

The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit

An ELCA, Reconciling in Christ, and Rejoicing Spirits congregation

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First Sunday in Lent
February 22, 2026
8:30 am and 10:45 am

The Holy Spirit Empowers Us for Ministry in Daily Life

Gathered by God's grace and empowered by the Holy Spirit,
we invite and welcome all people to join us on our journey
to become more faithful ministers of Jesus Christ
in our homes, our communities, and the world.

We welcome all who worship with us today.

Visitors are invited to sign the guest register located in the lobby.

If you are interested in joining our family of faith,
please talk with one of our Pastors or call the church office.

Children are welcome and celebrated!

The “Children’s Ministry” table and basket in the lobby
contains a variety of items for children’s use during worship.
Stop by to borrow a book or pick up some coloring sheets and crayons.

Please silence all communication devices.

Our services are live streamed and recorded. In-person attendance implies consent
to be included in the live streamed and recorded worship service.

HOLY COMMUNION

All who believe in the presence of Jesus Christ in Holy Communion are welcome to receive the Sacrament. To facilitate flow, the ushers invite people to come forward starting with the back rows and working forward. You should come forward using the center aisle to receive the elements in a continuous style from pastor and worship assistant. Afterward you may choose to kneel or stand at the altar rail for a brief moment of prayer or return to your seat up the side aisle, depositing your empty cup in the receptacle on your way. Gluten free wafers are available. Our wine is grape juice so that all may freely receive.

Children who do not commune may come forward for a blessing. Communion kits are available at the usher stands for those who prefer to remain in their seats, and they will be communed along with our Zoom worshippers at the beginning of distribution.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Gathering Music

Seed Scattered and Sown
Spirit of Praise (8:30)
Spirit Voices (10:45)

Fetton

Welcome and Announcements

Please rise in body or spirit.

Invitation to Worship

The good news is . . . so good it catches us by surprise.
God gathers us to hear that good news and to join together in worship.

Confession

You may have heard, "All is fair in love and war," or "An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth." But God says, "Forgive seventy times seven."
God says, "I am slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love."
God says, "Turn the other cheek." God's mercy catches us by surprise.
So with wonder and gratitude, let us go to God in prayer.
Let us be surprised by God's grace all over again.

Friends we pray together:

Loving God,

somewhere along the way we picked up the message that in order to be faithful, we have to be serious. We have to pray on our knees without ceasing. We have to be somber in worship and quiet in our studies. We have to check our wiggles and our questions at the door.

But then you say the kingdom of God is like a mustard seed—unruly and untamed. You turn water into wine - surprising and extravagant.

And all of a sudden, we wonder:

Can we be like that mustard seed?

Can we be faithful and unruly?

Can we be playful and curious?

Can we be messy and still be yours?

We know the answer already.

The Spirit whispers: of course, of course, of course.

Forgive our doubt. Pull us closer into your embrace.

With faith like a mustard seed, we pray.

Amen

God's grace is wild and unruly. God's mercy is abundant and surprising.

God's love is expansive and unending. So if you ask,

"Holy One, am I forgiven?"

The answer is and always will be: of course, of course, of course.

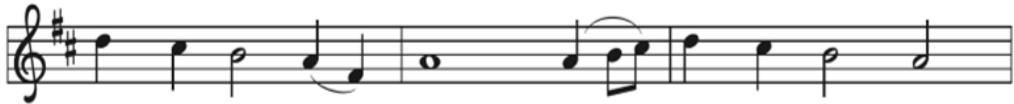
This is the good news of the gospel.

Thanks be to God!

Amen



1 The reign of God, like farm - er's field, bears
 2 The reign of God is like a pearl on
 3 Though hid - den now, the reign of God may,
 4 Like mus - tard tree, the reign of God from
 5 The reign of God is come in Christ; the



weeds a - long with wheat; the good and bad are
 bar - ren land con - cealed. If once you find that
 yet un - no - ticed, grow; from deep with - in it
 ti - ny seed will spread, till birds of ev - 'ry
 reign of God is near. A - blaze a - mong us,



in - ter - twined till har - vest is com - plete.
 pre - cious pearl, go out and buy that field.
 ris - es up, like yeast in swell - ing dough.
 feath - er come to nest, and there be fed.
 kin - dling hearts, the reign of God is here!

Greeting and Prayer of the Day

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.

We pray. Holy One,
it is easy to see the mustard plant and forget to marvel at the seed.
It is easy to taste good wine and not appreciate it. It is easy to miss the holy
that is in our midst. So as we turn to your text today, we pray, surprise us.
Speak to us. Move through us. Draw us closer to your good news.
We wait with bated breath.
Amen

The assembly is seated.

WORD

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

Psalm 36:5-10 (Read responsively)

Translation: NRSVue

A reading from the Book of Psalms.

Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens,
your faithfulness to the clouds.

**Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains;
your judgments are like the great deep;
you save humans and animals alike, O Lord.**

How precious is your steadfast love, O God!

All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

**They feast on the abundance of your house,
and you give them drink from the river of your delights.**

For with you is the fountain of life;
in your light we see light.

**O continue your steadfast love to those who know you
and your salvation to the upright of heart!**

Please rise in body or spirit to welcome the gospel.

A reading from John:

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to me and to you? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the person in charge of the banquet." So they took it. When the person in charge tasted the water that had become wine and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), that person called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee and revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him.

A reading from Matthew:

He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

This is the Good News!

Thanks be to God!

The assembly is seated.

Sermon

Pastor Cindy Camp

We rise in body or spirit.

Word in Song

In a Neat and Tidy Garden

(alternate tune: Beach Spring)

1. In a neat and tidy garden grows a secret tiny seed
there among the planted barley will emerge a shocking weed.
Growing quickly through the soil to break forth in vacant spot.
What a joy when I discover God has planted in my plot!
2. Green and tender leaves I harvest from the mustard growing wild
to enrich and spice my dishes that were until now too mild.
Unexpected and surprising, uncontrolled by human hand,
see the reign of God is growing, taking root throughout the land!
3. Other gardeners may struggle and pretend they have control
over land that God created but I'll tell you what I know:
I am not the Master Gardener, just a steward of this place.
God has seeded every acre with surprising, wild grace!

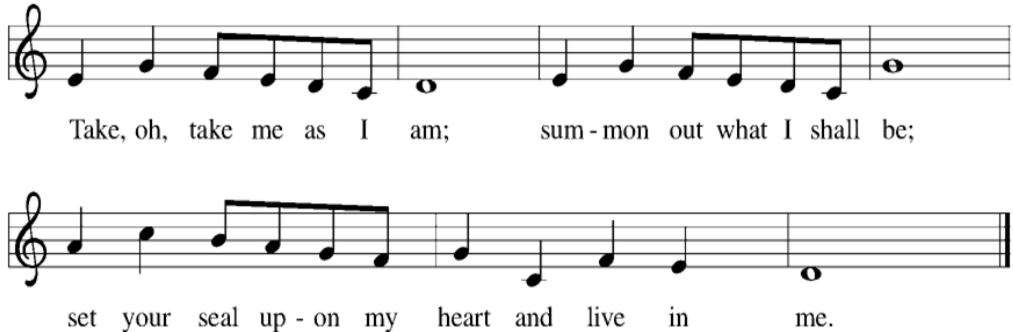
Affirmation of Faith

I believe in the good news of Jesus Christ.
It sounds like welcome and feels like home.
It sounds like laughter and feels like mercy.
It sounds like love and feels like a seat at the table,
so I believe in the good news of Jesus Christ.
I have seen it alive in the world.
And even when my heart aches, even when wars rage,
even when mercy feels out of reach,
I remember the one who welcomed the children
and led with nonviolence.
I remember the one who cared for the vulnerable
and inspired those around him.
I remember that the good news really is good news,
for I have seen it alive in the world.
Thanks be to God! Amen

Prayers of the People

Friends, as we gather in this space, let us seek a moment of peace and guidance. Let us find a posture of reverence as we enter into a time of prayer together.

Following the words, "Lord, hear our prayer," we sing:



Take, oh, take me as I am; sum - mon out what I shall be;
set your seal up - on my heart and live in me.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G-clef. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The notes are simple, with some beamed eighth notes and a final whole note.

Pastor's closing prayer.

We thank you, God, for your good, good news.

We lift our prayers to you certain of your peace and presence in our lives.

Amen

Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace by saying,
"Peace be with you."*

The assembly is seated.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

*During the Offering, the gifts will be brought forward. You may remain seated.
If you wish you may leave your offering in the additional offering plates located on the tables in the back of the sanctuary as you leave.*

8:30 Offering Song

What Have We to Offer

W&P 156

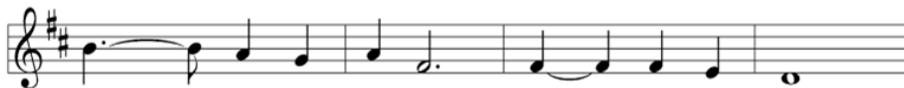
Verses 1, 2, 4



1 What have we to of - fer? What have we to share?
2 What have we to of - fer? What have we to bring?
3 What have we to of - fer? What have we to give?



Coins from the cof - fer, hearts filled with care.
Love, ripe with laugh - ter; hope that we can sing;
Eyes that are wide o - pen; lies that we won't live;



God will not fal - ter; so let us dare
dreams of what we're af - ter; prom - is - es of when.
truth that must be spo - ken; jus - tice some - how.



lay it at the al - tar there.
Lay it at the al - tar then.
Lay it at the al - tar now.



4 What have we to of - fer? What have we to



give? Lives we will live.

Offering Prayer

We pray.

We come before you today with grateful hearts,
remembering the celebration at Cana.

We thank you for the reminder that you are a God who joins us in our joys
and cares deeply about our needs, both great and small.

Just as the servants brought ordinary jars of water at your command,
we bring these tithes and offerings to you now.

On their own, our gifts may feel like "simple water,"
but we place them in your hands, trusting in your power to transform them.

Amen

We rise in body or spirit.

Great Thanksgiving

The good news of the gospel is:

**mana in the desert, water turned into wine, love after loss,
forgiveness after pain.**

The good news of the gospel is:

**release for the captive, hope for the hopeless,
mourning turned to dancing and strangers turned to friends.**

So come on in.

There's no time to waste!

This surprising good news is here for you.

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Until that promised day, when we will once again find ourselves dancing until our feet are sore and gathering around the table with our neighbors, we will pray the prayer your Son taught us to pray, saying:

**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**

Invitation to the Table

Pull up a seat at God's table.
There is good news to be shared here.

The assembly is seated.

Distribution of Communion



1 For by grace you have been saved and e - ven faith is not your
 2 "So my grace is all - suf - fi - cient for each child who is my
 3 So this weak - ness with con - tent - ment I'll ac - cept now in my -



own, it's the gift of God for you and not the works that you have
 own, for my strength is now made per - fect for each child who is my
 self, all my hard - ships, pains, and griefs that still lie deep with - in my -



done. Don't let an - y - bod - y boast, for this is
 own. When you're weak, then you are strong, for this is
 self. When I'm weak, then I am strong, for this is



God's great gift. A - men.
 God's great gift." A - men.
 God's great gift. A - men. A - men.



1 O God, whose word well-plant - ed yields fruit a hun - dred - fold,
 2 O God of seed and har - vest, of sun and soil and rain,
 3 O God, your fi - nal har - vest of his - t'ry's an - cient field



we praise your grac - es grant - ed to those who sowed of old,
 at - tend the word we sow, lest its plant - ing be in vain.
 will test with truth the proud - est that hu - man work can yield.



who by their wit - ness scat - tered good seed up - on the soil
 Send show - ers of your Spir - it, bright sun - shine of your grace,
 Op - pres - sion's blight will van - ish, fair free - dom's fruits in - crease;



where oth - ers, reap - ing, gath - ered the har - vest of their toil.
 that mul - ti - tudes who hear it your gos - pel may em - brace.
 and love and joy will flour - ish to clothe the earth with peace.

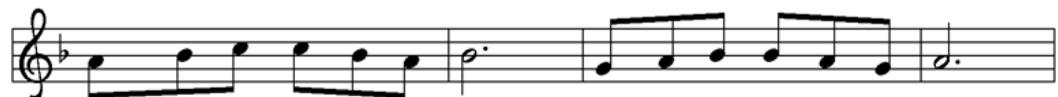
Refrain



Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show



us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.



1 Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their feet,
 2 Neigh-bors are wealth-y and poor, var - ied in col - or and race,
 3 These are the ones we will serve, these are the ones we will love;
 4 Kneel at the feet of our friends, si - lent - ly wash - ing their feet:

Refrain



mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.
 neigh-bors are near - by and far a - way.
 all these are neigh - bors to us and you.
 this is the way we will live with you.

We rise in body or spirit.

Prayer after Communion

We pray.

We thank you for the feast we have just shared at your table.

We come to you today mindful of the miracle at Cana,

where your Son revealed his glory through an act of unexpected generosity.

Lord, we offer you our "water": the ordinary, the plain, and the moments where we feel we have run dry. Just as you filled the stone jars to the brim, fill our hearts with the new wine of your Spirit.

Transform us: Take our simple bread and wine, our simple prayers and service, and turn them into something that brings joy and life to the world.

Open our eyes: Help us to see your presence everyday.

May we, like the servants at the feast, be ready to "do whatever he tells you," trusting that your timing and your gifts are always better than our own.

As we leave this table, let the taste of your goodness remain with us. May we go forth not in scarcity, but in the abundance of your grace, sharing the "best wine" of your love with everyone we meet.

Amen

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Installation of Congregation Council

The following persons have been called to serve as members of the Congregation Council for The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit:

Katie Bashus
Mike Berkheimer
Mark Binkley
Tom Bradley
Pastor Cindy Camp
Kyle David
Pastor Shari Duminy
Mike Epperly

Adam Fermier
Courtney Keiser
Bob Mueller
John Osenbach
Pastor Tami Reichley
Rob Sandoval
Hannah S.
Brenda Truhe

St. Paul writes: There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit gives them. There are different ways of serving, but the same Lord is served.

There are different abilities to perform service,
but the same God gives to everyone ability for particular service.
The Spirit's presence is shown in some way in each person for the good of all.

You have been called to positions of leadership and trust in this congregation.
On behalf of your siblings in Christ, I ask you:
Are you ready to accept and faithfully to carry out
the duties of the office to which you have been elected?

R: Yes, by the help of God.

People of God, will you support these leaders, and will you share in the mutual
ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized?

R: Yes, by the help of God.

I now declare you installed as members of the Congregation Council
of The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit.

God bless you with God's Holy Spirit,
that you may prove faithful servants of God.

Blessing

As you leave this place,
when you meet anger, **speak with love.**
When you meet fear, **speak with hope.**
When you meet pain, **speak with gentleness.**
But no matter what, **speak this good news.**
For the good news of the gospel is love and justice for all.
It is joy that surprises, and nonviolence that transforms.
The good news of the gospel is alive in the world, so go forth speaking.
Thanks be to God for this good, good news.

Amen



1 On what has now been sown your bless-ing Lord, be - stow; the
 2 To you our wants are known, from you are all our pow'rs; ac -
 3 Oh, grant that each of us, now met be - fore you here, may



pow'r is yours a - lone to make it sprout and grow. O Lord, in
 cept what is your own and par-don what is ours. Our prais - es,
 meet to - geth - er thus when you and yours ap - pear, and fol - low



grace the har - vest raise, and yours a - lone shall be the praise!
 Lord, and prayers re - ceive and to your word a bless - ing give.
 you to heav'n, our home. E'en so, A - men! Lord Je - sus, come!

Dismissal

The good news is . . . so good it catches us all by surprise.

Thanks be to God.

(10:45) Sending Music

Canzona

Young

Please join in supporting our church's ministries using your preferred method of giving:



- Enroll in our on-line giving program, Simply Giving (recommended);
- Mail your offering check to the church;
- Text your offering to 610-981-1312;
- Download our mobile app for recurring or one-time gifts;
- Establish automatic contributions to the church using your bank's bill pay service.

Additional information is located in the Stewardship section of the church's website at: lchsemmaus.org.

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WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor Shari Duminy, Senior Pastor
Pastor Tami K. Reichley, Associate Pastor
Pastor Cindy Camp, Associate Pastor
Deacon Melanie Werley, Director of Liturgy
Deacon Reylene Starego, Director of Music
Karin Kahler, Director Faith Formation for Children

WORSHIP HELPERS

Assisting Ministers

8:30 – Diane Evans
10:45 – Renee Wetherhold

Readers

8:30 – Linda Devine
10:45 – Laura Rothe

Communion Assistants

8:30 – Sue Mathieu, Leesa Wimmer
10:45 – Sheila Huff, Dianna Olszewski

Greeters

8:30 – Fran Derhammer
10:45 – Marian Harrison

Ushers

8:30 – Bill Derhammer
10:45 – Brenda Truhe

Production/Technology Team

Al Bauernschmidt, Chuck Coe, Lexi H., Max H., XJ H., Glenn Hinderliter, Jeff Gross,
Eric Kahler, Craig Kauffman, Bill Keane, Paige Mathieu, Tom Moessner, Bob Neitz,
Bill Newill, Kristen Newill, Carol Osenbach, John Osenbach, Chris Pirrotta, Ev Reggie,
Bob Stevens, and Jimmy Lee Werley

Altar Care

Cindy Clark, Bob Rice, Carolyn Rice, Lynn Snyder, Julie Timmcke,
Jennifer Wetzal, Deb Stevens, Kitti Berkheimer, Marian Harrison, Barb Roba,
Robbie Flynn, Carol Osenbach, Lynda Swartz, Donna Bhagat