



MARCH 15

ST JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE WEEKLY UPDATE

2026

Welcome to St. John Lutheran Church! **Today is the Fourth Sunday of Lent.** We are delighted to have you worship with us. All who have come to worship are heartily welcomed. Let us joyfully open our hearts to God and one another. If you'd like to connect with us, share a prayer request, or learn more about St. John, please complete a yellow communication card located on the back of the pews and place it in the offering plate.

PRAYER REQUESTS

When we pray for each other, we demonstrate Christ's love for each of us

For **Scott Arnett**, son-in-law of Jonette Christy, in the hospital dealing with mini strokes and a mass in his lungs
For **Logan Rutter**, grandson of Ed and Freda Rutter, home from the hospital, recovering at home
For **Bill Meyer**, in Clear Sky Rehabilitation Hospital in Lancaster, with continued health issues
For **Heather Moore**, daughter-in-law of Mike & Willie Moore, dealing with a health issue
For **Alan Ott**, grandson of Michele (Mike) Moore, diagnosed with a tumor at the base of the brain
For **Karma Wisecarver**, daughter of Lee & Peggy Smith, is doing another new treatment in her cancer journey
For **Brian Fowler**, as he slowly recovers from West Nile Virus
Continued prayers for **Jim Fogle, Jon & Linda Leist, and Linda Miller**

If you have a prayer request, please reach out to Sue Mason, who will email our church members. She can be reached at: 614-260-1107 or at susiemase3@hotmail.com.



The altar flowers are given by parents Jon and Baylee Bainter to the glory of God and in honor of Connor James Bainter baptism

Some of our "more mature" **Gals and Guys** met at O'Charley's for lunch on Tuesday, proving once again that good friends, good food, and a little laughter are the best ingredients for a great afternoon.



UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

Gina Meyer

Maddie Dillon

Judy Storts



March 18

March 23

March 25



THE INSIDE STORY BY SALLY ACTON



Today's Opening Hymn, "Lamb of God", was written by Twila Paris in 1985. The song focuses on Jesus as the sacrificial, sinless Lamb who takes away the sins of the world, reflecting themes of redemption, sacrifice, and the Gospel story. The lyrics emphasize the contrast between the Lamb's innocence and the "guilty sod" (earth) highlighting Jesus' role as the ultimate sacrifice to redeem humanity.



On **March 29th**, during our "**5th Sunday Special**", you are invited to make a monetary donation to support Gunner "Larry" West. Larry, a confirmed member of St John and a student at Ohio University, is hoping to go into the seminary. He is currently participating in the Christian Campus ministry program (known as Cru) in Ocean City, NJ, and has asked for donations to help with his expenses. If you would like to contribute, please place your donation in an envelope, write Larry's name on the outside, and place it in the offering plate on March 29th. Church Council has agreed that the congregation's contributions will be matched by the church. Larry thanks you so much for your generosity.



AED THANK YOU to 12 church members who attended the **AED training** by the Bloom Township Fire EMTs last Sunday. Your willingness to learn these life-saving skills is greatly appreciated. While we hope to never need to use this device, it's good to know we have people who are trained to provide help, if needed. Just a reminder that our AED machine is located on the wall right outside our sanctuary entrance doors.

We are pleased to share that a **\$750 monetary donation from the St John MEF** was used to shop for the Bloom-Carroll Food Pantry Mission. With this contribution, we were able to purchase various cereals, pancake syrup, snack crackers, canned chicken and tuna, snack cakes, tissues, bar soap, sponges and dish detergent. This donation will certainly help local families in need. Just a reminder that church council approved a \$750 monetary donation be made quarterly to the food pantry and this represents our 1st quarter donation. And ... Please place your food donation for the **Food Pantry** in the shopping cart. Thank you— everything is appreciated.



CALLING ALL SHOPPERS! Did you know that Kroger has a Community Rewards Program? They will send monies to St John every time you shop at any of their stores. Instructions for signing up are in a blue folder on the bulletin board in the back of the sanctuary. Please consider enrolling in this easy way to earn money for our church while doing your grocery shopping!



The **Altar Flower** chart is in the Narthex where you may sign up to place flowers on the altar. Flowers are \$35. You may leave the money in the envelope under the chart for Linda Leist. Please be sure to indicate if the flowers are for a special occasion, and let Don Hornbeck know if you would like it posted in the Bulletin.



The Universal Church Directory app is down—it has been reported to the company.

2026 YTD Offerings Summary	
Offerings through:	3/8/2026
Budget (yearly)	60,180.40
Budget YTD	12,730.47
Offerings - Received	13,196.37

YTD Over(+)/Under(-) 465.90 3.66%

2026 Average Sunday Attendance Watch	
PrevYr Avg = 35	Jan = 27, Feb = 26, Mar = 35

Worship Leader

3/15/2026 Amy Lytle, SAM & Jon Leist
 3/22/2026 Amy Lytle, Synod Authorized Minister
 3/29/2026 Amy Lytle, Synod Authorized Minister

Happenings

Gospel Sing @ St John Yesterday at 2pm
 Conner James Bainter BAPTISM, Today
 Council Meeting Immediately after church, Today

Opportunities to Serve

Contact Don Hornbeck with information for our weekly Sunday bulletins.

Sunday School & Bible Study

Adults - Sunday mornings 9am-10am upstairs in the Parish Hall
 Children - During the church service in the Parish Hall youth room (Jonette Christy)

Sunday Average Attendance by month for 2022 through 2026

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg
2022	14	21	26	48	40	32	31	30	38	32	29	34	31
2023	24	31	29	35	38	33	33	30	35	26	29	29	31
2024	17	23	30	25	46	46	45	39	34	29	30	36	33
2025	36	28	37	38	35	36	33	37	31	33	31	35	34
2026	27	26	35										29
Yr-Yr Chg	-9	-2											

Amy Lytle's email address: amyblytle@gmail.com
 Amy Lytle's cell phone: 614-208-3719
 Council President contacts: 614-286-6175 / alfisher@aol.com
 St John's website: www.StJohnLithopolis.com
 St John's email address: office.stjohnlithopolis@gmail.com
 St John's office phone: 614-837-2947 (voice mailbox)
 St John's mailing address: 133 West South Street, PO Box 206 / Lithopolis, Ohio 43136
 St John's facebook page: https://facebook.com/StJohnLithopolis

Sunday, March 15, 2026

Fourth Sunday in Lent

ELW Holy Communion Setting Ten

GATHERING & ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a commissioned minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG (ELW 336)

Lamb of God: Your Only Son

1 Your only Son, no sin to hide,
But you have sent him from your side
To walk upon this guilty sod
And become the Lamb of God.
O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God,
I love the holy Lamb of God, O wash me in your precious blood,
My Jesus Christ the Lamb of God.

2 Your gift of love we crucified,
We laughed and scorned him as he died.
The humble king we named a fraud,
And sacrificed the Lamb of God.
O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God,
I love the holy Lamb of God, O wash me in your precious blood,
My Jesus Christ the Lamb of God.

3 I was so lost I should have died,
But you have brought me to your side
To be led by your staff and rod
And be called a lamb of God.
O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God,
I love the holy Lamb of God, O wash me in your precious blood,
My Jesus Christ the Lamb of God.

GREETING

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.

KYRIE



1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.

We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together the prayer of the day.

Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

(Please be seated.)

THE BAPTISM OF CONNOR JAMES BAINTE

Amy: Jon, Baylee, Jon, Connor, and Molly, I invite you to gather at the font.

Amy: In baptism our gracious heavenly Father frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church, the body of Christ. Living with Christ and in the communion of saints, we grow in faith, love, and obedience

to the will of God. We are blessed today to be present at this baptism.

Jon: Molly, will you present Connor.

Molly: I present Connor James Bainter for baptism.

Jon: Baylee and Jon, called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have Connor baptized into Christ?

Baylee and Jon: I do.

Jon: As you bring Connor to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with him among God's faithful people,
bring him to the word of God and the holy supper,
teach him the Lord's Prayer, the Creed,
and the Ten Commandments,
place in his hands the holy scriptures,
and nurture him in faith and prayer,
so that Connor may learn to trust God,
proclaim Christ through word and deed,
care for others and the world God made,
and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help Connor grow in the Christian faith and life?

Baylee and Jon: I do.

Jon: Molly, do you promise to nurture Connor in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help him live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Molly: I do.

Jon: People of God, do you promise to support Connor and pray for him in his new life in Christ?

People of St. John: We do.

Jon: Please stand as you are able.

Amy: Let us all profess our faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Amy: Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

All: I renounce them.

Amy: Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

All: I renounce them.

Amy: Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

All: I renounce them.

Amy: Do you believe in God the Father?

**All: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Amy: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**All: I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Amy: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**All: I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,**

**the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Jon: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Jon: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Jon: We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you. Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
Amen.

(Please be seated.)

Jon: Connor James Bainter, I baptize you
in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Connor, you belong to Christ, in whom you have been baptized.
Praise be to God.

Jon: Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Sustain Connor with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

All: Amen.

Jon: Connor James Bainter, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

All: Amen.

Amy: Jesus said, I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will have the light of life. Let us welcome Connor into the fellowship of Christ.

**All: We welcome you into the body of Christ
and into the mission we share:
join us in giving thanks and praise to God
and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the
world.**

FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

Samuel anointed David even though he was the eighth-oldest son of Jesse and did not match his brothers in height or other physical characteristics. With the anointing came endowment with the Spirit of the LORD, designating David as the LORD's chosen successor to Saul.

A reading from 1 Samuel.

¹ The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I

have provided for myself a king among his sons.”² Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.” And the LORD said, “Take a heifer with you and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.’”³ Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do, and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.”⁴ Samuel did what the LORD commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling and said, “Do you come peaceably?”⁵ He said, “Peaceably. I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

⁶ When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely his anointed is now before the LORD.”⁷ But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him, for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.”⁸ Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.”⁹ Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.”¹⁰ Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The LORD has not chosen any of these.”¹¹ Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him, for we will not sit down until he comes here.”¹² He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. The LORD said, “Rise and anoint him, for this is the one.”¹³ Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 23

¹ The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not want.

² **He makes me to lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside the still waters.**

³ He restores my soul.
He leads me in the paths of righteousness
for his name's sake.

⁴ **Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow
of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil; my cup runs over.

⁶ **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house
of the LORD forever.**

SECOND READING: Ephesians 5:8-14

Because we now live in the divine light which is Jesus Christ, we conduct our lives in ways that reflect the light of Christ, so that our activity is truly pleasing to God.

A reading from Ephesians.

⁸ Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Walk as children of light, ⁹ for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. ¹⁰ Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹ Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness; rather, expose them. ¹² For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly, ¹³ but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴ for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 205)



GOSPEL: John 9:1-41

Jesus heals a man born blind, provoking a hostile reaction that he regards as spiritual blindness to the things of God.

The holy gospel according to John.
Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ² His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" ³ Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. ⁴ We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵ As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." ⁶ When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, ⁷ saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁸ The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" ⁹ Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am he." ¹⁰ But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" ¹¹ He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight."

¹² They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

¹³ They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴ Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵ Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." ¹⁶ Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath." Others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. ¹⁷ So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

¹⁸ The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹ and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" ²⁰ His parents answered, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind, ²¹ but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." ²² His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. ²³ Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

²⁴ So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." ²⁵ He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." ²⁶ They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" ²⁷ He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" ²⁸ Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses."

²⁹ We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.”

³⁰ The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. ³¹ We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. ³² Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. ³³ If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.”

³⁴ They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.

³⁵ Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” ³⁶ He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” ³⁷ Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” ³⁸ He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. ³⁹ Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see may see and those who do see may become blind.” ⁴⁰ Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” ⁴¹ Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY (ELW 779)

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

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 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!
- 3 Through many dangers, toils and snares I have already come:
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.
- 4 The Lord has promised good to me, his word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.
- 5 When we've been here ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise,
Than when we'd first begun.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Amy: Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

Reader 1: God, our shepherd, we pray that you guide the church. Lead Christians in our community and across the globe in right paths for your name's sake. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Reader 2: God our provider, we cry out for this planet and the life it holds. Rescue endangered animals and plants, preserve threatened ecosystems, and save creatures from natural disasters. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Reader 3: God our sovereign, we plead for your peace on earth. Bring an end to war and violence, and raise up leaders in governments, courts, businesses, schools, and community organizations who seek goodness and mercy. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Amy: God our healer, we call to you in our need. Uplift all who are made to feel unimportant and transform the hearts of all infected by bigotry and prejudice. Care for all in special need this day. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Reader 4: God our friend, we praise you for the diversity of people among us. Awaken us to share and receive the gifts we each possess, and stir up a spirit of understanding, celebration, and welcome for all. Be with Connor, his parents, and his sponsor as they walk in faith with you. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Reader 5: God our home, we thank you for all who have died and completed their baptismal journeys. Grant us faith to live until we too dwell in your house forever. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Amy: Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

WE PREPARE FOR COMMUNION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.
You call your people to cleanse their hearts
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,
we may come to the fullness of your grace.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 207)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest,
hosanna in the highest.**

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONG (ELW p. 208)

**O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
You suffered death our lives to save:
Have mercy now, we pray.**

**O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
You set us free from guilt and grave:
Have mercy now, we pray.**

**O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away;
Eternal peace with God you made:
Give us your peace, we pray.**

SONG AFTER COMMUNION (ELW 465)
As the Grains of Wheat

As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill
Were gathered into one to become our bread;
So may all your people from all the ends of earth
Be gathered into one in you.

1 As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst,
May we share the presence of your love.
As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill
Were gathered into one to become our bread;
So may all your people from all the ends of earth
Be gathered into one in you.

2 Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come
when all creation shares this feast with you.
As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill
Were gathered into one to become our bread;
So may all your people from all the ends of earth
Be gathered into one in you.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together.

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

May the Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ grant you peace.

Amen.

SENDING SONG (ELW 324) *In the Cross of Christ I Glory*

- 1 In the cross of Christ I glory,
Tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time.
All the light of sacred story
Gathers round its head sublime.
- 2 When the woes of life o'ertake me,
Hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
Never shall the cross forsake me;
Lo, it glows with peace and joy.
- 3 When the sun of bliss is beaming
Light and love upon my way,
From the cross the radiance streaming
Adds more luster to the day.

4 Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,
By the cross are sanctified;
Peace is there that knows no measure,
Joys that through all time abide.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember you too are sealed with the cross of Christ. May the light of Christ shine in your heart and through it to a world in need of light.

Thanks be to God.

CONGREGATION JOINS IN SINGING

God be with you 'til we meet again,
By his counsel's guide, uphold you,
With his sheep securely fold you,
God be with you 'til we meet again. Amen.

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