



# Welcome to worship at Spirit of Christ!



We are a member congregation of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod. We gather here as the living body of Jesus Christ to be nourished and empowered by the Holy Spirit in what we call the “Means of Grace” — God’s gifts of Word and Sacrament. Through these Means of Grace, we receive the promise of the Gospel: that in the Spirit of Christ, God forgives us, remakes us, and reigns in us. May the Lord bless your worship today!

March 1, 2026

*Second Sunday in Lent*

## Welcome

***We Sing the Praise of Him Who Died***      *LSB 429 vs 1,2,3,6*

**1 We sing the praise of him who died,**      *(tune 550)*

**Of him who died upon the cross.**

**The sinner’s hope let all deride;**

**For this we count the world but loss.**

**2 Inscribed upon the cross we see**

**In shining letters, “God is love.”**

**He bears our sins upon the tree;**

**He brings us mercy from above.**

**3 The cross! It takes our guilt away;**

**It holds the fainting spirit up;**

**It cheers with hope the gloomy day**

**And sweetens ev’ry bitter cup.**

**6 To Christ, who won for sinners grace**

**By bitter grief and anguish sore,**

**Be praise from all the ransomed race**

**Forever and forevermore.**

*Stand*

## Invocation

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

**☩ Amen.**

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

## Confession and Absolution

**P** When the people of Israel sin and experience its consequences, God instructs Moses to fashion a fiery serpent and place it upon a pole. God says,

**C** “Anyone who is bitten can look at it and live.”

**P** When we experience the consequences of sin, God calls on us to look upon the perfect sacrifice that has been made – God’s only son, Jesus, nailed to a tree. Jesus said,

**C** “Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.”

**P** In this Lenten season we acknowledge the curse of sin and death that covers us.

**C** We grumble against God and seek our own way.

**P** We abuse our brothers and sisters for our own ends.

**C** We trust in our power, money, reputation, and abilities instead of God.

**P** We seek the desires of the flesh instead of the work of the spirit.

**C** In all this, Lord, we live in death.

**P** Let us look upon the one who has been lifted up;

**C** That we may have life.

*Silence for reflection and confession*

**P** “God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned.” As a called and ordained servant of the Word, I announce to you the entire forgiveness of your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Go in peace; you have received healing and salvation.

**C** Amen. Thanks be to God!

## Sharing of the Peace

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** And also with you.

**P** We share Christ's peace with one another.

*The people greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22-24; Eph. 4:1-3).*

## **Kyrie**

*Spoken LSB 168*

**A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C Amen.**

## **Prayer of the Day**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

**P** O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

*Sit*

*Nursery care for young children is provided from this point in the service until Holy Communion. Children may meet their caregiver in the back of the sanctuary.*

## **First Reading**

*Numbers 21:4-9*

<sup>4</sup>They traveled from Mount Hor along the route to the Red Sea, to go around Edom. But the people grew impatient on the way; <sup>5</sup>they spoke against God and against Moses, and said, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? There is no bread! There is no water! And we detest this miserable food!"

<sup>6</sup> Then the LORD sent venomous snakes among them; they bit the people and many Israelites died. <sup>7</sup> The people came to Moses and said, “We sinned when we spoke against the LORD and against you. Pray that the LORD will take the snakes away from us.” So Moses prayed for the people.

<sup>8</sup> The LORD said to Moses, “Make a snake and put it up on a pole; anyone who is bitten can look at it and live.” <sup>9</sup> So Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, they lived.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Second Reading

*2 Kings 18:1,3,4*

In the third year of Hoshea son of Elah king of Israel, Hezekiah son of Ahaz king of Judah began to reign. <sup>3</sup> He did what was right in the eyes of the LORD, just as his father David had done. <sup>4</sup> He removed the high places, smashed the sacred stones and cut down the Asherah poles. He broke into pieces the bronze snake Moses had made, for up to that time the Israelites had been burning incense to it. (It was called Nehushtan.)

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## Verse

*LSB 157*

**P** Return to the Lord, your God,

**C** for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

## Holy Gospel

*John 3:1-17*

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

**C** Glory to you, O Lord.

Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. <sup>2</sup> He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him.”

<sup>3</sup> Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.”

<sup>4</sup>“How can someone be born when they are old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother’s womb to be born!”

<sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit.

<sup>6</sup> Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. <sup>7</sup> You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’

<sup>8</sup> The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.”

<sup>9</sup>“How can this be?” Nicodemus asked.

<sup>10</sup>“You are Israel’s teacher,” said Jesus, “and do you not understand these things? <sup>11</sup> Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. <sup>12</sup> I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? <sup>13</sup> No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup> Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, <sup>15</sup> that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.”

<sup>16</sup> For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup> For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

**P** This is the Gospel of our Lord

**C** Praise to you, O Christ.

*Sit*

## *Jesus, Refuge of the Weary*

*LSB 423*

**1** Jesus, refuge of the weary,  
Blest Redeemer, whom we love,  
Fountain in life’s desert dreary,  
Savior from the world above:  
Often have Your eyes, offended,  
Gazed upon the sinner’s fall;  
Yet upon the cross extended,  
You have borne the pain of all.

- 2 **Do we pass that cross unheeding,  
Breathing no repentant vow,  
Though we see You wounded, bleeding,  
See Your thorn-encircled brow?  
Yet Your sinless death has brought us  
Life eternal, peace, and rest;  
Only what Your grace has taught us  
Calms the sinner's deep distress.**
- 3 **Jesus, may our hearts be burning  
With more fervent love for You;  
May our eyes be ever turning  
To behold Your cross anew  
Till in glory, parted never  
From the blessèd Savior's side,  
Graven in our hearts forever,  
Dwell the cross, the Crucified.**

## **Homily**

*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 catholic and apostolic Church,**

**I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,**

**and I look for the resurrection of the dead**

**and the life † of the world to come. Amen.**

*Sit*

## **Prayers of the Church**

### **Presentation of the Offering**

*Please sign the Friendship Register located on each pew and pass it to others seated with you so that we may have a record of all those who are worshipping and receiving communion with us today.*

*Stand*

### **Preface**

*Spoken LSB 177*

**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.

## **Sanctus**

*LSB 178*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
Lord God of power and might.  
Heaven and earth are filled with your glory  
Hosanna in the highest  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord  
Hosanna in the highest.**

## **The Words Of Our Lord**

### **Lord's Prayer**

#### **Agnus Dei**

*LSB 180*

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world;  
grant us peace, grant us peace.**

*Sit*

### **Distribution**

*We believe that as we partake of the bread and wine in Holy Communion, Jesus the Messiah is feeding us with his own true body and blood. In eating his body and drinking his blood we receive the promise that our sins are forgiven, and that we will therefore live eternally with God. We also believe that this eating and drinking is a confession of our faith.*

*If you have been baptized into the Christian faith and if you share our understanding of Christ's Real Presence in this meal, you are welcome to receive Christ's body and blood for your benefit.*

### **Where Your Glory Dwells**

*Choir*

***God Loved the World So That He Gave***

*LSB 571*

- 1** God loved the world so that He gave  
His only Son the lost to save,  
That all who would in Him believe  
Should everlasting life receive.
- 2** Christ Jesus is the ground of faith,  
Who was made flesh and suffered death;  
All then who trust in Him alone  
Are built on this chief cornerstone.
- 3** God would not have the sinner die;  
His Son with saving grace is nigh;  
His Spirit in the Word declares  
How we in Christ are heaven's heirs.
- 4** Be of good cheer, for God's own Son  
Forgives all sins which you have done;  
And, justified by Jesus' blood,  
Your Baptism grants the highest good.
- 5** If you are sick, if death is near,  
This truth your troubled heart can cheer:  
Christ Jesus saves your soul from death;  
That is the firmest ground of faith.
- 6** Glory to God the Father, Son,  
And Holy Spirit, Three in One!  
To You, O blessèd Trinity,  
Be praise now and eternally!

***Christ, Our Human Likeness Sharing***

*LSB 847  
(tune 711)*

- 1** Christ, our human likeness sharing,  
Heaven's love on earth portrayed;  
Christ the Shepherd, tending, caring,  
In His death our ransom paid:  
Christ the Savior, Christ the Servant,  
Be Your life in us displayed.

- 2 Hear the word that Christ has spoken,  
Help the weak, the hungry feed;  
See the pow'rs of darkness broken,  
Sinners pardoned, captives freed:  
Christ the Savior, Christ the Servant,  
Help us meet our neighbor's need.**
- 4 Christ, in ev'ry congregation  
Build Your temple, stone by stone,  
With Your word as firm foundation  
For a faith matured and grown:  
Christ the Savior, Christ the Servant,  
Make in us Your Gospel known.**
- 5 Come, O living Christ, renew us,  
As of old in wind and flame;  
With the Spirit's pow'r endue us,  
Servants of Your saving name:  
Christ the Savior, Christ the Servant,  
Christ whose kingdom we proclaim.**

***Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle***

*LSB 454  
(tune 793)*

- 1 Sing, my tongue, the glorious battle;  
Sing the ending of the fray.  
Now above the cross, the trophy,  
Sound the loud triumphant lay;  
Tell how Christ, the world's redeemer,  
As a victim won the day.**
- 2 Tell how, when at length the fullness  
Of the appointed time was come,  
He, the Word, was born of woman,  
Left for us His Father's home,  
Blazed the path of true obedience,  
Shone as light amidst the gloom.**
- 3 Thus, with thirty years accomplished,  
He went forth from Nazareth,  
Destined, dedicated, willing,  
Did His work, and met His death;  
Like a lamb He humbly yielded  
On the cross His dying breath.**

**4 Faithful cross, true sign of triumph,  
Be for all the noblest tree;  
None in foliage, none in blossom,  
None in fruit thine equal be;  
Symbol of the world's redemption,  
For the weight that hung on thee!**

**5 Unto God be praise and glory;  
To the Father and the Son,  
To the \_eternal Spirit honor  
Now and evermore be done;  
Praise and glory in the highest  
While the timeless ages run.**

*Stand*

## **Dismissal**

### **Benediction**

**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.

### *Lift High the Cross*

*LSB 837 vs 1,2,4,6*

**Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim**

*Refrain*

**Till all the world adore His sacred name.**

**1 Come, Christians, follow where our Captain trod,  
Our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. *Refrain***

**2 Led on their way by this triumphant sign,  
The hosts of God in conqu'ring ranks combine. *Refrain***

**4 O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,  
As Thou hast promised, draw us all to Thee. *Refrain***

**6 So shall our song of triumph ever be:  
Praise to the Crucified for victory! *Refrain***

## **Announcements**

### **Sending**

**P** Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

# Serving in Worship This Morning

March 1, 2026

**Pastor:**

Jason Neel

**Elder:**

Phil Marquardt  
Kevin Zimmerman

**Reader:**

Wayne Chambard

**Usher:**

Sandy Elhardt

**Organist:**

Karine Platt

**Acolytes:**

Evan Baker

**Greeters:**

Jason & Jeanne Baker

**In our prayers**

**Celebrating Birthdays:** Autumn Degler 3/1, Libby Schoenbauer 3/2, Virginia Henkel 3/3, Natalie Hofman 3/4, Ryan O’Keeffe 3/4, and Hunter Bellrichard 3/5.

**Baptismal Birthdays:** Collin Mathiason 3/1, Dan O’Keeffe 3/1, Lester Geren 3/1, and Jean O’Keeffe 3/3.

## **This week at a Glance:**

Today	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	10:30 a.m.	Education Hour
Monday	6:00 p.m.	Faith Class
	7:00 p.m.	Book Club
Tuesday	10:00 a.m.	Ladies Bible Study
	6:30 p.m.	Board of Ed Meeting
Wednesday	10:00 a.m.	Faith Class
	6:00 p.m.	Soup Supper
	6:45 p.m.	Lenten Midweek Worship
Thursday	7:30 p.m.	Bells
	7:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study
	7:00 p.m.	Choir
Saturday	7:00 a.m.	Small Group Bible Study
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	10:30 a.m.	Education Hour
	6:00 p.m.	Faith Class

## **Notes of Information:**

**Flower Order:** It's time to order flowers to beautify our sanctuary for Easter. You can order an Easter Lily (\$9), Tulips - Red, Yellow or Purple (\$9) or Pink Hydrangeas (\$16.50). Envelopes can be found on the table in the narthex. Please make your check payable to SOC Altar Guild. Orders are due by March 15<sup>th</sup>. Contact Karen Zimmerman (612-388-5827) with any questions.

**Nursery:** Looking for volunteers to sit with kids in the nursery during the sermon. If interested, please sign up on the bulletin board outside the sanctuary if you have any questions see Leslie Kuntz or call her @ 763-592-9206.

**Lent Soup Suppers :** It is time for soup suppers during Lent. Please consider making a soup or dessert. To sign up see Jonelle.

**Book Club:** Spirit of Christ Book Club will meet in the fellowship hall at 7 p.m. Dates and books are:

March 23 - The Light Between Oceans by M.L. Stedman

April 27 – A Tree Grows in Brooklyn by Betty Smith

If you have any questions, please contact Joan Mager.

**Stewardship Messages:** “The measure of love is its giving. The measure of the love of God is the cross of Christ.” (J.I. Packer.)

**NACE:** At this time NACE is taking winter clothes. Food needs are canned Fruit, Sides and Peanut Butter. For more information, reach out to Toni Peterson.

**Carl’s Movie Minute: I Can Only Imagine 2.** The sequel of I Can Only Imagine; the continued story of Bart Millard and Mercy Me. Success doesn’t mean happily ever after..... I Can Only Imagine 2. Opening 2/20 Emagine E. Bethel, White Bear; AMC Mounds view, Coon Rapids....in next week’s bulletin.... This could be a group event if someone wants to organize it. I’ll be out of town until March 6. I’ll be seeing it in Texas...

**Feed My Starving Children:** SoC has a scheduled packing date on Saturday March 21<sup>st</sup> from 2:30pm – 4:15pm. and following we will go out for a snack at Culvers. If you would like to come with us, please email [secretary@soclc.org](mailto:secretary@soclc.org)  
Please grab an M&M container, and fill it up with quarters, bring it with on the packing date or return to the Hagel’s and they will make sure it gets to FMSC.

<i>Average Weekly Offering</i>	\$7709
<i>Average offering needed per week to fulfill work plan</i>	\$6730.28

**Readings for next week:**

Exodus 17:1-7, Romans 5:1-11, John 4:5-42

# LWML EASTER BAKE SALE

MARCH 22, 2026

Following Worship Service

TO SUPPORT LWML GRANT RECIPIENTS

**NEEDED: BAKERS - SHOPPERS - HELPERS!**

## **BAKERS:**

- 1.) **SIGN UP BY MARCH 8 SHOWING WHAT YOU WILL BRING**  
(We need to be sure we have enough baked goods to host this event)
- 2.) **Label donations if nuts are included or if gluten free, etc**
- 3.) **HAVE DONATIONS TO THE CHURCH BY 1:00 pm SATURDAY MARCH 21**

## **HELPERS:**

**PLEASE SIGN UP BY MARCH 8 SHOWING HOW YOU CAN HELP**  
(We need to be sure we have enough helpers to host this event)

## **SHOPPERS:**

WE WILL BE COLLECTING FREE WILL DONATIONS FOR THE BAKED GOODS



D	I	S	C	I	P	L	E
O	K	N	I	R	D	L	L
T	T	P	S	D	B	J	B
H	W	K	A	A	S	E	M
I	E	A	T	E	D	S	U
S	L	E	S	R	O	U	H
V	V	R	E	B	R	S	J
R	E	B	M	E	M	E	R

Bread, Break, Disciple, Do this, Drink,  
Humble, Jesus, Judas, Remember, Table,  
Twelve

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**SPIRIT of CHRIST**  
Lutheran Church

2749 NE Bunker Lake Blvd  
Ham Lake, MN 55304  
[www.Spiritofchristhamlake.org](http://www.Spiritofchristhamlake.org)

Our Mission: To live in love for God and one another, reaching out to all people, proclaiming and sharing the love of Christ.

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Pastor Jason Neel:	<a href="mailto:soclcpastor@gmail.com">soclcpastor@gmail.com</a>
Ministers:	All Members
Music Director John Peterson:	<a href="mailto:carsinger@aol.com">carsinger@aol.com</a>
Office Manager Amy Fey:	<a href="mailto:secretary@soclc.org">secretary@soclc.org</a>
Prayer Chain (Sue Hurst):	<a href="mailto:Sd_hurst@yahoo.com">Sd_hurst@yahoo.com</a>