



Fifth Sunday in Lent

Eucharist

Sunday, March 22, 2026, 10:30 a.m.

CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Exploring the promise of God for all

You are welcome. No exceptions.

Central Lutheran Church experiences God's expansive love and strives to share it abundantly. We affirm all people without regard to age, race, biological sex, housing status, ethnicity, sexual orientation, immigration, refugee or migration status, gender identity or expression, socioeconomic status, and physical or mental health or ability. All are a part of God's family, created in God's image.

We strive to practice radical hospitality with all people and work toward racial equity. Everyone is invited to immerse themselves in the life of this community of faith as we explore the promise of God for all.

Worship



Bold print indicates responses spoken by all.



Congregational hymns are found printed in this bulletin or in the red hymnal, Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW).



You are encouraged to listen to your body and stand or remain seated at any point in the service.



Masks are welcome, but not required.



Children are welcome and celebrated in worship. Each Sunday there are Children's Bags at each of the ushers' tables at the entrances to the sanctuary. Inside each bag is a worship activity and snack. Many families sit near the children's tables next to the baptismal font, but you are welcome to sit anywhere in the sanctuary that is comfortable to you.



All are welcome to receive communion at Central. At the ushers' invitation, you will proceed toward the altar where there are regular and gluten-free wafers served with wine or grape juice. Your server will offer bread and wine for all, including children. If you prefer to receive a blessing rather than communion, please let your server know.



Offering can be made online using the QR code in the bulletin or left in the offering plates just outside the sanctuary doors.

MEMBERS OF:

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America | www.elca.org

Align Minneapolis | www.alignmpls.org

ReconcilingWorks | www.reconcilingworks.org

MNIPL Climate Justice Congregation | www.mnipl.org



Welcome to worship at Central Lutheran Church. As you arrive for worship, you are invited to prepare your hearts and minds while listening to the prelude before the service begins today.



The Holy Spirit gathers us in unity on this first day of the week.

PRELUDE

“Offertoire”

Johannès Donjon

(At the sound of the bell, please stand and face the font.)

Gathering

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Remembering our baptism, we begin in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

“The Word of God Is Source and Seed”

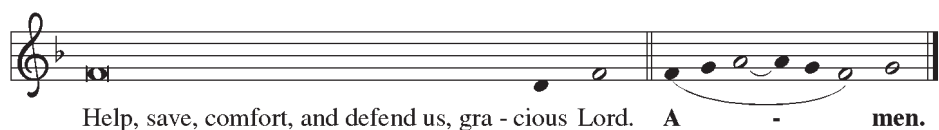
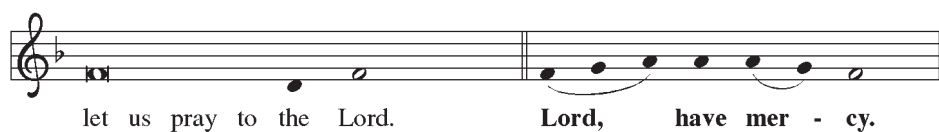
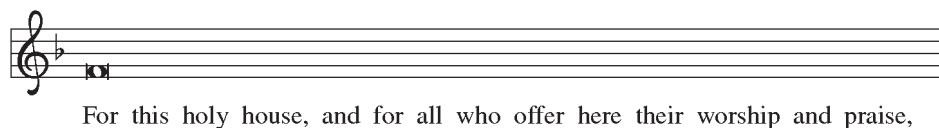
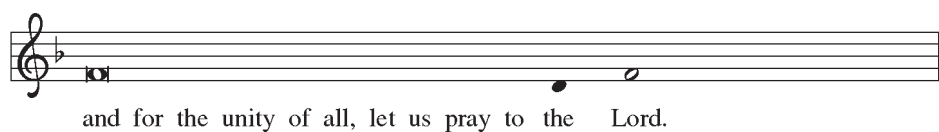
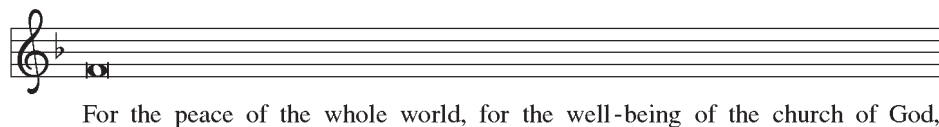
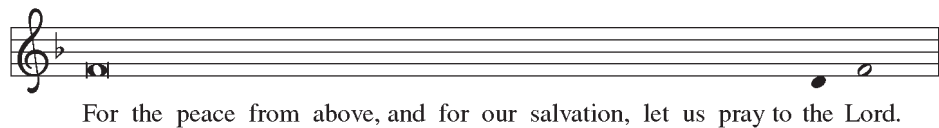
Hymn 506

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



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and so live in your ways of love all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

(Please be seated)



God speaks to us in
scripture reading,
preaching, and song.

Word

CHILDREN'S TIME

PSALM 130

Martin Luther,
arr. John Ferguson

Out of the depths I cry to you; O Savior, hear me calling.

Let your ears consider the voice of my supplication.

If you, Lord, were to note what is done amiss, who, Lord? Who could stand?

For there is forgiveness with you; therefore you shall be feared.

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits for the Lord, whose word is my hope.

(Please stand)

LENTEN ACCLAMATION



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and

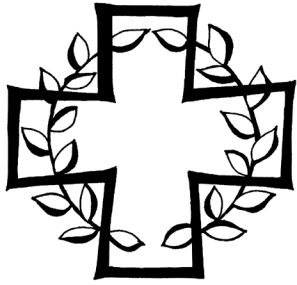


mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in



stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

(Please be seated)



The Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. ³ So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, “Lord, he whom you love is ill.” ⁴ 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.” ⁵ Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, ⁶ after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

⁷ Then after this he said to the disciples, “Let us go to Judea again.” ⁸ The disciples said to him, “Rabbi, the religious authorities were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?” ⁹ 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. ¹⁰ But those who walk at night stumble because the light is not in them.” ¹¹ After saying this, he told them, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.” ¹² The disciples said to him, “Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.” ¹³ Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. ¹⁴ Then Jesus told them plainly, “Lazarus is dead. ¹⁵ For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.” ¹⁶ Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.”

¹⁷ When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸ Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹ and many of the Judeans had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹ Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.” ²³ Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” ²⁴ Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” ²⁵ Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” ²⁷ She said to him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.”

²⁸ 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.” ²⁹ And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet come to the village but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹ 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. ³² 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.”³³ When Jesus saw her weeping and the Judeans who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved.³⁴ He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.”³⁵ Jesus began to weep.³⁶ So the Judeans said, “See how he loved him!”³⁷ But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

³⁸ Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it.³⁹ Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.”⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?”⁴¹ So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me.⁴² 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.”⁴³ When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!”⁴⁴ 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.”

⁴⁵ Many of the Judeans, therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did believed in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

(Please stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

Hymn 603

“God, When Human Bonds Are Broken”

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Merciful God, hear us as we seek your healing love for our lives, community and the world.

Each petition concludes:

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, who gives all the sustaining common elements of home. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

(Please be seated)

MUSICAL OFFERING

“My Song Is Love Unknown”

John Ireland,
arr. Cathy Moglebust



Scan to make a
financial offering.



God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Meal

(Please stand)

PRESENTATION HYMN

“Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery”

Stanzas 1 and Lent 5

1 Tree of Life and awe - some mys - t'ry, in your
 death we are re - born; though you die in all of
 his - t'ry, still you rise with ev - 'ry morn, still you
 rise with ev - 'ry morn.

Lent 5

God of all our fear and sorrow,
 God who lives beyond our death,
 hold us close through each tomorrow,
 love as near as every breath.

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 our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right...and join in their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
 san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

Creating, Healing and Sustaining God, you provide a home for all, built around common elements...All glory and honor is yours, O God, O Living One, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,
your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we
for - give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al
and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,
and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

(Please be seated)

All are invited to receive these gifts of God.

Children are welcome to come forward and receive communion or a blessing.

COMMUNION

“Lamb of God”

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

“Ave Verum Corpus”

William Byrd

*Sung in Latin:
Ave verum corpus,
natum de Maria Virgine,
vere passum, immolatum
in cruce pro homine
cuius latus perforatum
fluxit aqua et sanguine:
esto nobis praegustatum
in mortis examine.*

*O Iesu dulcis, O Iesu pie,
O Iesu, fili Mariae.
Miserere mei. Amen*

Translation:
Hail, true Body,
born of the Virgin Mary,
having truly suffered, sacrificed
on the cross for humanity,
from whose pierced side
water and blood flowed:
Be for us a sweet foretaste
in the trial of death!

O sweet Jesus, O holy Jesus,
O Jesus, son of Mary,
have mercy on me. Amen.

“There in God’s Garden”

K. Lee Scott,
arr. J. Wayne Kerr

(Please stand)

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**



*God blesses us and sends
us for shared mission in
our shared world.*

Sending

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
In the name of the Father, and of the Son, \dagger and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Hymn 666

“What Wondrous Love Is This”

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Sonata No. 2, Movement I. Lebhaft

Paul Hindemith

Serving Today

Pastor Peter Nycklemoe	<i>preacher</i>
Pastor Stephanie Friesen	<i>presider</i>
Pastor Melissa Pohlman	<i>hospitality</i>
Sam Friesen	<i>assisting</i>
Jack Friesen	<i>crucifer</i>
Britta Swedenborg	<i>flautist</i>
Central Choir	<i>ensembles</i>
Bell Choir	
Joe Osowski	<i>choir director</i>
Isaac Drewes	<i>organist/bell choir director</i>
Henry Rye	<i>organ scholar</i>
Mark Kieffer	<i>video/sound</i>
Payten Star	<i>hosts</i>
Karen Knox	

Thanks to:

Sacristans, Usher, Hospitality Ministry Teams.

Chancel flowers this week are given by the Central Lutheran Quilters in celebration of Carol Henderson's 90th birthday on March 27.

Also, Chancel flowers this week are given by Carol Rieger in loving memory of Randall Holm.

Portions of the liturgy are from SundaysandSeasons.com

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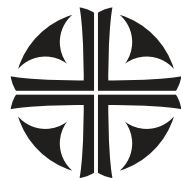
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Music: Marty Haugen

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Central Lutheran
MINNEAPOLIS

An Everyday Church for Everyone

Central Lutheran
333 South 12th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55404

(612) 870-4416 | info@centralmpls.org