

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Grace Lutheran Church

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The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod
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Church Office
Church Office Hours
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Sunday, March 15, 2026
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Mondays 12:00-4:00pm & Thursdays 8:00am-12:00pm
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Serving Today

WORSHIP LEADER	Pastor Peter Gueldner	ORGAN/PIANO	Hope Nelson
CHOIR DIRECTOR	Brenda Nelson	CHOIR ACCOMPANIST	Jody Weckwerth
GRACE CHOIR	Linda Billman, Mary Ann Groven, Ted Kueker, Carol Lynch, Emilie Pentico, Ruth Poole, Sue Quast, Michelle Redmond, Lisa Sandeno, Kim Schauer, Lil Spilde, Lyn Strauss, Craig Weckwerth, Jody Weckwerth, Rick Weckwerth, Matthew Wingren, Nola Wingren.		
LAY READER	Phil Sanders	LIVESTREAM	Emilie Pentico
ELDERS/USHERS	Ryan Kivimagi, Corey Nelson		

Silent Prayer Before Worship

Heavenly Father, we thank You that You are the Light of the World who illuminates our darkness. Just as You saw the man born blind, we ask that You look upon us with mercy and open our eyes to see Your truth clearly.

Lord, forgive us for the times we have been spiritually blind, thinking we see while remaining in the dark of our own pride or misunderstanding. Remove the 'scales' from our eyes so that we may recognize Your hand at work in every circumstance—even in our pain and limitations—knowing that such things can serve to display Your glory.

Give us the courage to stand firm in our testimony, even when faced with opposition or doubt. May we be bold enough to say, 'One thing I do know: I was blind but now I see!'. In the name of Jesus Christ, Amen."

Congregational Prayers

✠ John & Bea Beilke	✠ Diane Grieve	✠ Don & Kathy Jungwirth
✠ Sam Konakowitz	✠ Allen & Debbie Kvittem	✠ Dorothy Kueker
✠ Patricia Meyer	✠ Pat Swanson	✠ Jon Swanson

Lectionary Summary for Transfiguration

By His Word of the Gospel, Jesus Calls Us Out of the Darkness into His Marvelous Light

The Lord is grieved by the spiritual blindness of His people, yet in mercy He does not forsake them. He restrains His anger and keeps His peace, until He opens their ears and eyes to hear and see Him. *“For his righteousness’ sake,”* He magnifies His Word and makes it glorious in the coming of Christ Jesus (Is. 42:21). Jesus turns *“the darkness before them into light”* (Is. 42:16) because He is *“the light of the world”* (John 9:5). The incarnate Son of God does the works of His Father and displays the divine glory in His own flesh *“while it is day,”* until that night *“when no one can work”* (John 9:4). By the washing of water with His Word, He opens the eyes of the blind and grants rest to the weary. Therefore, though *“at one time you were darkness,”* now *“you are light in the Lord”* (Eph. 5:8). By our Baptism into Christ, we live in the eternal day of His resurrection, wherein He shines upon us. As often as we fall back into the darkness of sin, He calls us by the Gospel to *“awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead”* (Eph. 5:14).

Hymn of Invocation

LSB 697 Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death

Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895–1984. Tune: Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829

Text: © 1980 Augsburg Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003106. Tune: Public domain



1 A - wake, O sleep - er, rise from death, And
 2 To us on earth He came to bring From
 3 Then walk in love as Christ has loved, Who
 4 For us Christ lived, for us He died, And



Christ shall give you light; So learn His love, its
 sin and fear re - lease, To give the Spir - it's
 died that He might save; With kind and gen - tle
 con - quered in the strife; A - wake, a - rise, go



length and breadth, Its full - ness, depth, and height.
 u - ni - ty, The ver - y bond of peace.
 hearts for - give As God in Christ for - gave.
 forth in faith, And Christ shall give you life.

Stand

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Exhortation

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Confession of Sins

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

Absolution

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Introit

My eyes are ever | toward the LORD,*

for he will pluck my feet out | of the net.

One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek | after:*

that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his | temple.

For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of | trouble;*

he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high up- | on a rock.

And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with | shouts of joy;*

I will sing and make melody | to the LORD.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

My eyes are ever | toward the LORD,*

for he will pluck my feet out | of the net.

♪ Gloria Patri

C **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;**

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

♫ Kyrie

C Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

♫ **C** And with thy spirit.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

♫ **C** Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 42:14-21 (see insert)

After the reading:

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

[O come, let us fix our eyes on] | Jesus,*
the founder and perfecter | of our faith,
who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despis- | ing the shame,*
and is seated at the right hand of the | throne of God.

Choir Anthem

What Wondrous Love

Epistle

Ephesians 5:8-14 (see insert)

After the reading:

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Holy Gospel

John 9:1-41 (see insert)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the ninth chapter.

C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

After the reading:

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God, begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.

And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life \dagger of the world to come.
Amen.

Sit



Hymn of the Day

LSB 571 God Loved the World So That He Gave

Text: Heiliges Lippen- und Hertzens-Opffer, c. 1778, Stettin; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.

Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–93; Text and tune: Public domain



1 God loved the world so that He gave His on - ly
2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, Who was made
3 God would not have the sin - ner die; His Son with
4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son For - gives all



Son the lost to save, That all who would in
flesh and suf - fered death; All then who trust in
sav - ing grace is nigh; His Spir - it in the
sins which you have done; And, jus - ti - fied by



Him be - lieve Should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
Him a - lone Are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.
Word de - clares How we in Christ are heav - en's heirs.
Je - sus' blood, Your Bap - tism grants the high - est good.

5 If you are sick, if death is near,
This truth your troubled heart can cheer:
Christ Jesus saves your soul from death;
That is the firmest ground of faith.

6 Glory to God the Father, Son,
And Holy Spirit, Three in One!
To You, O blessèd Trinity,
Be praise now and eternally!

Sermon

Votum

P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

C Amen.

Stand

♪ Offertory

C Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

Sit

Offering

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Preface

P The Lord be with you.

♪ **C** **And with thy spirit.**

P Lift up your hearts.

♪ **C** **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

♪ **C** **It is meet and right so to do.**

In Preparation for Holy Communion

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this altar for those who are repentant of their sins, seek the forgiveness of God, and seek to lead a godly life by word and deed. Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper for the forgiveness of our sins. Our Lutheran confession acknowledges: The Lord's Supper is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine instituted by Christ himself for us Christians to eat and drink. Anyone who has not been instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, is asked to first speak with the pastor.

For further study, see 1 Corinthians 11:17-34; Matthew 5:23-24

Proper Preface (Full)

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who at His transfiguration revealed His glory to His disciples that they might be strengthened to proclaim His cross and resurrection and with all the faithful look forward to the glory of life everlasting. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

♪ Sanctus

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

Lord's Prayer

P 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.

♪ **C** **For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

♪ **C** **Amen.**

♪ Agnus Dei

C **O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
have mercy upon us.**

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
have mercy upon us.**

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
grant us Thy peace. Amen.**

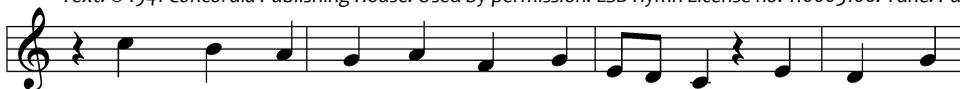
Sit



Distribution Hymn 1

LSB 619 The Body, Given for Me, O Savior

Text: Friedrich Christian Heyder, 1677–1754; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, abr. Tune: Emskirchner Choral-Buch, 1756, Leipzig
 Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 11003106. Tune: Public domain



1 Thy bod - y, giv'n for me, O Sav - ior, Thy blood which
 2 With Thee, Lord, I am now u - nit - ed; I live in
 3 Who can con - demn me now? For sure - ly The Lord is
 4 Though death may threat - en with dis - as - ter, It can - not
 5 My heart has now be - come Thy dwell - ing, O bless - ed,



Thou for me didst shed, These are my life and
 Thee and Thou in me. No sor - row fills my
 nigh, who jus - ti - fies. No hell I fear, and
 rob me of my cheer; For He who is of
 ho - ly Trin - i - ty. With an - gels I, Thy



strength for - ev - er, By them my hun - gry soul is fed.
 soul, de - light - ed It finds its on - ly joy in Thee.
 thus se - cure - ly With Je - sus I to heav - en rise.
 death the mas - ter With aid and com - fort e'er is near.
 prais - es tell - ing, Shall live in joy e - ter - nal - ly.

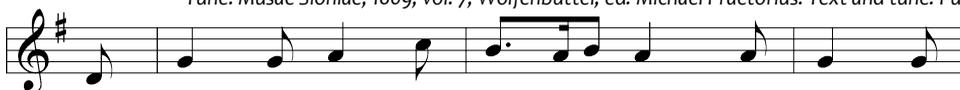


Refrain
 Lord, may Thy bod - y and Thy blood Be for my soul the high - est good!

Distribution Hymn 2

LSB 642 O Living Bread from Heaven

Text: Johann Rist, 1607–67; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
 Tune: Musae Sioniae, 1609, vol. 7, Wolfenbüttel, ed. Michael Praetorius. Text and tune: Public domain



1 O liv - ing Bread from heav - en, How well You
 2 My Lord, You here have led me To this most
 3 You gave me all I want - ed; This food can
 4 Lord, grant me then, thus strength - ened With heav'n - ly



feed Your guest! The gifts that You have giv - en
 ho - ly place And with Your - self have fed me
 death de - stroy. And You have free - ly grant - ed
 food, while here My course on earth is length - ened,



Have filled my heart with rest. Oh, wondrous food of
 The treasures of Your grace; For You have freely
 The cup of endless joy. My Lord, I do not
 To serve with holy fear. And when You call my



blessing, Oh, cup that heals our woes! My heart, this
 given What earth could never buy, The bread of
 merit The favor You have shown, And all my
 spirit To leave this world below, I enter,



gift possessing, With praises overflowing.
 life from heaven, That now I shall not die.
 soul and spirit Bow down before Your throne.
 through Your merit, Where joys unmin-gled flow.

Distribution Hymn 3

LSB 432 In Silent Pain the Eternal Son

Text: Christopher M. Idle, 1938. Tune: John L. Bell, 1949

Text: © 1992 The Jubilate Group, admin. Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003106

Tune: © 1988, 1997 Wild Goose Resource Group, Iona Community, Scotland, admin. GIA Publications, Inc.

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1 In silent pain the eternal Son Hangs derelict and still;
 2 He died that we might die to sin And live for righteousness;
 3 For strife He came to bring a sword, The truth to end all lies;



In darkened day His work is done, Fulfilled, His Father's will.
 The earth is stained to make us clean And bring us into peace.
 To rule in us, our patient Lord, Until all evil dies:



Uplifted for the world to see He hangs in strangest vicinity,
 For peace He came and met its cost; He gave Himself to save the lost;
 For in His hand He holds the stars, His voice shall speak to end our wars,



For in His body on the tree He carries all our ill.
 He loved us to the uttermost And paid for our release.
 And those who love Him see His scars And look into His eyes.

Stand

♪ Nunc Dimittis

C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Thanksgiving

A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

♪ **C** and His mercy endureth forever.

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

♪ **C** Amen.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

♪ **C** And with thy spirit.

Benedicamus

A Let us bless the Lord.

♪ **C** Thanks be to God.

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

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

♪ **C** Amen.



Hymn to Depart

LSB 686 Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735–90, alt. Tune: Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, 1813, Harrisburg.

Text and tune: Public domain



1 Come, Thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, Tune my heart to
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer, Hith - er by Thy
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or Dai - ly I'm con -
4 Oh, that day when freed from sin - ning, I shall see Thy



sing Thy grace; Streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing,
help I've come; And I hope, by Thy good plea - sure,
strained to be; Let that grace now like a fet - ter
love - ly face; Clothed then in the blood - washed lin - en,



Call for songs of loud - est praise. While the hope of end - less
Safe - ly to ar - rive at home. Je - sus sought me when a
Bind my wan - d'ring heart to Thee: Prone to wan - der, Lord, I
How I'll sing Thy won - drous grace! Come, my Lord, no long - er



glo - ry Fills my heart with joy and love, Teach me
strang - er, Wan - d'ring from the fold of God; He, to
feel it; Prone to leave the God I love. Here's my
tar - ry; Take my ran - som'd soul a - way; Send Thine



ev - er to a - dore Thee; May I still Thy good - ness prove.
res - cue me from dan - ger, In - ter - posed His pre - cious blood.
heart, O take and seal it, Seal it for Thy courts a - bove.
an - gels soon to car - ry Me to realms of end - less day.





Thank you for joining us today!
God's Blessings on your Week!

Acknowledgments

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