

Third Sunday in Lent

March 20, 2022

**SERVICE OF WORSHIP
WITH HOLY COMMUNION
AT 8:30 A.M. and 11 A.M.**

We are honored that you are joining our worship today. We hope to make you feel welcome whether you are visiting with us for the first time or have been worshipping with us for years.

Welcome

St. Thomas Lutheran Church is a Christ-centered community that lives, shares, and celebrates God's grace with all people!

As disciples of Christ who value the faith, gifts, and ministry of all God's people, and who seek justice and reconciliation, we welcome all God's children to an inclusive community. This welcome is extended without exception and regardless of sex, race, national origin, educational background, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical and mental ability, age, or economic condition.

Worship Aids

In this worship bulletin, worshipers are invited to stand at the places marked with an * and bold type denotes the congregation's response. Everything you need to participate in worship is found in this bulletin, except for the hymns which are found in the back third of the red Evangelical Lutheran Worship under your seat. You are encouraged to join us in praying, singing, sharing the peace, and receiving Holy Communion as you feel moved. Assisted hearing devices and large print bulletins are available from an usher.

Children in Worship

We welcome all children to worship with us—including full participation in Holy Communion. Whether talking, crying, laughing, or singing, the sounds of children in worship are joyful sounds of praise. God put the wiggle in children, and we rejoice! Our Prayground in the sanctuary and our unstaffed nursery are open for quiet, supervised play. Activity bags are available in the narthex. Children's bulletins are also available.

A Note About Our Livestream Service

Today's 8:30am service is livestreamed. Most rear-row seats are out of view of the camera, but we cannot guarantee that any seat is off camera. By attending this service, you are giving permission to be in the video we produce.

A Few Requests

We ask that you silence your cell phone or electronic devices.

We would love to pray for the concerns of your heart during this service.

Prayer request slips are located on the table near the main doors.

+ GATHERING +

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, +one God, who looks upon us in compassion, forgives our sins, and heals our lives.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy One,

C: we confess our pride and our fear of failure. We confess our neglect of others and our neglect of self. We confess how much we hoard and how little we give. We confess our great doubts and our little faith. But you are faithful. You are generous. You give of yourself completely. Help us to trust that this is enough and to follow where you lead. Amen.

P: As tender as parent to child, so deep is God's compassion for you. As high as heaven is above earth, so vast is God's love for you. As far as east is from west, so far God removes your sin from you, in the name of +Christ Jesus.

C: Amen.

ENTRANCE HYMN

As the Winter Days Grow Longer

ACS#924

8:30 a.m. choir only stanza 1

As the Winter Days Grow Longer



1 As the win - ter days grow long - er, draw - ing short the hours of night;
2 As the vines burst in - to blos - som, fra - grant in the morn - ing air,
3 As we jour - ney through this sea - son, pil - grims through a thirst - y land,



as our ea - ger ex - pec - ta - tion waits for Eas - ter's dawn - ing light —
lift - ing spir - its with their sweet - ness, lur - ing hearts to thank - ful prayer —
quench us with your liv - ing pres - ence; guide us with your lov - ing hand.



yearn - ing peo - ple, here we gath - er, turn - ing watch - ful eyes to you:
Lent - en peo - ple, here we gath - er, seek - ing lives re - freshed from sin.
Wan - d'ring peo - ple, here we gath - er, called to rest a - long our way.



God who bless - es earth with spring - time, shine with - in our world a - new!
God who bless - es earth with spring - time, bloom with - in our hearts a - gain!
God who bless - es earth with spring - time, grant us sab - bath joy this day!



Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

Music: SUO GÂN, Welsh melody; arr. hymnal version

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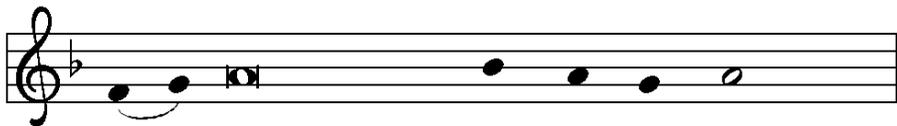
Arr. © 2020 Augsburg Fortress

*GREETING

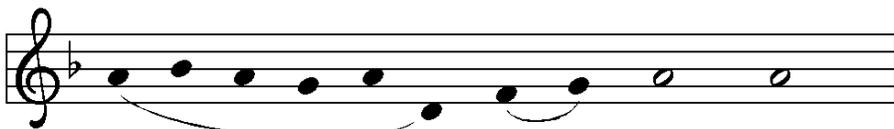
P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

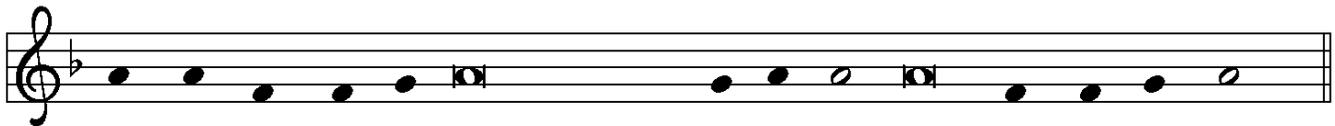
*KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



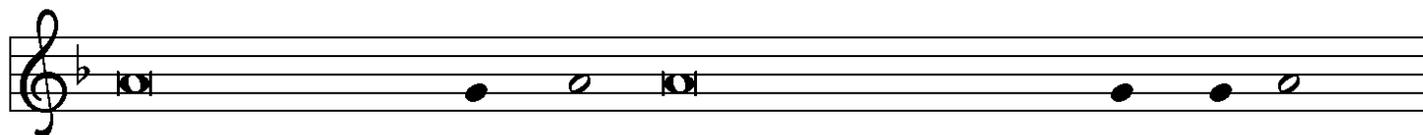
Lord, have mer - cy.



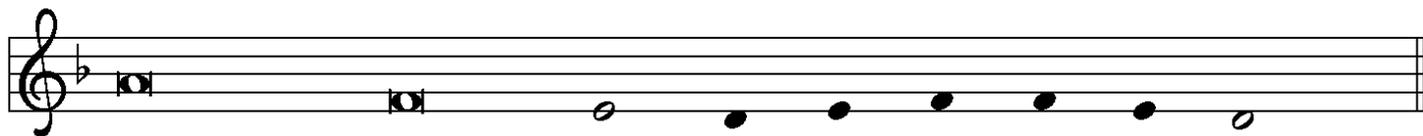
For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



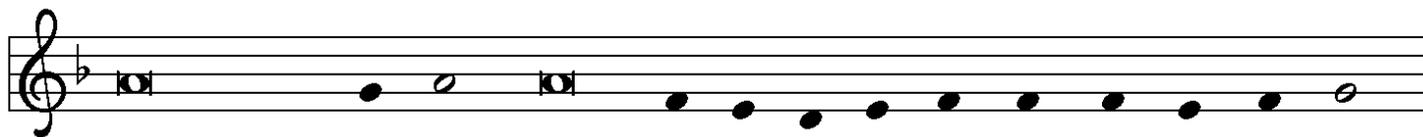
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



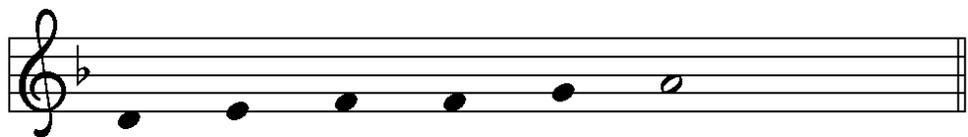
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



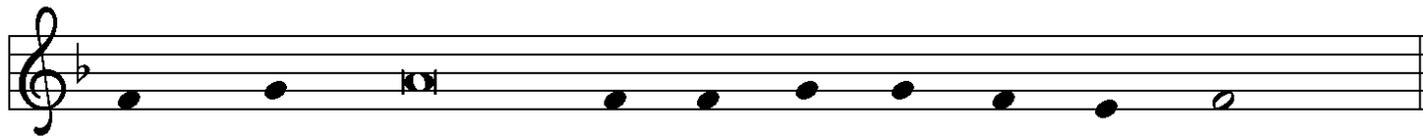
For this ho-ly house, and for all who of-fer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord.



A - men.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

+WORD+

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pr. Lecia Beck

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 55:1-9

Ho, everyone who thirsts,
come to the waters;
and you that have no money,
come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.

Why do you spend your money for that which is
not bread,
and your labor for that which does not
satisfy?

Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.

Incline your ear, and come to me;
listen, so that you may live.

I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.

See, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.

See, you shall call nations that you do not know,
and nations that do not know you shall run to
you,

because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of
Israel,

for the Lord has glorified you.

Seek the LORD while the Lord may be found,
call upon the Lord while the Lord is near;

let the wicked forsake their way,
and the unrighteous their thoughts;

let them return to the LORD, that the Lord may
have mercy on them,

and to our God, for the Lord will abundantly
pardon.

For my thoughts are not your thoughts,

nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.

For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 63:1-8

¹O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you;
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,
as in a dry and weary land where there is no
water.

²**Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy
place,
that I might behold your power and your
glory.**

³For your steadfast love is better than life itself;
my lips shall give you praise.

⁴**So will I bless you as long as I live
and lift up my hands in your name.**

⁵My spirit is content, as with the richest of foods,
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,

⁶**when I remember you upon my bed,
and meditate on you in the night watches.**

⁷For you have been my helper,
and under the shadow of your wings I will
rejoice.

**⁸My whole being clings to you;
your right hand holds me fast.**

SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

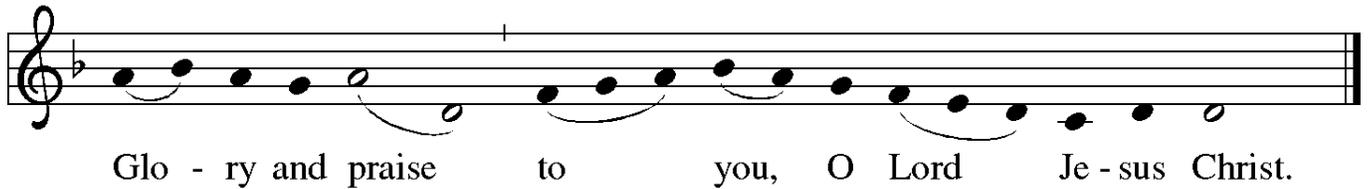
Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them

did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and God will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing God will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



*HOLY GOSPEL Luke 13:1-9 NRSV, emended
P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the
thirteenth chapter.
C: Glory to you, O Lord.

(In this reading Jesus continues his teachings about the end times.)

At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. Jesus asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

Then Jesus told this parable:

“A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'”

P: The Gospel of our Lord!

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pr. Adrienne Meier

*HYMN OF THE DAY

As the Deer Runs to the River

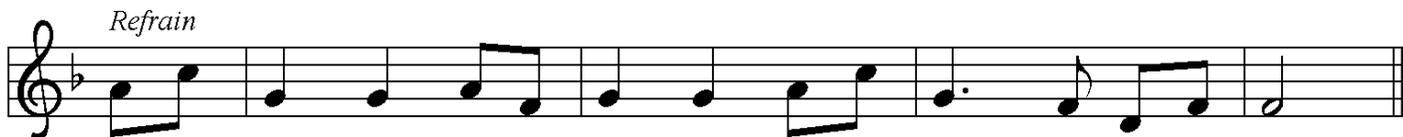
ELW#331



- 1 As the deer runs to the riv - er, parched and wea - ry from the chase,
- 2 When your Is - rael crossed the des - ert where no stream or spring was seen,
- 3 "Come and drink," I - sa - iah sum-moned, "all who for God's mer - cy plead!
- 4 Christ, we come from des - ert plac - es, deep - est thirst un - sat - is - fied.



we have come from hurt and hur - ry, thirst - ing for your heal - ing grace.
Mo - ses struck the rock, and wa - ter flowed for them, re - fresh - ing, clean.
God's for - give - ness, like a foun-tain, flows to sat - is - fy your need."
Lead us to the wa - ters flow - ing from the cross on which you died.



Je - sus, source of liv - ing wa - ter, may we drink of you and live!

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923

Music: JULION, David Hurd, b. 1950

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***APOSTLES' CREED**

A: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**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 OF THE CHURCH

A: Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Each petition ends:

A: Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

Concluding petition:

A: Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

*SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Share the peace with a wave, a bow, or maybe an elbow, checking in with your neighbor for whatever feels safe and conveys the spirit of peace and reconciliation this ritual intends.

OFFERING

*Please sign and pass the **Together In Community** pads. Make note of the names of your neighbors so you can introduce yourself after the service. These pads and pencils are sanitized at the end of each service.*

Gifts may be placed in the offering plate by the door or you can also give on our website (stlconline.org). St. Thomas collects gifts to support our mission of sharing, living, and celebrating God's grace with all people. We support Lutheran Campus Ministries at IU/Rose House and many local, national, and international ministry partners.

8:30 a.m. CHOIR ANTHEM

Lord, For Thy Tender Mercy's Sake

Richard Farrant

11 a.m. ORGAN IMPROVISATION

*OFFERTORY HYMN

Create in Me a Clean Heart

ELW#188

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.

The musical score is written in a single system with five staves. The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The melody is written in a soprano clef. The lyrics are placed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The score ends with a double bar line.

Music: J. A. Freylinghausen, 1670-1739

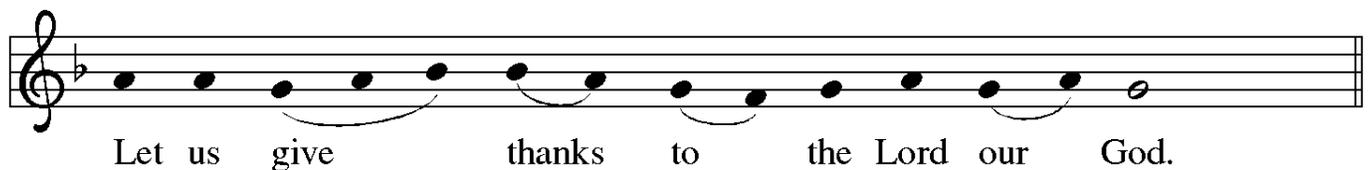
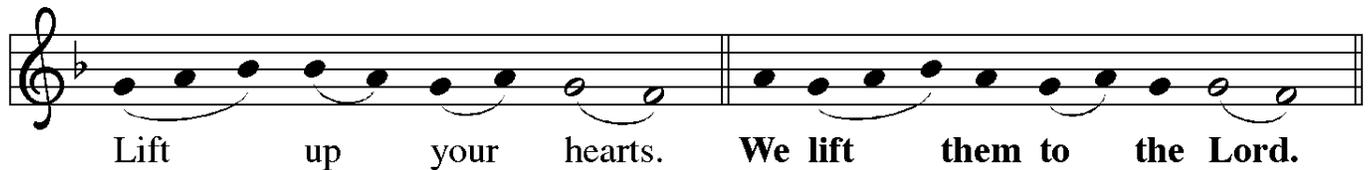
*OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Let us pray. Extravagant God, you have blessed us with the fullness of creation. Now we gather at your feast where you offer us the food that satisfies. Take and use what we offer here, come among us, and feed us with the body and blood of Christ, in whose name we pray.

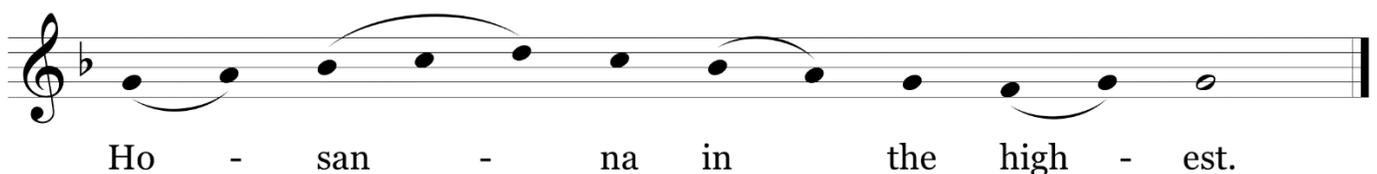
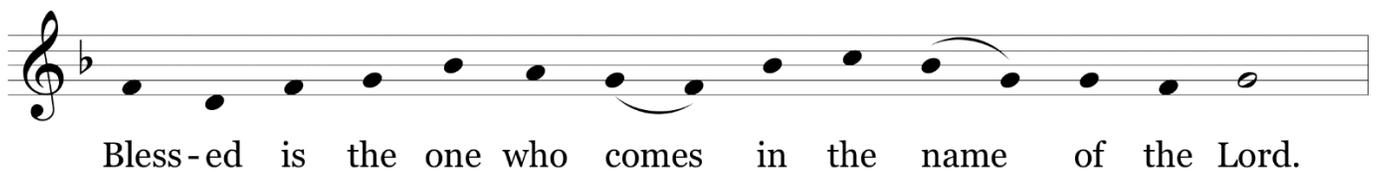
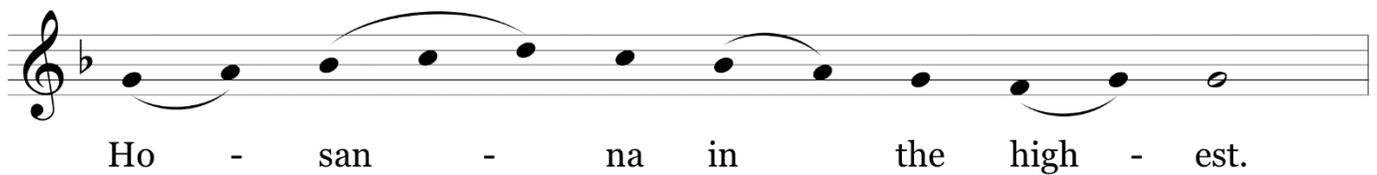
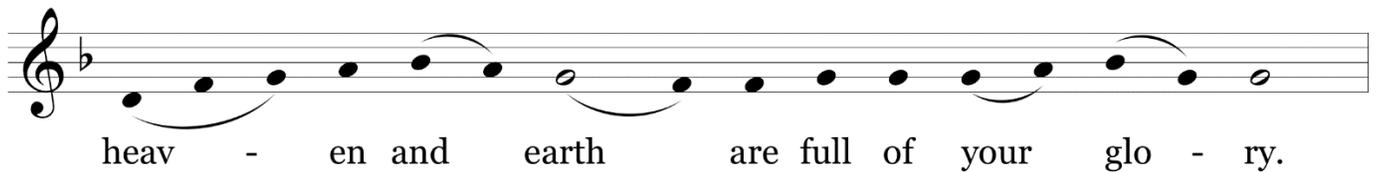
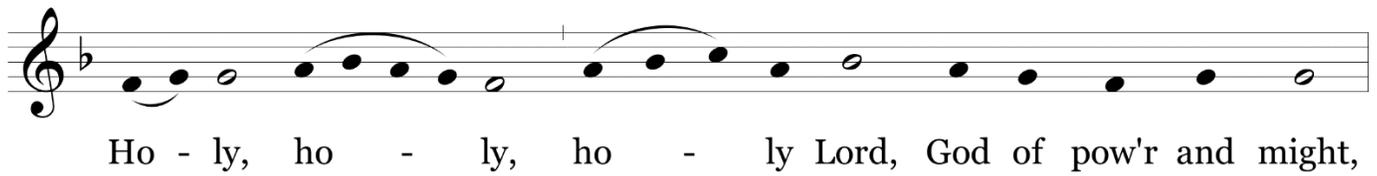
C: Amen.

+ MEAL +

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



*EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

The thanksgiving may include this acclamation.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

*LORD'S PRAYER

Speak this prayer in your preferred language. The pastor will continue when all versions are complete.

C: 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Here is food and drink for the journey. Take and be filled.

We believe that God is our host and that all people are welcome to this feast of grace, community, and forgiveness. Come forward at the direction of the ushers. Hand-torn bread or gluten-free wafers are offered with pink wine or red grape juice in individual cups. If you wish to receive a blessing, cross your arms over your chest.

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

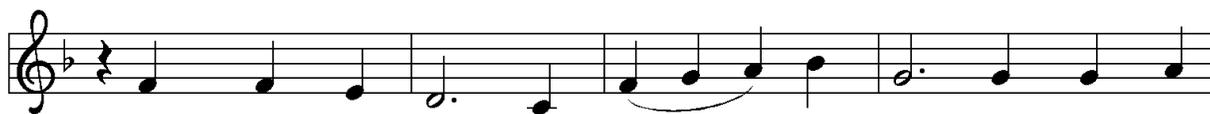
on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sin of the world; grant us peace. A - men.

COMMUNION HYMN

O Blessed Spring

ELW#447



1 O bless - ed spring, where word and sign em - brace us
2 Through sum - mer heat of youth - ful years, un - cer - tain
3 When au - tumn cools and youth is cold, when limbs their
4 As win - ter comes, as win - ters must, we breathe our
5 Christ, ho - ly Vine, Christ, liv - ing Tree, be praised for



in - to Christ the Vine: here Christ en - joins each one to
faith, re - bel - lious tears, sus - tained by Christ's in - fus - ing
heav - y har - vest hold, then through us, warm, the Christ will
last, re - turn to dust; still held in Christ, our souls take
this blest mys - ter - y: that word and wa - ter thus re -



be a branch of this life - giv - ing Tree.
rain, the boughs will shout for joy a - gain.
move with gifts of beau - ty, wis - dom, love.
wing and trust the prom - ise of the spring.
vive and join us to your Tree of Life.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953

Music: BERGLUND, Robert Buckley Farlee, b. 1950

Text © 1993 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Music © 1993 Robert Buckley Farlee, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

*EUCHARISTIC BLESSING

C: Amen.

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray. Blessed Jesus, in this rich meal of grace, you have fed us with your body, the bread of life. Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope to a world in need.

C: Amen.

+ SENDING +

*BENEDICTION

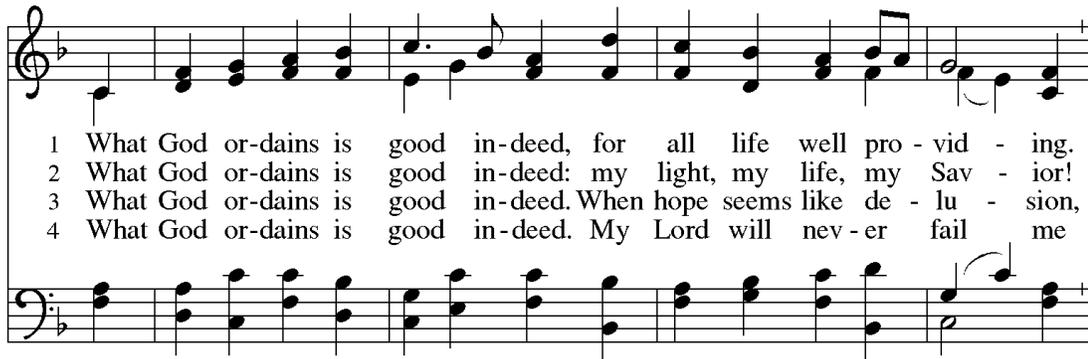
P: You are children of God, anointed with the oil of gladness and strengthened for the journey. Almighty God, motherly, majestic, and mighty, +bless you this day and always.

C: Amen.

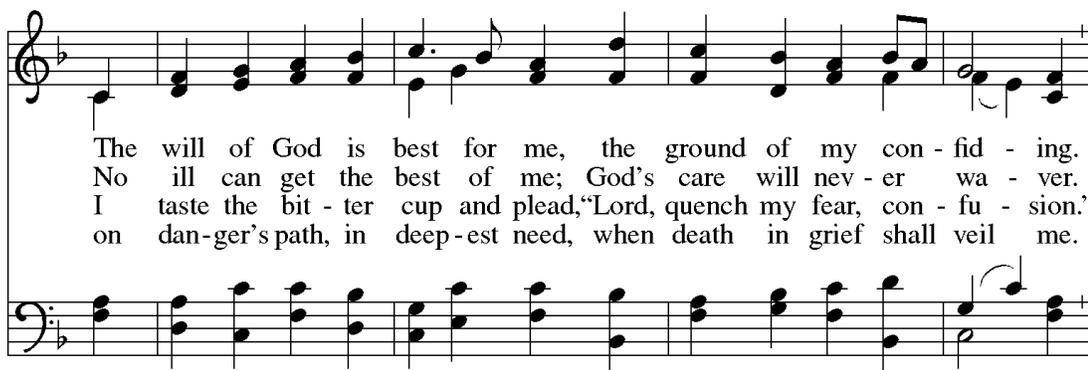
*SENDING HYMN

What God Ordains is Good Indeed

ELW#776



1 What God or-dains is good in-deed, for all life well pro - vid - ing.
2 What God or-dains is good in-deed: my light, my life, my Sav - ior!
3 What God or-dains is good in-deed. When hope seems like de - lu - sion,
4 What God or-dains is good in-deed. My Lord will nev - er fail me



The will of God is best for me, the ground of my con - fid - ing.
No ill can get the best of me; God's care will nev - er wa - ver.
I taste the bit - ter cup and plead, "Lord, quench my fear, con - fu - sion."
on dan-ger's path, in deep-est need, when death in grief shall veil me.



My faith - ful God, on ev - 'ry road you know the way un -
Through joy and pain I shall at - tain the dawn dis - clos - ing
God ends the night, re - stores de - light; by faith I face to -
My God so dear will draw me near, in lov - ing arms will



fold - ing and my hand you are hold - ing.
clear - ly that God has loved me dear - ly.
mor - row and yield to God all sor - row.
hold me, at last in light en - fold me.

***DISMISSAL**

A: Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way.

C: Thanks be to God.

*We depart in peace to continue our worship
in lives of witness to Christ's love
in work, play, service, and care for creation.*

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At A Glance: This Week at St. Thomas

Sunday March 20

No Sunday School

8:30 a.m. Worship/Livestream Worship

11 a.m. Worship

3 p.m. Word in the Woods

Wednesday March 23

12 p.m. Prayer at Noon on Zoom

7 p.m. Evening Prayer

Thursday March 24

7 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal

Sunday March 27

8:30 a.m. Worship/Livestream Worship

9:45 a.m. Faith Formation for All Ages

11 a.m. Worship

1 p.m. Council Meeting

2:30 p.m. Bach Cantata Project

5:30 p.m. High School Youth Group

at Trinity Episcopal Church

Announcements

No Sunday School Today

Today there will be no Sunday School classes for children or adults due to Spring Break.

Word in the Woods

Experience God's presence in creation! Join us as we marvel at God's handiwork in the trees, the sky, and the mud! Join us **today at 3 p.m.** as we gather at Griffy Lake Boathouse for a worshipful hike. We will contemplate scripture together, pray, and celebrate communion across the 1.5 mile trail. We will not meet for Word in the Woods in April due to Easter. Please let Pastor Lecia know if you plan to join us today.

Wednesday Worship During Lent

In addition to our Sunday morning worship services at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m., join us on Wednesdays for Prayer at Noon on Zoom. We collect prayer requests and follow a quiet, simple 15-20 minute service. Link: <https://bit.ly/3HZ9J2H> Join us for Evening Prayer at 7 p.m. in Heritage Hall; this simple service is based on the tranquil liturgy of Evening Prayer in Evangelical Lutheran Worship.

High School Youth Group

Join us next **Sunday, March 27 from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.** at Trinity Episcopal Church. We are meeting together with the youth groups from Trinity Episcopal Church and First Presbyterian Church for an evening of fun and fellowship. Please let Pastor Lecia know if you plan to attend pastorleciabeck@gmail.com.

Congregation Meeting

There will be a **Special Congregational Meeting on Sunday, April 3** following the 11 a.m. service to consider an additional solar array at St. Thomas that will help the congregation achieve net zero energy usage (that is, the amount of energy we produce for the year will be equal to the amount of energy we need for the year). A full plan for the array will be sent to the congregation via email on Monday, March 28. Those who wish to join the meeting via Zoom may do so at this link: <https://bit.ly/3JIP7D2>

Acolyte Training

Elementary students will have training on **Sunday, March 27**. Training will take place during the Sunday School hour. While students can start serving as acolytes in second grade, all elementary students will participate in the training so that the youngest ones can be ready! After training, parents can sign up their child to serve here: <https://bit.ly/36ECuVc>

All Creation Sings

All Creation Sings is a new ELCA hymnal supplement, created to complement our current hymnal, Evangelical Lutheran Worship. *All Creation Sings* contains 200 new hymns and two additional musical settings of the liturgy. The new hymnal places a strong emphasis on care for the Earth and the creatures who inhabit it and many of the hymn texts were composed in the last fifteen years. Visit our *All Creation Sings* table in the narthex today or give online. Each copy costs \$14.50 and you may dedicate each copy you purchase.

The Bloomington Bach Cantata Project

The Bloomington Bach Cantata Project invites you to join us here at St. Thomas in the worship space next **Sunday, March 27 at 2:30 p.m.** The Bloomington Bach Cantata Project brings together students and faculty from Indiana University, as well as professional artists from around the region, to present cantatas by J. S. Bach in performances modeled on his own.

Prayer Vigil for Chichipate

During Lent, the Mission Committee invites your household to share in a prayer vigil for our sister parish, Iglesia Santo Domingo de Guzman, in Chichipate, Guatemala. First, sign up here:

<https://stlconline.org/praying-for-chichipate/>. Then, when your turn arrives, pick up the vigil basket at the welcome table on Sunday.

Community Garden

The St. Thomas Community Garden is open for the 2022 growing season! Plots are \$20 for St. Thomas members and \$30 for non-members. If you are interested in a bed please send an email to Kaye Hill kayehill48@gmail.com or Kathleen Boggess kboggess44@gmail.com.

Creation Care Calling

Energy policy in our state has been in the news recently because **the value of renewable energy will be greatly reduced** when changes for new installations become effective July 1.

The solar array installed at St. Thomas in 2013 qualifies for net metering. We will continue to be credited for excess electricity we generate **at the same value** as electricity we purchase.

Of the electricity St. Thomas uses, 69% is generated by our solar panels. That leaves us burning fossil fuels to cover our remaining energy needs.

Today's Worship Leaders

Altar Care: Shirley Minge, Debbie Witt

Bread/Wine: Mary Thomason-Smith

8:30 a.m. service

Assisting Minister: David Rohlfing

Lector: Karen Rohlfing

Ushers: Gene & Gayl Laughman

Greeters: Shirley Minge, Kathleen Boggess

Council Coordinator: Ashley Ahlbrand

11 a.m. service

Assisting Minister: Gail Seegert

Lector: Noah Smith

Ushers: Craig & Kathy McDonald

Greeters: Tom & Jan Sinn

Council Coordinator: Ronna Papesh



Prayers for those with health and safety concerns

Elif Ogan, Jan Ellis, Caretta Van Ruler, Anne Smith, Carole Kirsch, Tim Kirsch, Roger Sasse, Paula Ionescu, Audrey Alpers, Deborah O'Brien, Casey-Marie, Mike Ost, Seth Lahn, Erin Wyatt, Bob Osborn, Gwen Powell, Andrew Halvorson, Doug Bauder, Yvonne Leber, Patty Pedersen, Ken Pedersen, Valerie Coulter, Jan Coulter, and Matilde Coc Chocoj Bac.

Contact the church office for inclusion in this list of concerns and to be included in the Sunday prayers.

A separate, confidential prayer chain is also available. Contact **Susan Colston** at skcolston@aol.com to join the prayer chain or make a request for prayer.

ST. THOMAS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

3800 East Third Street
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Office Hours 9 a.m.- 4:30p.m.
Phone: (812) 332-5252
stlconline.org

Partners in ministry with
**Lutheran Church of
the Living Waters**
Cherokee, North Carolina

Linked with
Sister Parish
Iglesia Santo Domingo
de Guzman, Chichipate
Parish of San Pedro, El Estor,
Izabal, Guatemala

In covenant with
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Parish Administrator
parishadmin@stlconline.org

Mike Powell,
Director of Music and Organist

Dr. Dale Heidebrecht,
Interim Adult Choir Director

Melissa de Graaf,
Children's Choir Director

**St. Thomas Lutheran Church and LCM-IU
are Reconciling in Christ Ministries**

**We are a Christ-centered community that lives,
shares and celebrates God's grace with all people!**