

Sunday, March 22, 2026
Fifth Sunday in Lent
10:30am



St. Luke's Lutheran Church

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office@slelca.org

Visit our website at
www.slelca.org

Pastor Rob Williamson
pastorrob@slelca.org

Jane Fanucci, Choir Director/Organist
jef100bicen@yahoo.com

HOLY COMMUNION

Please Silence Your Phones & Devices

PRELUDE

Jacob Wilson

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

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

You are invited to stand as able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, as the presiding minister begins.

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 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.

GATHERING SONG

ELW #712

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service



- 1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser-vice bore the weight of hu-man need,
- 2 Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun-gry cry for bread;
- 3 As we wor-ship, grant us vi-sion, till your love's re-veal-ing light
- 4 Called by wor-ship to your ser-vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up-on the cross, for-sak-en, worked your mer-cy's per-fect deed:
still the cap-tives long for free-dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up-on our quick-ened sight,
to the child, the youth, the a-ged, love in liv-ing deeds to show;



we, your ser-vants, bring the wor-ship not of voice a-lone, but heart;
As you, Lord, in deep com-pas-sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
mak-ing known the needs and bur-dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear,
hope and health, good-will and com-fort, coun-sel, aid, and peace we give,



con-se-crating to your pur-pose ev-'ry gift which you im-part.
by your Spir-it send your pow-er to our world to make it whole.
stir-ring us to ar-dent ser-vice, your a-bun-dant life to share.
that your ser-vants, Lord, in free-dom may your mer-cy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984
Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844
Text © Oxford University Press

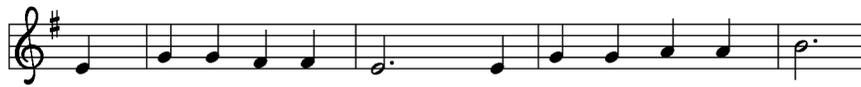
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GREETING

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



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God,

Your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, 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

Ezekiel 37:1-14

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 130

¹ Out of the depths

I cry to you, O LORD;

² **O LORD, hear my voice!**

**Let your ears be attentive to the voice of
my supplication.**

³ If you were to keep watch over sins,

O LORD, who could stand?

⁴ **Yet with you is forgiveness,**

in order that you may be feared.

⁵ I wait for you, O LORD; my soul waits;

in your word is my hope.

⁶ **My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep**

**watch for the morning, more than those who keep
watch for the morning.**

⁷ O Israel, wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there

is steadfast love; with the LORD there is

plenteous redemption.

⁸ **For the LORD shall redeem Israel**

from all their sins.

SECOND READING

Romans 8:6-11

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

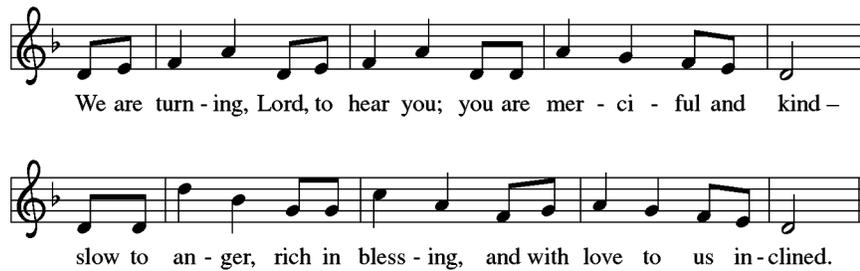
CHOIR ANTHEM

The Cross Says Come

CHILDREN'S TIME

You are invited to stand as able

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -
slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

GOSPEL

John 11:1-45

The holy gospel according to John, the 11th Chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

You are invited to stand as able.

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW#666

What Wondrous Love Is This



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
2 When I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, sink-ing down, when
3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and



won-drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this
I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, when I was sink-ing down
God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,



that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my
be-neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a-side his crown for my
who is the great I AM, while mil-lions join the theme, I will
I'll sing God's love for me, and through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a-side his crown for my soul.
sing, I will sing, while mil-lions join the theme, I will sing.
on, I'll sing on; and through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing on.

Text: North American folk hymn, 19th cent., alt.
Music: WONDROUS LOVE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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

Each portion of the prayers ends:

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.



The prayers conclude:

Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say "peace be with you," or similar words.

Please be seated.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

An offering is received for the mission of the church.

SOLO - Phil Karlstad

"Lord I'm Coming Home"

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

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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.
You call your people to cleanse their hearts
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,
we may come to the fullness of your grace.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
 you have brought us this far along the way.

In times of bitterness you did not abandon us,
 but guided us into the path of love and light.
 In every age you sent prophets
 to make known your loving will for all humanity.
 The cry of the poor has become your own cry;
 our hunger and thirst for justice is your own desire.
 In the fullness of time, you sent your chosen servant
 to preach good news to the afflicted,
 to break bread with the outcast and despised,
 and to ransom those in bondage to prejudice and sin.

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 all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection,
we await the day when Jesus shall return
to free all the earth from the bonds of slavery and death.
Come, Lord Jesus! And let the church say, Amen.

Amen.

Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate,
to fill the hearts of all who share this bread and cup
with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all
the world. Come, Spirit of freedom! And let the church say,
Amen.

Amen.

Join our prayers and praise with your prophets and
martyrs of every age, that, rejoicing in the hope of the
resurrection, we might live in the freedom and hope of
your Son. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the
Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father,
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 forever. Amen.**

COMMUNION

All are welcome at Christ's table. Come forward at the usher's invitation. Those not yet communing will receive a blessing. Bread will be placed in your open hands. Grape juice is in the pink glasses in the center of the tray. Please let the server know if you would like grape juice. Individual communion packets are available near the entrance for those who prefer them.

COMMUNION SONG



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;

you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

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

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

BLESSING

Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity:

God, 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 SONG ELW#840

Now Thank We All Our God



1 Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices,
2 Oh, may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
3 All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,



who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,
the Son, and Spirit blest, who reign in highest heaven,



who, from our mothers' arms, has blest us on our way
and keep us all in grace, and guide us when perplexed,
the one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore;



with countless gifts of love, and still is ours to-day.
and free us from all harm in this world and the next.
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

Text: Martin Rinkhart, 1586-1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878
Music: NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT, Johann Crüger, 1598-1662

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Believe the good news.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Jane Fanucci

Worship Assistants

Altar Care: Connie Reule
Announcements: Chet Madison
Communion Servers: Shirley Prouty, Laura Tice,
Daniel Laryea
Reader: Faith Thomas
Prayer Leader: Karen Linfor
Refreshments: Kirsten Ireton
Song Leader: Karen Linfor
Ushers: Christiana Wilson
& Laura Sondrini



Flowers Today Provided by:

Peggy Moser
In Memory of Allen's Birthday

THIS WEEK AT ST. LUKE'S

March 22 - 28, 2026

Today	Choir Practice	9:30a.m.- 10:15a.m.
	Holy Communion	10:30a.m.
Monday	Soul Sisters—Room 4	12:00p.m.
Tuesday	Bible Study—Zoom	10:30a.m.
Wednesday	Soup Supper	6:00p.m.
Thursday	Game Night	6:00p.m.
Saturday	Church Work Day	9:00a.m.

Worship and Music News

On *Maundy Thursday, April 2, 2026*, worship service will be held at *7:00 pm* and will include stripping the Altar. Please consider taking part in this incredibly significant and solemn ritual. A Signup sheet is available in the Narthex.

Good Friday service on *April 3, 2026*, will be held at *7:00 pm*.

Easter Sunday service, April 5, 2026, will be at 10:30 am.

Just a reminder, it is **NEVER TOO LATE** to join the Choir! Please see Jane Fanucci, Choir Director, if you are interested.



We are collecting Easter candy and plastic eggs for our annual Easter egg hunt. Donations can be dropped off in the narthex.

Thank you,
Evangelism Board



Our last Wednesday Lenten Soup Suppers at 6:00pm. Followed by a brief sermon from Pastor Rob in Schultz Hall at 6:45pm. All are Welcome.

March 25 – Congregation

*Sign-up sheets are in the narthex for donations of soup, bread and desserts.



Please mark your calendar, a Workday will be held on Saturday, **March 28, 2026, at 9:00 am**, to dust the pews and clean and polish all the elements used during worship services. We will also be placing Palm branches around the church in preparation for *Palm Sunday, March 29, 2026.*



BIBLE STUDY **James**

You are cordially invited to participate in a Bible study on the Book of James, commencing March 24th, 2026, via Zoom. The group will convene for nine weeks, beginning March 24th for five consecutive weeks (March 24 through April 21), followed by a two-week intermission, and concluding with sessions from May 12 through June 2. The discussion will utilize N.T. Wright's "For Everyone Bible Study Guides" focusing on "James." If you wish to join and have not attended previously, please email marlenek8626@outlook.com so that you may be added to the class mailing list and receive the weekly Zoom link starting in March 2026.

Marlene Kiser
Bible Study Leader