



Fourth Sunday in Lent

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

OLNEY, MARYLAND

MARCH 15, 2026 | 10:30 AM

Holy Communion will be at the rail today.

Gluten Free Communion Wafers are available upon request.

Holy Communion is...

- † The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ received “in, with, and under” the bread and wine for God’s People. *Matthew 26:26, 28*
- † Coming to the table believing the words “given and shed FOR YOU.”
Preparation might involve three questions:
 - Do I believe in the Lord Jesus Christ? Am I sorry for my sins?
 - Am I ready to lead a new life?
- † God’s grace in “forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation.”
Matthew 26:28; 1 Peter 1:18-19; Romans 6:8-9; Romans 8:31-32



Memory Verse: Ephesians 2:4–5

“God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ — by grace you have been saved.”

Please turn off all electronic devices during our worship together, so that we can give glory to God without distraction.

Nursery: The room located at the back of the sanctuary (with windows into the sanctuary), has been set aside for children to be able to play comfortably during Worship. At this time, we ask a parent to remain with their child while using this space. There is a sound system located on the wall to the right after entering the room which allows you to listen to the service.

Please feel free to ask an Elder to assist you as needed.

Welcome

Prelude

Confession and Absolution

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

Exhortation

LSB 151

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

Confession of Sins

LSB 151

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** **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.**

Absolution

LSB 151

- P** 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 Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**



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, or man's emp - ty praise,
4. High King of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,



1. Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art:
2. I ev - er with Thee and Thou with me, Lord:
3. Thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
4. May I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun!



1. Thou my best thought, — by day or by night,
2. Thou my great Fa - ther, I Thy true son,
3. Thou and Thou on - ly, first in my heart,
4. Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



1. Wak - ing or sleep - ing, Thy pres - ence my light.
2. Thou in me dwell - ing, and I with Thee one.
3. High King of heav - en, my trea - sure Thou art.
4. Still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Text: 10 10 10 10; Ancient Irish; tr. by Mary E. Byrne, 1905; fr. Eleanor Hull's *Poem Book of the Gael*, 1912, alt.
 Music: Trad. Irish Melody; adapt. from *The Church Hymnary*, 1927.

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 27:4-6; antiphon: Psalm 25:15

My eyes are ever toward the LORD,
 for he will pluck my feet out of the net.

One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after:

that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple.

For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;

he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high upon a rock.

And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me,

**and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;
 I will sing and make melody to the LORD.
 Glory be to the Father and to the Son
 and to the Holy Spirit;
 as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

My eyes are ever toward the LORD,
 for he will pluck my feet out of the net.

Kyrie

The musical score for the Kyrie consists of three systems of music. Each system has two parts: 'Cantor' and 'All'. The music is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: 'Ky - ri - e, e - le - i - son. Lord, have mer - cy.' and 'Chri - ste, e - le - i - son. Christ, have mer - cy.' The first system is for the first line of lyrics, the second for the second line, and the third for the third line. The 'Cantor' part is a single melodic line, and the 'All' part is a similar melodic line. The lyrics are written below the notes, with dashed lines indicating the syllables under the notes.

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Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

¹⁴For a long time I have held my peace;
 I have kept still and restrained myself;
 now I will cry out like a woman in labor;
 I will gasp and pant.
¹⁵I will lay waste mountains and hills,
 and dry up all their vegetation;
 I will turn the rivers into islands,
 and dry up the pools.
¹⁶And I will lead the blind
 in a way that they do not know,
 in paths that they have not known
 I will guide them.
 I will turn the darkness before them into light,
 the rough places into level ground.
 These are the things I do,
 and I do not forsake them.
¹⁷They are turned back and utterly put to shame,
 who trust in carved idols,
 who say to metal images,
 “You are our gods.”
¹⁸Hear, you deaf,
 and look, you blind, that you may see!
¹⁹Who is blind but my servant,
 or deaf as my messenger whom I send?
 Who is blind as my dedicated one,
 or blind as the servant of the LORD?
²⁰He sees many things, but does not observe them;
 his ears are open, but he does not hear.
²¹The LORD was pleased, for his righteousness’ sake,
 to magnify his law and make it glorious.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 142

¹With my voice I cry out to the LORD;
 with my voice I plead for mercy to the LORD.
²**I pour out my complaint before him;
 I tell my trouble before him.**
³When my spirit faints within me,
 you know my way!
 In the path where I walk
 they have hidden a trap for me.

**⁴Look to the right and see:
there is none who takes notice of me;
no refuge remains to me;
no one cares for my soul.**

⁵I cry to you, O LORD;
I say, "You are my refuge,
my portion in the land of the living."

**⁶Attend to my cry,
for I am brought very low!
Deliver me from my persecutors,
for they are too strong for me!**

⁷Bring me out of prison,
that I may give thanks to your name!
The righteous will surround me,
for you will deal bountifully with me.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Epistle

Ephesians 5:8-14

⁸For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), ¹⁰and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. ¹³But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, ¹⁴for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

"Awake, O sleeper,
and arise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you."

A This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Turn your eyes up-on Je - sus, look full in his won-der-ful face; and the

things of earth will grow strange-ly dim in the light of his glo-ry and grace.

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Holy Gospel

John 9:1-7, 13-17, 34-39

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the ninth chapter.

G **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹As [Jesus] passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. ²And his disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³Jesus answered, “It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶Having said these things, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man’s eyes with the mud ⁷and said to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. . . .

¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, “He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see.” ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?” And there was a division among them. ¹⁷So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?” He said, “He is a prophet.” . . .

³⁴They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out.

³⁵Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" ³⁶He answered, "And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" ³⁷Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you." ³⁸He said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him. ³⁹Jesus said, "For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

LSB 849



1 Praise the One who breaks the dark - ness With a lib - er -
2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren With a strong, yet
3 Let us praise the Word In - car - nate, Christ, who suf - fered



at - ing light; Praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners,
gen - tle, word; Praise the One who drove out de - mons
in our place. Je - sus died and rose vic - to - rious



Turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight. Praise the One who preached the
With the pierc - ing, two - edged sword. Praise the One who brings cool
That we may know God by grace. Let us sing for joy and



Gos - pel, Heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease, Calm - ing
wa - ter To the des - ert's burn - ing sand; From this
glad - ness, See - ing what our God has done; Let us



storms, and feed - ing thou - sands With the ver - y Bread of peace.
Well comes liv - ing wa - ter, Quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
praise the true Re - deem - er, Praise the One who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, 1955
Tune: The Sacred Harp, 1844, Philadelphia
Text: © 1987 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002360
Tune: Public domain

Stand

Nicene Creed

**☩ I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and
the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life \dagger of the world to come. Amen.**

Sit

Offering

(For mobile giving, please see p. 20.)

- 1 Amazing grace—how sweet the sound—
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found,
Was blind but now I see!
- 2 The Lord has promised good to me,
His Word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.
- 3 Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come;
His grace has brought me safe thus far,
His grace will lead me home.
- 5 When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we'd first begun.

Text (sts. 1-3): John Newton, 1725-1807, alt.; (st. 5): A Collection of Sacred Ballads, 1790, Richmond
Text: Public domain

Stand

Offertory

Create in Me

LSB 956

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new
a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way
from Thy pres - ence; and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va - tion;
and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Text: Psalm 51:10-12
Tune: Johann Georg Winer, 1583-1651, adapt.
Text and tune: Public domain

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 160

- P** The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**
- P** Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Proper Preface (Full)

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho - ly Lord God of hosts. Heav'n and earth are
full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho-san-na in the high - est. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

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P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **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.**

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My † blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

Agnus Dei



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world, have mer - cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world, grant us peace.

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Sit

Distribution (*Continuous*)

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

Amen.

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.

Amen.

Distribution Hymn

Cross of Jesus



1. Come, O God, re - new your peo - ple, We who long to
 2. Deep with - in cre - ate a new heart; Melt a - way the
 3. In the dark - ness that sur - rounds us We have lost you
 4. Call us forth to walk in jus - tice. Res - cue us from



see your face. Strength - en hearts that have grown fee - ble;
 win - ter chill. Help us now to make a new start,
 from our sight. E - ven though your love has found us,
 sin and grave. Through the pow - er of your Spir - it,



Fill our lives with truth and grace. On - ly you can
 Help us now to know your will. Washed in wa - ters
 We em - brace the powers of night. Scat - ter now our
 Breathe in us the breath that saves. Strength - en us in



win our free - dom; On - ly you can bring us
 of for - giv - ness, Cleansed in wa - ters of new
 deep - est dark - ness. Guide our hearts in - to the
 our com - mun - ion, One in Word and cup and



peace. On - ly in the cross of Je - sus
 birth, Lead us to the cross of Je - sus,
 light. Join us to the cross of Je - sus.
 bread. Here with - in the cross of Je - sus,



Will the cap - tives find re - lease.
 Bring - ing life to all the earth.
 Help us set our liv - ing right.
 All who hun - ger will be fed.

Text: Francis Patrick O'Brien, b.1958
 Tune: Francis Patrick O'Brien, b.1958
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Stand

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

The Dismissal

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart † in peace.

C Amen.

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 258

Antiphon

L Guide us wak - ing, O Lord, and guard us sleep - ing
that a - wake we may watch with Christ and asleep we may rest in peace.

C Lord, now You let Your ser - vant go in peace; Your word has been ful - filled.
My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which You have prepared
in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: a light to reveal You to the na - tions
and the glory of Your peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the
Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for -

Antiphon

ev-er. A - men. Guide us wak - ing, O Lord,
 and guard us sleep - ing that a - wake we may
 watch with Christ and asleep we may rest in peace.

Post-Communion Collect

- A** Let us pray.
 We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary 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.
- C** **Amen.**

Benediction

LSB 166

- P** 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.
- C** **Amen.**



1 O Christ, your heart, com - pas - sion - ate, bore ev - 'ry hu - man pain.
 2 As once you wel - comed those cast down and healed the sick, the blind,
 3 O Christ, cre - ate new hearts in us that beat in time with yours,
 4 O Love that made the dis - tant stars, yet marks the spar - row's fall,



Its beat - ing was the pulse of God; its breadth, God's vast do - main.
 so may all bruised and bro - ken lives through us your help still find.
 that, joined by faith with your great heart, be - come love's o - pen doors.
 whose arms stretched wide up - on a cross em - brace and bear us all:



The heart of God, the heart of Christ com - bined in per - fect rhyme
 Lord, join our hearts with those who weep that none may weep a - lone,
 We are your bod - y, ris - en Christ; our hearts, our hands we yield
 come, make your church a ser - vant church that walks your ser - vant ways,



to write God's love in hu - man deeds, e - ter - ni - ty in time.
 and help us bear an - oth - er's pain as though it were our own.
 that through our life and min - is - try your love may be re - vealed.
 whose deeds of love rise up to you, a sac - ri - fice of praise!

Announcements

Dismissal

Postlude

Acknowledgments

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Midweek Lenten Services

The Exodus

Wednesday, March 18, 2026
Service 7:00 PM

Wednesday, March 25, 2026
Service 7:00 PM

Holy Week will begin on Sunday, March 29, 2026

Give to LCGS through PayPal:



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