

**The Third Sunday In Lent
March 8, 2026
Heritage Lutheran Church
Apple Valley, MN
9:00 a.m.**



The Order of Matins - ELH page 109

1. Welcome

2. The Confession Of Sin

Pastor Dearly Beloved: We have come together in the presence of God our heavenly Father, to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at His hand, to set forth His most worthy praise, to hear His holy Word, and to ask for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and salvation. O come, let us worship Him! Let us kneel and bow down before Him. Let us confess our sins with penitent hearts, and obtain forgiveness by His infinite grace and mercy.

Congregation Almighty and most merciful Father, we have strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have followed the devices and desires of our hearts. We have offended against Your holy law. We have done those things which we should not have done, and we have not done those things which we should have done. Have mercy on us, O Lord! Spare us and restore us, according to the promises You have declared to us in Jesus Christ, our Lord. For His sake grant that we may live a godly, righteous and sober life, to the glory of Your holy name.

Absolution

Pastor The almighty and most merciful Lord has granted us pardon and forgiveness of all our sins, grace for true repentance and amendment of life, and the comfort of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation Amen.

3. Opening Hymn #356 "The Day Of Resurrection"

1 The day of resurrection, Earth, tell it out abroad,
The Passover of gladness, The Passover of God.
From death to life eternal, From this world to the sky,
Our Christ hath brought us over With hymns of victory.

2 Our hearts be pure from evil That we may see aright
The Lord in rays eternal Of resurrection light
And, listening to His accents, May hear, so calm and plain,
His own "All Hail!" and, hearing, May raise the victor strain.

3 Now let the heavens be joyful, Let earth her song begin,
Let all the world keep triumph And all that is therein.
Let all things, seen and unseen, Their notes of gladness blend;
For Christ the Lord hath risen; Our joy that hath no end.

4. Opening Versicles

Pastor O Lord, open my lips.

♪ **Congregation** And my mouth shall show forth Your praise.

Pastor Make haste, O God, to deliver me.

♪ **Congregation** Make haste to help me, O Lord. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: Forevermore. Amen.

5. The Invitatory and Venite (*Psalm 95*)

Pastor Oh come, let us worship the Lord.

♪ **Congregation** For He is our Maker.

Oh, come let us sing to the Lord:

let us make a joyful noise to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving:

and make a joyful noise to Him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God: and a great King above all Gods.

In His hand are the deep places of the earth:

the strength of the hills is His also.

The sea is His, for He made it: and His hands form-ed the dry land.

Oh, come, let us worship and bow down:

let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker.

For He is our God: and we are the people of His pasture

and the sheep of His hand.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, forevermore. Amen.

6. Hymn #184 "My Faith Looks Up To Thee" (descant by the choir on last verse)

1 My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine.

Now hear me while I pray; Take all my guilt away;

Oh, let me from this day Be wholly Thine!

2 May Thy rich grace impart Strength to my fainting heart; My zeal inspire!

As Thou hast died for me, Oh, may my love to Thee

Pure, warm, and changeless be, A living fire!

3 While life's dark maze I tread And griefs around me spread, Be Thou my Guide.

Bid darkness turn to day, Wipe sorrow's tears away,

Nor let me ever stray From Thee aside.

4 When ends life's transient dream, When death's cold, sullen stream Shall o'er me roll,

Blest Savior, then, in love, Fear and distrust remove;

Oh, bear me safe above, A ransomed soul!

7. Psalm 142 (read responsively by whole verse)

¹ With my voice I cry out to the LORD; with my voice I plead for mercy to the LORD.

² I pour out my complaint before him; I tell my trouble before him.

³ When my spirit faints within me, you know my way! In the path where I walk they have hidden a trap for me.

⁴ Look to the right and see: there is none who takes notice of me; no refuge remains to me; no one cares for my soul.

⁵ I cry to you, O LORD; I say, "You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living."

⁶ Attend to my cry, for I am brought very low! Deliver me from my persecutors, for they are too strong for me!

⁷ Bring me out of prison, that I may give thanks to your name! The righteous will surround me, for you will deal bountifully with me.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, forevermore. Amen.

8. Old Testament Lesson *Isaiah 42:14-21*

¹⁴ For a long time I have held my peace; I have kept still and restrained myself; now I will cry out like a woman in labor; I will gasp and pant. ¹⁵ I will lay waste mountains and hills, and dry up all their vegetation; I will turn the rivers into islands, and dry up the pools. ¹⁶ And I will lead the blind in a way that they do not know, in paths that they have not known I will guide them. I will turn the darkness before them into light, the rough places into level ground. These are the things I do, and I do not forsake them. ¹⁷ They are turned back and utterly put to shame, who trust in carved idols, who say to metal images, "You are our gods." ¹⁸ Hear, you deaf, and look, you blind, that you may see! ¹⁹ Who is blind but my servant, or deaf as my messenger whom I send? Who is blind as my dedicated one, or blind as the servant of the LORD? ²⁰ He sees many things, but does not observe them; his ears are open, but he does not hear. ²¹ The LORD was pleased, for his righteousness' sake, to magnify his law and make it glorious.

9. The Epistle *Ephesians 5:8-14*

⁸ for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹ (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), ¹⁰ and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹ Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹² For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. ¹³ But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, ¹⁴ for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

10. The Gospel *John 9:1-41*

¹ As he passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. ² And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" ³ Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed 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 Having said these things, he spit on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man's eyes with the mud ⁷ and said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. ⁸ The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" ⁹ Some said, "It is he." Others said, "No, but he is like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." ¹⁰ So they said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" ¹¹ He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' So 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 So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." ¹⁶ Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such

signs?” And there was a division among them. ¹⁷ So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?” 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 how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” ²² (His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Jesus to be Christ, he was to 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 said to him, “Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner.” ²⁵ He answered, “Whether he is a sinner I do not know. 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 And 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, “Why, this is an amazing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. ³¹ We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him. ³² Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. ³³ If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” ³⁴ They answered him, “You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?” And they cast him out. ³⁵ Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” ³⁶ He answered, “And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?” ³⁷ Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.” ³⁸ He said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him. ³⁹ Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.” ⁴⁰ Some of the Pharisees near him heard these things, and said to him, “Are we also blind?” ⁴¹ Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would have no guilt; but now that you say, ‘We see,’ your guilt remains.

Pastor O Lord, have mercy upon us!

♪ **Congregation** Thanks be to You, O Lord!

11. Sermon Hymn #193 “Jesus Shall Reign Where'er The Sun”

1 Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
Does his successive journeys run
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore
Till moons shall wax and wane no more.

2 For Him shall endless prayer be made,
And endless praises crown His head;
His name like sweet perfume shall rise
With ev'ry morning sacrifice.

3 People and realms of ev'ry tongue
Dwell on His love with sweetest song,
And infant voices shall proclaim
Their early blessings on His name.

4 Blessings abound where'er He reigns;
The pris'ner leaps, unloosed his chains,
The weary find eternal rest,
And all the sons of want are blest.

5 Where He displays His healing pow'r,
Death and the curse are known no more;
In Him the tribes of Adam boast
More blessings than their father lost.

6 Let ev'ry creature rise and bring
Peculiar honors to our King;
Angels descend with songs again,
And earth repeat the loud Amen.

12. Sermon – “One Thing I Know, That Though I Was Blind, Now I See” *John 9:25b*

13. The Offering

14. Te Deum Laudamus *pg. 114*

♩ **Congregation** We praise You, O God, we acknowledge You to be the Lord.
All the earth worships You, the Father ev-er last-ing.
To You all angels cry aloud, the heavens and all the powers there-in;
To You cherubim and seraphim con-tin-ual-ly do cry:
Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sab-a-oth;
heaven and earth are full of the majesty of Your glo-ry.
The glorious company of the Apostles praise You.
The goodly fellowship of the proph-ets praise You.
The noble army of martyrs praise You.
The holy Church throughout all the world does ac-know-ledge You:
The father of an infinite majesty; Your adorable true and on-ly Son;
also the Holy Spirit, the Com-for-ter.
You are the King of Glory, O Christ. You are the everlasting Son of the Fa-ther.
When You took upon Yourself to de-liv-er man,
You humbled Yourself to be born of a Vir-gin.
When You had overcome the sharp-ness of death,
You opened the kingdom of heaven to all be-liev-ers.
You are seated at the right hand of God in the glory of the Fath-er.
We believe that You will come to be our Judge.
We therefore pray You, help Your ser-vants,
whom You have redeemed with Your pre-cious blood.
Make them to be numbered with Your saints in glory ev-er-last-ing.
O Lord, save Your people and bless Your her-i-tage.
Govern them and lift them up for-ev-er.
Day by day we magni-fy You.
And we worship Your name now and ev-er-more.
Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin.
O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy up-on us.
O Lord, let Your mercy be upon us, for our trust is in You.
O Lord, in You I have trusted; let me never be con-found-ed.

15. Prayers

The Kyrie Sung by All

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

The Lord's Prayer Sung by All

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.

The Collect

Pastor Let us pray: O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, having safely brought us to the beginning of this day, defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doing, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

♪ **Congregation** Amen.

16. Benedicamus & Benediction

Pastor Let us bless the Lord!

♪ **Congregation** Thanks be to God!

Pastor The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

♪ **Congregation** Amen.

17. Benediction Hymn #65 "Praise To The Lord The Almighty"

1 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy Health and Salvation!
Join the full throng;
Wake, harp and psalter and song;
Sound forth in glad adoration!

2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
Who, as on wings of an eagle, uplifteth, sustaineth.
Hast thou not seen
How thy desires all have been
Granted in what He ordaineth?

3 Praise to the Lord, who hath fearfully, wondrously, made thee;
Health hath vouchsafed and, when heedlessly falling, hath stayed thee.
What need or grief
Ever hath failed of relief?
Wings of His mercy did shade thee.

4 Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee,
Who from the heavens the streams of His mercy doth send thee.
Ponder anew
What the Almighty can do
Who with His love doth befriend thee.

5 Praise to the Lord! Oh let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him!
Let the Amen
Sound from His people again,
Gladly for aye we adore Him.

Announcements

Midweek Lenten Services- We have a midweek Lenten service each week at 6:30 p.m. We also have supper each week before the service at 5:15 pm.

Lenten Theme – The Suffering Savior In Scripture - *The road to Easter begins in Eden*

Wednesdays 6:30pm with Supper starting at 5:15 pm.

Ash Wednesday, Feb 18 “From the Heart”

Wednesday Feb 25 - “The First Promise of a Wounded Savior” –Genesis 3:4-15

Wednesday Mar 4 – “A Substitute on the Mountain” – Genesis 22:1-14

Wednesday Mar 11 - “The Blood That Saves” Exodus 12:1-13

Wednesday March 18 – “Psalms of the Suffering Righteous One” – Psalm 22

Wed March 25 - “The Servant Who Suffers For Us” - Isaiah 52:13–53:12

Time & Talent Survey – If you haven’t taken the Time & Talent Survey yet, we will have an electronic version (tablet) circulating during fellowship time for the next few Sundays. Please plan to take a few minutes to fill it out. Thanks!

Women’s Bible Study – The Monday night Women's Bible Class meets at church at 6:30 p.m. Contact Ruth for more information.

Men’s Bible Study – Men’s Bible study meets on Thursdays at 9:00 a.m.

Fellowship - Volunteers are always needed to provide fellowship food every Sunday. Please sign up on the volunteer board.

Choir – The choir meets on Wednesday evenings at 6:30, but this will switch to 7:15 during Lent. New members are always welcome!

Cleaning Schedule – Help is needed to clean the sanctuary, narthex and gym. There is a sign-up sheet on the volunteer board if you are able to help out. Thank you!

Fiesta Night – Fiesta Night is coming up on Sunday, March 22nd starting at 5 pm. Plan to come and enjoy food, fellowship and fun while supporting the youth group. This fundraiser helps support the youth that plan to attend the LYA convention in July.



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