

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 8, 2026

Third Sunday in Lent

Welcome

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

LSB 761

- 1 Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee;
Let the water and the blood,
From Thy riven side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure:
Cleanse me from its guilt and pow’r.**
- 2 Not the labors of my hands
Can fulfill Thy Law’s demands;
Could my zeal no respite know,
Could my tears forever flow,
All for sin could not atone;
Thou must save, and Thou alone.**
- 3 Nothing in my hand I bring;
Simply to Thy cross I cling.
Naked, come to Thee for dress;
Helpless, look to Thee for grace;
Foul, I to the fountain fly;
Wash me, Savior, or I die.**
- 4 While I draw this fleeting breath,
When mine eyelids close in death,
When I soar to worlds unknown,
See Thee on Thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee.**

Stand

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

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

Confession and Absolution

P We stand in the promises we hear in the first verse of Romans 5, where Paul tells us:

C **We have been made righteous through faith. We have peace with God.**

P This is the truth about you. Our Lord Jesus has made you God's own forever.

C **This is the truth about me. I am righteous, and I have peace with God.**

P Yet, we also acknowledge that we are sinners. As we read in First John,

C **If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If I claim I have not sinned, I make him out to be a liar and his word has no place in my life.**

P But if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from unrighteousness.

C **Father, help us to worship in the Spirit and in truth. Help us to worship in truth by acknowledging our sin, and help us to worship in the Spirit by trusting your word of forgiveness.**

We take time in silence to confess our personal and communal sin before God, confident that we will receive forgiveness.

P What the Samaritans say about Jesus is the truth: "This man really is the Savior of the world." While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. In the stead and by the command of the Savior of the world, Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. He has given you the Holy Spirit, a spring of water welling up to eternal life, so that you are empowered to confess the truth:

C **I am justified by his blood. I am reconciled to God. I am saved from God's wrath. I am forgiven and loved.**

P This is most certainly true. Now, in that truth, worship your gracious Father, your brother Jesus, and the Spirit who lives in you and makes you Holy.

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 Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth 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

First Reading

Exodus 17:1-7

17 The whole Israelite community set out from the Desert of Sin, traveling from place to place as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. 2 So they quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses replied, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you put the LORD to the test?"³ But the people were thirsty for water there, and they grumbled against Moses. They said, "Why did you bring us up out of Egypt to make us and our children and livestock die of thirst?"⁴ Then Moses cried out to the LORD, "What am I to do with these people? They are almost ready to stone me."⁵ The LORD answered Moses, "Go out in front of the people. Take with you some of the elders of Israel and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. 6 I will stand there before you by the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it for the people to drink." So Moses did this in the sight of the elders of Israel. 7 And he called the place Massah and Meribah because the Israelites quarreled and because they tested the LORD saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Romans 5:1-11

5 Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,² through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God.³ Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance;⁴ perseverance, character; and character, hope.⁵ And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.⁶ You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly.⁷ Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die.⁸ But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.⁹ Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him!¹⁰ For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled,

shall we be saved through his life! ¹¹ Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Verse

Spoken LSB 173

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 4:5-42

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

C Glory to you, O Lord.

⁵ So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶ Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon.

⁷ When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, "Will you give me a drink?"

⁸ (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.) ⁹ The Samaritan woman said to him,

C "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?"

(For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.)¹⁰ Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water."

The woman said,

C ¹¹ "Sir, you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? ¹² Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?"

¹³ Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴ but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

¹⁵ The woman said to him,

C “Sir, give me this water so that I won’t get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water.”

¹⁶ He told her,

“Go, call your husband and come back.”

C ¹⁷ “I have no husband,”

she replied. Jesus said to her, “You are right when you say you have no husband. ¹⁸ The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true.”

The woman said,

C ¹⁹ “Sir, I can see that you are a prophet. ²⁰ Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem.”

Jesus replied,

²¹ “Woman, believe me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²² You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³ Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. ²⁴ God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.”

²⁵ The woman said,

C “I know that Messiah” (called Christ) “is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us.”

²⁶ Then Jesus declared, “I, the one speaking to you—I am he.”

²⁷ Just then his disciples returned and were surprised to find him talking with a woman. But no one asked, “What do you want?” or “Why are you talking with her?” ²⁸ Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people,

C ²⁹ “Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Messiah?”

³⁰ They came out of the town and made their way toward him. ³¹ Meanwhile his disciples urged him,

C “Rabbi, eat something.”

³² But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you know nothing about.”

³³ Then his disciples said to each other,

C “Could someone have brought him food?”

Jesus said,

³⁴ “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work. ³⁵ Don’t you have a saying, ‘It’s still four months until harvest’? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. ³⁶ Even now the one who reaps draws a wage and harvests a crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together. ³⁷ Thus the saying ‘One sows and another reaps’ is true. ³⁸ I sent you to reap what you have not worked for. Others have done the hard work, and you have reaped the benefits of their labor.”³⁹ Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I ever did.”⁴⁰ So when the Samaritans came to him, they urged him to stay with them, and he stayed two days. ⁴¹ And because of his words many more became believers. ⁴² They said to the woman,

C “We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Savior of the world.”

P This is the Gospel of our Lord

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

LSB 575

**1 My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus’ blood and righteousness;
No merit of my own I claim
But wholly lean on Jesus’ name.**

Refrain

Refrain

**On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
other ground is sinking sand.**

- 2 When darkness veils His lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace;
In ev'ry high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil. *Refrain*
- 3 His oath, His covenant and blood
Support me in the raging flood;
When ev'ry earthly prop gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay. *Refrain*
- 4 When He shall come with trumpet sound,
Oh, may I then in Him be found,
Clothed in His righteousness alone,
Redeemed to stand before His throne! *Refrain*

Homily

Stand

Nicene Creed

- C** 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 worshiping 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.

Seek Ye First

Bell Choir

The Lamb

LSB 547

**1 The Lamb, the Lamb,
O Father, where's the sacrifice?
Faith sees, believes
God will provide the Lamb of price!**

Refrain

Refrain

**Worthy is the Lamb whose
death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!**

**2 The Lamb, the Lamb,
One perfect final offering.
The Lamb, the Lamb,
Let earth join heav'n His praise to sing.** *Refrain*

**3 The Lamb, the Lamb,
As wayward sheep their shepherd kill
So still, His will
On our behalf the Law to fill.** *Refrain*

**4 He sighs, He dies,
He takes my sin and wretchedness.
He lives, forgives,
He gives me His own righteousness.** *Refrain*

**5 He rose, He rose,
My heart with thanks now overflows.
His song prolong
Till ev'ry heart to Him belong.** *Refrain*

When I Behold Jesus Christ *LSB 542*

**1 When I behold Jesus Christ,
True God who died for me,
I wonder much at His love
As He hung on the tree.** *Refrain*

Refrain

**What kind of love is this?
What kind of love is this?
You showed Your love, Jesus, there
To me on Calvary.
What kind of love is this?
What kind of love is this?
You showed Your love, Jesus, there
To me on Calvary.**

**2 For me You gave all Your love,
For me You suffered pain;
I find no words, nothing can
Your selflessness explain.** *Refrain*

**3 You had no sin, holy Lord,
But You were tortured, tried;
On Golgotha there for all
My sins You bled and died.**

Refrain

**4 What love is this? Greater love
No one has ever known.
My life with God— this I owe
To You, and You alone.**

Refrain

We Sing the Praise of Him Who Died

*LSB 429
(tune 595)*

**1 We sing the praise of Him who died,
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.**

**4 It makes the coward spirit brave
And nerves the feeble arm for fight;
It takes the terror from the grave
And gilds the bed of death with light;**

**5 The balm of life, the cure of woe,
The measure and the pledge of love,
The sinner's refuge here below,
The angels' theme in heav'n above.**

**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

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.

Crown Him with Many Crowns

LSB 525

- 1 Crown Him with many crowns,
The Lamb upon His throne;
Hark how the heav'nly anthem drowns
All music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing
Of Him who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless king
Through all eternity.
- 2 Crown Him the virgin's Son,
The God incarnate born,
Whose arm those crimson trophies won
Which now His brow adorn:
Fruit of the mystic rose,
Yet of that rose the stem,
The root whence mercy ever flows,
The babe of Bethlehem.
- 3 Crown Him the Lord of love.
Behold His hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above,
In beauty glorified.
No angels in the sky
Can fully bear that sight,
But downward bend their wond'ring eyes
At mysteries so bright.
- 4 Crown Him the Lord of life,
Who triumphed o'er the grave
And rose victorious in the strife
For those He came to save.
His glories now we sing,
Who died and rose on high,

Who died eternal life to bring
And lives that death may die.

5 Crown Him the Lord of heav'n,
Enthroned in worlds above,
Crown Him the king to whom is giv'n
The wondrous name of Love.
Crown Him with many crowns
As thrones before Him fall;
Crown Him, ye kings, with many crowns,
For He is king of all.

Announcements

Sending

P Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Serving in Worship This Morning

March 8, 2026

Pastor:

Jason Neel

Elder:

Chuck Johnson

Eric Skogerboe

Reader:

Sue Anderson

Usher:

Sue Anderson

Organist:

Karine Platt

Acolytes:

Nora Weinhold

Abby Weinhold

Greeter:

Elaine Hayden

In our prayers

Celebrating Birthdays: Dan O’Keeffe 3/8, Elaine Hayden 3/11, Breanna Smith 3/12, and John Peterson 3/14.

Baptismal Birthdays: Elizabeth Whipp 3/8, Joyce Kvalheim 3/13, and Karen Zimmerman 3/14.

Celebrating Anniversaries: Dave & Rebecca Hansen 3/10.

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.	Elders Meeting
Wednesday	10:00 a.m.	Faith Class
	6:00 p.m.	Soup Supper
	6:45 p.m.	Lenten Midweek Worship
	7:30 p.m.	Bells
Thursday	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 15th. 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: “But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you...” 1 Chronicles 29:14

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.

Feed My Starving Children: SoC has a scheduled packing date on Saturday March 21st 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
Please grab an M&M container, and fill it up with quarters, bring it with on the packing date or return to 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:

1 Samuel 16:1-13, Ephesians 5:8-14, John 9:1-41

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

IDEAS FOR DONATIONS

**Yeast Breads
Quick Breads
Cookies
Cupcakes
Muffins
Bars
Pies
Dog Treats**

**OR
Pick up recipe
by sign-up
sheet**



SPIRIT of CHRIST
Lutheran Church

2749 NE Bunker Lake Blvd
Ham Lake, MN 55304
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.

Church Office:	763-755-7234
Pastor Jason Neel:	soclcpastor@gmail.com
Ministers:	All Members
Music Director John Peterson:	carsinger@aol.com
Office Manager Amy Fey:	secretary@soclc.org
Prayer Chain (Sue Hurst):	Sd_hurst@yahoo.com