

***Welcome, visitors! Welcome members and friends of St. Matthew Ev. Lutheran Church.  
Thank you for joining us in church and on our online service today.***

---

*HOLY COMMUNION is celebrated in our service this morning. +Guests who are baptized Christians, who acknowledge and confess their sinfulness, who confess Jesus Christ as their Savior from sin, and who believe that He is really present in Holy Communion to bring us His forgiveness and life, are welcome to the Lord's Table.*

GLUTEN FREE WAFERS and GRAPE JUICE. We are pleased to offer gluten-free wafers; please speak to one of the ushers who will inform the pastor. In addition grape juice is available in the center circle of the Communion tray.

---



**1<sup>st</sup> SUNDAY IN LENT**  
**HOLY COMMUNION SETTING 3** pg. 138

**February 22, 2026**

**Prelude**

**WELCOME**

**(Please rise)**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace.

**Amen.**

Let us acknowledge before God and one another our need for repentance and God's mercy.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy God,

**we confess to you our faults and failings. Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word; we take for ourselves instead of giving to others; we spoil rather than steward your creation; we cause hurt though you call us to heal; we choose fear over compassion.**

**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, as we seek to follow in your way of life.**

**Amen.**

Hear the good news: God so loved the world that God gave the only Son, so that all may receive life. This promise is for you! God embraces you with divine mercy, + forgives you in Christ's name, and revives you in the Spirit's power.

**Amen.**

## **GATHERING HYMN – ELW 319 O LORD, THROUGHOUT THESE FORTY DAYS**

### **GREETING**

Pastor – The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**Cong – And also with you.**

### **KYRIE – ELW 602 YOUR HEART, O GOD, IS GRIEVED**

(Cantor will sing first line, then Congregation will sing)

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Cong – Amen.**

**(Please be seated)**

### **FIRST READING: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7**

**John Armstrong, Worship Assistant**

*Human beings were formed with great care, to be in relationship with the creator, creation, and one another. The serpent's promise to the first couple that their eyes would be opened led, ironically, to the discovery only that they were naked.*

<sup>15</sup>The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. <sup>16</sup>And the LORD God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; <sup>17</sup>but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die." <sup>3:1</sup>Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" <sup>2</sup>The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; <sup>3</sup>but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" <sup>4</sup>But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; <sup>5</sup>for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." <sup>6</sup>So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. <sup>7</sup>Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

Leader – The Word of the Lord.

**Cong – Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM: Psalm 32**

*Mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD. (Ps. 32:10)*

(Choir will sing before and at the R)

(The Psalm will be sung responsively, beginning with Choir)

<sup>1</sup>Happy are they whose transgressions | are forgiven,  
and whose sin is | put away!

<sup>2</sup>**Happy are they to whom the LORD im- | putes no guilt,  
and in whose spirit there | is no guile!**

<sup>3</sup>While I held my tongue, my bones with- | ered away,  
because of my groaning | all day long.

<sup>4</sup>**For your hand was heavy upon me | day and night;  
my moisture was dried up as in the | heat of summer. R**

<sup>5</sup>Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not con- | ceal my guilt.  
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD."  
Then you forgave me the guilt | of my sin.

<sup>6</sup>**Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you  
in | time of trouble;**

**when the great waters overflow, they | shall not reach them.**

<sup>7</sup>You are my hiding-place; you preserve | me from trouble;  
you surround me with shouts | of deliverance.

<sup>8</sup>**"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that | you should go;  
I will guide you | with my eye. R**

<sup>9</sup>Do not be like horse or mule, which have no | understanding;  
who must be fitted with bit and bridle,  
or else they will | not stay near you."

<sup>10</sup>**Great are the tribulations | of the wicked;  
but mercy embraces those who trust | in the LORD.**

<sup>11</sup>Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice | in the LORD;  
shout for joy, all who are | true of heart. R

## **SECOND READING: Romans 5:12-19**

**John Armstrong, Worship Assistant**

*Through Adam's disobedience, humanity came under bondage to sin and death, from which we cannot free ourselves. In Christ's obedient death, God graciously showers on us the free gift of liberation and life.*

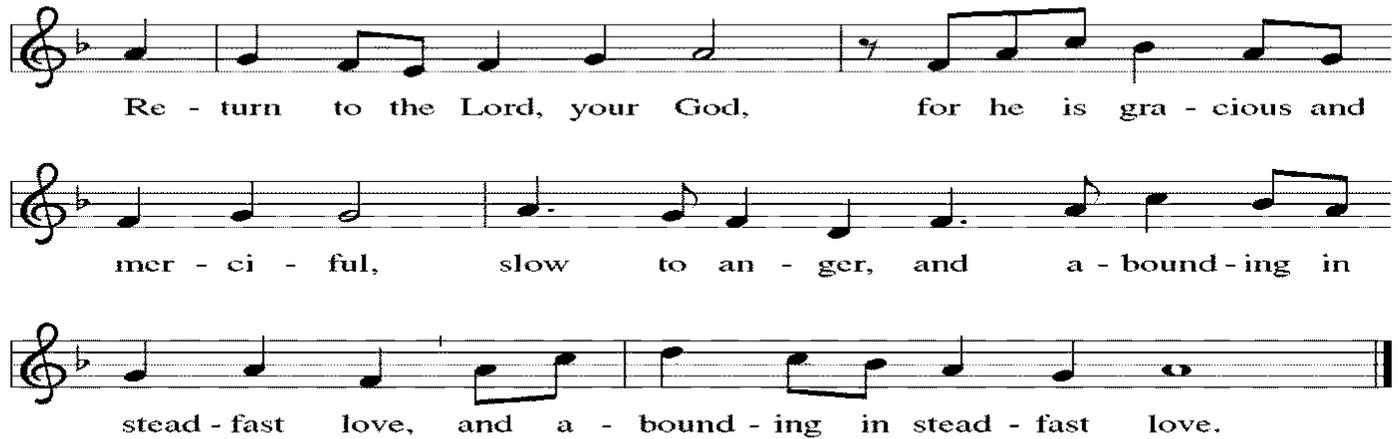
<sup>12</sup>Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned—<sup>13</sup>sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. <sup>14</sup>Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come. <sup>15</sup>But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. <sup>16</sup>And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. <sup>17</sup>If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. <sup>19</sup>For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

Leader – The Word of the Lord.

Cong – Thanks be to God.

(Please rise)

## Lenten Acclamation



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in  
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

From *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* copyright © 2006. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress under license #\_\_\_\_\_.

Pastor – The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 4<sup>th</sup> chapter.

Cong – Glory to you, O Lord.

**GOSPEL: Matthew 4:1-11**

**Pastor Kelly Reagan**

*Jesus experiences anew the temptations that Israel faced in the wilderness. As the Son of God, he endures the testing of the evil one.*

<sup>1</sup>Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. <sup>2</sup>He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. <sup>3</sup>The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." <sup>4</sup>But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" <sup>5</sup>Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, <sup>6</sup>saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" <sup>7</sup>Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" <sup>8</sup>Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; <sup>9</sup>and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." <sup>10</sup>Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" <sup>11</sup>Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

Pastor – The Gospel of the Lord.

Cong – Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**SERMON – "Hungry, Tested, and Held"**

**Pastor Kelly Reagan**

(Please rise)

## HYMN OF THE DAY – ACS 922 WHEN WE ARE TESTED

1 When we are test - ed and wres - tle a - lone,  
2 When in the des - ert we cry for re - lief,  
3 When we are tempt - ed to bar - ter our souls,  
4 When we have strug - gled and searched through the night,  
fam - ished for bread when the world of - fers stone,  
plead - ing for paths marked by cer - tain be - lief,  
trad - ing the truth for the pow'r to con - trol,  
sort - ing and sift - ing the wrong from the right,  
nour - ish us, God, by your word and your way,  
lift us to love you be - yond sign and test,  
teach us to wor - ship and praise on - ly you,  
Sav - ior, sur - round us with cir - cles of care,  
food that sus - tains us by night and by day,  
trust - ing your pres - ence, our on - ly true rest.  
seek - ing your will in the work that we do.  
an - gels of heal - ing, of hope, and of prayer.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947  
Music: Irish traditional  
Text © 1996 Hope Publishing Company

SLANE  
10 10 10 10

## 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

Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs. God of all grace, grant faith to your church. Give to all the baptized the will to resist temptation and to worship and serve you alone. Hear us, O God.

**Cong – Your mercy is great.**

God of all creation, tend this earth. When human greed and disobedience threaten this planet and the life it contains, lead us by your Spirit into ways of reverence, awe, and gentleness. Hear us, O God.

**Cong – Your mercy is great.**

God of all nations, preserve us from trouble. Surround all living in places of violence with your steadfast love and give resilience to all who work for peace. Grant courage to those who challenge, especially around issues of racism and systemic oppression. We continue to pray for the deliverance of your people oppressed around the world. Hear us, O God.

**Cong – Your mercy is great.**

God of all healing, mend our wounds. Bring wholeness to all who are sick, give peace to all who groan in grief, and send companions to all who are lonely or isolated. Especially we pray for healing for: Bill, Pastor Younger, Pastor Scheidt, Chuck, Laurie, Bruce, Carol, Elizabeth, Tom, Ron, Paul, Andrew, Marita, Ezra, Linda, Jay, Jim, Alisa, Sean, Drew, Bob, Lori, Sandra, Herman, Tia, Candy, Kristina, Terry, Kathleen, Karyn, Jerry, Lola, Kevin, Marcia. Gene, Colette, Jerry & Missie. We ask that you be with those who are away serving our country, all absent members, and those suffering from manmade and natural disasters. Hear us, O God.

**Cong – Your mercy is great.**

God of all people, provide for our community. For any among us who hunger for bread, bring nourishment. For any among us who hunger for truth, speak your life-giving word.

Hear us, O God.

**Cong – Your mercy is great.**

God of all life, bring us to you. We thank you for your free and abounding grace, and for those who, by that same grace, now rest eternally in you. Hear us, O God.

**Cong – Your mercy is great.**

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

**Cong - Amen.**

May the Peace of the Lord be with you always!

**Cong – And also with you.**

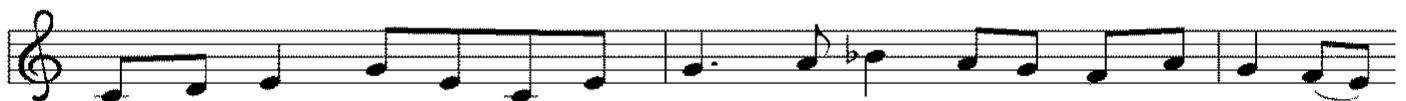
**PEACE**

**(Please be seated)**

**OFFERING**

**(Please rise)**

**OFFERTORY – (ELW 182) “Let the vineyards be fruitful...”**



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, 1922-1980  
 Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923  
 Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

## OFFERING PRAYER

God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life.

Cong – Amen.

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

### Preface Dialogue

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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 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:

## Holy, Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are 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 in the high - est.

From *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* copyright © 2006. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress under license #

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING III (ELW pg. 110)

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your people. Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams. Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh. 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 for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Cong – Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

**Cong – Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

**Cong – Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

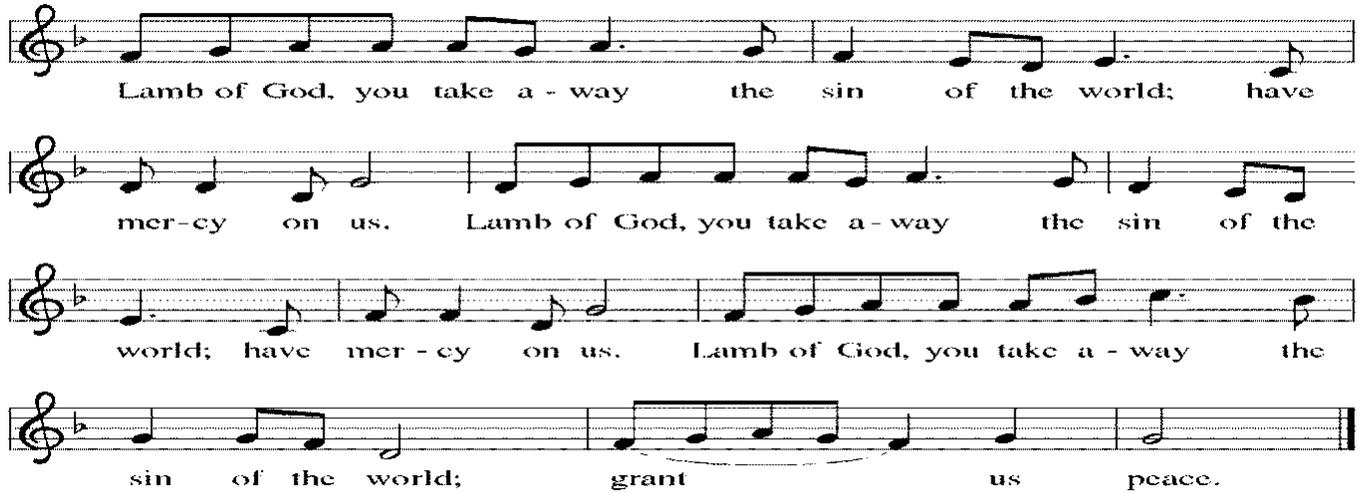
**Cong – Amen.**

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

(Please be seated)

## Lamb of God



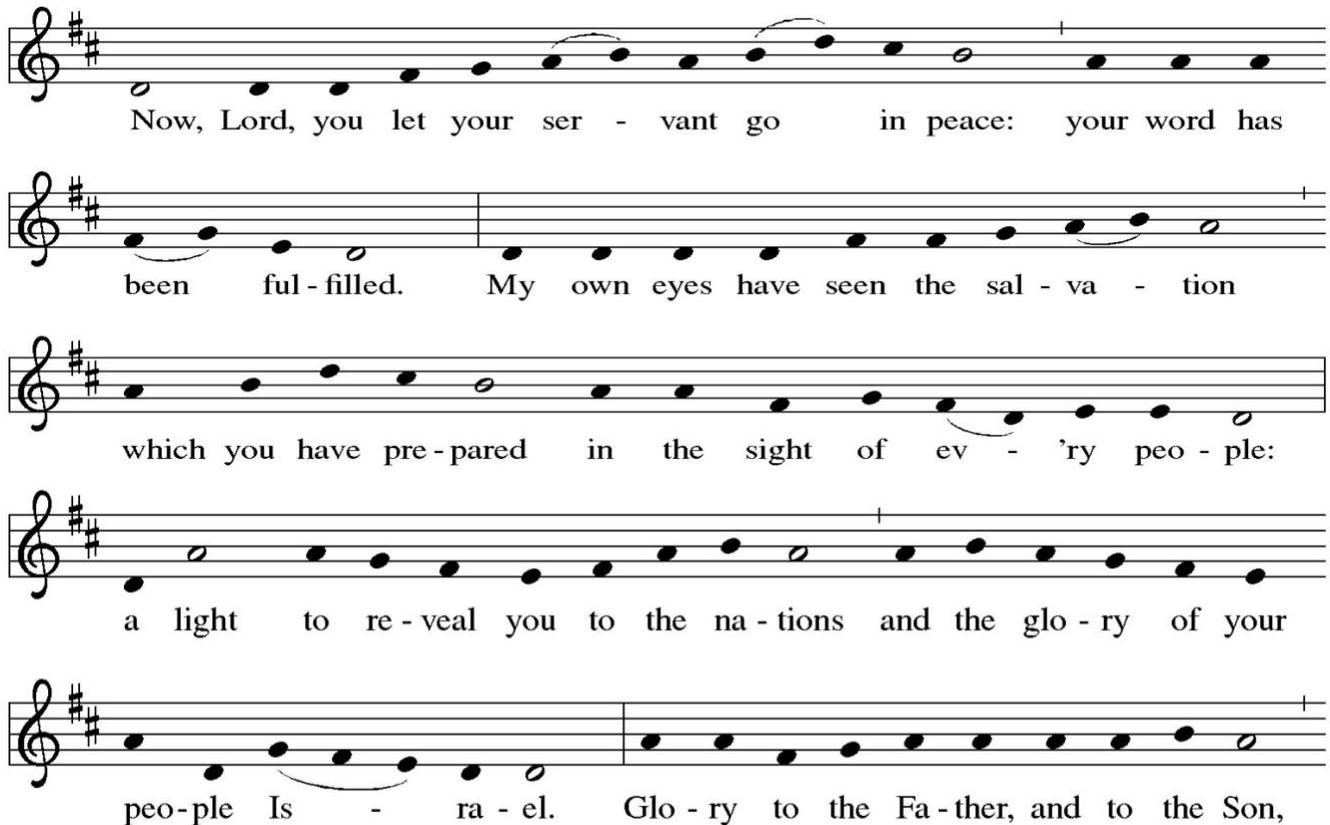
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

From *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* copyright © 2006. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress under license #.....

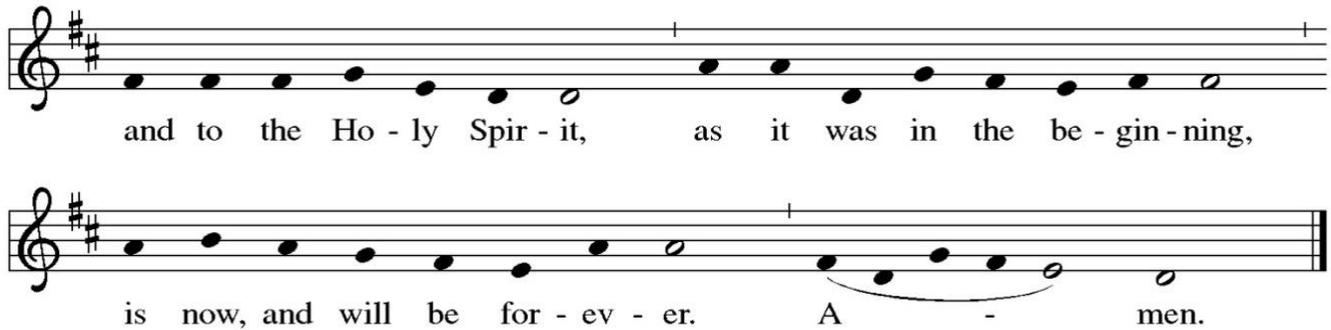
## COMMUNION HYMN – ELW 599 LORD JESUS, THINK ON ME

(Please rise)

## POST-COMMUNION HYMN – (ELW 201) “Now, Lord...”



Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace: your word has  
been ful - filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion  
which you have pre - pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple:  
a light to re - veal you to the na - tions and the glo - ry of your  
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son,



Music: Plainsong, adapt. *Lutheran Book of Worship*  
Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.  
Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Embodied God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love.

**Cong– Amen.**

## SENDING OF COMMUNION

Compassionate God, as Jesus called disciples to follow him, bless those who go forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are homebound. May these gifts be signs of our love and prayers, that through the sharing of the body and blood of Christ, all may know your grace and healing revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Cong - Amen.**

## BLESSING

God, the giver of love, + Christ, the resurrection and the life, and the Holy Spirit of rebirth bless you in this Lenten journey.

**Cong – Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN – ELW 613 THY HOLY WINGS

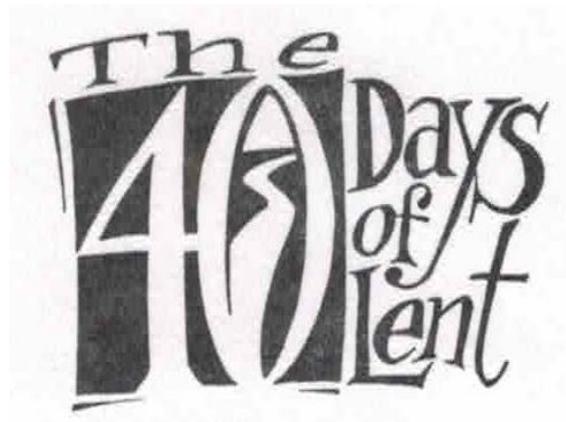
**(Please be seated)**

Postlude

Pastor - Go in peace. Serve in love.

**Cong - Thanks be to God.**

Copyrighted Under OneLicense.Net A-70274



## How Good, Lord, to Be Here!

1 How good, Lord, to be here! Your glo - ry fills the night;  
 2 How good, Lord, to be here, your beau - ty to be - hold  
 3 Ful - fill - er of the past and hope of things to be,  
 4 Be - fore we taste of death, we see your king - dom come;  
 5 How good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not re - main;

your face and gar - ments, like the sun, shine with un - bor - rowed light.  
 where Mo - ses and E - li - jah stand, your mes - sen - gers of old.  
 we hail your bod - y glo - ri - fied and our re - demp - tion see.  
 we long to hold the vi - sion bright and make this hill our home.  
 but since you bid us leave the mount, come with us to the plain.

Text: Joseph A. Robinson, 1858-1933, alt.  
 Music: W. Mercer, *The Church Psalter and Hymn Book*, 1854

POTSDAM  
SM

## Lord Jesus, Think on Me

1 Lord Je - sus, think on me, and purge a - way my sin;  
 2 Lord Je - sus, think on me, by anx - ious thoughts op - pressed;  
 3 Lord Je - sus, think on me, nor let me go a - stray;  
 4 Lord Je - sus, think on me, that, when the flood is past,

from self - ish pas - sions set me free and make me pure with - in.  
 let me your lov - ing ser - vant be and taste your prom - ised rest.  
 through dark - ness and per - plex - i - ty point out your cho - sen way.  
 I may the e - ter - nal bright - ness see and share your joy at last.

Text: Synesius of Cyrene, 375-430; tr. Allen W. Chatfield, 1808-1896, alt.  
 Music: W. Daman, *The Psalmes of David*, 1579, alt.

SOUTHWELL  
SM

1 Thy ho - ly wings, O Sav - ior, spread gent - ly o - ver me,  
 2 Oh, let me nes - tle near thee, with - in thy down - y breast  
 3 Oh, wash me in the wa - ters of No - ah's cleans - ing flood.

and let me rest se - cure - ly through good and ill in thee.  
 where I will find sweet com - fort and peace with - in thy nest.  
 Give me a will - ing spir - it, a heart both clean and good.

Oh, be my strength and por - tion, my rock and hid - ing place,  
 Oh, close thy wings a - round me and keep me safe - ly there,  
 Oh, take in - to thy keep - ing thy chil - dren great and small,

and let my ev - 'ry mo - ment be lived with - in thy grace.  
 for I am but a new - born and need thy ten - der care.  
 and while we sweet - ly slum - ber, en - fold us one and all.