

**March 17, 2024**

**Welcome**

**Opening Hymn**

**908 Lord, Open Now My Heart to Hear**

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|--|--|
| 1 Lord, open now my heart to hear,<br>And through Your Word to me draw near;<br>Let me Your Word e'er pure retain;<br>Let me Your child and heir remain. | 2 Your Word inspires my heart within;<br>Your Word grants healing from my sin;<br>Your Word has pow'r to guide and bless;<br>Your Word brings peace and happiness. |
| 3 To God the Father, God the Son,<br>And God the Spirit, Three in One,<br>Shall glory, praise, and honor be<br>Now and throughout eternity.              |  |

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**Invocation and Confession of Sins**.....(pg. 151 Lutheran Service Book)

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.)

Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

Almighty God in his mercy has given his Son to die for you and for his sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of the Word I therefore announce the forgiveness of all our sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

**Kyrie**.....sung to: *Jesus Refuge of the Weary*

**For your peace and for salvation Lord have mercy, hear our pray'r.  
For the health of Church, world, nation, Lord have mercy, hear our pray'r.  
For all here who bend to render Hymns of worship, shouts of praise,  
Hear our pray'r, O great Defender; Unto you our voices raise.**

Let us pray: O Lord, Father of all mercy and God of all comfort, You always go before and follow after us. Grant that we may rejoice in Your gracious presence and continually be given to all good works; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## Old Testament

## Esther 8:1-10 (excerpts)

That same day King Xerxes gave Queen Esther the estate of Haman, the enemy of the Jews. And Mordecai came into the presence of the king, for Esther had told how he was related to her. The king took off his signet ring, which he had reclaimed from Haman, and presented it to Mordecai. And Esther appointed him over Haman's estate.

Esther again pleaded with the king, falling at his feet and weeping. She begged him to put an end to the evil plan of Haman which he had devised against the Jews. Then the king extended the gold scepter to Esther and she arose and stood before him.

"If it pleases the king," she said, "and if he regards me with favor and thinks it the right thing to do, and if he is pleased with me, let an order be written overruling the dispatches that Haman devised and wrote to destroy the Jews in all the king's provinces. For how can I bear to see disaster fall on my people? How can I bear to see the destruction of my family?"

King Xerxes replied to Queen Esther and to Mordecai, "Because Haman attacked the Jews, I have given his estate to Esther, and they have impaled him on the pole he set up. Now write another decree in the king's name in behalf of the Jews as seems best to you, and seal it with the king's signet ring—for no document written in the king's name and sealed with his ring can be revoked."

At once the royal secretaries were summoned. They wrote out all Mordecai's orders to the Jews, and to the satraps, governors and nobles of the 127 provinces stretching from India to Cush. These orders were written in the script of each province and the language of each people and also to the Jews in their own script and language. Mordecai wrote in the name of King Xerxes, sealed the dispatches with the king's signet ring, and sent them by mounted couriers, who rode fast horses especially bred for the king.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Epistle

## Philippians 2:12-13 (excerpts)

My dear friends... continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## The Gospel

## Matthew 28:20b

[Jesus said] "Remember, I am with you always, even to the end of the world."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Object Lesson

## Hymn of the Day

### 707 Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways

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|---|--|---|---|
| 1 | Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways<br>To keep His statutes still!<br>Oh, that my God would grant me grace<br>To know and do His will! | 3 | Assist my soul, too apt to stray,<br>A stricter watch to keep;<br>And should I e'er forget Thy way,<br>Restore Thy wand'ring sheep. |
| 2 | Order my footsteps by Thy Word<br>And make my heart sincere;<br>Let sin have no dominion, Lord,<br>But keep my conscience clear.         | 4 | Make me to walk in Thy commands—<br>'Tis a delightful road—<br>Nor let my head or heart or hands<br>Offend against my God.          |

## Sermon

### The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

### The Prayers

*[If you would like to send a card or call to someone for whom we prayed, please contact Pastor John.]*

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus  
**And for all people according to their needs.**

*(After each portion of the prayers:)*

Lord in your mercy.  
**Hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray:

### The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

### Our offerings help to support:

Kids Against Hunger

**Offertory** .....sung to: *O Sacred Head*

What language shall I borrow To thank You, dearest Friend.  
For all Your dying sorrow, Your pity without end?  
Oh, make me Yours forever; And should I fainting prove,  
Lord, let me never, never Outlive Your dying love!

**Preface:** .....sung to: *O Sacred Head*

The Lord is with His people;  
Now may He be with you.  
**The Lord is with His servants;  
May He be with you, too.**  
Now lift your hearts to praise him  
**To God we lift them high  
'Tis right to praise and thank Him  
Who to His world draws nigh.**

It is truly good, right, and salutary...evermore praising you and singing:

**Sanctus**.....sung to: *Dearest Jesus We are Here*

Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
Heav'n and earth proclaim the story  
Of Your majesty adored,  
Of Your kingdom, pow'r and glory.  
With hosannas now we meet You;  
With our palms and praises greet You.

Hail! Hosanna! Blest is He  
Who in God's own name draws near us!  
Hail! Hosanna! Blest are we  
Since we have God's love to cheer us:  
Blood outpoured and body broken,  
Of eternal love the token.

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth, for you have had mercy on us children of men and given your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for the redemption you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send your Holy Spirit into our hearts that he may establish in us a living faith and prepare us joyfully to remember our Redeemer and receive him who comes to us in his body and blood.

### **Jesus' Direction for Holy Communion**

#### **The Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**Agnus Dei**.....sung to: *O Sacred Head*

O Lamb of God, once lifted upon the cursed tree;  
O Lamb of God, once offered in sacrifice for me;  
O Lamb of God, my Savior in my place crucified;  
Your peace and mercy grant me. My Savior will provide.

### **Distribution Hymns**

#### **830 Spread the Reign of God the Lord**

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|---|---|---|--|
| 1 | Spread the reign of God the Lord,<br>Spoken, written, mighty Word;<br>Ev'rywhere His creatures call<br>To His heav'nly banquet hall.  | 4 | Tell of God the Spirit giv'n<br>Now to guide us on to heav'n,<br>Strong and holy, just and true,<br>Working both to will and do.           |
| 2 | Tell how God the Father's will<br>Made the world, upholds it still,<br>How His own dear Son He gave<br>Us from sin and death to save. | 5 | Enter, mighty Word, the field;<br>Ripe the promise of its yield.<br>But the reapers, oh, how few<br>For the work there is to do!           |
| 3 | Tell of our Redeemer's grace,<br>Who, to save our human race<br>And to pay rebellion's price,<br>Gave Himself as sacrifice.           | 6 | Lord of harvest, great and kind,<br>Rouse to action heart and mind;<br>Let the gath'ring nations all<br>See Your light and heed Your call. |

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## 694 Thee Will I Love, My Strength, My Tower

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|--|--|
| 1 Thee will I love, my strength, my tower;<br>Thee will I love, my hope, my joy.<br>Thee will I love with all my power,<br>With ardor time shall ne'er destroy.<br>Thee will I love, O Light divine,<br>So long as life is mine. | 3 I thank Thee, Jesus, Sun from heaven,<br>Whose radiance hath brought light to me;<br>I thank Thee, who hast richly given<br>All that could make me glad and free;<br>I thank Thee that my soul is healed<br>By what Thy lips revealed. |
| 2 Thee will I love, my life, my Savior,<br>Who art my best and truest friend.<br>Thee will I love and praise forever,<br>For never shall Thy kindness end.<br>Thee will I love with all my heart—<br>Thou my Redeemer art!       | 4 O keep me watchful, then, and humble;<br>Permit me nevermore to stray.<br>Uphold me when my feet would stumble,<br>And keep me on the narrow way.<br>Fill all my nature with Thy light,<br>O Radiance strong and bright!               |
| 5 Thee will I love, my crown of gladness;<br>Thee will I love, my God and Lord,<br>Amid the darkest depths of sadness,<br>And not for hope of high reward,<br>For Thine own sake, O Light divine,<br>So long as life is mine.    |  |

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The body and blood of our Lord strengthen and preserve you steadfast in the faith to life everlasting. Go in peace.

**Amen.**

**Thanksgiving**.....sung to: *Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain*

**Christ, himself for us abasing Gave his life upon the cross;  
Ever humble, all-effacing, For us counted all things loss;  
Unto death God's will obeyed, For our sakes a servant made.**

**Thus to glory God did raise him, Granted him the highest name,  
That all creatures now may praise him, Call him "Lord" and tell his fame.  
At the name of Jesus now Let all knees in worship bow.**

We give thanks to you, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through this good gift, and we implore you that of your mercy you would strengthen us through the same in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**Men's Chorus**

*"Steal Away to Jesus"*

**Benediction**

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

**Amen.**

## 527 O Savior, Precious Savior

1 O Savior, precious Savior,  
 Whom yet unseen we love;  
 O name of might and favor,  
 All other names above,  
 We worship Thee, we bless Thee,  
 To Thee, O Christ, we sing;  
 We praise Thee and confess Thee,  
 Our holy Lord and King.

4 O grant the consummation  
 Of this our song above  
 In endless adoration  
 And everlasting love;  
 Then shall we praise and bless Thee  
 Where perfect praises ring,  
 And evermore confess Thee,  
 Our Savior and our King!

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### Server Schedule

	3/17	3/24	3/28 MaundyThursday
	8:30	8:30	7:00 PM
Elder	Dan	Erik	
Reader	Dianna	Karen	Karen
PowerPoint	Gordon	Wanda	Wanda
Organ	Linda	Linda	Linda
Audio	Steve	Steve	Steve
Visuals	Edwin	Greg	Greg
	10:30	10:30	
Elder	Greg	Edwin	
Reader	Rosemary	Kathy	
PowerPoint	Cole	Cole	
Audio/Visuals	Erik/Emily	Hayden/Donovan	
Counters	John Di/Wayne	John Da/James	

Altar flowers this week are given by Dan and Amy Magyar in celebration of their son's birthday.

### Birthdays this Week

03/17 Vin Pierce  
 03/17 Crystal Dyer  
 03/18 Jim Durham  
 03/18 Shirley Bullinger  
 03/19 Judy Mohrman  
 03/22 Emily Dillman  
 03/23 Scott Meixel  
 03/23 Edwin Rehme  
 03/23 Joan Graham

### Anniversaries this Week

03/20 David & Julie Bruce  
 03/22 Edwin & Linda Rehme