Fourth Sunday in Lent March 15, 2026 9:00am Service

GATHERING

PRELUDE Andante by J. Barat; Henry Miller, trombone, Pr. Sarah piano

WELCOME

- Welcome to worship! Welcome to those who are here in person, and all those joining us via our Live Stream, and Listen to Church.
- Thank you Dale Freberg for sharing the word with us this morning. Thank you to the OSL Choir for their gift of music.
- If you are joining us from home, I invite you to gather some bread and wine/juice so you can join us in celebrating Holy Communion this morning.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.
Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,
have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.
For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:
Gracious God,
have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.
For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:
Gracious God,
have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.
For failing to recognize your coming reign,
and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God,
have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.
For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition,
and for disdaining the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,
have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.
For disregarding voices from the margin,
and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world:
Gracious God,
have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.
For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent,
and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life:
Gracious God,
have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound.
Through faith, the free gift of God,
you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.
The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead
dwells in you,
pours God's love into your hearts,
and gives you life and peace.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN Be Thou My Vision 793:1-3

1 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
thou my best thought by day and by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

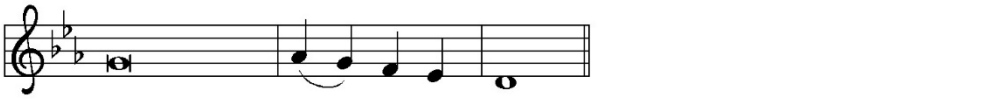
2 Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.
Thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tower,
raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.

3 Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou, and thou only, first in my heart,
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.

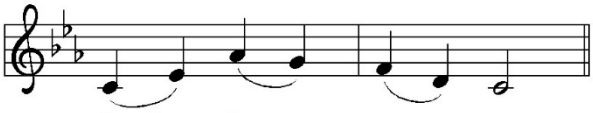
Text: Irish, 8th-10th cent.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880-1931; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860-1935, alt.

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

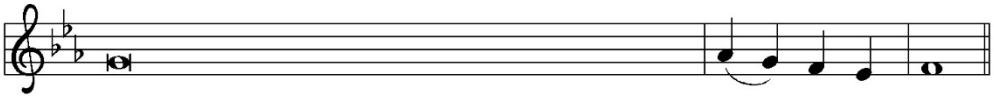
KYRIE



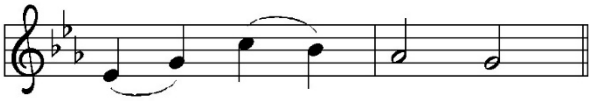
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



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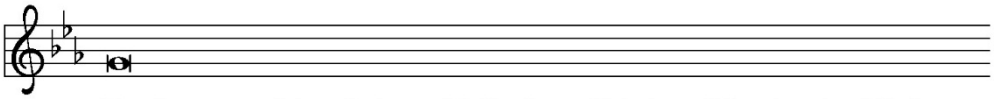
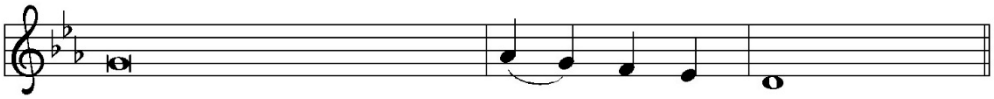
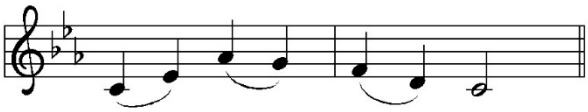


For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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



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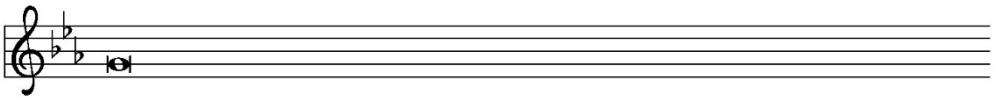
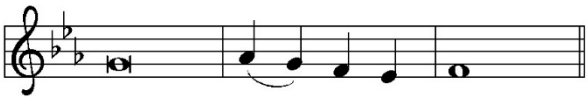
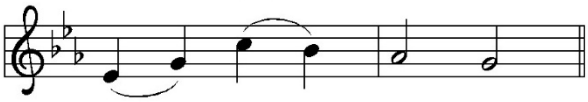


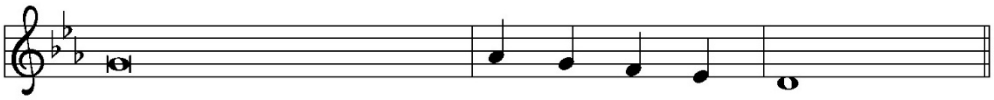
For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



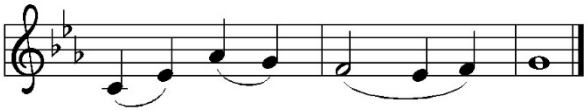
let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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



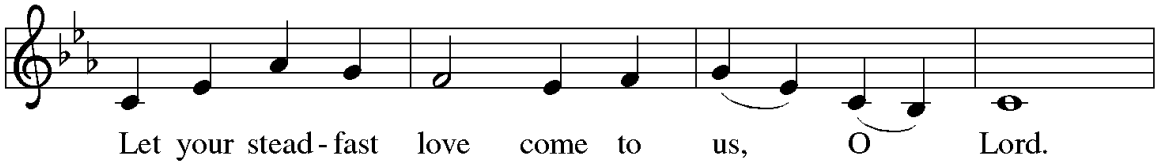
A - men, a - men.

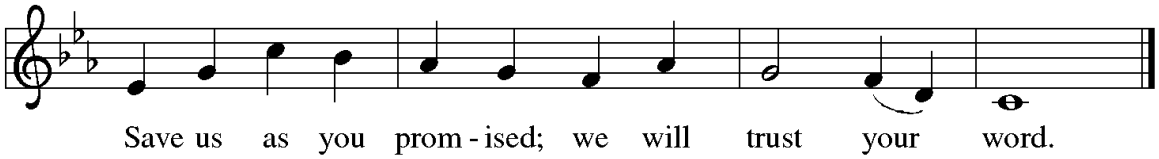
PRAYER OF THE DAY
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Bend your ears to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

LENTEN ACCLAMATION





GOSPEL **John 9:1-41 Readers Theater** *Need title slide only*

SERMON **Pastor Dale Freberg**

HYMN OF THE DAY **Open the Eyes of My Heart Lord** *(Worship Band song)*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *Reader*
Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

A brief silence.

God, our shepherd, we pray that you guide the church. Lead Christians in our community and across the globe in right paths for your name's sake, we pray especially for our partner congregations of Peace Lutheran and Christ Lutheran and our companion synod of Malawi. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

God our provider, we cry out for this planet and the life it holds. Rescue endangered animals and plants, preserve threatened ecosystems, and save creatures from natural disasters. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

God our sovereign, we plead for your peace on earth. Bring an end to war and violence, and raise up leaders in governments, courts, businesses, schools, and community organizations who seek goodness and mercy. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

God our healer, we call to you in our need. Uplift all who are made to feel unimportant, and transform the hearts of all infected by bigotry and prejudice. Care for all in special need this day, *especially* Jed

Madsen, Blake Behrens, Rich Moen, Bill Miller, Teresa Kraft, Jan Krueger, and Erica Peterson. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

God our friend, we praise you for the diversity of people among us. Awaken us to share and receive the gifts we each possess, and stir up a spirit of understanding, celebration, and welcome for all. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God our home, we thank you for all who have died and completed their baptismal journeys, *especially* Johnny Foster. Grant us faith to live until we too dwell in your house forever. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

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

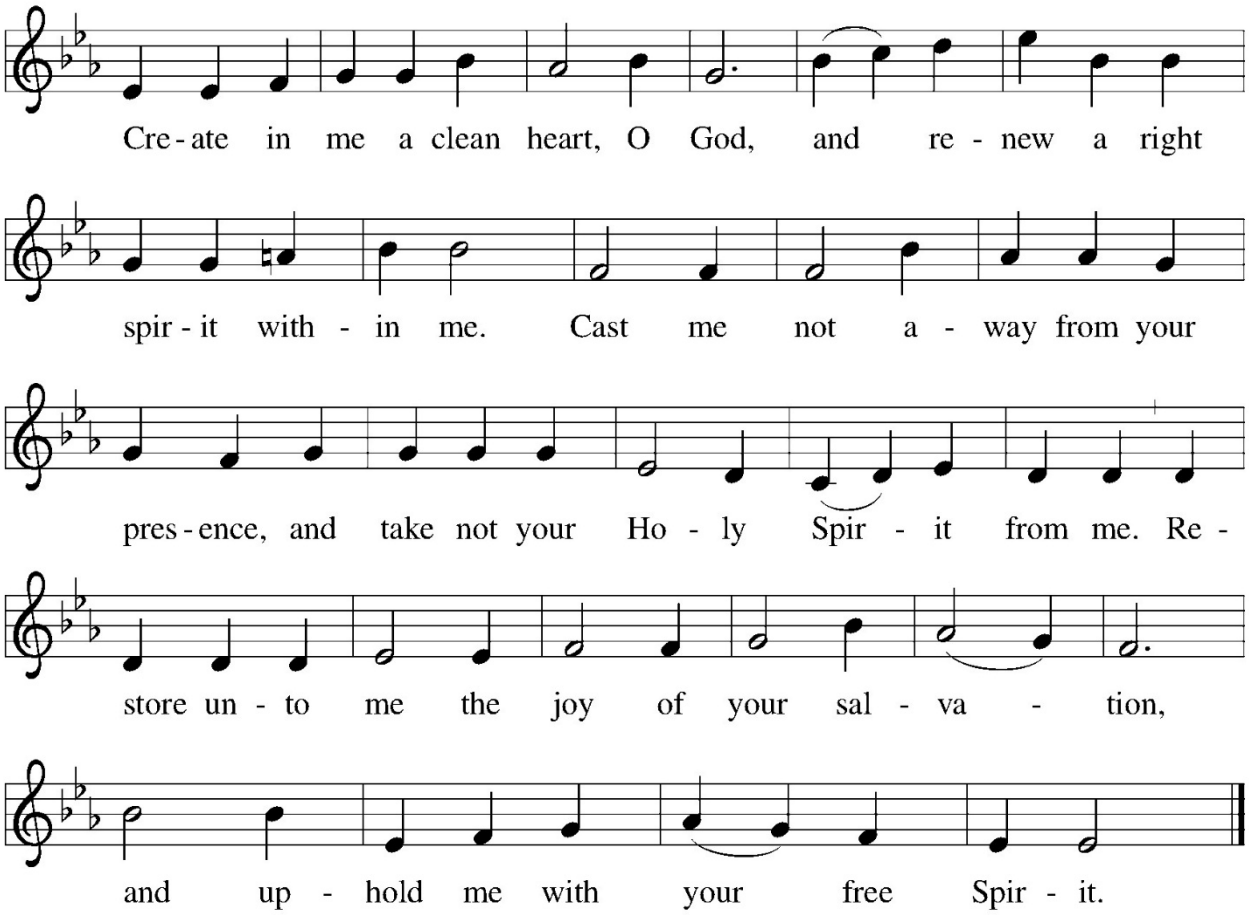
SHARING OF THE PEACE
The Peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

BRIEFING THE MINISTERS

MEAL

OFFERING Amazing Grace – OSL Choir ???

OFFERTORY Create in Me 188

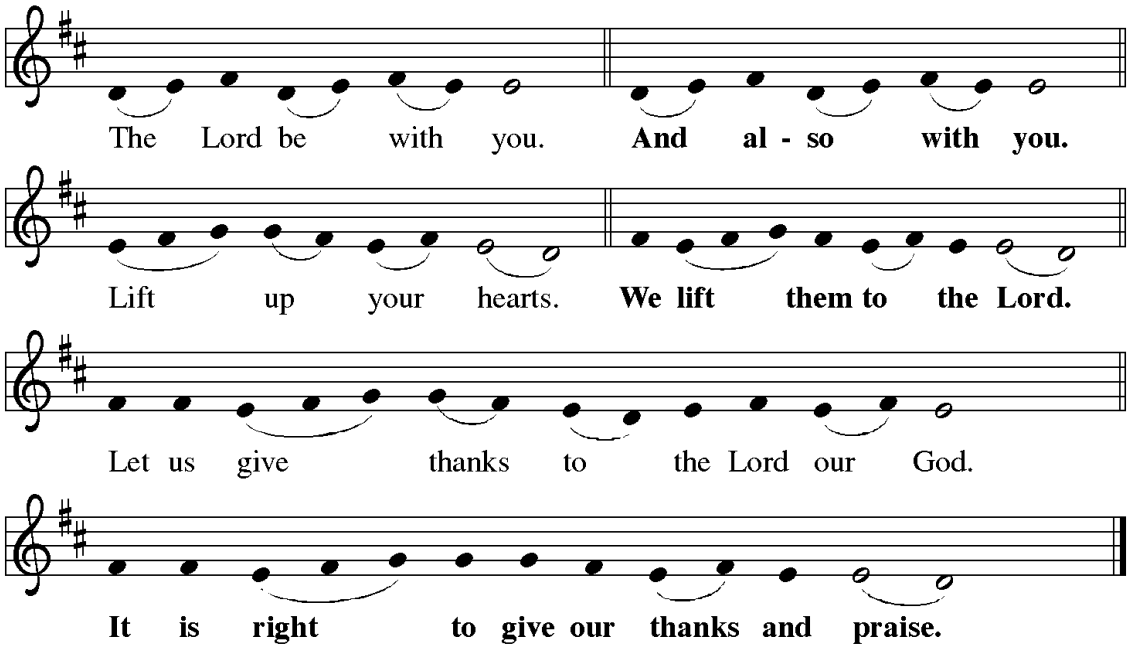


Music: J. A. Freylinghausen, 1670–1739

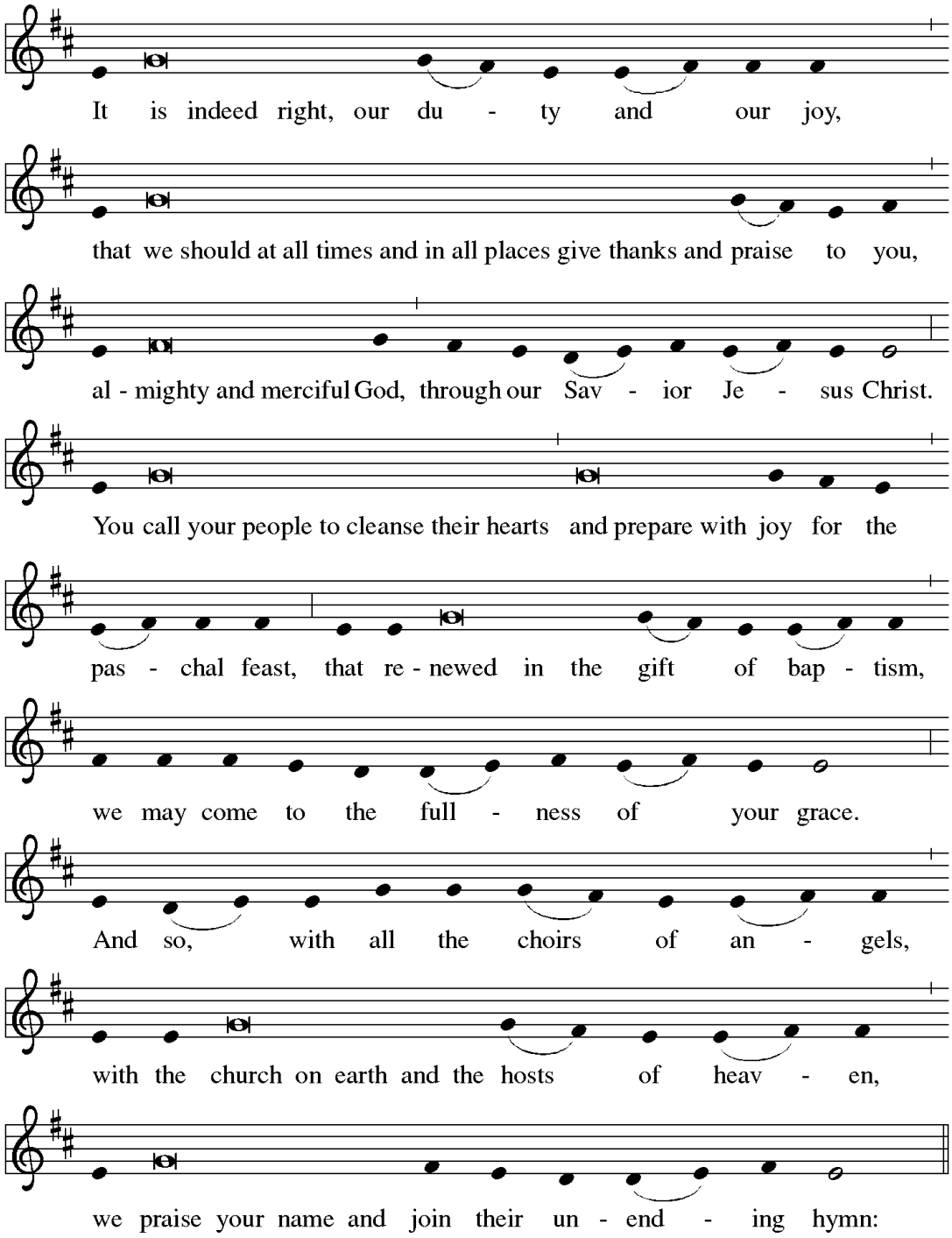
OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray, O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING



PROPER PREFACE



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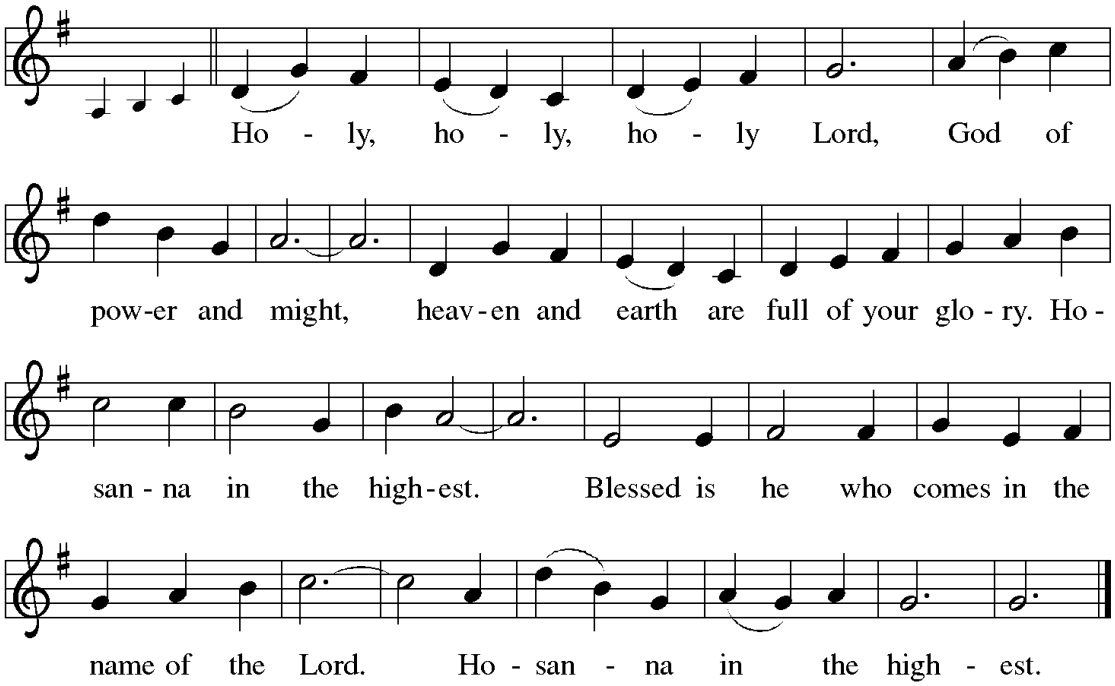
HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, you have brought us this far along the way. In the fullness of time you sent your chosen servant tp preach the good news to the afflicted, to break bread with the outcasts and the despised, and to ransom those in bondage to prejudice and sin.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

With your holy ones of all times and places, we praise you O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. Amen.

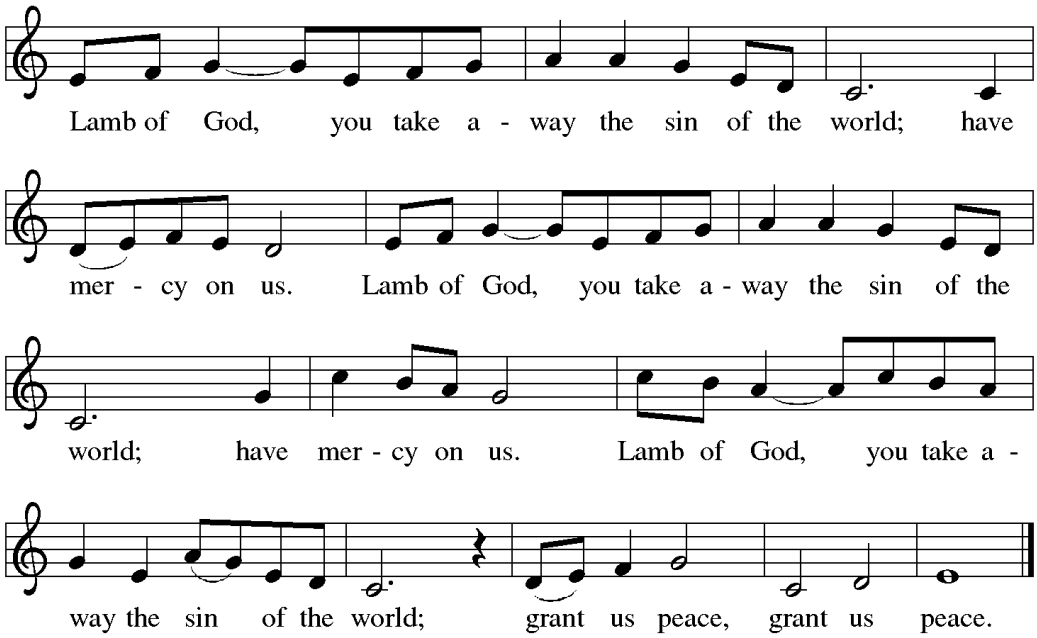
LORD'S PRAYER

Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Lamb of God



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Shepherd Me, O God 780

Refrain

Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants,
beyond my fears, from death into life.

1 God is my shepherd, so nothing shall I want,
I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love,
I walk by the quiet waters of peace. *Refrain*

2 Gently you raise me and heal my weary soul,
you lead me by pathways of righteousness and truth,
my spirit shall sing the music of your name.
Refrain

3 Though I should wander the valley of death,
I fear no evil, for you are at my side,
your rod and your staff, my comfort and my hope. *Refrain*

4 You have set me a banquet of love
in the face of hatred,
crowning me with love beyond my pow'r to hold. *Refrain*

5 Surely your kindness and mercy follow me
all the days of my life;

I will dwell in the house of my God
forevermore. *Refrain*

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950, based on Psalm 23
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When I Survey the Wondrous Cross 803

1 When I survey the wondrous cross
on which the prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss
and pour contempt on all my pride.

2 Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
save in the death of Christ, my God;
all the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.

3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

4 Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

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. **Amen.**

SENDING

BENEDICTION

Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity:
God, who calls all things into existence,
Jesus Christ, who redeems us,
and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation,
☩ bless you now and always.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN In the Cross of Christ I Glory 324:1-3

1 In the cross of Christ I glory,
tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time.
All the light of sacred story
gathers round its head sublime.

2 When the woes of life o'ertake me,
hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
never shall the cross forsake me;
lo, it glows with peace and joy.

3 When the sun of bliss is beaming
light and love upon my way,
from the cross the radiance streaming
adds more luster to the day.

Text: John Bowring, 1792-1872

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Believe the good news.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE **Allegro by J. Barat; Henry Miller, trombone, Pr. Sarah piano**

Fourth Sunday in Lent March 15, 2026 9:00am Service

PRAYER CONCERNS

Jed Madsen, Blake Behrens, Rich Moen (Becky Behren's father), Bill Miller (Glen Miller's brother), Teresa Kraft (Laila Davis' daughter), Jan Krueger (Dan Krueger's mother), Erica Peterson (Granddaughter of Cheryl Merrill)

IN SUPPORT

Elijah Stuart, in Air Force basic training

Patrick & Jacqueline Bencke, missionaries in Japan

Kasungu Central, Our Malawi Sister Parish

IN SYMPATHY

To the family of Johnny Foster (Brittany Cisneros' brother) on his recent passing.

No Sunday School on the following dates: *
March 22—Spring Break
March 29—Palm Sunday
April 5—Easter Sunday

New Member Class If you are interested in becoming a member of OSL, join us **Sunday, April 19th**, in the conference room following worship for a new member class and a chance to learn more about OSL. Then join us in worship on **Sunday, April 26th**, as we formally welcome you to the congregation! If you are unable to attend on April 19th, but are still interested in joining, please contact the church office.

Easter Sanctuary Flowers- proceeds collected will support UW-Stout's Fostering Success program, which helps former foster youth build stability and move confidently into their future. Forms located in church office.

Funds collected this month in our Little church will go to support the **Menomonie area School Lunch Angel Fund.** The Angel Fund provides assistance to families struggling with meal debt. Every donation, no matter the size, goes directly to a family that needs assistance.

THIS WEEK AT OSL

Sunday, March 15	Worship, 9:00am Fellowship, 10:15am No Sunday School Visitation Ministry, 10:15am
Monday, March 16	Women in Action, 8:00am
Tuesday, March 17	
Wednesday, March 18	Writers group, 1:00pm Reading club, 1:00pm Lenten supper, 5:15pm Lenten Worship, 630pm No Confirmation or HS No Choir
Thursday, March 19	Quilting Queens, 9:00am Vibrant Voices, 1:00pm Bell rehearsal, 6:30pm
Friday, March 20	
Saturday, March 21	Menomonie Classical Music Concert, 2:00pm

*Thank you to **Henry Miller, Pastor Sarah Miller**, and the **OSL Choir** for sharing your gifts and enlivening our worship this morning!*

Thank you to those participating in our Reader's Theater this morning: **Becky Kneer, Katie Benson, Jeff Vick, Darla Sorenson, Chris Gutting, Jenna Kreaser, and Kris Lemke; and to Pr. Dale Freberg** for sharing God's word with us.

Palm Sunday Brunch Come and help prepare egg casseroles and prep the dining room on Saturday, March 28th 9-noon. Help is also needed for Palm Sunday morning to cook and set up for **Palm Sunday Brunch on Sunday, March 29th.** See the messenger for the link and/or QR code to sign up on-line or look for the sign-up sheets under the skylight on the bulletin board. See Denise with any questions.

Midweek Lenten schedule at OSL
Lenten Supper 5:15-6:00pm
Worship 6:30pm / With Holden Evening Prayer
March 18 - Linda Rundle

VIBRANT VOICES is looking for assistance with serving snacks on Thursdays through April 16 (with the exception of April 2nd). Serving time: 1-3pm. Please let the OSL office know if you are interested.

COUNCIL MEMBER ON DUTY
Jason Hausler

READER
Marge Kunkel

USHERS
Sue Russo
Gary Russo

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS
Barb Buntvedt
Susan Zavada
Marni Waznik

POWER POINT
Joel Seppa

SOUND SYSTEM
Dale Freberg

CAMERA
Vacant

ACOLYTES
Lucas Hausler

FINANCIAL UPDATE

	Mar - Feb	February
Income	$400,825.54	$36,786.15
Expenses	$337,548.82	$27,790.08
Over/short	**$63,276.72**	**$8,996.07**

By attending any service you give consent that your image and the image of all of the people in your group may be portrayed in the livestream and recording. We will not use your likeness in any other promotional material.

To support the work and ministry of OSL:

Give Online

- OR -

Use the QR code for giving

Connect with us on Social Media

Instagram

YouTube

OSL STAFF

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Merlyn Aude, Bell Choir Director

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OFFICE HOURS
9am—3pm, Mon thru Thurs

Listen to Church
715-430-2720
Dial in to listen **live** to our **9am** worship.