

**Celebration Lutheran Church**

Pastor: Dave Haven

Pianist: LeAnn Haven

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent

Worship: 10:00am

March 1, 2026

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*Prelude Music*

*Welcome and Announcements*

**We Gather to Encounter God**

*Confession and Forgiveness*

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

**C: Amen.**

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

*Brief silence is kept for reflection.*

L: Gracious God,

**C: ... have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

L: For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:  
Gracious God,

**C: ... have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

L: For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:  
Gracious God,

**C: ... have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

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

**C: ... have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

L: For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for  
disdaining the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,

**C: ... have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

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

**C: ... have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

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

**C: ... have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

L: 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.

**C: Amen.**

Gathering Hymn:

We are Called

ELW # 720



1 Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the  
2 Come! O - pen your heart! Show your . . mer - cy to all those in  
3 Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be



Lord! We are called to be light for the king - dom, to  
fear! We are called to be hope for the hope - less so  
one! God will reign, and we'll walk with each oth - er as



live in the free - dom of the cit - y of God.  
ha - tred and blind - ness . . . will be . . . no more.  
sis - ters and broth - ers . . . u - nit - ed in love.



We are called to act with jus - tice, we are called to



love ten - der - ly; we are called to serve one an -



oth - er, to walk hum - bly with God.

Greeting

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

We Pray in Song:

Kyrie

ACS Page 31



Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.



Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.



Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Prayer of the Day

L: O God, our leader and guide,

C: ... in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

We Hear God's Word

First Lesson: Genesis 12:1-4a

<sup>1</sup>The Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

<sup>4a</sup>So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him.

*Psalm 121*

<sup>1</sup> I lift up my eyes to the hills;

from where is my help to come?

<sup>2</sup> **My help comes from the Lord,  
the maker of heaven and earth.**

<sup>3</sup> The Lord will not let your foot be moved  
nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup> **Behold, the keeper of Israel  
will neither slumber nor sleep; R**

<sup>5</sup> the Lord watches over you;  
the Lord is your shade at your right hand;

<sup>6</sup> **the sun will not strike you by day,  
nor the moon by night.**

<sup>7</sup> The Lord will preserve you from all evil  
and will keep your life.

<sup>8</sup> **The Lord will watch over your going out and your coming in,  
from this time forth forevermore. R**

*Second Lesson: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17*

<sup>1</sup> What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? <sup>2</sup> For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup> For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>4</sup> Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. <sup>5</sup> But to one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

<sup>13</sup> For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup> For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup> For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law, neither is there transgression.

<sup>16</sup> For this reason the promise depends on faith, in order that it may rest on grace, so that it may be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (who is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup> as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations"), in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

**Gospel Acclamation: Nothing in All Creation ACS Page 34**



*Holy Gospel: John 3:1-17*

L: The holy gospel according to St. John in the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup> He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person." <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." <sup>4</sup> Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" <sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup> What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup> Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' <sup>8</sup> The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

<sup>9</sup> Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup> Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?”

<sup>11</sup> “Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup> If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup> No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup> And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup> that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup> “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup> “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

L: The gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

### We Respond to God’s Word

### Hymn of the Day: What Wondrous Love Is This # 666

*Ushers will collect prayer requests at this time.*



1 *Jé - sus, je vou - drais te chan - ter sur ma rou - te;*  
 1 Lord Je - sus, you shall be my song as I jour - ney;  
 2 Lord Je - sus, I'll praise you as long as I jour - ney.  
 3 As long as I live, Je - sus, make me your ser - vant,  
 4 I fear in the dark and the doubt of my jour - ney;



*Jé - sus, je vou - drais t'an - non - cer à mes voi - sins par - tout,*  
 I'll tell ev - 'ry - bod - y a - bout you wher - ev - er I go:  
 May all of my joy be a faith - ful re - flec - tion of you.  
 to car - ry your cross and to share all your bur - dens and tears.  
 but cour - age will come with the sound of your steps by my side.



*car toi seul es la vie et la paix et l'a - mour:*  
 you a - lone are our life and our peace and our love.  
 May the earth and the sea and the sky join my song.  
 For you saved me by giv - ing your bod - y and blood.  
 And with all of the fam - 'ly you saved by your love,



*Jé - sus, je vou - drais te chan - ter sur ma rou - te.*  
 Lord Je - sus, you shall be my song as I jour - ney.  
 Lord Je - sus, I'll praise you as long as I jour - ney.  
 As long as I live, Je - sus, make me your ser - vant.  
 we'll sing to your dawn at the end of our jour - ney.

### Prayers of the People

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

*A brief silence.*

Faithful One, you renew us by grace. As you have inspired faith through the work of church artists and hymnwriters throughout the ages (like George Herbert whom the church remembers today), give your church the means to praise your beauty today. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Living One, you delight in this world. The sun and moon, the wind and the water declare your goodness. Preserve this earth, and protect conservationists, scientists, and all who labor in service to creation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Ruling One, you bless us to be a blessing. Open the hearts of all leaders to seek the flourishing of every person and lend your help to all who wait for justice, deliverance, and peace. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Compassionate One, you send your Son to save. Declare your word of acceptance to any who feel condemned and lift up any brought low by hatred and exclusion. Tend to all who are struggling with illness or loss (especially). Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Guiding One, you watch over our going out and coming in. Bless newcomers and new members in this assembly (especially) and accompany those who have recently left this community to journey elsewhere (especially). Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Eternal One, you neither slumber nor sleep. Be our keeper in life and in death. Thank you for our beloved who have died, and for your promise which saves this whole world by your love. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

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

Amen.

L: Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

*Greeting of Peace*

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

**C: And also with you.**

*We Offer Our Gifts*

**Offertory Hymn: Create in Me a Clean Heart # 188**

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 un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,  
and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

*Prayer of Thanksgiving*

L: O God, maker of heaven and earth,

**C: ... 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.**

**We Share in Christ's Meal**

*The Great Thanksgiving*

L: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

L: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

L: Let us give thanks and praise to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise to the Lord!**

Communion Prayers and the story of our Lord's Supper

The Lord's Prayer

L: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**C: 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.**

Distribution of Our Lord's Supper

Communion Hymn: Lamb of God

ACS Pg 40



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, grant us peace.

One Bread, One Body

# 496



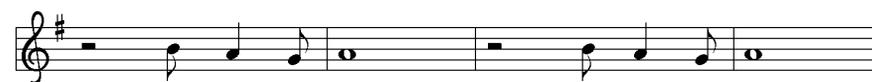
One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all; one cup of



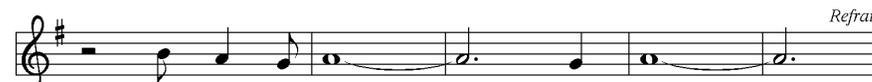
bles-sing which we bless, and we, though man-y



through-out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.



- 1 Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or free,
- 2 Man - y the gifts, man - y the works,
- 3 Grain for the fields, scat-tered and grown,



wom-an	or	man,	no	more.
one	in	the Lord	of	all.
gath-ered	to	one	for	all.

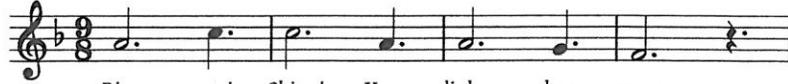
Post-Communion Prayer and Blessing

Sending Hymn:

Jesus the Light of the World

ACS # 914

(with revised lyrics)



Rise up! Shine! Your light has come.  
Light from light, and bright with grace;  
Shine on us, O glo - rious Christ,



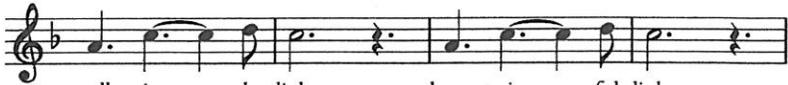
Je - sus, the light of the world.\_\_\_\_\_



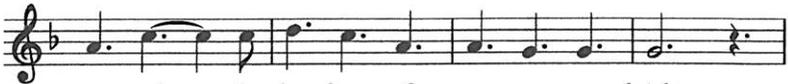
Glo - ry dawns on ev - 'ry - one.  
Glo - ry shi - ning from each face.  
Lu - min - ous, your peo - ple rise.



Je - sus, the light of the world. We'll



walk in the light, beau - ti - ful light,



come where the dew-drops of mer - cy are bright.



Shine all a-round us by day and by night,



Je - sus, the light of the world.\_\_\_\_\_

*Dismissal*

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

**C: Thanks be to God!**

**We Go to Love as Jesus Loves Us!**

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