

SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH
SUNDAY WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION
MARCH 10, 2024

WELCOME & GREETING

CALL TO WORSHIP

Hear, O Israel!

Our God is one!

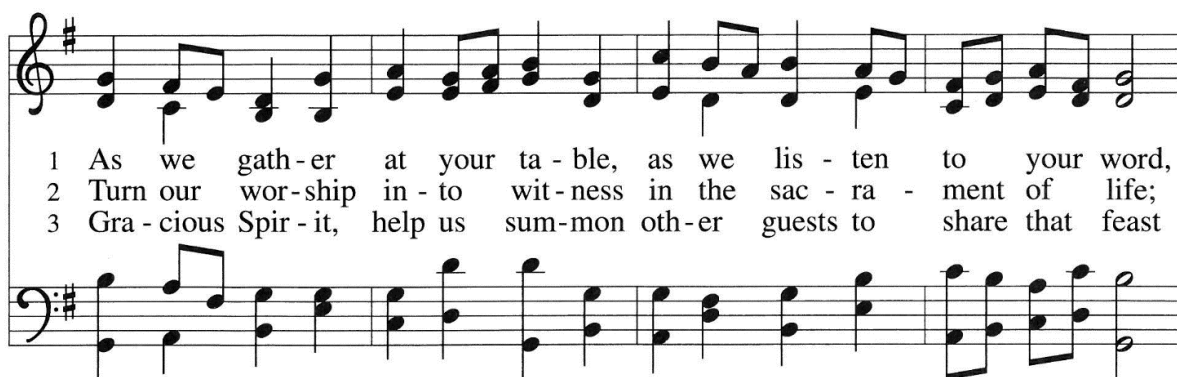
Love God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength.

We will love our neighbors as ourselves.

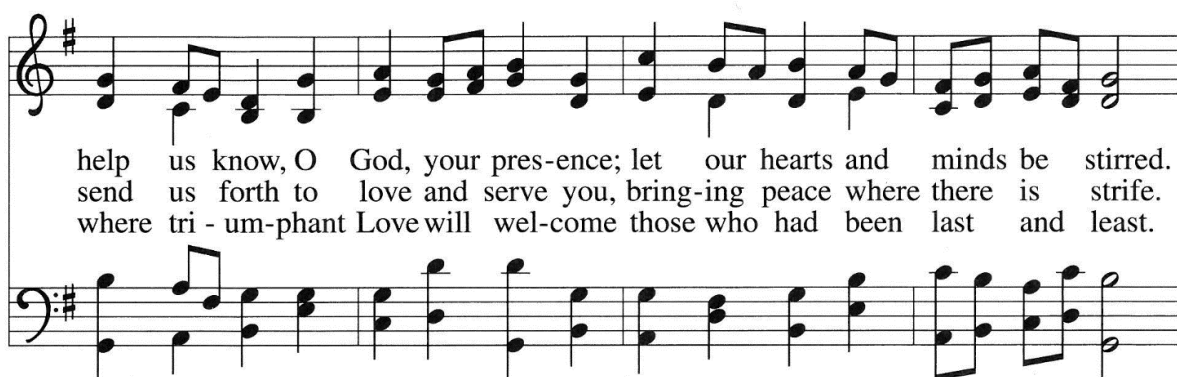
GATHERING HYMN | AS WE GATHER AT YOUR TABLE

ELW # 522





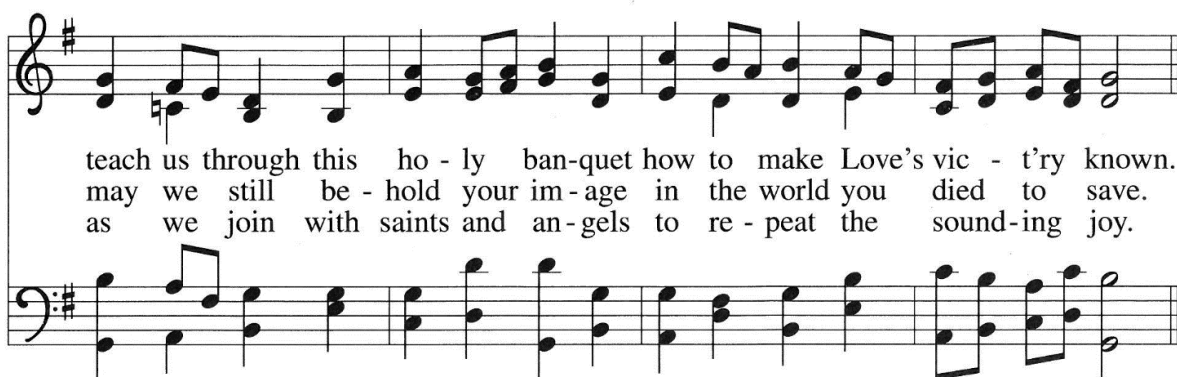
1 As we gath-er at your ta-ble, as we lis-ten to your word,
 2 Turn our wor-ship in-to wit-ness in the sac-ra-ment of life;
 3 Gra-cious Spir-it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
 send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.
 where tri-um-phant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.



Nour-ish us with sa-cred sto-ry till we claim it as our own;
 Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for-give as you for-gave;
 There no more will en-vy blind us nor will pride our peace de-stroy,



teach us through this ho-ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic-t'ry known.
 may we still be-hold your im-age in the world you died to save.
 as we join with saints and an-gels to re-peat the sound-ing joy.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

We confess our sins before God and one another.

Pause for silence and reflection.

God of Love, when we look inward and are honest with ourselves, we see where we have lived as though you are not our God. We have sought after our own gain rather than the good of all. We have not loved you or our neighbors as ourselves. We have betrayed and denied you in what we have done and not done. Create in us clean hearts, O God, that we might become what you have called us to be.

God, whose unfathomable love went to the cross for our sake, now forgives us all our sins and welcomes us all over again into the promise of eternal life in Christ's name. As a called and ordained minister in Christ's Church, and by his power, I declare to you that your sins are forgiven. Live into God's grace in peace and love. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God, you have taught us what it is to live in community with one another in sacrificial love. Give us hearts for service so that all might have their needs met, freeing your humanity to give back for the good of others and of all creation. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS: PSALM 89:1-4

- ¹ I will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord, forever;
with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.
- ² I declare that your steadfast love is established forever;
your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.
- ³ You said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one,
I have sworn to my servant David:
- ⁴ 'I will establish your descendants forever,
and build your throne for all generations.'"

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL: MARK 12:28-44

Lector: One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?" Jesus answered,

Pastor Janet: "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

Lector: Then the scribe said to him, "You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that 'he is one, and besides him there is no other'; and 'to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,' and 'to love one's neighbor as oneself,' — this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices."

Pastor Janet: When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” After that no one dared to ask him any question. While Jesus was teaching in the temple, he said, “How can the scribes say that the Messiah is the son of David? David himself, by the Holy Spirit, declared, ‘The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet.”’ David himself calls him Lord; so how can he be his son?” And the large crowd was listening to him with delight.

Lector: As he taught, he said, “Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! They devour widows’ houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.” He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them,

Pastor Janet: “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

This is the Gospel of our Lord.

Praise be to Christ.

SERMON

PASTOR JANET KETTERING

HYMN OF THE DAY | GREAT GOD, YOUR LOVE HAS CALLED US

ELW #358



Great God, Your Love Has Called Us

358



1 Great God, your love has called us here, as we, by love, for
 2 We come with self - in - flict - ed pains of bro - ken trust and
 3 Great God, in Christ you call our name and then re - ceive us
 4 Then take the towel, and break the bread, and hum - ble us, and
 5 Great God, in Christ you set us free your life to live, your

love were made. Your liv - ing like - ness still we bear,
 cho - sen wrong, half - free, half - bound by in - ner chains,
 as your own, not through some mer - it, right, or claim,
 call us friends. Suf - fer and serve till all are fed,
 joy to share. Give us your Spir - it's lib - er - ty

though marred, dis - hon - ored, dis - o - beyed. We come, with all our
 by so - cial forc - es swept a - long, by pow'rs and sys - tems
 but by your gra - cious love a - lone. We strain to glimpse your
 and show how grand - ly love in - tends to work till all cre -
 to turn from guilt and dull de - spair, and of - fer all that

heart and mind your call to hear, your love to find.
 close con - fined, yet seek - ing hope for hu - man - kind.
 mer - cy seat and find you kneel - ing at our feet.
 a - tion sings, to fill all worlds, to crown all things.
 faith can do while love is mak - ing all things new.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: Norman Cocker, 1889–1953

Text © 1977, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company

Music © Oxford University Press

RYBURN
888888

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Eternal God, you call us to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us, and your love supporting us. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL SHARING

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We are not alone; we live in God's world. We believe in God:

Who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: To celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

As we walk together through this season of contemplation and preparation, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

O God, your commandment to us is love. Keep us ever mindful that love is not a feeling but an action, the kind of action that allows your reign of justice and mercy to break into the world each day. God of the journey, **hear our prayer.**

Your charge to love our neighbors as ourselves includes every living thing in all your vast creation. Fill us with such love for animals and plants that we cannot help but strive for the preservation of the ecosystems in which they thrive. God of the journey, **hear our prayer.**

Guide leaders around the world to act in love for all people, rather than serving the interests of a few. Give them a spirit of cooperation, that all nations might work together for the flourishing of the whole world. God of the journey, **hear our prayer.**

Walk with all those whose lives are diminished by pain, that they might know your loving and healing presence, and find comfort, strength, and hope to endure, especially Lori and her family, Ed Johnson, Terry, Dave, and all we lift up through our Prayer Chain. God of the journey, **hear our prayer.**

Call to account those who keep up the appearance of piety while visiting injustice on others, especially when it is us. God of the journey, **hear our prayer.**

Strengthen us to care for those in need through the outreach ministries of our community. To all who have hunger, give daily bread. To all who have bread, give hunger for justice. Bring aid and support to those who are poor, beaten down, abused, forgotten, silenced, or avoided, especially those seeking help through the Community Infant Program, the Little Free Pantry, Rise Against Suicide, and the Boulder Shelter for the Homeless. God of the journey, **hear our prayer.**

Provide for the work of the Joshua School and organizations like them. Empower the staff and parents of children living on the Autism Spectrum. Nurture the minds, bodies and spirits of these children and adults, that they might reach their highest quality of life. God of the journey, **hear our prayer.**

Encourage and empower those impacted by war, tyranny, and gun violence. Still the sound of weapons. Teach us to seek security that comes from respect rather than violence. Strengthen and comfort the people of Ukraine, Russia, Israel, Palestine, Gaza, Sudan and all those throughout the world whose lives are impacted by violence. Remind us of what You require of us: That we do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with You. God of the journey, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful God, our help in every trouble, we pray for peace in the Holy Land. Protect those traumatized by ongoing violence, especially those with no access to safe spaces. Release people held hostage; provide food, water, fuel, and supplies for all in need; sustain medical personnel as they work in horrendous conditions; tend to those who are wounded; comfort all who grieve. Direct your people and its leaders into the way of peace. God of the journey, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We thank you for all the saints, from the first disciples to the present day, who modeled your great commandment for us. Inspire us to the same love of God and others each and every day. God of the journey, **hear our prayer.**

Confident that you walk alongside us in our need, we lift to you all our prayers, spoken and unspoken, through Jesus Christ our savior. **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you all. **And also with you.**

(Please share a sign of God's love and peace with each other.)

OFFERING/OFFERING PRAYER

With the poor widow, we bring to you our gifts and our tithes, trusting that you will provide us with all we need to flourish. Use these gifts in service to all that you have made, that all might be satisfied. Amen.

CELEBRATING COMMUNITY: SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION GREAT THANKSGIVING

The LORD be with you. **And also 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 GOD thanks and praise.**

It is right and good to give you thanks and praise, O God, because from the beginning, you invited us on a journey with you, a journey of wonders and miracles, a journey of healing and joy, a journey of mystery, a journey full of life and love.

Blessed is your son, O God, our savior Jesus Christ, who joined us on our journey, who was so full of grace and truth that we cannot help but follow him. When his path went back to you, you sent us your Spirit to continue alongside us, to empower and inspire us to continue to be your people. Now we pray that that same Spirit will be among us, and among these elements of bread and cup, that our ordinary meal will become our sacred feast, to nourish us for the next part of the journey.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

We come to this table, remembering that on the night in which he gave himself up for us, our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this in 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 in remembrance of me.

As we break bread together, as we drink from the same cup, unite us as people who are grateful for the journey, for each other's company, and for your guiding presence. Hear us as we are bold to say together the prayer that Jesus taught....

**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.**

Come and be fed at the table of life, where Jesus meets us in bread and wine and fills us with all good things, that we might love God with all our hearts, souls, minds, and strength, and our neighbors as ourselves.

SHARING THE MEAL

This is the body of Christ, broken in love for you.

This is the blood of Christ, poured out in forgiveness of you.

COMMUNION HYMN | BREAD OF LIFE FROM HEAVEN

ELW #474

Bread of Life from Heaven

474

Refrain

Bread of life from heav-en, your blood and bod - y giv - en,

we eat this bread and drink this cup un - til you come a - gain.

- | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------|-----|------|-------|------|----------|------------------|------------|
| 1 | Break | now | the | bread | of | Christ's | sac - ri - fice; | giv - ing |
| 2 | Seek | not | the | food | that | will | pass a - way; | set your |
| 3 | Love | as | the | one | who, | in | love for you, | gave him - |
| 4 | Dwell | in | the | one | who | now | dwells in you; | make your |
| 5 | Drink | of | this | cup | and | de - | clare his death; | eat this |

thanks, hun - gry ones,	gath - er round.	Eat, all of you, and be
hearts on the food	that en - dures.	Come, learn the true and the
self for the life	of the world.	Come to the one who is
home in the life -	giv - ing Word.	Know on - ly Christ, Ho - ly
bread and be - lieve	Eas - ter morn;	trust his re - turn and, with

Refrain

sat - is - fied;	in Christ's pres -	ence the loaves	will a - bound.
liv - ing way,	that the full -	ness of life	may be yours.
food for you,	that your hun -	ger and thirst	be no more.
One of God,	and be - lieve	in the truth	you have heard.
ev - 'ry breath,	praise the one	in whom you	are re - born.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O Jesus, our Beloved, we give you thanks for inviting us to your table and sharing your feast. May we know that we have been fed with love and grace, and may we follow you out into the world as ambassadors of your hope and peace. Amen.

CLOSING ANNOUNCEMENTS

LENTEN BENEDICTION

Whatever wilderness the Spirit has brought you to:

Walk in boldness, as a beloved child of God.

Walk in peace, under the shelter of the Most High.

Walk in faith, knowing Christ walks with you. Amen.

SENDING HYMN | BE THOU MY VISION

ELW #793

793

Be Thou My Vision



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,
Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,
thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
This is Christ's church. There is a place for you here.
We are the church that shares a living, daring confidence in God's grace.
Liberated by our faith, we embrace you as a whole person—
questions, complexities and all.
Join us as we do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world.

WORSHIP RESOURCES:

CALL TO WORSHIP — NARRATIVE LECTIONARY WORSHIP RESOURCES COPYRIGHT © 2024 CLERGY STUFF

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS — NARRATIVE LECTIONARY WORSHIP RESOURCES COPYRIGHT © 2024 CLERGY STUFF

PRAYER OF THE DAY — NARRATIVE LECTIONARY WORSHIP RESOURCES COPYRIGHT © 2024 CLERGY STUFF

SCRIPTURE READINGS — NEW REVISED STANDARD BIBLE, UPDATED EDITION

RESPONSE TO THE WORD — ERIC MILNER WHITE

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH — RE-WORSHIP, UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

GREAT THANKSGIVING — BETH MERRILL NEEL, 'HOLD FAST TO WHAT IS GOOD'. USED WITH PERMISSION, AS ADAPTED

OFFERING PRAYER — NARRATIVE LECTIONARY WORSHIP RESOURCES COPYRIGHT © 2024 CLERGY STUFF

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION — NARRATIVE LECTIONARY WORSHIP RESOURCES COPYRIGHT © 2024 CLERGY STUFF

LENTEN BENEDICTION — JOANNA HARADER, *SPACIOUS FAITH*

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS:

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: CAROLINE MICHALAK

ALTAR GUILD: GERRY & KEN MOORHEAD, LYNN TRUMBLE & KAY WERP

ASSISTING MINISTER: DICK WERP

COFFEE AND CONVERSATION: JOHN YARBERRY

PASTOR: REV. JANET KETTERING

PIANIST: CATHLEEN KELLERMAN

LECTOR: LYNN TRUMBLE

ZOOM TECHNICIAN: FUZZ NEWKIRK

SHEPHERD CALENDAR OF EVENTS: MARCH 10 – MARCH 17, 2024

Sunday, March 10th – Great Commandment

9:30 a.m. - Hybrid In-Person/Zoom Worship w/Holy Communion

Coffee & Conversation and Hybrid In-Person/Zoom “Why Church?”

Lenten Study immediately following worship

Wednesday, March 13th

11:00 a.m. - Amazing Grace Bible Study

6:30 p.m. - Zoom Only “Why Church?” Lenten Study

Friday, March 15th

7:00 a.m. - Men’s Zoom Breakfast Bible Study

5:00 p.m. - Friday Night Perspectives Gathering

Sunday, March 17th -End of the Age

9:30 a.m. - Hybrid In-Person/Zoom Worship w/Holy Communion

Coffee & Conversation and Hybrid In-Person/Zoom

“Why Church?” Lenten Study following worship

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

ED J. 3/1

EMILY T. 3/3

MICHELLE K. 3/5

T. SCHREIER 3/6

PASTOR JANET

3/21

LYNN T. 3/25

DICK W. 3/27

NINA S. 3/30

DAILY NARRATIVE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 10, 2024

Monday, March 11, 2024 – Psalm 89:1-4 Psalm

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/psalm-891-4-psalm2024a>

Tuesday, March 12, 2024 – Psalm 102:12-17 Psalm

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/psalm-10212-17-psalm2024>

Wednesday, March 13, 2024 – Psalm 121 Psalm

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/psalm-121-psalm2024b>

Thursday, March 14, 2024 – Psalm 116:12-19 Psalm

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/psalm-11612-19-psalm2024>

Friday, March 15, 2024 – Psalm 22:1-2, 14-21 Psalm

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/psalm-221-2-14-21-psalm2024>

Saturday, March 16, 2024 – Deuteronomy 6:1-9 The Great Commandment

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/deuteronomy-61-9-the-great-commandment2024>

Sunday, March 17, 2024 – Mark 13:1-8, 24-37 End of the Age

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/mark-131-8-24-37-end-of-the-age2024>