

The Third Sunday of

LENT

March 8, 2026

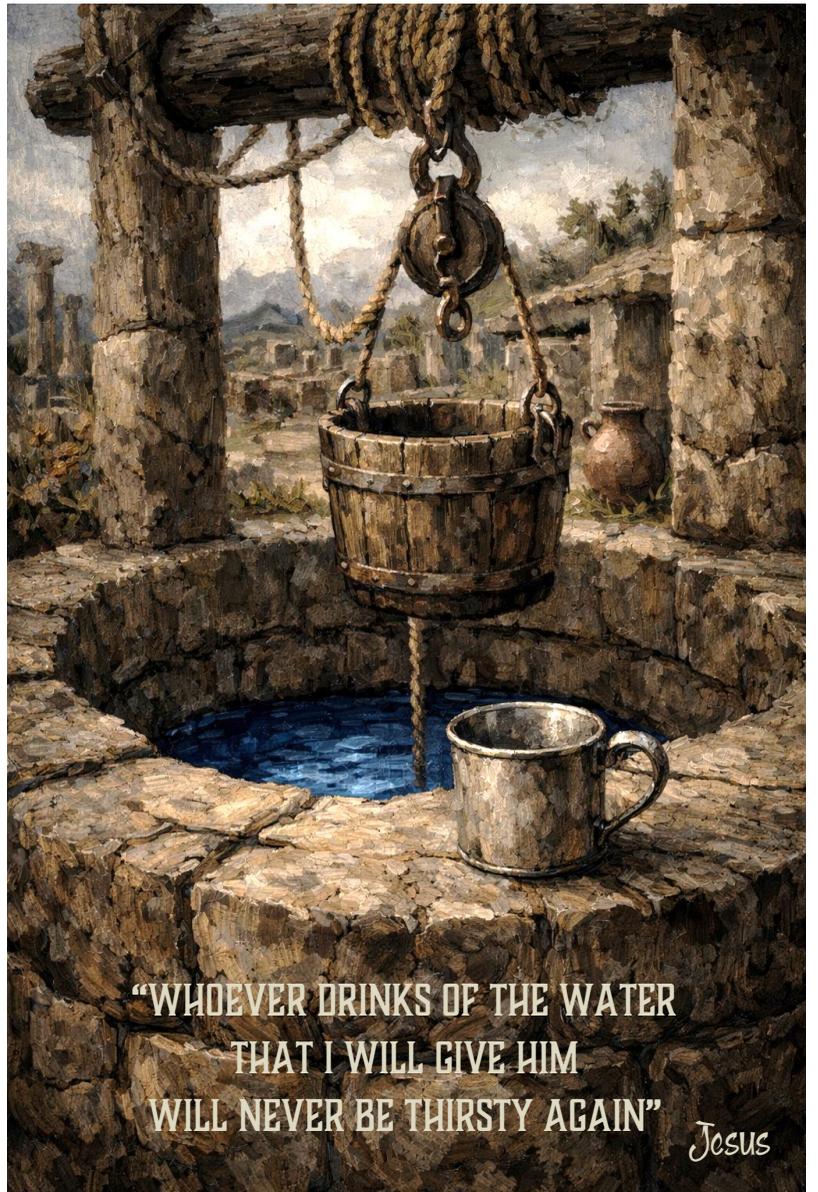


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Assisting Pastor
Rev. James Rolf
Assisting Pastor
Rev. Peter Nickel
Assisting Pastor
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Rev. Dr. Gerberding, *Emeritus*
Rev. J. Gruetzner, *Emeritus*

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Mrs. Susan Lockhart
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Mr. Scott Larkin, *Custodial*
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“WHOEVER DRINKS OF THE WATER
THAT I WILL GIVE HIM
WILL NEVER BE THIRSTY AGAIN”

Jesus



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March 8, 2026

PRELUDE

“Jesus, Priceless Treasure”

Johann Gottfried Walther

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

“Drawn to the Cross”

LSB 560



1 Drawn to the cross, which Thou hast blessed With heal - ing
2 Thou know - est all my griefs and fears, Thy grace a -
3 Wash me and take a - way each stain; Let noth - ing
4 And then for work to do for Thee, Which shall so



gifts for souls dis - tressed, To find in Thee my
bused, my mis - spent years; Yet now to Thee with
of my sin re - main. For cleans - ing, though it
sweet a ser - vice be That an - gels well might



life, my rest, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.
con - trite tears, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.
be through pain, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.
en - vy me, Christ cru - ci - fied, I come.

INVOCATION *Mt 28:19*

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: ♪ **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES *Romans 5:6, 8, adapted*

Pastor: While we were still weak,

People: **at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.**

Pastor: God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners,

People: **Christ died for us.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: We are gathered to hear God's Word, to call upon Him in prayer and to lift up our hearts in praise. In His Word we are found, first, to be sinners, transgressors of God's laws, spiritually blind and dead. We cannot free

ourselves from sin and death. That same divine Word, however, reveals a merciful God. Therefore we do not flee from Him but return to Him, confessing our sins and looking for His pardon and forgiveness. We have such confidence and boldness that He will forgive simply because He said so. Therefore let us approach Him now in true repentance and faith, saying, God be merciful to me, a sinner.

People: **Lord God, like Your people in the wilderness complaining of thirst, we confess our lack of trust in You; like the Samaritan woman at the well we wrongly expect only Your judgment and wrath. As You quenched the thirst of Your people with water from a Rock and welcomed the Samaritan woman to faith, forgiveness, and fellowship, so come to us in Your mercy. Grant us Your forgiveness. Refresh us in the living water of Your grace, and grant us peace.**

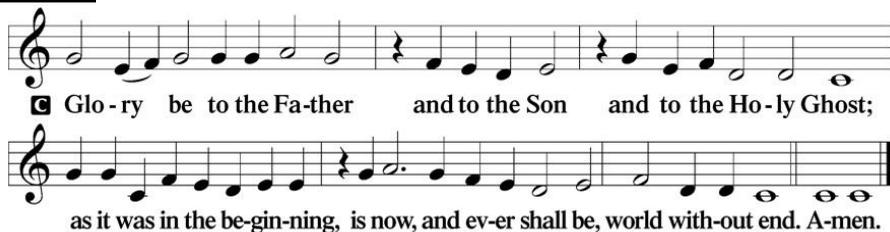
Pastor: "The water that I will give will become a spring of water welling up to eternal life." *John 4:14, adapted* Upon this, your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: ♪ **Amen.**

THE INTROIT *from Psalm 95*

Pastor/Choir: Oh come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

THE GLORIA PATRI



♩ Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;
as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

THE KYRIE *Mt 9:27, 15:22*

♪ **Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

LENTEN VERSE

tune: LSB 686 v. 1-2



1 Praise the One who breaks the dark-ness with a lib - er - at - ing light;
2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren with a strong yet gen - tle word;



praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners, turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight.
praise the One who drove out de - mons with a pierc - ing, two - edged sword.



Praise the One who preached the gos - pel, heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease,
Praise the One who brings cool wa - ter to the des - ert's burn - ing sand;



calm - ing storms and feed - ing thou - sands with the ver - y bread of peace.
from this well comes liv - ing wa - ter quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.

THE SALUTATION 2 Tim 4:22

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People:



■ And with thy spir - it.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Almighty God, because You know that we of ourselves have no strength to obey Your commands, that we walk as the blind if You do not guide, that we are in darkness if You do not give us light, keep our hearts and minds from all evil thoughts, our tongues from evil words, our hands and feet from evil actions, and defend our bodies from all harm and danger, that we may serve You in faith and walk as children of light. We pray through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: ♪ Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT

Exodus 17:1-7

(Water from the Rock)

¹ All the congregation of the people of Israel moved on from the wilderness of Sin by stages, according to the commandment of the LORD, and camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ² Therefore the people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." And Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?"

³ But the people thirsted there for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?"

⁴ So Moses cried to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me."

⁵ And the LORD said to Moses, "Pass on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel, and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶ Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb, and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it, and the people will drink." And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷ And he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the quarreling of the people of Israel, and because they tested the LORD by saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

Romans 5:1-8

(Justified by faith.)

¹ Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. ² Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. ³ More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵ and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

⁶ For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— ⁸ but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

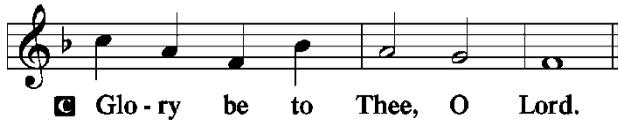
GOSPEL

John 4:5-26

(The Samaritan woman at the well)

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

People:



⁵So he came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour.

⁷A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink."
⁸(For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) ⁹The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?" (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) ¹⁰Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." ¹¹The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?" ¹²Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock." ¹³Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." ¹⁵The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water."

¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." ¹⁷The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; ¹⁸for you have had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true." ¹⁹The woman said to him, "Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. ²⁰Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship." ²¹Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. ²²You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. ²⁴God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." ²⁵The

woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, he will tell us all things." ²⁶Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am he."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People:



CONFESSION OF THE LUTHERAN FAITH

The Small Catechism. Martin Luther's Q&A.

Pastor: Why did Christ humble Himself?

People: **Christ voluntarily humbled Himself in order to "redeem me, a lost and condemned person."**

Pastor: From what has Christ redeemed you?

People: **He has redeemed me "from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil."**

Pastor: How has Christ redeemed you from all sins?

People: **He took my guilt and punishment upon Himself.**

Pastor: How has Christ rescued you from death?

People: **Through His suffering, death, and resurrection, Christ has triumphed over death. Since He now gives me eternal life I need not fear death.**

Pastor: How has Christ rescued you from the power of the devil?

People: **Christ has completely conquered the devil. Therefore the devil can no longer accuse me of my sins, and I can resist his temptations.**

Pastor: With what has Christ redeemed you?

People: **Christ has redeemed me, "not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death."**

Pastor: How does this work of redemption benefit you?

People: **Christ was my substitute. He took my place under God's judgment against sin. By paying the penalty of my guilt, Christ atoned, or made satisfaction, for my sins.**

Pastor: Has Christ redeemed only you?

People: **No, Christ has redeemed me and all people.**

HYMN OF THE DAY

"My Song is Love Unknown"

LSB 430 v. 1-4, 7



1 My song is love un - known, My Sav - ior's love to
 2 He came from His blest throne Sal - va - tion to be -
 3 Some - times they strew His way And His sweet prais - es
 4 Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and
 7 Here might I stay and sing, No sto - ry so di -



me, Love to the love - less shown That they might love - ly
 stow; But men made strange, and none The longed - for Christ would
 sing; Re - sound - ing all the day Ho - san - nas to their
 spite? He made the lame to run, He gave the blind their
 vine! Nev - er was love, dear King, Nev - er was grief like



be. Oh, who am I That for my sake
 know. But, oh, my friend, My friend in - deed,
 King. Then "Cru - ci - fy!" Is all their breath,
 sight. Sweet in - ju - ries! Yet they at these
 Thine. This is my friend, In whose sweet praise



My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?
 Who at my need His life did spend!
 And for His death They thirst and cry.
 Them - selves dis - please And 'gainst Him rise.
 I all my days Could glad - ly spend!

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SERMON

"Something to Talk About"

John 4:7

*Rev. Ronald Guettler, Cathedral Pastor
 Historic Trinity Lutheran Church*

OFFERTORY Ps 51:10-12

LSB p. 192

♪ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.

Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit.

Amen.

GATHERING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

We continue to gather offerings utilizing the offering receptacles (the back of the church and at the Gratiot entrance in the parish hall), through the mail, and online.



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

10:30am continues with the Benediction

† The Order of Holy Communion †

@9:00am

THE PREFACE AND PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you. *2 Tim. 4:22*

People: **☐** And with thy spir - it.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts. *Lam 3:41*

People: **☐** We lift them up un - to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God. *Ps 100:4*

People: **☐** It is meet and right so to do.

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for You have brought to us the gift of Your salvation in our lives. Above all, we bless You and give thanks for the limitless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son as the fulfillment of Your great promises. Together with angels and archangels and with all who rejoice in the courts of heaven, we praise Your glorious name.

SANCTUS *Is 6:3*

LSB p. 195

♪ Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth; heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION *Mt 26:26-28; Mk 14:22-24; Lk 22:19-20; 1 Co 11:23-25*

THE PAX DOMINI Jn 20:19

Pastor: The peace of Lord be with you all.

People:  Amen.

THE AGNUS DEI Jn 1:29

LSB p. 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION

For those with health concerns, there is non-alcoholic white wine and gluten free wafers in the center of each tray.

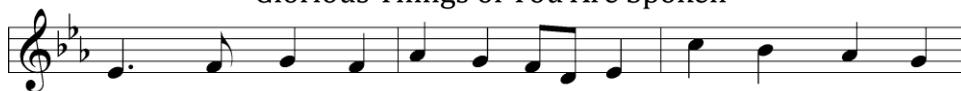
TWO STATION COMMUNION:

If you would like to receive communion at the altar, take the path to the left before the chancel step.

If you would like to receive communion in a continuous line, take the path to the right before the chancel step.

“Glorious Things of You Are Spoken”

LSB 648



1 Glo - rious things of you are spo - ken, Zi - on, cit - y
2 See, the streams of liv - ing wa - ters, Spring - ing from e -
3 Round each hab - i - ta - tion hov - 'ring, See the cloud and
4 Sav - ior, since of Zi - on's cit - y I through grace a



of our God; He whose word can - not be bro - ken Formed you
ter - nal love, Well sup - ply your sons and daugh - ters And all
fire ap - pear For a glo - ry and a cov - 'ring, Show - ing
mem - ber am, Let the world de - ride or pit - y, I will



for His own a - bode. On the Rock of A - ges found - ed,
fear of want re - move. Who can faint while such a riv - er
that the Lord is near. Thus de - riv - ing from their ban - ner
glo - ry in Your name. Fad - ing are the world's vain plea - sures,



What can shake your sure re - pose? With sal - va - tion's
Ev - er will their thirst as - suage? Grace, which like the
Light by night and shade by day, Safe they feed up -
All their boast - ed pomp and show; Sol - id joys and



walls sur - round - ed, You may smile at all your foes.
Lord, the giv - er, Nev - er fails from age to age.
on the man - na Which God gives them on their way.
last - ing trea - sures None but Zi - on's chil - dren know.

DISMISSAL

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Almighty and ever-living God, we thank You for having fed us with the body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ, assuring us that we are truly members of His Body, the Church. Be among us with Your sacred, forgiving gifts, O Lord, and enlighten us by the working of Your Holy Spirit that we may continue in this fellowship and do the good works You desire us to do; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, to whom, with you and the same Spirit, be all honor and glory, forever and ever.

People: ♪ Amen.

BENEDICTION Num. 6:24-26

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The † Lord lift his countenance upon you and give you peace.

People:



☐ A-men, a-men, a - men.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

“In the Cross of Christ I Glory”

LSB 427



1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, Tow'r - ing
2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, Hopes de -
3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing Light and
4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure By the



o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of sa - cred
ceive, and fears an - noy, Nev - er shall the cross for -
love up - on my way, From the cross the ra - diance
cross are sanc - ti - fied; Peace is there that knows no



sto - ry Gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
sake me; Lo, it glows with peace and joy.
stream - ing Adds more lus - ter to the day.
mea - sure, Joys that through all time a - bide.

POSTLUDE

“In the Cross of Christ I Glory”

David Cherwien