



Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 22, 2026

We hope you feel welcome here.

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, racial equity, 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, gender expression, physical and mental ability, age, or economic condition.

We hope you can participate fully in worship.

Today's worship service is printed in this bulletin; the hymns are found in the back third of the red *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (ELW) or purple *All Creation Sings* (ACS) found under the seat in front of you. Places to stand are marked with * and to respond are indicated with bold type. Please sit, stand, and move as you need to be comfortable. Use a blue chair with arms or move orange chairs to accommodate mobility needs. Assisted hearing devices and large-print worship aids are available on the Worship Aids column in the narthex.

Our youngest worshipers may appreciate the Prayer Pond in the worship space or listening to the service from our unstaffed nursery. Activity bags and children's bulletins are available on the Worship Aids column in the narthex.

We hope you know Holy Communion is for you.

At communion, everyone is welcome. This includes doubters, young children, and folks who have yearned for this feast. Come forward at the direction of an usher and receive hand-torn bread or gluten-free wafers and pink wine or red grape juice. If you have mobility limitations, please take the closest available place at the altar, or ask an usher for Communion to be brought to you at your seat.

We hope you know our welcome extends beyond our building.

Gifts placed in the offering plate during the worship service contribute to this mission. Today's 8:30 a.m. service is livestreamed. By attending this service, you are giving permission to be in the video we produce.

We hope you know we pray for you.

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 +

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

In moments of silence, or if you find yourself distracted, consider using this breath prayer to center yourself: (inhale) In dying; (exhale) we are born to eternal life. You can carry this prayer with you throughout the week to come.

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: We pray,

C: make us instruments of your peace.

P: We confess the ways we give in to hatred and permit discord to flourish; and so we pray,

C: make us instruments of your peace.

P: We confess the things we have done that harm our neighbor, our neighborhood, or our world; and so we pray,

C: make us instruments of your peace.

P: We confess that, too often, we put our hope and our faith in despair; and so we pray,

C: make us instruments of your peace.

P: We confess that we hide from you, cutting ourselves off from the joy you alone give; and so we pray,

C: make us instruments of your peace.

P: We confess we seek to console only ourselves, understand only ourselves, love only ourselves; and so we pray,

C: make us instruments of your peace.

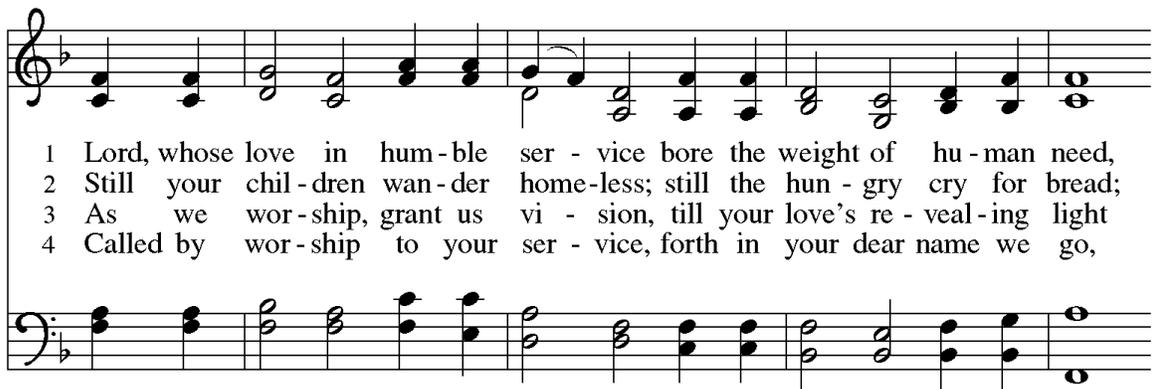
P: God gives new life in abundance. God gives grace in abundance. In the name of † Jesus Christ, receive the forgiveness of all your sins, trusting that the One who raised Christ from the dead, gives, in abundance, life and peace, now and forever.

C: Amen.

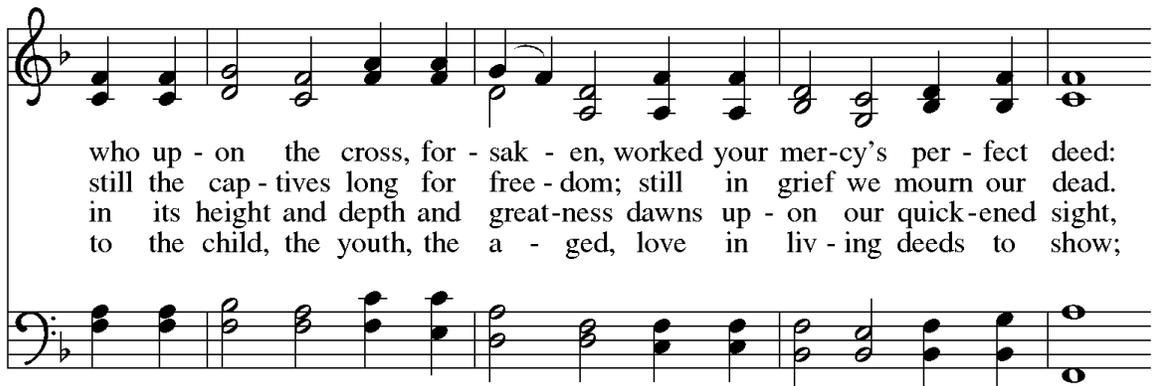
*ENTRANCE HYMN

Lord Whose Love in Humble Service ELW#712

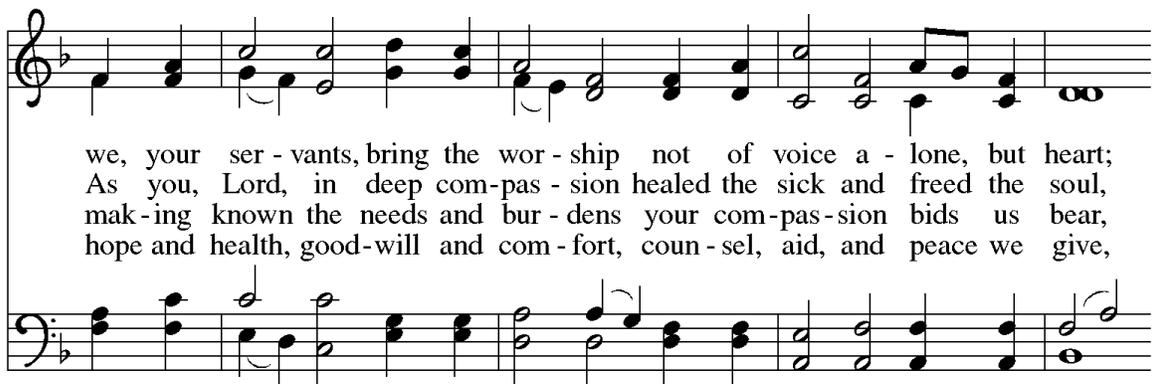
Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service



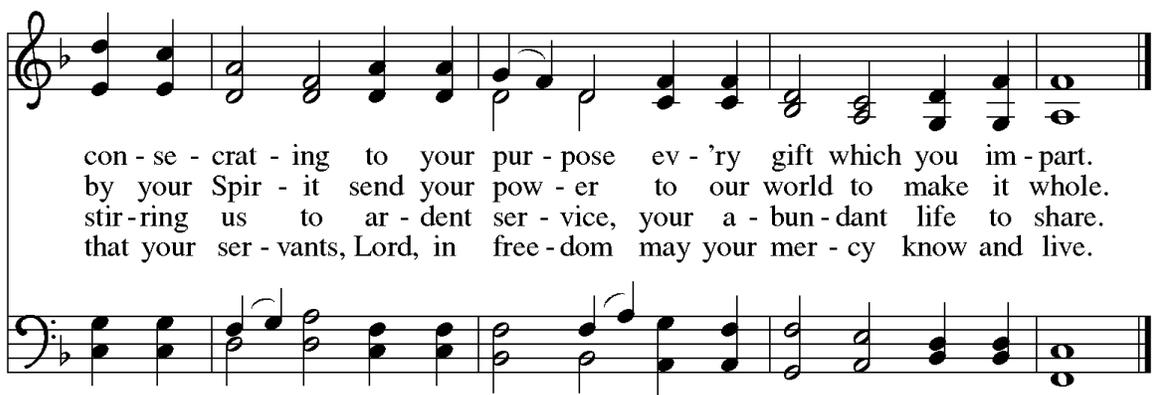
1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser - vice bore the weight of hu - man need,
2 Still your chil - dren wan - der home - less; still the hun - gry cry for bread;
3 As we wor - ship, grant us vi - sion, till your love's re - veal - ing light
4 Called by wor - ship to your ser - vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up - on the cross, for - sak - en, worked your mer - cy's per - fect deed:
still the cap - tives long for free - dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
in its height and depth and great - ness dawns up - on our quick - ened sight,
to the child, the youth, the a - ged, love in liv - ing deeds to show;



we, your ser - vants, bring the wor - ship not of voice a - lone, but heart;
As you, Lord, in deep com - pas - sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
mak - ing known the needs and bur - dens your com - pas - sion bids us bear,
hope and health, good - will and com - fort, coun - sel, aid, and peace we give,



con - se - crat - ing to your pur - pose ev - 'ry gift which you im - part.
by your Spir - it send your pow - er to our world to make it whole.
stir - ring us to ar - dent ser - vice, your a - bun - dant life to share.
that your ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom may your mer - cy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984

Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844; arr. *Selected Hymns*, 1985

Text © 1961 Oxford University Press.

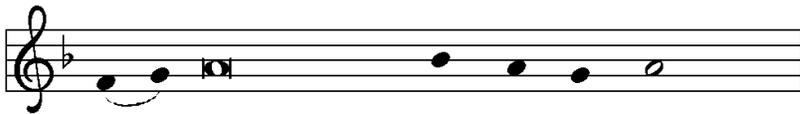
Arr. © 1985 Augsburg Fortress.

*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.



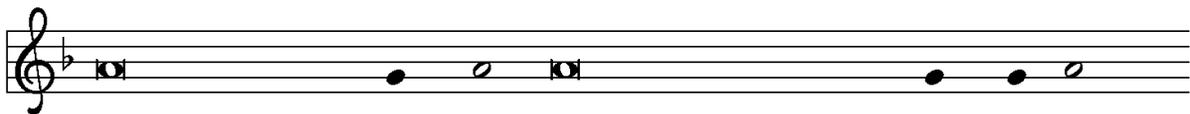
Lord, have mer - cy.



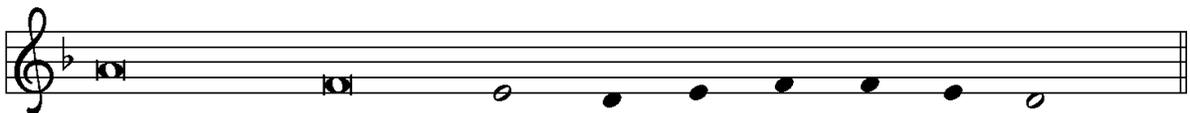
For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-va-tion, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



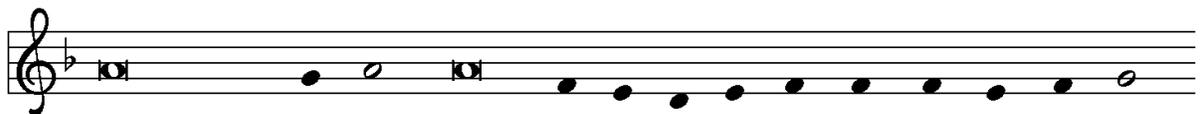
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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. God of all consolation and compassion, who comforted the grieving sisters, Martha and Mary; your breath alone brings life to dry bones and weary souls. Pour out your Spirit upon us, that we may face despair and death with the hope of resurrection and faith in the One who called Lazarus forth from the grave, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who live and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

+WORD+

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pr. Lecia Beck

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. The Lord led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. The Lord said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." Then the Lord said to me, "Prophesy to these bones and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you and will cause flesh to come upon you and cover you with skin and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the Lord."

So I prophesied as I had been commanded, and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon

them, and skin had covered them, but there was no breath in them. Then the Lord said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as the Lord commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then the Lord said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' Therefore prophecy and say to them: Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people, and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord when I open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord."

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 130

Out of the depths

I cry to you, O Lord;

O Lord, hear my voice!

**Let your ears be attentive to the voice
of my supplication.**

If you were to keep watch over sins,

O Lord, who could stand?

Yet with you is forgiveness,

in order that you may be feared.

I wait for you, O Lord; my soul waits;

in your word is my hope.

My soul waits for the Lord more than

those who keep watch

for the morning,

more than those who keep watch for

the morning.

O Israel, wait for the Lord, for with

the Lord there is steadfast love;

with the Lord there is plenteous redemption.

For the Lord shall redeem Israel

from all their sins.

SECOND READING

Romans 8:6-11

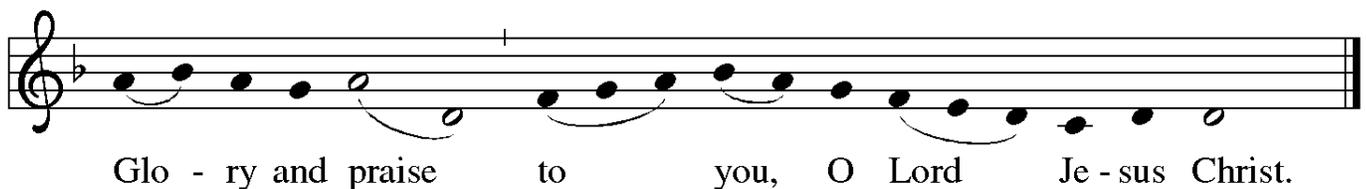
To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed, it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, the one who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through the Spirit that dwells in you.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eleventh chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather, it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Judeans were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble because they see the light of this

world. But those who walk at night stumble because the light is not in them." After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Judeans had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to

him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Judeans who were with her in the house consoling her saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping and the Judeans who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said,

“Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” Jesus began to weep. So the Judeans said, “See how he loved him!” But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead person, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.” Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?” So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.” When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

Many of the Judeans, therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did believed in him.

P: The Gospel of Our Lord!

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pr. Lecia Beck

*HYMN OF THE DAY

Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing ELW#886



1 Oh, for a thou - sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem - er's praise,
2 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim,
3 The name of Je - sus charms our fears and bids our sor - rows cease,
4 He speaks, and lis - t'ning to his voice, new life the dead re - ceive;



the glo - ries of my God and king, the tri - umphs of his grace!
to spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of your name.
sings mu - sic in the sin - ner's ears, brings life and health and peace.
the mourn - ful, bro - ken hearts re - joice, the hum - ble poor be - lieve.



5 Look unto him, your Savior own,
O fallen human race!
Look and be saved through faith alone,
be justified by grace!

6 To God all glory, praise, and love
be now and ever giv'n
by saints below and saints above,
the church in earth and heav'n.

***APOSTLES' CREED**

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

C: 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: Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

A brief silence.

A: Holy Spirit, move among your church as a dove of peace. Inspire your faithful to love boldly. Bless St. Thomas peer support groups, the piecemakers, and our community soup suppers to be gatherings where belonging, love, and companionship thrive. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Grace the earth with your breath of peace. Where there is injury to your creation, restore and heal it. Enrich the soil in our St. Thomas Community Garden and Orchard, and in all neighborhood gardens. Wake the ground into a fertile bed of promise. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Blow through corridors of power as a wind of peace. Out of the depths of tyranny, conflict, and poverty, we cry to you. Where there is death and destruction, weep with us. Soften the hearts of those who wage violence. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Rise upon the weary as a dawn of peace. For all who wait through long nights of diagnosis, depression, or loneliness, be the morning light they long for. We pray for all who are hospitalized, homebound, and in need, especially Scott, Helen, Bob, David, Gloria, John, Leslie, Lynn, Dallis, Doug, Yvonne, Kent, and Mark. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Flow through our community as a river of peace. Guide our Council and committee members with harmony, wisdom, and fresh ideas. Sustain our pastors, musicians, choir, and church staff as they prepare for Holy Week. Make our assembly an instrument of your love. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Receive our beloved dead into your embrace of peace. Turn the sadness of our loss into the certain hope of resurrection. Where we grieve in the depths, sustain us with the joy of your redemption. Hear us, O God.

A: Your mercy is great.

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

C: Amen.

*SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ 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.*



*An offering is collected as a grateful response for all of God's gifts. Gifts support St. Thomas's mission of living, sharing, and celebrating God's grace with all people. A portion of our offerings support Lutheran Campus Ministries at IU/Rose House and many local, national, and international ministry partners. **You may place gifts in the offering plate as it reaches you or give on our website, stlconline.org (the QR code above on the right will direct you).***



Use the QR code on the left to add your volunteer hours to our 5000-hour challenge.

8:30 a.m. only
ORGAN OFFERTORY
Matthew Benkert

11 a.m. only
CHOIR ANTHEM

Open My Eyes

K. Lee Scott

*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.

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Let us pray. God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

+ MEAL +

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

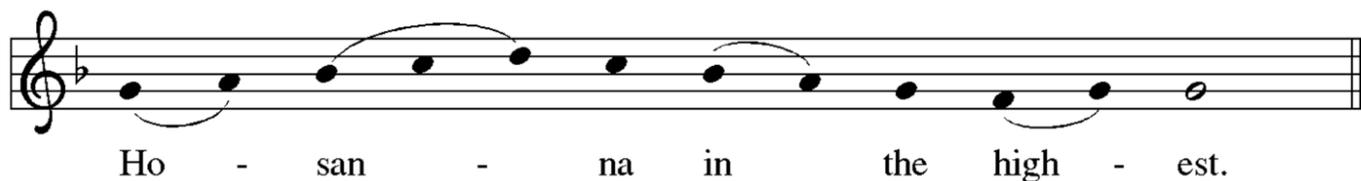
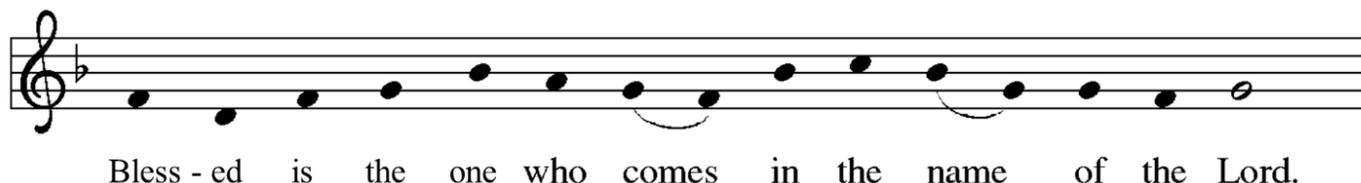
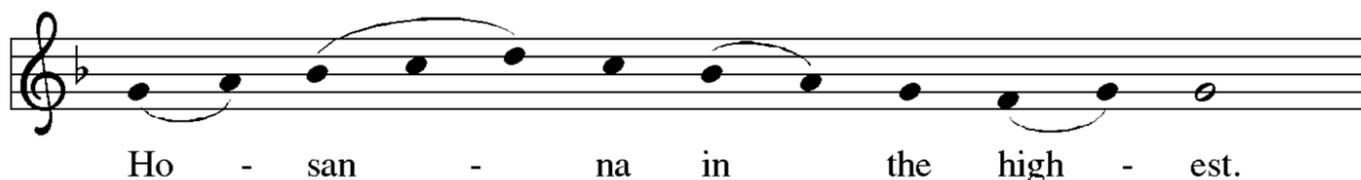
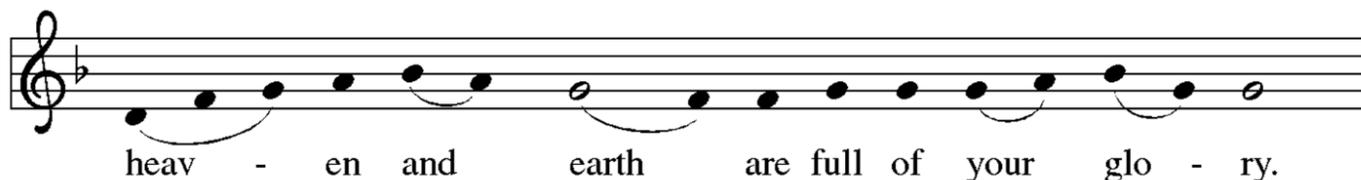
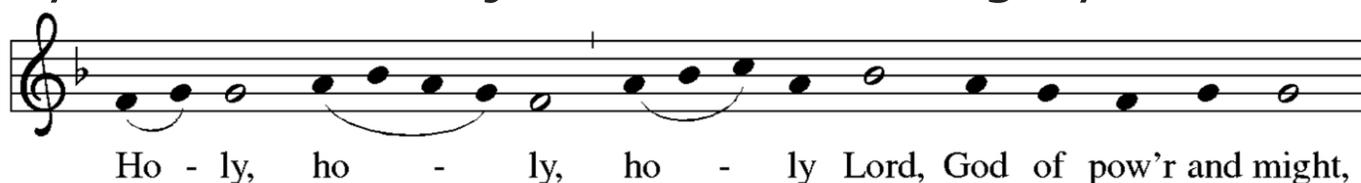
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: '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.', and 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.' The music consists of quarter and eighth notes with various rests and phrasing slurs.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to 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:



*EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: Blessed are you, O God of the universe.
Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness
endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the
earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from
the waters of the flood. Praise to you for
bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.
Praise to you for leading your people through
the wilderness to the land of milk and honey.
Praise to you for the words and deeds of
Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the
death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you
for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

P: 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.

P: With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

P: O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

C: Amen.

***LORD'S PRAYER**

Speak this prayer in your preferred language. The pastor will continue when all versions are complete. Mvskoke, the language of the Muscogee Creek Nation, is provided on the next page.

**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.**

Pu'rke hvlwe liketskat,
ce hocefkvt vcakekvs.
Cem ohmekketvt vlvkekvs.
Mimv hvlwe nake kometske
momat etvpomet yvmv
ekvnnv oh momekvs.
Nettv vrahkv tvkliken
mucv-nettvn pu'mvs.
Momet pum ahuervn es pum
wikvs, vhuericeyat es em
wikakeyat, etvpomen.
Nake pu naorkepuece taye
eskerretv `sep oh ahyetskvs;
momis holwakat a sepu'ssicvs.
Ohmekketvt, yekcetvt, momen
racketvt cenake emunkvt omekv.
Emen.

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Come to the table. Feast on God's
goodness and mercy.

*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 an usher, and receive bread or
gluten-free wafer and wine in a common
chalice or pink wine and red grape juice in
individual cups. If you wish to receive a
blessing, cross your arms over your chest.*

AGNUS DEI

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 HYMNS

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

ELW#773



1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
2 When my way grows . . drear, pre-cious Lord, lin - ger near,
3 When the dark - ness ap - pears and the night draws . . near,



I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
when my life is . . . al - most . . gone,
and the day is . . . past and . . . gone,



Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light.
hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall.
at the riv - er I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand.



Take my hand, pre-cious Lord, lead me home.

Text: Thomas A. Dorsey, 1899-1993
Music: George N. Allen, 1812-1877, adapt. Thomas A. Dorsey
Text and music © 1938, 1966 Unichappell Music Inc., admin. Hal Leonard Corp.

PRECIOUS LORD
Irregular

Christ, the Life of All the Living

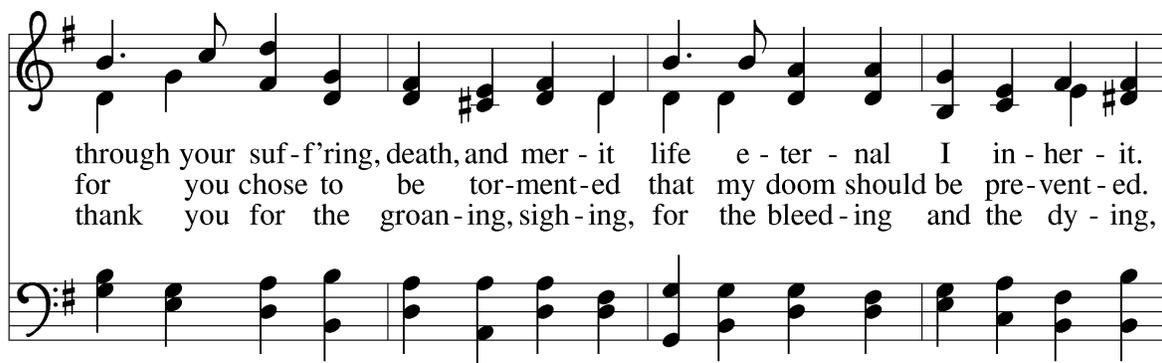
ELW#339



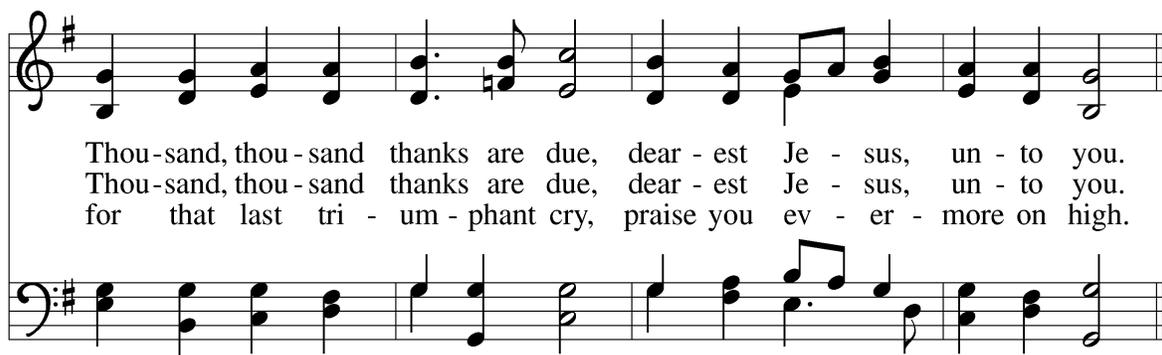
1 Christ, the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the death of death, our foe,
2 You have suf - fered great af - flic - tion and have borne it pa - tient - ly,
3 Then, for all that bought my par - don, for the sor - rows deep and sore,



Christ, your - self for me once giv - ing to the dark - est depths of woe:
e - ven death by cru - ci - fix - ion, ful - ly to a - tone for me;
for the an - guish in the gar - den, I will thank you ev - er - more;



through your suf - f'ring, death, and mer - it life e - ter - nal I in - her - it.
for you chose to be tor - ment - ed that my doom should be pre - vent - ed.
thank you for the groan - ing, sigh - ing, for the bleed - ing and the dy - ing,



Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you.
Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you.
for that last tri - um - phant cry, praise you ev - er - more on high.

***EUCCHARISTIC BLESSING**

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

C: Amen.

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

A: Let us pray. God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

+ SENDING +

***BENEDICTION**

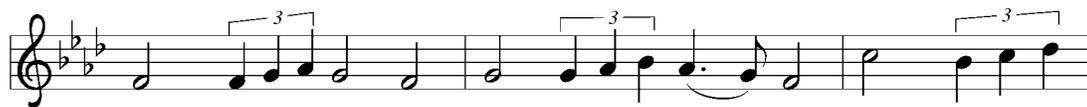
P: The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make you complete in everything good so that you may do God's will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in God's sight; through Jesus Christ †, to whom be the glory forever and ever.

C: Amen.

*SENDING HYMN

Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow

ELW#327



1 Through the night of doubt and sor - row, on - ward
2 One the light of God's own pres - ence on the
3 One the strain that lips of thou - sands lift as
4 On - ward, there - fore, sis - ters, broth - ers; on - ward,



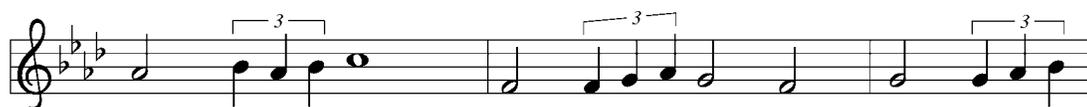
goes the pil - grim band, sing - ing songs of ex - pec -
ran - somed peo - ple shed, chas - ing far the gloom and
from the heart of one; one the con - flict, one the
with the cross our aid. Bear its shame, and fight its



ta - tion, march - ing to the prom - ised land. Clear be -
ter - ror, bright - 'ning all the path we tread. One the
per - il, one the march in God be - gun. One the
bat - tle till we rest be - neath its shade. Soon shall



fore us through the dark - ness gleams and burns the
ob - ject of our jour - ney, one the faith which
glad - ness of re - joic - ing on the far e -
come the great a - wak - 'ning; soon the rend - ing



guid - ing light; pil - grim clasps the hand of
nev - er tires, one the ear - nest look - ing
ter - nal shore, where the one al - might - y
of the tomb! Then the scat - t'ring of all



pil - grim step - ping fear - less through the night.
for - ward, one the hope our God in - spires.
Fa - ther reigns in love for - ev - er - more.
shad - ows, and the end of toil and gloom.

*DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Believe the good news.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

*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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Today's readings are selected from the Revised Common Lectionary. The texts for the scripture readings are from the *New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition*, emendations are provided by the pastoral staff of St. Thomas in consultation with emendations provided for Augsburg Fortress by Gordon Lathrop and Gail Ramshaw.

The Prayer of the Day is emended from Revised Common Lectionary Prayers © 2002 Consultation on Common Texts admin. Augsburg Fortress. Used with permission.

At A Glance: This Week at St. Thomas

Sunday March 22

8:30 a.m. Worship/Livestream Worship
11 a.m. Worship

Monday March 23

1 p.m. Pastor's Bible Study
7:30 p.m. Outreach Committee Meeting

Wednesday March 25

6 p.m. Soup Supper
7 p.m. Lenten Midweek Service

Thursday March 26

5:30 p.m. Brown Bag Dinner
7 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal

Saturday March 28

10 a.m. Property Committee Work Day

Sunday March 29

8:30 a.m. Worship/Livestream Worship
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
9:45 a.m. Adult Forum
11 a.m. Worship
12 p.m. Easter Basket Assembly

Next Steps

Looking for a way to get involved at STLC? Try this next step:

Crucifer

Lead the worship leaders into and out of worship on festival days, carrying the cross or banners. Processions add a celebratory tone of the day and help direct the congregation's focus during worship. This role is best for teenagers and adults who can carry heavy objects.

Contact the church office if you are interested in this next step. parishadmin@stlconline.org

The Easter Bunny Needs Helpers!

The Mission Committee at St. Thomas Lutheran and the Outreach Committee at Trinity Episcopal Church are working together to provide Easter baskets for 100 children whose families have experienced homelessness or housing instability. Throughout Lent there will be a collection box in the narthex for small new items like toys, coloring books, card games, and stuffed bunnies to fill the baskets. We will gather for an all-ages basket assembly project in the afternoon **Next Sunday, March 29!**

Annual Program Meeting

The Annual Program Meeting of St. Thomas Evangelical Lutheran Church will be **Sunday, April 19 following the 11 a.m. worship service. Bring a dish to share at the potluck meal** to celebrate our ministry, which will be followed by a brief business meeting. The agenda will include the election of council members. If you are interested in serving on Council or the Nomination Committee, please speak with one of the pastors or a current member of council.

Community Soup Suppers during Lent

On **Wednesdays** during Lent, share a simple supper of soup and bread at **6 p.m.** These suppers will be free and open to anyone who could use a warm meal and friendly company. After the supper, anyone can choose to attend Holden Evening Prayer at 7 p.m. Sign up on the Welcome Desk to set up, clean up, or to bring soup, bread, or dessert.

Lenten Midweek Services

On Wednesdays in the seasons of Lent, gather in the evenings in prayer and song. Poems and scripture readings on prayer and being instruments of God's peace will anchor Holden Evening Prayer. **Worship begins at 7 p.m. in Heritage Hall.**

Easter Breakfast—HELP NEEDED

Celebrate Easter with a free **Easter breakfast in Community Hall between services on Sunday, April 5.** Enjoy fellowship, share good food, and strengthen friendships. Bring your family and friends to this special event so we can celebrate together. **Sign up on the poster in the Narthex** to bring egg casseroles, coffee cake, fruit, or drinks and to help with preparing, serving, and cleaning up. Long-term, this ministry needs a champion. If hospitality or volunteer organization is among your spiritual gifts, please contact Pr. Adrienne.

Order Easter Lilies to decorate our Worship Space

You are invited to purchase a lily for adding beauty to the sanctuary on Easter Sunday (April 5). Lilies will be available to take home following the 11 a.m. worship service, or in the days following Easter. 15 lilies are available for purchase at a cost of \$15 each. Please sign up at the Welcome Desk.

Pie with the Pastors

Have you been wondering about the next step at St. Thomas? Join us **Sunday, April 12 at 4 p.m. in Community Hall for Pie with the Pastors**—a relaxed gathering with *actual pie* and good conversation. Pastor Adrienne and Pastor Lecia will share about next steps, including membership, and hear your stories, questions, and hopes. Whether you're ready to join or still exploring, all are welcome. The ministries of this church are for everyone—but becoming a member is a way to help shape where we're headed, together.

Prayers for those with health and safety concerns

Scott O'Reilly, Helen Kane, Bob Osborn, David Ellies, Gloria Hitchcock, John Kinzer, Leslie Main, Lynn Weddle, Dallis Fox-Nagal, Doug Bauder, Yvonne Leber, Kent Unger, and Mark Wilkes.

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.

Today's Worship Leaders

Altar Care: Barb Unger, Nancy Nye

Coffee Crew: Kathleen Boggess, Vicki Polansky

Prayer Writer: Mary Thomason-Smith

A/V Tech: Johnathan Frank

8:30 a.m. Service

Assisting Minister: Karlyn Grise

Lectors: April Armstrong, Ian Bensberg

Ushers: Spencer Anspach, Susan Kinzer

Communion Steward: Carol Seaman

Greeters: Mary Sasse, David Ellies

Council Coordinator: Carol Seaman

11 a.m. Service

Assisting Minister: Debbie Witt

Lectors: Mike Witt, Jennifer Garl

Acolyte: Julianna Drake

Ushers: Craig & Kathy McDonald

Communion Steward: Mary Thomason-Smith

Greeters: Randy & Nancy Nye

Council Coordinator: Justin Rust

ST. THOMAS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

3800 East Third Street
Bloomington, Indiana 47401
Office Hours 9 a.m.- 4:30 p.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
**Lutheran Campus Ministry
at Indiana University**
Rev. Amanda Ghaffarian,
Campus Pastor
lutheran@iu.edu
Phone: (812) 333-2474
lcmiu.org

Rev. Adrienne Meier
Senior Pastor
pastor@stlconline.org

Rev. Lecia Beck
Pastor of Youth and Christian Nurture
christiannurture@stlconline.org

Erica Whichello
Parish Administrator
parishadmin@stlconline.org

Matthew Benkert
Director of Music and Organist
directorofmusic@stlconline.org

Ben Wegner
Adult Choir Director
choir@stlconline.org

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!**