

concordia  
church



Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 30, 2025



Love God. Love Your Neighbor.

[www.concordiafaith.org](http://www.concordiafaith.org)

773-281-1225

Concordia on Seeley

3855 N. Seeley

Sunday mornings:

10:00am Worship (In-person & virtual options)

Join the 10:00am livestream on Sunday mornings or view recordings of our past services on our YouTube channel.

 **YouTube** Concordia Church Chicago

Welcome, and thank you for worshipping with us this morning.

Holy Communion happens at every service and is open to all baptized.

Restrooms are located in the fellowship hall; exit the sanctuary through the back and follow the stairwell downstairs.

Masks and hand sanitizer are located in the back of the sanctuary should you need either.

Questions? Contact Desirae, Parish Admin, at [dcontreras@concordiafaith.org](mailto:dcontreras@concordiafaith.org)

## Prelude

### Confession & Forgiveness Rite

P: In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: 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.

**C: Amen.**

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

P: Most merciful God,

**C: 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.**

P. 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 called and ordained 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.

**C: Amen.**

# Kyrie

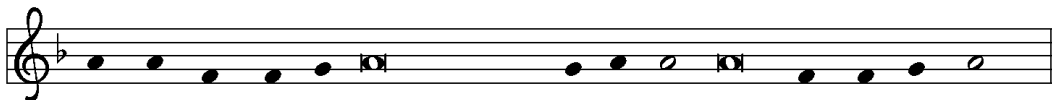
(Leader & Assembly)



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



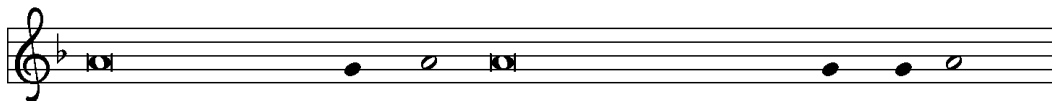
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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.



Lord, have mer - cy.



## Children's Message

### First Reading

Joshua 5:9-12

<sup>9</sup> The LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

<sup>10</sup> While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. <sup>11</sup> On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. <sup>12</sup> The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

### Psalm 32

*chanted antiphonally; congregation chants bold text*



<sup>1</sup> Happy are they whose transgressions<sup>1</sup> are forgiven,  
and whose sin is<sup>1</sup> put away!

<sup>2</sup> **Happy are they to whom the LORD im-<sup>1</sup>putes no guilt,  
and in whose spirit there<sup>1</sup> is no guile!**

<sup>3</sup> While I held my tongue, my bones with-<sup>1</sup>ered away,  
because of my groaning<sup>1</sup> all day long.

<sup>4</sup> **For your hand was heavy upon me<sup>1</sup> day and night;  
my moisture was dried up as in the<sup>1</sup> heat of summer.**

<sup>5</sup> Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not con-<sup>1</sup>ceal my guilt.  
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." Then you forgave me the  
guilt<sup>1</sup> of my sin.

<sup>6</sup> **Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in<sup>1</sup> time of trouble;  
when the great waters overflow, they<sup>1</sup> shall not reach them.**

*...continued on next page*

## Psalm 32 continued...

<sup>7</sup> You are my hiding-place; you preserve<sup>l</sup> me from trouble;  
you surround me with shouts<sup>l</sup> of deliverance.

<sup>8</sup> **“I will instruct you and teach you in the way that<sup>l</sup> you should go;  
I will guide you<sup>l</sup> with my eye.**

<sup>9</sup> Do not be like horse or mule, which have no<sup>l</sup> understanding;  
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will<sup>l</sup> not stay near you.”

<sup>10</sup> **Great are the tribulations<sup>l</sup> of the wicked;  
but mercy embraces those who trust<sup>l</sup> in the LORD.**

<sup>11</sup> Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice<sup>l</sup> in the LORD;  
shout for joy, all who are<sup>l</sup> true of heart.

## Second Reading

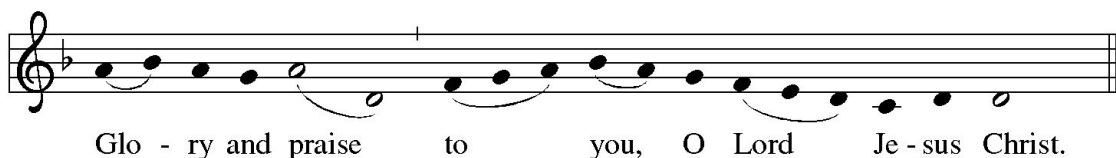
## 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

<sup>16</sup> From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. <sup>17</sup> So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! <sup>18</sup> All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup> that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. <sup>20</sup> So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup> For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

## Gospel Acclamation



P: The Holy Gospel according to St Luke.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

### The Gospel

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

<sup>1</sup> Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.]<sup>2</sup> And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

<sup>3</sup> So he told them this parable: <sup>11b</sup> "There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup> The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup> A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. <sup>14</sup> When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup> So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. <sup>16</sup> He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. <sup>17</sup> But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! <sup>18</sup> I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; <sup>19</sup> I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands." ' <sup>20</sup> So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup> Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' <sup>22</sup> But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. <sup>23</sup> And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; <sup>24</sup> for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

...continued on next page

## The Gospel con't

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

<sup>25</sup> “Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup> He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. <sup>27</sup> He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’ <sup>28</sup> Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. <sup>29</sup> But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup> But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ <sup>31</sup> Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup> But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

## Gospel Acclamation (repeat acclamation)

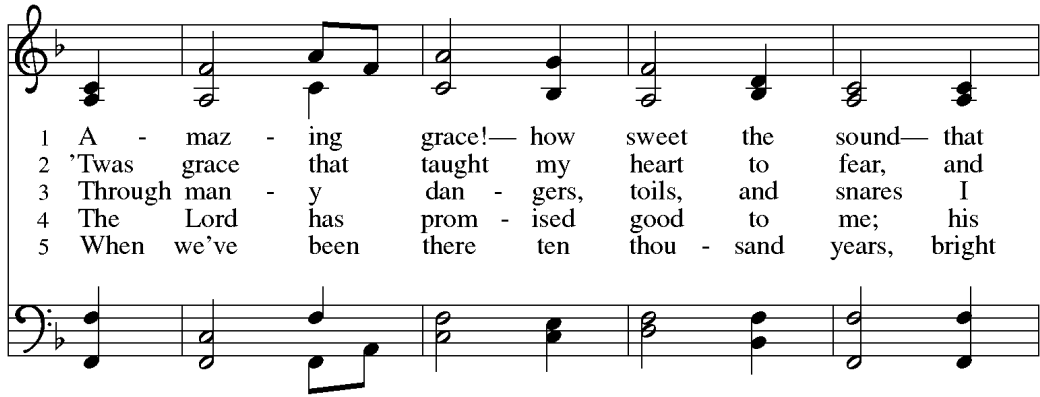
Sermon

Rev. Nicholas Zook



# Hymn of the Day

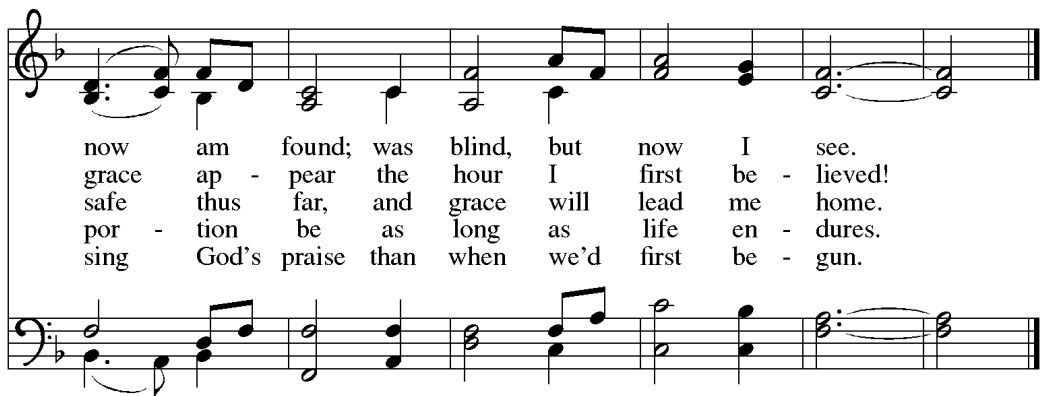
## ELW #779 "Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that  
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and  
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I  
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his  
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but  
grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that  
have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me  
word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and  
shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found; was blind, but now I see.  
grace ap - pear; the hour I first be - lieved!  
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.  
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

## **Apostle's Creed**

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**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. Amen.**

## **Prayers of Thanksgiving**

**A: Called to the renewal of our faith in Lent, let us offer our prayers to God.**

**A: In the waters of baptism, you join us to the life and resurrection of Jesus Christ.  
For the gift of forgiveness, we praise you.**

**C: Hear us, O God.**

**A: You send us your Holy Spirit to guide us and teach us. For all the gifts of the  
Spirit, we thank you.**

**C: Hear us, O God.**

A: You nourish us with your word and welcome us to your table. For all the ways you care for us, we praise you.

**C: Hear us, O God.**

A: You call us to tell others about Jesus. For willingness to show Jesus by what we say and do, we pray to you.

**C: Hear us, O God.**

A: You send us to help other people and to work for what is right. For courage to be the body of Christ, we pray to you.

**C: Hear us, O God.**

**A:** You send your spirit of healing and strength to all who call upon you. For those who seek your healing presence, especially Lupe, Raymond, Bonnie, Bob, Sandy, Rachel, Mary, Doug, Donna, Marte, Dee, Nick, Non, Ellen, Pastor Don, Kenneth, Sherri, Pastor Teffu, Pastor Dan, and for those we name before you or silently in our hearts (*pause for names*) ....we pray to you.

**C: Hear us, O God.**

P: All these things, and whatever else you see that we need, grant us, O Lord our God, through Jesus Christ, for your mercy is everlasting, and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

**C: Amen.**

### **The Peace**

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

**C: And also with you.**

*You are invited to share the sign of peace with others.*

## The Offering

*We encourage you to use this time for reflection & gratitude as we prepare for communion.*



*Thank you for supporting our ministries with our financial gifts. Scan the QR code to the left to easily make a one-time gift or establish a recurring gift.*


*Support our new neighbors with your Lenten Almsgiving. Give monetary donations or 'most-needed' items to these families in our community.*

- Shampoo
- Toothpaste/toothbrushes
- Body Wash
- Lotion
- Hair ties
- Sunscreen
- Laundry Detergent
- Fabric softener
- Dish soap & sponges



## Offertory Hymn

## ELW #186 "Create in Me a Clean Heart"



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 your pres - ence, and take  
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of  
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

## Offertory Prayer

A: Let us pray,  
Merciful Father

C: We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us -- ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



# The Liturgy of the Holy Eucharist

## The Great Thanksgiving

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 our thanks and praise.

### Preface

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should and at all times..... we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

### Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na in the high - est.

P: Blessed are you, O God of the universe.  
Your mercy is everlasting  
and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

P: 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.

P: 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.


P: With this bread and cup  
we remember our Lord's passover from death to life  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C:   
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

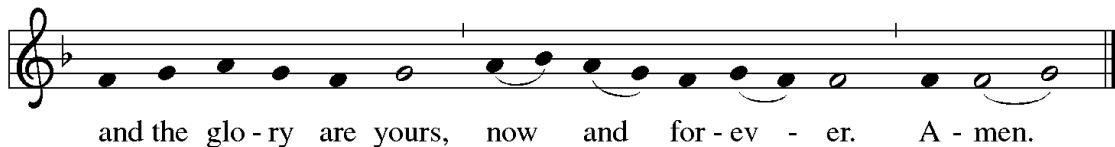
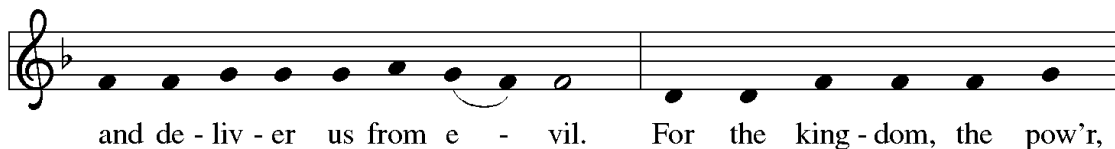
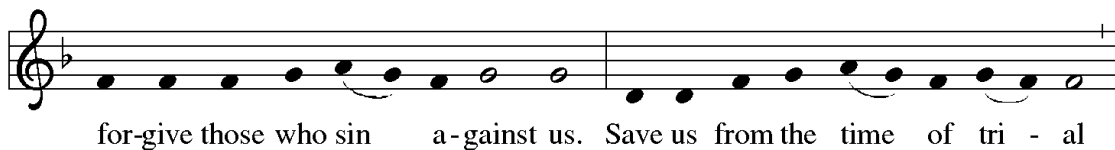
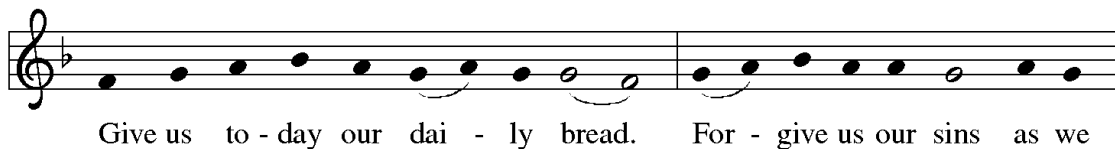
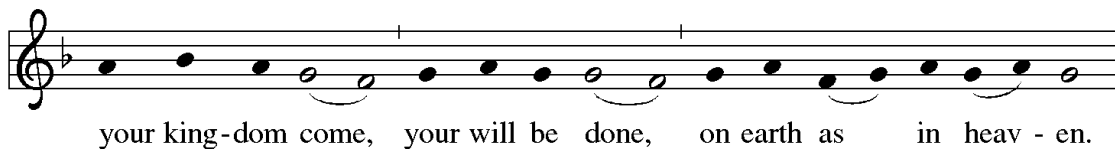
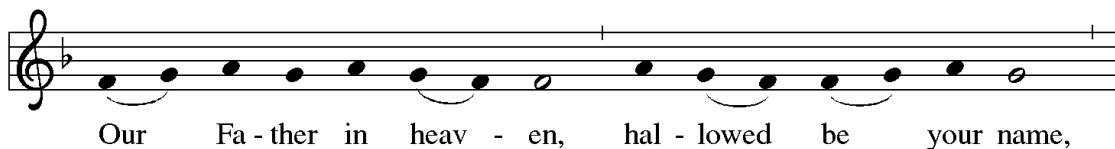
P: O God of resurrection and new life:  
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us  
and on these gifts of bread and wine.  
Bless this feast.  
Grace our table with your presence.

C: **Come, Holy Spirit.**

P: We praise you, O God,  
blessed and holy Trinity,  
now and forever.

C:   
A - men, a - men. A - men, a - men.

## The Lord's Prayer



## Communion Invitation

*We invite all who are baptized in Christ to come forward for communion. You are invited to kneel at the railing. All are welcome at the Lord's table. Parents of young children are asked to let the pastor know if they want their child to receive communion or a blessing.*

*Communion is served by continuous table around the altar, and you are asked to take a place as openings appear.*

## Communion Hymn

## "Lamb of God"

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace. A - men.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Lamb of God". It consists of five staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with many notes beamed together. The lyrics are: "Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace. A - men." The score ends with a double bar line.

## Communion Anthem

### Post Communion Blessing

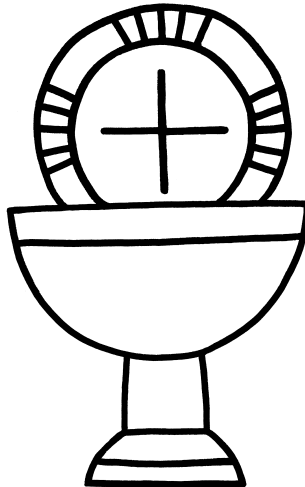
P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

### Post-Communion Prayer

A: Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Lead us in our Lenten pilgrimage: that 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.

C: Amen.



Closing Hymn

ELW #763 "My Life Flows on in Endless Song"

1 My life flows on in end - less song; a - bove earth's lam-en - ta - tion,  
 2 Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I hear that mu - sic ring - ing.  
 3 What though my joys and com-forts die? The Lord my Sav-ior liv - eth.  
 4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun-tain ev - er spring-ing!

I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.  
 It finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?  
 What though the dark - ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv - eth.  
 All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

*Refrain*

No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.

Since Christ is Lord of heav-en and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

## Announcements

### Dismissal

P: Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

A: Go in peace. Remember your baptism.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### Postlude

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#### **Today's celebrants:**

**Pastor:** Rev. Nicholas Zook

**Deacon:** Kim Baratta

**Lector:** Marne Turner

**Greeter:** Guenter Seidel

**Song Leaders:** Marisa Buchheit, Jade Dasha, Ryan Alexander, Avery Sujkowski

**Choir members:** Richard Gaul, Dan Lantvit, Mary-Ann Lupa, Betsy Ries, Wilma Stevens, Linda Storbeck

**Organist & Choir Director:** Paul Dykstra

## Announcements

Lenten worship is held each Sunday at 10am and available both in-person and via livestream. Sunday School is also held each week during the season of Lent following the Children's Message in each service.

Adult Study is each Sunday during Lent at 9am in the church office. You may also participate via Zoom.

We are collecting both monetary donations and needed hygienic items for our new neighbors. You can put all items in the Almsgiving bowl in the back of the sanctuary.

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## Upcoming Events

**March 30th:** Council meeting following worship

**April 6th:** Baptism of Charlie DeCoudres

**April 13th:** Palm Sunday Worship at 10am

**April 18th:** Good Friday service at 7pm

**April 20th:** Easter Sunday Worship at 10am

**April 27th:** Baptism of Emily & Caroline McMillion

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Support the **ministries of Concordia Church** through your offerings. There are multiple ways for you to give:

- 1) Mobile: Text 'Concordia' to 73256 and follow the link scan the QR code here
- 2) Online: Visit [www.onrealm.org/concordiafaith/give](http://www.onrealm.org/concordiafaith/give)
- 3) Via cash or check left in the offering plate or mailed to the church at:

3855 N Seeley Ave  
Chicago, IL 60618



or

# Call to MINDFULNESS



## Ash Wednesday Service

March 5th at 7pm; includes the Imposition of Ashes



*You are invited take up a call of mindfulness over the 40 days of Lent by committing to our threefold Lenten discipline*



Follow along with all Lenten offerings at [concordiafaith.org/lent](https://concordiafaith.org/lent)



A Concordia family of ministries serving people and communities  
[concordiaministries.org](https://concordiaministries.org) | [concordiafaith.org](https://concordiafaith.org)



# ALMSGIVING ITEM CHECKLIST



Shop for items to help families in need.  
Bring your items to church and put them in the Almsgiving bowl.



Shampoo



Hair Ties



Body Wash



Sunscreen



Toothbrushes



Laundry Detergent



Toothpaste



Fabric Softener



Lotion



Dish Soap & Sponges



5TH ANNUAL *Golf Outing*  
**BUNKERS &  
BLACKJACK**

RIVER FOREST COUNTRY CLUB  
15W468 GRAND AVE  
ELMHURST, IL

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JUNE 9, 2025 • 12PM  
[CONCORDIAPLACE.ORG/GOLF](https://CONCORDIAPLACE.ORG/GOLF)



## Copyright Information:

Below is a list of all the songs that we are using in today's liturgy with their copy right information located with them.

### Psalm Tone 13

Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.  
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### Hymn of the Day

### ELW #779 "Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5  
Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1851–1921, alt.

### Offertory Hymn

### ELW #186 "Create in Me a Clean Heart"

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923  
Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

### Closing Hymn

### ELW #763 "My Life Flows on in Endless Song"

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899  
Music: HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING, Robert Lowry, alt.

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#### Notes on the Liturgy:

1. All liturgical music is from ELW, Setting 5.
2. The Liturgy is printed from [The Evangelical Lutheran Worship](#) and is used with permission.
3. The offertory prayer, introduction to the prayers and conclusion are taken from [Sundays and Seasons](#), Augsburg Fortress, 2019, and used with permission: license number 23952.
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