



C H R I S T
L U T H E R A N
C H U R C H

Gathering in Worship, Growing in
God's Word, Serving in Jesus' name

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Fourth Sunday in Lent
Service of the Word
March 15, 2026

Welcome to Christ Lutheran Church. We are glad that you are here to worship with us today! Please sign the pew booklets in the pews. If you are a visitor, please introduce yourself and sign our guest book in the narthex along with the pew booklet.

Service of the Word begins on page 203 in the red hymnal.

***Please stand as you are able.**

†Please be seated.

Prelude: Vicky Harris

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Welcome

***Gathering Song**

"O God of Mercy, God of Light"

ELW # 714

(vs 1,2,4,6)

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses.

Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:

Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:

Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the Spirit:

Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdain the living water Christ offers:

Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world:

Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life:

Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound. Through faith, the free gift of God, you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts, and gives you life and peace. **Amen.**

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

Lord have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

Christ have mercy.

Christ have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

†Choir Anthem

"Without His Cross"

Directed by Vicky Harris

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

***Gospel Acclamation**

"We are turning Lord..."

ELW pg. 205

Hear now the Holy Gospel according to St. John – this is the 9th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 9:1-41

9 As he 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.

*This is the Gospel of our Lord: **Praise to you, O Christ.***

†Sermon

Rev. Erik Karlson

Hymn of the Day

"Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"

ELW # 779

* **Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. 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. 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 Intercession

Hear Us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

STEWARDED GOD'S GIFTS

We offer to God what is God's own

† **Offering**

[Please remember to send your much appreciated and needed weekly tithes and offerings.]

* **Offering Hymn** "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Offering Prayer

O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name.
Amen.

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.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Announcements

Benediction

Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation, † bless you now and always. **Amen.**

Sending Song

“Be Thou My Vision”

ELW # 793

Dismissal

Go in peace. Believe the good news.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude: Vicky Harris



A special thank you to all who assisted with our worship service today:

Organist: Vicky Harris

Head Usher: Kevin Menning

Cantor: Dennis Davis

Ushers: Becky Peterson, Jim Peterson

Lector: Terri Hanson

Audio/Visual: Roxanne Wavra

Acolyte:

Greeters: Connie Heitz

Kitchen Guild: Connie Duenow

Refreshments: Steve & Becky Olmstead

Altar Guild: Kathy Remus, Diane Adrian

Need to contact a staff member? Find their information below:

Pastor	Rev. Erik Karlson	pastor@christluth.com	(507)766-5870
Administrative Assistant	Megan Hoffman	office@christluth.com	(320)864-4549
Christian Education Coordinator	Rev. Dr. Ane Fitzgerald	clceducation@christluth.com	(320)864-3099

Please lift these people up in prayers this week: *Mary Entinger, LuAnn Harms, Laura Mackenthun (Daughter of Dennis and Linda Roisum), Mark St. Germain (Son-in-law of Gerald and Vicky Harris), Bev Phifer, Dennis Hendrickson (Father of Connie Duenow), Karen Hunter (Sister of Dianne Von Berge), Teresa Rannow, Brian Jenneke and Brady Jenneke (Son and Grandson of Rodger & Barb Jenneke), Jim Reiners (Brother of Joann Chrast), Lee Hanson, Carleen Bedoway, Lindsey Kirkeby (Daughter-in-law of Twyla), Linda Simonson, Bob Butcher, Dion VonBerge (Daughter-in-law of Robert and Dianne VonBerge), Desiree Leinhard (niece of Bonnie, cousin of Jamie Alsleben), Loren Mueller, Gloria Kaytor, Rollie Rehmann.*

THIS WEEK AT CHRIST LUTHERAN

Sunday, March 15, Service of the Word at 9 AM in the Sanctuary; Cub Scouts at 3 PM in Fellowship Hall.

Monday, March 16, Worship Service Televised at 3:00 PM on Channel 10.

Tuesday, March 17, Laundry Love at 9 AM & 4:30 pm at the Glencoe Laundromat; Women's Bible Study at 10:00 AM in the Fireside Room.

Wednesday, March 18, Pastoral Text Study at 1:00 PM in the Fireside Room; Worship Service Televised at 2:00 PM on Channel 10; Choir Practice at 6:00 PM in the Sanctuary; Soup Supper at 5:15 PM in Fellowship Hall.

Thursday, March 19, Men's Bible Study at 9:00 AM in the Narthex.

Friday, March 20, Office Closed.

Saturday, March 21, -

Sunday, March 22, Service of the Word at 9 AM in the Sanctuary.

CLC ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

Find out what's going on at Christ Lutheran

Laundry Love

We were grateful to serve 16 family units in January and 13 in February. Each gathering was filled with heartfelt thank-yous and conversations as families shared their life stories with us.

We are especially thankful for our dedicated volunteers: Barb Jenneke, Connie Heitz, Jane Larter, Chris Davis, and Cheryl McDougall.

A special thank you to Christ Lutheran for your continued support and partnership.

Missions

The Mission emphasis for March is the McLeod County Food Shelf. During the month of March, every dollar donated will be matched, doubling the impact of your contribution and increasing the organization's purchasing power.

A noisy pail offering will be collected on March 15th. Donations will also be accepted at any time throughout the month. If you choose to donate by check, please write "Food Shelf" in the memo line.



The Wheelbarrow emphasis for March will focus on personal care items, including shampoo, soap, deodorant, and feminine hygiene products. These essential items cannot be purchased by the food shelf, and the food shelf has indicated that they are currently among the organization's greatest needs.

We encourage everyone to help us fill the wheelbarrow throughout the month of March.

Thank you for your generous support with these important missions!

Bulletin, Newsletter, and Worship Service Deadlines

In an effort to ensure that worship services plans can be finalized, and that the bulletins and newsletters can be edited and reviewed, in a timely manner, we are posting official deadlines for submission. We thank everyone for helping us make these productions as wonderful as we can!

Bulletin Announcement Deadline: Wednesdays 12 PM