lindecker	Linda Bothwell

## **Acknowledgments**

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**NOW Worship Leader**

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**Choir Director**

Susan Hansen

**Faith Formation Coordinator**

Maria Troftgruben  
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**Administrative Office Hours**

Monday - Thursday  
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

