

God Raises His Crown Jewel to Life

March 22,
2026



Fifth Sunday
in Lent

Welcome, guests! We're delighted you could join us. If you have any questions or need more information about our church, any member of Grace will be happy to assist you. This folder contains all the details about our services, with congregational responses indicated by indentation and bold letters. Please take a moment to fill out the guest register at the church entrance; it will be used only by the pastor and elder. Restrooms are located to the left as you exit the sanctuary. May the Lord bless this service as Christ comes to you!

THEME FOR TODAY'S READINGS: Jesus will raise us from death to life. The crown jewel of the coming kingdom is the resurrection of the dead. One day, Jesus will defeat the last enemy (1 Corinthians 15:27), and life will reign again in our new Eden with God. On our Lenten walk to Calvary, the Church sees the Savior come face-to-face with death and defeat it completely. During our Lenten walk, the Prayer of the Day asks God to help us remember that Jesus, who is resurrection and life, has made us heirs of eternal life.

MORNING PRAYER: Eternal God and Father, help us remember Jesus, who obeyed your will and bore the cross for our salvation so that through his anguish, pain, and death we may receive forgiveness of sins and inherit eternal life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

ORDER FOR TODAY'S SERVICE: COMMON WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION— CW, p.15

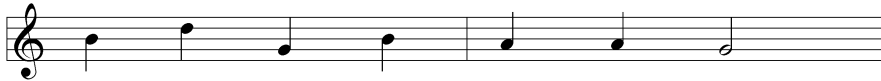


OPENING HYMN:

#226

TO YOUR TEMPLE I DRAW NEAR****Please Stand for the Last Verse****

1 To your tem - ple I draw near;
 2 I through Christ am rec - on - ciled;
 3 While your glo - rious praise is sung,
 4 While the prayers of saints as - cend,
 5 While I lis - ten to your law,



Lord, I love to wor - ship here.
 I through Christ be - come your child.
 Touch my lips, un - loose my tongue,
 God of love, to mine at - tend.
 Fill my soul with ho - ly awe



Here are sac - ra - ment and Word;
 Ab - ba, Fa - ther, give me grace
 That my joy - ful soul may bless
 Hear me, for your Spir - it pleads;
 Till your gos - pel brings to me



Here be - liev - ers meet their Lord.
 In your courts to seek your face.
 Christ the Lord, my right - eous - ness.
 Hear, for Je - sus in - ter - cedes.
 Life and im - mor - tal - i - ty.

- 6 While your ministers proclaim
 Peace and pardon in your name,
 Through their voice, by faith, may I
 Hear you speaking from the sky.
- 7 From your house, when I return,
 May my heart within me burn,
 And at evening let me say,
 "I have walked with God today."

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt.

Tune: GOTT SEI DANK DURCH ALLE WELT (77 77) Freylinghausen, *Geist-reiches Gesang-Buch*, Halle, 1704, alt.

C: A - men.

In the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

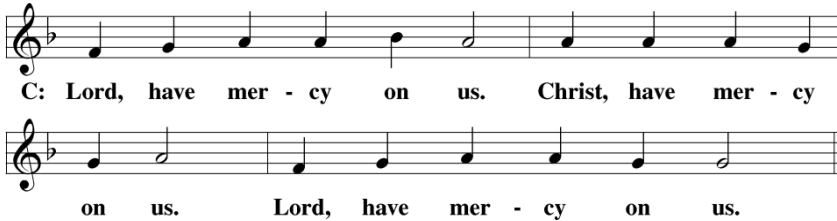
CONFESSION OF SINS

Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this, I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

KYRIE



C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy
on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called 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: A - men.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

GLORY BE TO GOD

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

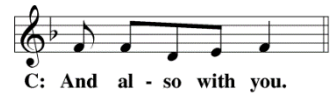


C: Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.
We praise you, we bless you, we wor-ship you, we glorify you,
we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,
God the Fa-ther al - mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the
sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the



sin of the world; re - ceive our prayer. You sit at the right hand of
 God the Father; have mercy on us. For you on - ly are holy;
 you on - ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Spirit,
 are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY



C: And al - so with you.

The Lord be with you.

Let us pray.

Eternal God and Father, help us remember Jesus, who obeyed your will and bore the cross for our salvation so that through his anguish, pain, and death we may receive forgiveness of sins and inherit eternal life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

****Please Be Seated****

FIRST LESSON:

EZEKIEL 37:1 – 14

Israel in exile was as good as dead. Cut off and helpless, the Israelites were not like an army but like a valley full of bones. Yet God promises to bring this nation back to life. In raising Israel from the death of exile, God foreshadowed the great work of Christ: the resurrection of God's people from the dead.

The hand of the Lord was upon me. He brought me out by the Spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley, which was full of bones. He had me pass through them and go all over among them. There were very many on the valley floor, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Son of man, can these dry bones live?" I answered, "Lord God, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones and say to them, 'Dry bones, hear the word of the Lord.'"

This is what the Lord God says to these bones. I am about to make breath enter you so that you will live. I will attach tendons to you. I will put flesh back on you. I will cover you with skin and put breath in you, and you will live. Then you will know that I am the Lord.

Refrain

I will walk in the pres-ence of the Lord,
in the land of the liv - ing.

Psalm tone

I will lift up the cup of salvation*
and call on the name of 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.

Refrain

SECOND LESSON

ROMANS 8:11 – 19

The indwelling of the Spirit proves our possession of the crown jewel of the kingdom, the resurrection from the dead. If the Spirit is in us, God will most certainly grant true and real life to our mortal bodies.

And if the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, the one who raised Christ from the dead will also make your mortal bodies alive through his Spirit, who is dwelling in you. So then, brothers, we do not owe it to the sinful flesh to live in harmony with it. For if you live in harmony with the sinful flesh, you are going to die. But if by the Spirit you put to death the actions of the body, you will live.

Indeed, those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery so that you are afraid again, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we call out, “Abba, Father!” The Spirit himself joins our spirit in testifying that we are God’s children.

Now if we are children, we are also heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, since we suffer with him, so that we may also be glorified with him. For I conclude that our sufferings at the present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is going to be revealed to us. In fact, creation is waiting with eager longing for the sons of God to be revealed.

VERSE OF THE DAY

The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many. (Mark 10:45)

****Please Stand****

GOSPEL

JOHN 11:17 – 27, 38 – 45

Jesus performed the greatest miracle of his ministry to prove to us the certainty of his greatest promise. Death has hounded mankind since the garden and caused misery that God never intended for his children. When Christ saw the effects of death on his loved ones, he wept with them, but also promised them that one day even this last enemy would be defeated.

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



C: Glo - ry be to you, O Lord!

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles away. Many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them concerning their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him, while Mary was sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."

Martha replied, "I know that he will rise in the resurrection on the Last Day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me will live, even if he dies. And whoever lives and believes in me will never perish. Do you believe this?"

"Yes, Lord," she told him. "I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who was to come into the world."

Jesus was deeply moved again as he came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. "Take away the stone," he said. Martha, the dead man's sister, told him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, because it has been four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone.

Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." After he said this, he shouted with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!"

The man who had died came out with his feet and his hands bound with strips of linen and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus told them, "Loose him and let him go." Therefore, many of the Jews who came to Mary and saw what Jesus did believed in him.

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake, he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day, he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Please Be Seated

HYMN OF THE DAY:

#120

WHAT WONDROUS LOVE IS THIS



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



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



What won-drous love is this That caused the Lord of
 When I was sink - ing down Be - neath God's right - eous
 To God and to the Lamb, Who is the great I
 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing his love for



bliss To bear the dread - ful curse for my soul, for my
 frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul, for my
 Am, While mil - lions join the theme, I will sing, I will
 me, And through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on, I'll sing



soul, To bear the dread - ful curse for my soul!
 soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.
 sing, While mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.
 on, And through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Text: *A General Selection of . . . Spiritual Songs*, Lynchburg, 1811, alt.
 Tune: WONDROUS LOVE (12 9 66 12 9) *Southern Harmony*, New Haven, 1835.

SERMON TEXT:

JOHN 11:17 – 27, 38 – 45

SERMON THEME:

TRUSTING JESUS AT HIS WORD

CREATE IN ME



C: 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 your pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it



from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of your sal - va -



tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it. A - men.

****Please Be Seated****

OFFERING – Paul tells us in 2 Corinthians 9: 7: “Each one should give as he has determined in his heart, not reluctantly or under pressure, for God loves a cheerful giver.” This service is our gift to our guests; should you feel obliged to give, we thank you for your generosity.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH FOR LENT

Heavenly Father, you loved the world and gave your Son to liberate us from sin and death by his obedient death on the cross.

We confess that without your love, we are lost.

Lord of the Church, we thank you for the treasure of the gospel. By your Spirit, keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, the author, and perfecter of our faith.

Strengthen our determination to do what pleases you, no matter what the danger or the cost.

Let us pray for those who carry a cross in the name of Christ and face ridicule and persecution for the sake of the kingdom: missionaries and chaplains, young people who stand up for what is right in the face of pressure to do what is wrong, and all who pay a high price for their faith and their values as Christians.

By your Spirit, O Lord, grant them patience and endurance.

Let us pray for those who carry heavy burdens in life: the sick and the chronically ill, the depressed and the lonely, those torn by conflict in personal relationships, those victimized by war and injustice, and all who face the terrors of life with a heavy heart.

Grant them peace, O Lord, and in your mercy, be their guardian and friend, their comfort and hope.

Let us pray for those who care for others: pastors and counselors; physicians and nurses; social workers and caring friends; all who feed the hungry, comfort the hurting, and stand beside the dying.

Strengthen them in their work, O Lord, and do not let them become weary in doing good.

SPECIAL PRAYERS AND INTERCESSIONS

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

SILENT PRAYERS

Help us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Keep us faithful even to the point of death, that we may receive the crown of life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

THE 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 ever. Amen.

Please Be Seated

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

#388

REDEEMED, RESTORED, FORGIVEN



1 Re - deemed, re - stored, for - giv - en Through Je - sus'
 2 Once on the drear - y moun - tain We wan - dered
 3 Dear Mas - ter, yours the glo - ry Of each re -
 4 Now keep us, ho - ly Sav - ior, In your true



pre - cious blood, Heirs of his home in heav - en -
 far and wide, Far from the cleans - ing foun - tain,
 cov - ered soul. Ah, who can tell the sto - ry
 love and fear, And grant us by your fa - vor



Oh, praise our par - d'ning God! Praise him in tune - ful
 Far from the pierc - ed side. But Je - sus sought and
 Of love that made us whole? Not ours, not ours the
 The grace to per - se - vere Till, in your new cre -



mea - sures Who gave his Son to die; Praise him whose
 found us; Our man - y sins he bore. With cords of
 mer - it; To you a - lone the praise! Give us a
 a - tion, Our earth - ly trou - bles o'er, Heirs of your



sev'n - fold trea - sures En - rich and sanc - ti - fy.
 love he bound us To him for - ev - er - more.
 thank - ful spir - it To serve you all our days.
 free sal - va - tion, We praise you ev - er - more.

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821-77, alt.

Tune: KUORTANE (76 76 D) Finnish folk tune, c. 19th century.

****Please Stand****

THE SACRAMENT



C: And al - so with you.

The Lord be with you.



C: We lift them up un - to the Lord.

Lift up your hearts.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross, so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree would in turn by a tree be overcome. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts in heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:
 heav'n 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, bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -
 na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my (†) body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my (†) blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."



The peace of the Lord be with you always.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

AGNUS DEI

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. A - men.

****Please Be Seated****

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION – Please come forward at the direction of our usher. We do practice close communion according to Paul’s guidance in 1 Corinthians 11:27: “For if anyone eats and drinks in an unworthy manner because he does not recognize the Lord’s body, he eats and drinks judgment upon himself.” Therefore, if you are not a member of the ELS or WELS, please talk to Pastor Emmons before communing. Thank you for respecting our practices.

****Please Stand****

SONG OF SIMEON

C: Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing
to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-
pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the
Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of your peo-ple Is - ra - el.

C: And his mercy endures for - ev - er.

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

CLOSING PRAYER

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it, you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord, make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look on you with favor and (†) give you peace.



Please Be Seated

CLOSING HYMN:

#465

JESUS, I MY CROSS HAVE TAKEN



1 Je - sus, I my cross have tak - en,
 2 Let the world de - spise and leave me;
 3 Go, then, earth - ly fame and trea - sure!
 4 Haste, my soul, from grace to glo - ry,




All to leave and fol - low you. Des - ti -
 They have left my Sav - ior, too. Hu - man
 Come, dis - as - ter, scorn, and pain! In your
 Armed by faith and winged by prayer. All but



tute, de - spised, for - sak - en, You on
 hearts and looks de - ceive me; You are
 ser - vice pain is plea - sure; With your
 heav'n is tran - si - to - ry; God's own



earth once suf - fered, too. Per - ish ev - 'ry
 not, like them, un - true. And since you have
 fa - vor loss is gain. I have called you
 hand shall guide you there. Soon shall end this



fond am - bi - tion, All I've ev - er
smiled up - on me, God of wis - dom,
Ab - ba, Fa - ther! You my all in
earth - ly sto - ry; Swift shall pass the

hoped or known; Yet how rich is my con -
love, and might, Foes may hate and friends may
all shall be. Storms may howl, and clouds may
pil - grim days, Hope soon change to heav'n - ly

di - tion! God and heav'n are still my own.
shun me— Show your face, and all is bright.
gath - er; All must work for good to me.
glo - ry, Faith to sight and prayer to praise.

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847, abr., alt.
Tune: HYFRYDOL (87 87 D) Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–87.

WHAT WE BELIEVE:

- Every word of the Bible is inspired, inerrant, and the only source of absolute truth.
- The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit form the triune God, the only true God.
- All humans are born dead in sin and deserve eternal condemnation.
- Jesus Christ is the true God; he was conceived in Mary’s womb by the Holy Spirit, assuming His human nature to His divine nature.
- Only through His perfect work of redemption, which includes His perfect life and innocent death, are all sins for all people forgiven and given credit for His perfect life.
- Only those whom the Holy Spirit, through Word and Baptism, blesses with faith in Jesus’ redemptive work, receive the benefit of it.
- The day is drawing near when Jesus will return, all believers will be with Him in heaven, all unbelievers will be condemned to eternal torment, and this present world will be destroyed.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lenten Season: Please mark your calendars to join us for this time of preparation. We invite you to attend on Tuesdays, March 24, at 5:30 p.m. for our sixth midweek Lenten service; this year, our theme is “It is finished.” We will explore the fulfillment of the Old Testament book of Zechariah.

Sunday Morning Bible Study: We continue our focus on the Pauline letters with Ephesians. Please join us at 9:00 a.m. We hope you find this Bible study enlightening! Feel free to bring your questions. You may come and go as needed. Reading is optional, and questions are always welcome.

“Passion of the Christ”: Mark your calendar! Pastor Emmons and Tammi will host a movie night this Friday, March 27, at 6 pm. We will watch “The Passion of the Christ.” Please bring a snack to share, and if you have a comfy camp chair, bring it along.

Pizza Night: April 24, 6 pm at Pappy’s Pizza. We’re going out for pizza. Please RSVP to Lani Carroll (call or text) at 458-329-0821 if you’ll attend so she can make the reservation.

Holy Week Schedule: Holy Week starts on March 29 with Palm Sunday, followed by Maundy Thursday on April 2, Good Friday on April 3, and Easter on April 5. Our midweek services are at 5:30 pm, and our Sunday services are at 10:30 am. We will observe communion on Maundy Thursday but not on Palm Sunday or Easter. Please consider scheduling a private absolution with Pastor Emmons on April 2 before our evening service.

West Coast Conference: The ELS churches on the West Coast will gather for a conference on April 22 and 23 at Saved by Grace Lutheran Church in Gresham, Oregon. Pastor Emmons will attend the conference.

Seminarian Noah Gernander: We, as a congregation, have adopted Seminarian Noah Gernander. Please sign the Easter card for him and his family. We plan to send his family a gift card for gas, groceries, and diapers. You may either place it in the collection plate or send it directly to him at the Seminary: 6 Browns Ct., Mankato, MN 56001.

Council Meeting: Our council is scheduled to meet at Gene’s home on April 10 at 1 pm.

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