

The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit

An ELCA, Reconciling in Christ, and Rejoicing Spirits congregation

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Third Sunday in Lent
March 8, 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

If I Had the Tiniest Faith

Sauerbrunn

8:30 - Vi Ballard, solo with members of Spirit Voices

10:45 - Spirit Voices with Vi Ballard, solo

Welcome and Announcements

Please rise in body or spirit.

Invitation to Worship

The good news is . . . together, the impossible is possible.

God gathers us to hear that good news and to join together in worship.

Confession

Friends, we are like the disciples.

The day that Jesus fed 5,000, his disciples could not imagine a solution to the crowd's hunger.

They told Jesus to send the crowds away.

We often do the same.

Like the disciples, we try to follow Jesus around, but when we run into issues, we often cannot imagine how we could play a part.

That is why we need the Prayer of Confession.

For in this prayer, we remember that we can make a difference.

So friends, join me in this moment of truth telling.
Join me in prayer.

Holy God,
with you the impossible is possible.
5,000 can be fed.
The blind can see.
The hopeless can find hope.
With you the impossible is possible,
but we are quick to forget that.

We look at our hurting world and tell ourselves that nothing can be done.
We forget that you empowered the disciples to feed the crowd.
We forget that you are always with us.

Forgive our small-minded ways.
Forgive us for doubting that change could ever come.
But even more so, forgive us when we refuse to be a part of it.
With hope for a better tomorrow we pray. Amen

Family of faith, no matter how many mistakes the disciples made,
Jesus still washed their feet. Jesus still fed them. Jesus still called them beloved.
The same is true for you and me, so hear and believe this good news:

today is a new day, and once again, we belong to God.
We are forgiven.
We are called. We are not alone.
What good, good news. Amen!



1 We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,
 2 We all are called for ser - vice, to wit-ness in God's name.
 3 Now let us be u - nit - ed, and let our song be heard.



our var-ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.
 Our min - is - tries are dif - f'rent; our pur - pose is the same:
 Now let us be a ves - sel for God's re - deem-ing Word.



A sin - gle great com - mis - sion com - pels us from a - bove
 to touch the lives of oth - ers with God's sur - pris-ing grace,
 We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,



to plan and work to - geth - er that all may know Christ's love.
 so ev - 'ry folk and na - tion may feel God's warm em - brace.
 our var-ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.

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 God,
we could press our ear to the page, hoping to hear you more clearly.
We could silence all the alarms and notifications,
hoping to catch a murmur of your voice.
We could still our beating hearts, and still we might miss your voice.
So today we pray, open up space in our hearts, in our spirits, in our minds,
to feel your presence among us. With you, anything is possible.
We believe. Help our unbelief. Amen

The assembly is seated.

WORD

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

Psalms 145:10-18 (read responsively)

Translation: NRSVue

A reading from the Book of Psalms.

All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord, and all your faithful shall bless you.

They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom and tell of your power,

to make known to all people your mighty deeds and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations.

The Lord is faithful in all his words and gracious in all his deeds.

The Lord upholds all who are falling and raises up all who are bowed down.

The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food in due season.

You open your hand, satisfying the desire of every living thing.

The Lord is just in all his ways and kind in all his doings.

The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

Reading: Ephesians 3:20-21

A reading from Ephesians.

Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

Please rise in body or spirit to welcome the gospel.

Gospel - Mark 6:32-44

The Good News from Mark, the 6th chapter.

Open our hearts, Lord.

And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd, and he began to teach them many things. When it grew late, his disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now very late; send them away so that they may go into the surrounding country and villages and buy something for themselves to eat." But he answered them, "You give them something to eat." They said to him, "Are we to go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread and give it to them to eat?" And he said to them, "How many loaves have you? Go and see." When they had found out, they said, "Five, and two fish." Then he ordered them to get all the people to sit down in groups on the green grass. So they sat down in groups of hundreds and of fifties. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke the loaves and gave them to his disciples to set before the people, and he divided the two fish among them all. And all ate and were filled, and they took up twelve baskets full of broken pieces and of the fish. Those who had eaten the loaves numbered five thousand men.

This is the Good News!

Thanks be to God!

We rise in body or spirit.

Word in Song

Human Minds Just Can't Imagine



Hu - man minds just can't i - ma - gine all that God can bring
 God, ex - pand our dreams and vi - sion when we think our gifts
 Like the grains of wheat are ga - thered from the vast and roll -



to bear Through our small and sep - arate be - ings, e - ven
 too small Help us trust your great pro - vis - ion and to
 - ing fields Like the grapes from vi - ny bran - ches whose small



when we join to share Still we fol - low where Christ leads us,
 an - swer when you call You who gave us time and ta - lents
 fruit the wine will yield We re - mem - ber as one bo - dy,



ma - ny pie - ces of one whole That we might al - low
 will up - hold and see us through As we join to - geth -
 each of us a cru - cial part In the glo - bal church



our dream - ing to trans - form our bro - ken world
 - er in the work you've gi - ven us to do
 pro - fess - ing: we be - long to God's own heart

Affirmation of Faith

We 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 we believe in the good news of Jesus Christ.
We have seen it alive in the world.
And even when our hearts ache, even when wars rage,
even when mercy feels out of reach,
we remember the one who welcomed the children
and led with nonviolence.
We remember the one who cared for the vulnerable
and inspired those around him.
We remember that the good news really is good news,
for we 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:

Sing 2 times.

Breathe on us, Breath of God; Breath of God, breathe on us.

The image shows a musical score for a prayer. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature has one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. The music is a simple, hymn-like melody with a steady rhythm.

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.

Verse 1



1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser-vice bore the weight of hu-man need,
 2 Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun-gry cry for bread;
 3 As we wor-ship, grant us vi-sion, till your love's re-veal-ing light
 4 Called by wor-ship to your ser-vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up-on the cross, for-sak-en, worked your mer-cy's per-fect deed:
 still the cap-tives long for free-dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
 in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up-on our quick-ened sight,
 to the child, the youth, the a-ged, love in liv-ing deeds to show;



we, your ser-vants, bring the wor-ship not of voice a-lone, but heart;
 As you, Lord, in deep com-pas-sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
 mak-ing known the needs and bur-dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear,
 hope and health, good-will and com-fort, coun-sel, aid, and peace we give,



con-se-crat-ing to your pur-pose ev-'ry gift which you im-part.
 by your Spir-it send your pow-er to our world to make it whole.
 stir-ring us to ar-dent ser-vice, your a-bun-dant life to share.
 that your ser-vants, Lord, in free-dom may your mer-cy know and live.

Offering Prayer

We pray.

We come before you today with hearts full of gratitude, acknowledging that everything we have is a gift from your hand. We stand on the promise of your Word: that you are able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to your power that is at work within us. Our own vision is often small, but your resources are infinite.

Amen

We rise in body or spirit.

Great Thanksgiving

If you need good news, settle into this space.

We have good news to share.

If you need a word of hope, then trust us when we say,
there is hope enough to go around.

If you need a glimmer of joy, then you're in luck!

We have resilient joy abounding.

If you need to feel God's presence in your midst,
know that this is God's house.

This is the good news of the gospel.

God is here. Love is real. Joy is on the move.

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

Communion Song

As the Winter Days Grow Longer

ACS 924



1 As the win - ter days grow long - er, draw - ing short the hours of night;
2 As the vines burst in - to blos - som, fra - grant in the morn - ing air,
3 As we jour - ney through this sea - son, pil - grims through a thirst - y land,



as our ea - ger ex - pec - ta - tion waits for Eas - ter's dawn - ing light—
lift - ing spir - its with their sweet - ness, lur - ing hearts to thank - ful prayer—
quench us with your liv - ing pres - ence; guide us with your lov - ing hand.



yearn - ing peo - ple, here we gath - er, turn - ing watch - ful eyes to you:
Lent - en peo - ple, here we gath - er, seek - ing lives re - fresh - ed from sin.
Wan - d'ring peo - ple, here we gath - er, called to rest a - long our way.



God who bless - es earth with spring - time, shine with - in our world a - new!
God who bless - es earth with spring - time, bloom with - in our hearts a - gain!
God who bless - es earth with spring - time, grant us sab - bath joy this day!



1 O God of mer - cy, God of light, in love and
 2 You sent your Son to die for all, that our lost
 3 Teach us the les - son Je - sus taught: to feel for
 4 For all are kin - dred, far and wide, since Je - sus



mer - cy in - fi - nite, teach us, as ev - er
 world might hear your call; oh, hear us lest we
 those his blood has bought, that ev - 'ry deed and
 Christ for all has died; grant us the will, and



in your sight, to live our lives in you.
 stray and fall! We rest our hope in you.
 word and thought may work a work for you.
 grace pro - vide, to love them all in you.

5 In sickness, sorrow, want, or care,
 may we each other's burdens share;
 may we, where help is needed, there
 give help as though to you.

6 And may your Holy Spirit move
 all those who live to live in love,
 till you receive in heav'n above
 all those who live in you.



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:
 2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,
 3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
 teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.
 gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!

Refrain



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

We rise in body or spirit.

Prayer after Communion

We pray.

We thank you for the gift of this table and for the nourishment of the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ. As we step away from this meal, our hearts are full, yet we know that what you have for us is even greater than what we can perceive.

We hold onto your promise today: that you are able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to your power that is at work within us.

We look to Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever!

Amen

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.

SENDING

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

Blessing

God bless us, and direct our days and our actions in peace,
living the good news.... together, the impossible is possible. **Amen**

Sending Song *Please see next page.*

Dismissal

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

Sending Music (10:45) If Thou But Trust in God to Guide Thee

Bach



1 Build us up, Lord, build us up; set in
 2 Build us up, Lord, build us up; let our



us a strong foun - da - tion. Lead us to do your
 lives re - flect your glo - ry. Cast a - way all our



ho - ly will; form and shape your new cre - a - tion.
 doubts and fears; help us tell the world your sto - ry.



Build us up, Lord, build us up; as we
 Build us up, Lord, build us up; help us



guide and teach each oth - er, help us to share your love with the
 bear good fruit for you, Lord, give us vi - sion and keep us



world: ev - 'ry sis - ter, ev - 'ry broth - er.
 sure. Grant us faith that's stead - fast and true.

Refrain



Grow - ing in Christ, we plant seeds for the king - dom; we fol - low in



faith what's be - gun! Lord, set in our hearts the pow'r of your



word to spread the news of your Son!

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



venmo

- 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 – Linda Devine
10:45 – Alice Mudge

Readers

8:30 – Diane Evans
10:45 – Deb Smith

Communion Assistants

8:30 – Sue Mathieu, Angie Niland
10:45 – Vi Ballard, Dianna Olszewski

Greeters

8:30 – Irv Keister
10:45 – Kitti Berkheimer

Ushers

8:30 – Angie Niland
10:45 – Mike Berkheimer

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

Donna Bhagat, Barb Roba, Julie Timmcke, Brenda Brookover, Linda Letts, Marian Harrison,
Terri Hinderliter, Nancy Shoemaker, Deb Stevens, Cindy Clark, Robert Rice, Carolyn Rice