

March 15, 2026

Fourth Sunday in Lent



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Divine Service:
8:00, 9:30 & 11:00am
Sundays

Adult Bible Study &
Sunday School:
9:30 am

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Pastor:
Richard Willsea

Deaconess:
Karen Suter

Organist:
Patty Barnes

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 15, 2026

✠ PREPARATION ✠

Today we will observe The Lord's Supper... *The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Grace Lutheran Church in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet 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, are asked you first to speak with the pastor, an elder or an usher. (For further study, see Matthew 5:23f; 10:32f; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34). Wine is used in the individual and common cup. It may also be received by intinction. A gluten free wafer is available upon request.*

PRELUDE

"In the Church"

arr. J.L. de Champ D'homme

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

arr. H. DeCou

WELCOME

Pastor Doug Jones

Stand

HYMN

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

LSB 425



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross On which the
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast Save in the
3 See, from His head, His hands, His feet Sor - row and
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, That were a



Prince of Glo - ry died, My rich - est gain I
death of Christ, my God; All the vain things that
love flow min - gled down! Did e'er such love and
trib - ute far too small; Love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss And pour con - tempt on all my pride,
charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to His blood.
sor - row meet Or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
so di - vine, De - mands my soul, my life, my all!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, Tune: Lowell Mason, 1792–1872, Text and tune: Public domain

INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Psalm 142:1

- P** With my voice I cry out to the LORD;
C with my voice I plead for mercy to the LORD.

Silent reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C **Most merciful God, we confess that we were born in utter sin. To this day and by nature, we have eyes that do not see and ears that do not hear. We have trusted in the things we have made rather than You. Our thoughts, words, and actions have been unfruitful and dark. We have been blind to our sin, but You have seen it. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, open our eyes. 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** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. Jesus is the light of the world and your salvation. He has enlightened you with His gifts and given you ears to hear Jesus' words. It is He who is speaking to you. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

INTROIT

Psalm 27:4–6; antiphon: Psalm 25:15

- A** My eyes are ever toward the LORD,
C for He will pluck my feet out of the net.
- A** One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after:
C 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.

A For He will hide me in His shelter in the day of trouble;
C **He will conceal me under the cover of His tent; He will lift me high upon a rock.**

A 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;
C **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 beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

A My eyes are ever toward the LORD,
C **for He will pluck my feet out of the net.**

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**

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

The Word is read...

A This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

SR. CHOIR, 8:00 & 11:00 Services

"The Blood Will Never Lose Its Power"

arr. M. Burton

EPISTLE

Ephesians 5:8–14

The Word is read...

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

VERSE

John 4:23a

- C** **With You is the fountain of life; in Your light do we see light.**

HOLY GOSPEL

John 9:1-41

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the ninth chapter.
- C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

The Word is read...

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Sit

HYMN

“O Son of God, in Galilee”

LSB 430

1 O Son of God, in Gal - i - lee You
 2 O lis - ten to the si - lent prayer Of
 3 The speech - less tongue, the life - less ear You
 4 Mean - while to them the lis - t'ning ear Of
 5 Then in Your prom - ised hap - py land Each

made the deaf to hear, The mute to speak, the
 Your af - flict - ed ones. O bid them cast on
 can re - store, O Lord; Your “Eph - pha - tha,” O
 stead - fast faith im - part, And let Your Word bring
 loss will prove a gain; All mys - t'ries we shall



blind to see; O bless - ed Lord, be near.
You their care; Your grace to them make known.
Sav - ior dear, Can in - stant help af - ford.
light and cheer To ev - 'ry trou - bled heart.
un - der - stand, For You will make them plain.

Text: Anna B. D. Hoppe, 1889-1941, alt., Tune: Lucius Chapin, 1760-1842
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SERMON

Pastor Doug Jones

Stand

APOSTLES' CREED

**☩ I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.**

**The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life ☩ everlasting. Amen.**

Sit

OFFERING

VOLUNTARY

"God So Loved the World"

arr. L. Leatherman

Stand

OFFERTORY

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, And fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were
sown, That we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the
hopes and the dreams of all; U - nite them with the prayers we
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with Your pres - ence, and
give us A fore - taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-80, Tune: Richard W. Hillert, 1923-2010
Text and tune: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004811

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** As children of light, we cry out to the Lord who sees us and hears us, and deals bountifully with us in our time of need:

Lord of Light, in Your Son You brought light into this dark world. Bless all pastors and church workers, especially those who minister to those who are deaf and blind, that they faithfully point us to all that is good and right and true, and that we discern what is pleasing to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** shine on us.

- A** Loving Father, You claimed us as children in Holy Baptism, bringing us out of darkness and into Your marvelous light. Help us to walk as children of light, that Your works be displayed in us while it is still day. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **shine on us.**
- P** Patient Lord, in the face of deep darkness, You remain slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Give us Your patience in our encounters with the darkness, that we graciously and fearlessly lead those who are blinded by sin back to You. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **shine on us.**
- A** Sovereign Lord, You are our refuge and portion in the land of the living. Strengthen our leaders, our government, and all You have put in place to protect us. Open their eyes to see the needs of Your people and Your creation. Help them to establish laws that are good and right and true. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **shine on us.**
- P** Merciful Lord, You deliver those who cry to You from the darkness of pain, sickness, and grief. Visit all who are in need and struggling to see beyond what is before them, [especially . . .]. Bring them Your light and Your peace. Hide them in Your shelter and restore to them the joy of being Your children. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **shine on us.**
- A** Believing that Jesus truly is the light who overcomes all darkness, we trust that You hear and answer us according to Your good and gracious will; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

- 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 Him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

P It is truly good, 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 overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. 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

LSB 178

C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of
pow'r 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.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G 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."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

- P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

G Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

- P** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

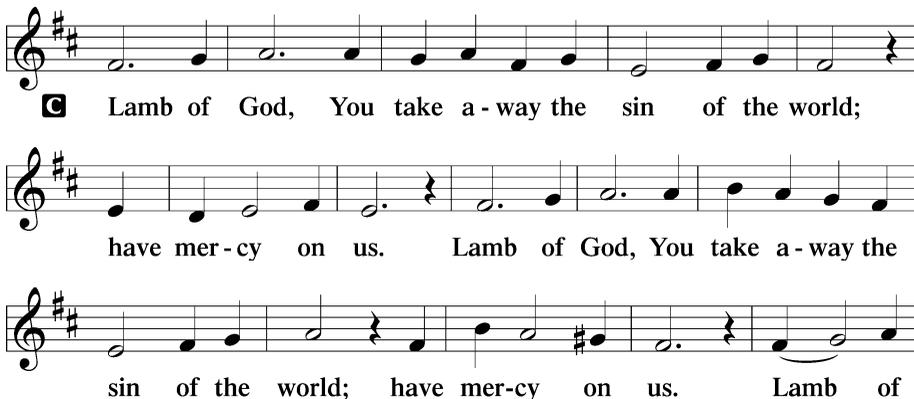
- C** Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

PAX DOMINI

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

AGNUS DEI

LSB 180



C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of

God, You take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace.

Sit

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

"Hail to the Lord's Anointed"

LSB 398

1 Hail to the Lord's a - noint - ed, Great Da - vid's great - er Son!
2 He comes with res - cue speed - y To those who suf - fer wrong,
3 He shall come down like show - ers Up - on the fruit - ful earth;
4 Kings shall fall down be - fore Him And gold and in - cense bring;
5 O'er ev - 'ry foe vic - to - rious, He on His throne shall rest,

Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, His reign on earth be - gun!
To help the poor and need - y And bid the weak be strong;
Love, joy, and hope, like flow - ers, Spring in His path to birth.
All na - tions shall a - dore Him, His praise all peo - ple sing.
From age to age more glo - rious, All bless - ing and all - blest.

He comes to break op - pres - sion, To set the cap - tive free,
To give them songs for sigh - ing, Their dark - ness turn to light,
Be - fore Him on the moun - tains Shall peace, the her - ald, go;
To Him shall prayer un - ceas - ing And dai - ly vows as - cend;
The tide of time shall nev - er His cov - e - nant re - move;

To take a - way trans - gres - sion And rule in eq - ui - ty.
Whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, Were pre - cious in His sight.
And righ - teous - ness in foun - tains From hill to val - ley flow.
His king - dom still in - creas - ing, A king - dom with - out end.
His name shall stand for - ev - er— That name to us is Love.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854, alt., Tune: Leonhart Schröter, c. 1532-c. 1601, Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

NUNC DIMITTIS

LSB 182



Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have prepared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to reveal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it; as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

- P** 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.

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.
- G** Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

“God Loved the World So That He Gave”

LSB 571



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 blessed Trinity,
Be praise now and eternally!

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

Sit

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DISMISSAL

- A** Go in peace as you serve the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Acknowledgements

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