

March 4, 2026

*Third Midweek
in Lent*



**GRACE
LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

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+

Divine Service:

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

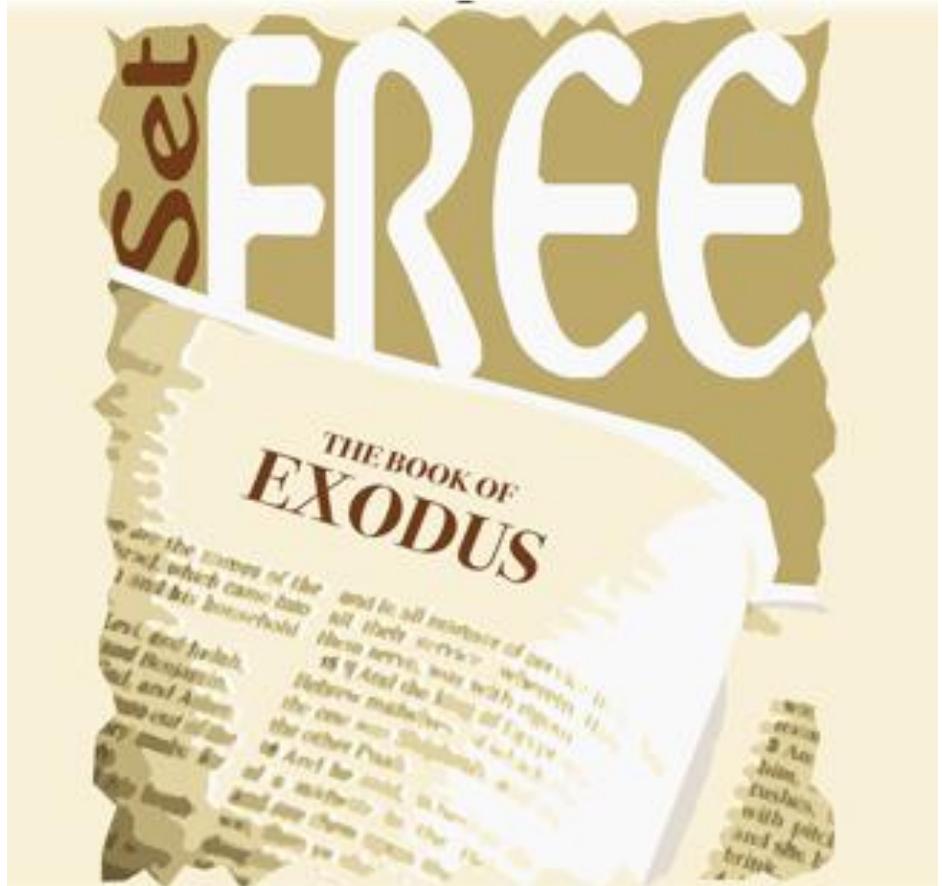
Adult Bible Study &
Sunday School:
9:30 am

+

Pastor:
Richard Willsea

Deaconess:
Karen Suter

Organist:
Patty Barnes



THE THIRD MIDWEEK IN LENT

March 4, 2026

✠ PREPARATION ✠

PRELUDE

"Sarabande "
"Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed "

arr. L. Smith
arr. H. Livingston

WELCOME

Stand

HYMN

"Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed"

LSB 437



1 A - las! And did my Sav - ior bleed, And
2 Was it for crimes that I had done He
3 Well might the sun in dark - ness hide And
4 Thus might I hide my blush - ing face While
5 But drops of grief can ne'er re - pay The



did my sov - 'reign die? Would He de - vote that
groaned up - on the tree? A - maz - ing pit - y,
shut his glo - ries in When God, the might - y
His dear cross ap - pears, Dis - solve my heart in
debt of love I owe; Here, Lord, I give my -



sa - cred head For such a worm as I?
grace un - known, And love be - yond de - gree!
mak - er, died For His own crea - tures' sin.
thank - ful - ness, And melt mine eyes to tears.
self a - way: 'Tis all that I can do.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt., Tune: Hugh Wilson, 1764–1824, Text and tune: Public domain

PSALM

Psalm 25:1–5

- P** To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul.
- G** **O my God, in You I trust;**

- P** let me not be put to shame;
- G** **let not my enemies exult over me.**

P Indeed, none who wait for You shall be put to shame;
C **they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.**

P Make me to know Your ways, O LORD; teach me Your paths.
C **Lead me in Your truth and teach me,**

P for You are the God of my salvation;
C **for You I wait all the day long.**

Sit

FIRST READING

Exodus 4:1-20

A ¹Then Moses answered, "But behold, they will not believe me or listen to my voice, for they will say, 'The LORD did not appear to you.'" ²The LORD said to him, "What is that in your hand?" He said, "A staff." ³And he said, "Throw it on the ground." So he threw it on the ground, and it became a serpent, and Moses ran from it. ⁴But the LORD said to Moses, "Put out your hand and catch it by the tail"— so he put out his hand and caught it, and it became a staff in his hand— ⁵"that they may believe that the LORD, the God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has appeared to you." ⁶Again, the LORD said to him, "Put your hand inside your cloak." And he put his hand inside his cloak, and when he took it out, behold, his hand was leprous like snow. ⁷Then God said, "Put your hand back inside your cloak." So he put his hand back inside his cloak, and when he took it out, behold, it was restored like the rest of his flesh. ⁸"If they will not believe you," God said, "or listen to the first sign, they may believe the latter sign. ⁹If they will not believe even these two signs or listen to your voice, you shall take some water from the Nile and pour it on the dry ground, and the water that you shall take from the Nile will become blood on the dry ground."
¹⁰But Moses said to the LORD, "Oh, my Lord, I am not eloquent, either in the past or since you have spoken to your servant, but I am slow of speech and of tongue."
¹¹Then the LORD said to him, "Who has made man's mouth? Who makes him mute, or deaf, or seeing, or blind? Is it not I, the LORD? ¹²Now therefore go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you shall speak." ¹³But he said, "Oh, my Lord, please send someone else." ¹⁴Then the anger of the LORD was kindled against Moses and he said, "Is there not Aaron, your brother, the Levite? I know that he can speak well. Behold, he is coming out to meet you, and when he sees you, he will be glad in his heart. ¹⁵You shall speak to him and put the words in his mouth, and I will

be with your mouth and with his mouth and will teach you both what to do. ¹⁶He shall speak for you to the people, and he shall be your mouth, and you shall be as God to him. ¹⁷And take in your hand this staff, with which you shall do the signs.” ¹⁸Moses went back to Jethro his father-in-law and said to him, “Please let me go back to my brothers in Egypt to see whether they are still alive.” And Jethro said to Moses, “Go in peace.” ¹⁹And the LORD said to Moses in Midian, “Go back to Egypt, for all the men who were seeking your life are dead.” ²⁰So Moses took his wife and his sons and had them ride on a donkey, and went back to the land of Egypt. And Moses took the staff of God in his hand.

A O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 25: 6-11

P Remember Your mercy, O LORD, and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

C **Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to Your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of Your goodness, O LORD!**

P Good and upright is the LORD; therefore He instructs sinners in the way.

C **He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble His way.**

P All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep His covenant and His testimonies.

C **For Your name's sake, O LORD, pardon my guilt, for it is great.**

SECOND READING

Hebrews 3:1-6

A ¹Therefore, holy brothers, you who share in a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession, ²who was faithful to him who appointed him, just as Moses also was faithful in all God's house. ³For Jesus has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses—as much more glory as the builder of a house has more honor than the house itself. ⁴(For every house is built by someone, but

the builder of all things is God.) ⁵Now Moses was faithful in all God's house as a servant, to testify to the things that were to be spoken later, ⁶but Christ is faithful over God's house as a son. And we are his house if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope.

A O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 25:12–15

P Who is the man who fears the LORD?

C **Him will He instruct in the way that he should choose.**

P His soul shall abide in well-being,

C **and his offspring shall inherit the land.**

P The friendship of the LORD is for those who fear Him,

C **and He makes known to them His covenant.**

P My eyes are ever toward the LORD,

C **for He will pluck my feet out of the net.**

Stand

THIRD READING

John 8:31-38

P ³¹So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." ³³They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?"

³⁴Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. ³⁶So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. ³⁷I know that you are offspring of Abraham; yet you seek to kill me because my word finds no place in you. ³⁸I speak of what I have seen with my Father, and you do what you have heard from your father."

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 25:16–22

- P** Turn to me and be gracious to me,
for I am lonely and afflicted.
- C** **The troubles of my heart are enlarged;
bring me out of my distresses.**
- P** Consider my affliction and my trouble,
and forgive all my sins.
- C** **Consider how many are my foes,
and with what violent hatred they hate me.**
- P** Oh, guard my soul, and deliver me!
- C** **Let me not be put to shame, for I take refuge in You.**
- P** May integrity and uprightness preserve me, for I wait for You.
- C** **Redeem Israel, O God, out of all his troubles.**

HYMN

“What Prompted Christ”

sts. 1–2

1 What prompt - ed Christ, our Lord, to come
2 Why did our heav'n - ly Fa - ther send
down to the cross? What prompt - ed Him to die for my
down His dear Son? Why did He send His Son down to
soul? It was the Fa - ther's love That
earth? It shows that God is love; We
sent Him to the cross That in Christ's bound - less
learn what is true love. He prom - is - es to

love He would pay for all sin To
nev - er us leave nor for - sake. The

pay for ev - 'ry sin since the fall.
Gos - pel strength - ens faith— our true birth.

Text: James Pierce, Tune: Southern Harmony, New Haven, 1835, Text: © 2025 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: Creative Worship License no. 110004811
Tune: Public domain

PASSION READING

Mark 14: 46–65

P ⁴⁶And they laid hands on him and seized him. ⁴⁷But one of those who stood by drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his ear. ⁴⁸And Jesus said to them, "Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs to capture me? ⁴⁹Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not seize me. But let the Scriptures be fulfilled." ⁵⁰And they all left him and fled. ⁵¹And a young man followed him, with nothing but a linen cloth about his body. And they seized him, ⁵²but he left the linen cloth and ran away naked. ⁵³And they led Jesus to the high priest. And all the chief priests and the elders and the scribes came together. ⁵⁴And Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest. And he was sitting with the guards and warming himself at the fire. ⁵⁵Now the chief priests and the whole Council were seeking testimony against Jesus to put him to death, but they found none. ⁵⁶For many bore false witness against him, but their testimony did not agree. ⁵⁷And some stood up and bore false witness against him, saying, ⁵⁸"We heard him say, 'I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.'" ⁵⁹Yet even about this their testimony did not agree. ⁶⁰And the high priest stood up in the midst and asked Jesus, "Have you no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against you?" ⁶¹But he remained silent and made no answer. Again the high priest asked him, "Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?" ⁶²And Jesus said, "I am, and you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven." ⁶³And the high priest tore his garments and said, "What further witnesses do we need? ⁶⁴You have heard his blasphemy. What is your decision?" And they all condemned him as deserving death. ⁶⁵And some began to spit on him and to cover his face and to strike him, saying to him, "Prophesy!" And the guards received him with blows.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

G Thanks be to God.

Sit

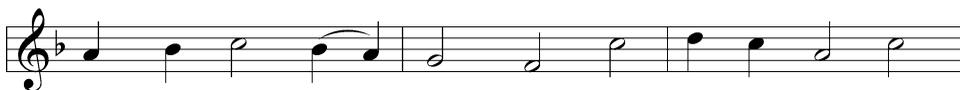
HYMN

"A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth"

LSB 438



1 A Lamb goes un - com - plain - ing forth, The
2 This Lamb is Christ, the soul's great friend, The
3 "Yes, Fa - ther, yes, most will - ing - ly I'll
4 Lord, when Your glo - ry I shall see And



guilt of sin - ners bear - ing And, lad - en with the
Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, Whom God the Fa - ther
bear what You com - mand Me. My will con - forms to
taste Your king - dom's plea - sure, Your blood my roy - al



sins of earth, None else the bur - den shar - ing; Goes
chose to send To gain for us His fa - vor. "Go
Your de - cree, I'll do what You have asked Me." O
robe shall be, My joy be - yond all mea - sure! When



pa - tient on, grows weak and faint, To slaugh - ter led with -
forth, My Son," the Fa - ther said, "And free My chil - dren
won - drous Love, what have You done! The Fa - ther of - fers
I ap - pear be - fore Your throne, Your righ - teous - ness shall



out com - plaint, That spot - less life to of - fer, He bears the
from their dread Of guilt and con - dem - na - tion. The wrath and
up His Son, De - sir - ing our sal - va - tion. O Love, how
be my crown; With these I need not hide me. And there, in



stripes, the wounds, the lies, The mock - er - y, and
 stripes are hard to bear, But by Your pas - sion
 strong You are to save! You lay the One in -
 gar - ments rich - ly wrought, As Your own bride shall



yet re - plies, "All this I glad - ly suf - fer."
 they will share The fruit of Your sal - va - tion."
 to the grave Who built the earth's foun - da - tion.
 we be brought To stand in joy be - side You.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-76; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt., Tune: Wolfgang Dachstein, c. 1487-1553, Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004811, Tune: Public domain

SERMON

OFFERING

VOLUNTARY

"A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth"

setting: F. Zipp

Stand

OFFERTORY

"Create in Me"

LSB 956



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new



a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way



from Thy pres - ence; and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it



from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va - tion;



and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Text: Psalm 51:10-12, Tune: Johann Georg Winer, 1583-1651, adapt., Text and tune: Public domain

PRAYERS

- P** Let us pray for all people who are unsure of God's hearing their prayers.
- C** **Hear their cries, O Lord, grant them courage as You accompany, and answer them speedily.**
- A** Let us ask God to strengthen the faith of those who only recently have known Him.
- C** **Reveal Yourself gently to them, Lord Jesus, through the caring of Your church.**
- P** Let us pray for those who feel trapped by circumstances beyond their control.
- C** **Assure them that You know their dilemma and that the deliverer has come: Jesus, our Savior and Lord.**
- A** Let us pray for all who fear God's punishment.
- C** **Show them mercy, O Lord, as You passed over Your Old Testament people. Grant them peace through Your presence.**
- P** Let us pray for all who know no good ways to turn, are unsure of the truth, and await only their deaths.
- C** **Tell them again, Lord Jesus, that You alone are the way, and the truth, and the life.**
- A** Finally, let us pray for all who are tired from opposition in the world around them and from their own conflicts within themselves.
- C** **Awaken in them a sense of Your accompanying them on their journey until that day when they and we join those who have gone before us at Your heavenly banquet hall.**
- P** O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength.
- C** **By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.**
- A** O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works,
- C** **give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness;**

P through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

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.

BENEDICTION

P The blessing of God Almighty—the Father, who sent His Son; the Son, who is our Deliverer; and the Holy Spirit, who has worked faith in our hearts—bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

HYMN

“Christ, the Life of All the Living”

LSB 420 sts. 1, 5, 7



1 Christ, the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the death of
5 Thou hast suf - fered men to bruise Thee, That from pain I
7 Then, for all that wrought my par - don, For Thy sor - rows



death, our foe, Who, Thy - self for me once giv - ing
might be free; False - ly did Thy foes ac - cuse Thee:
deep and sore, For Thine an - guish in the Gar - den,



To the dark - est depths of woe: Through Thy suf - f'ings,
Thence I gain se - cu - ri - ty; Com - fort - less Thy
I will thank Thee ev - er - more, Thank Thee for Thy



death, and mer - it I e - ter - nal life in - her - it.
 soul did lan - guish Me to com - fort in my an - guish.
 groan - ing, sigh - ing, For Thy bleed - ing and Thy dy - ing,



Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.
 Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.
 For that last tri - um - phant cry, And shall praise Thee, Lord, on high.

Text: Ernst Christoph Homburg, 1605-81; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt., Tune: Das grosse Cantional, 1687, Darmstadt
 Text and tune: Public domain

Sit

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

G **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

"Grace Greater Than Our Sin"

arr. L. Leatherman

Acknowledgments

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 2.

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