

1st Sunday in Lent

Match 9, 2025



WORDS OF WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who looks upon us in compassion,
forgives our sin,
and heals our lives.

Amen.

Holy and gracious God,
we confess that we have sinned against you this day.
Some of our sin we know—
the thoughts and words and deeds
of which we are ashamed—
but some is known only to you.
In the name of Jesus Christ we ask forgiveness.
Deliver and restore us,
that we may rest in peace.
Amen.

water is poured into font

As tender as parent to child,
so deep is God's compassion for you.
As high as heaven is above earth,
so vast is God's love for you.
As far as east is from west,
so far God removes your sin from you,
renewing your life through Jesus Christ.
Blessed be God who crowns us with mercy and love.

Blessed be God forever.

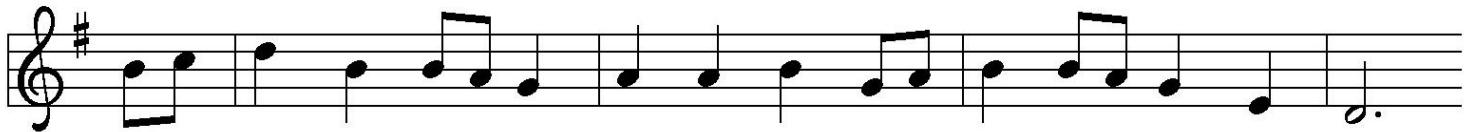
GATHERING SONG ELW 611 I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say



1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest;
2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give
3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light;



lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on my breast."
the liv - ing wa - ter, thirst - y one; stoop down and drink and live."
look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."



I came to Je - sus as I was, so wea - ry, worn, and sad;
I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream;
I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my star, my sun;



I found in him a rest-ing-place, and he has made me glad.
my thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.
and in that light of life I'll walk till trav-'ling days are done.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–1889
Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune

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



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.

SONG OF PRAISE



1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;



yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.
yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.
yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.



Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;
Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;
Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;



ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.



Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;



yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray...

O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING:

A reading from Deuteronomy the 26th chapter:

¹ When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, ² you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. ³ You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us." ⁴ When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, ⁵ you shall make this response before the Lord your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. ⁶ When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, ⁷ we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. ⁸ The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; ⁹ and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. ¹⁰ So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me." You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. ¹¹ Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM:

MLC Psalm tones by J. Abrams 2024

MLC Psalm Tone III



PSALMODY 91:1-2, 9-16 (sung)

¹ You who dwell in the shelter of | the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of | the Almighty—

² **you will say to the Lord, “My refuge | and my stronghold,
my God in whom I | put my trust.”**

⁹ Because you have made the | Lord your refuge,
and the Most High your | habitation,

¹⁰ **no evil | will befall you,
nor shall affliction come | near your dwelling.**

¹¹ For God will give the angels charge | over you,
to guard you in | all your ways.

¹² **Upon their hands they will | bear you up,
lest you strike your foot a- | gainst a stone.**

¹³ You will tread upon the lion | cub and viper;
you will trample down the lion | and the serpent.

¹⁴ **I will deliver those who | cling to me;
I will uphold them, because they | know my name.**

¹⁵ They will call me, and I will | answer them;
I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and | honor them.

¹⁶ **With long life will I | satisfy them,
and show them | my salvation.**

SECOND READING:

A reading from Romans the 10th chapter:

^{8b} “The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart”

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹ because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. ¹¹ The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” ¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³ For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Noth-ing in all cre - a - tion can sep-a-rate us from the love of God.



Noth-ing in all cre - a - tion can sep-a-rate us from the love of God.

GOSPEL

The holy gospel according to Luke the 4th chapter:

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, ² where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished.

³ The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread."

⁴ Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.' "

⁵ Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶ And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. ⁷ If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours."

⁸ Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.' "

⁹ Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰ for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,' ¹¹ and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.' "

¹² Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.' " ¹³ When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN/SONG OF THE DAY

ELW 188

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 un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,

and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

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

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus,
let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

Gracious God, speak your word anew among your church.
Strengthen it to withstand the temptation to turn inward in fear or
complacency. Embolden church institutions to turn from self-
preservation toward the self-giving love of Jesus.

God of grace, **hear our prayer**

Mothering God, speak the word of life into wilderness places and
fertile fields. Grant wisdom to your people, that we may quell the
urge to strip lands of their resources and instead preserve first fruits for
future generations.

God of grace, **hear our prayer**

Almighty God, speak a word of wisdom to people in positions of
power: mayors, councils, and tribal leaders, legislators, judges and
juries, presidents, and monarchs. Help them discern your voice and
follow your guidance, resisting the temptations of the evil one.

God of grace, **hear our prayer**

Steadfast God, speak words of courage to your people in the
wilderness. Protect migrants and refugees on perilous journeys, that
they find safe refuge and a portion in the bounty you have given
humanity to share.

God of grace, **hear our prayer**

Loving God, speak gently to all who are alone. Bless lay ministers, home communion teams, and others who attend to those who are overlooked, vulnerable, or lonely, that all find belonging in your love. We pray for all who are ill (*especially*) Claudette Briere, Ed Costa, Jeanette Renna, Norm and Polly Cote, Deloris Jay, Carol Clark, Sandy Bahr, Elia Herlinda Soteldo Cuica, Kayann Laughlin, Terri Yensz, Timothy Alexander, Ed Costa Sr. The Wurst Family, Andy Dahlen, Eveleen Barcomb, Rev Bob and Shirley Kocher, Carly Hoeni, Sue Retelle, Rebecca Nurmi, Marge Ball, Shelly Stama, Richard Ball and David Rinas.

God of grace, **hear our prayer**

Empower our faith communities to be signs of your gracious love. Bless the local ministries of parish nursing and caregiving, that they will be a voice for those in need in our communities, such as ELCA World Hunger and our local food pantries including Share, bless the efforts of AMMPARO, the ELCA congregations of the New Hampshire conference, Habitat for Humanity, Lutheran Disaster Response, Sleep in Heavenly Peace, Family Promise of Southern New Hampshire, Border Servant Corps, His mansion. Inspire us to seek new ways to live together and to embrace the diversity of thought and identity in our communities.

God of grace, **hear our prayer**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Living God, we give thanks for all the faithful who have crossed the threshold from death to life (*especially*). Guide us who are living to learn from their wisdom and follow their example.

God of grace, **hear our prayer**

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

PEACE


The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

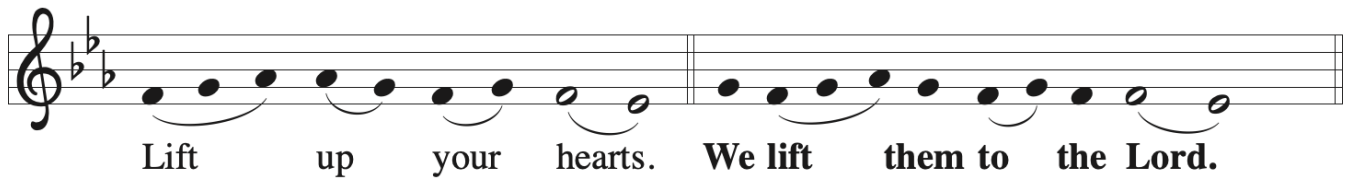
OFFERING PRAYER

God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is sure. Word and water, wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace. Receive the gifts we bring, and nourish us to proclaim your abiding love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song. **Amen.**

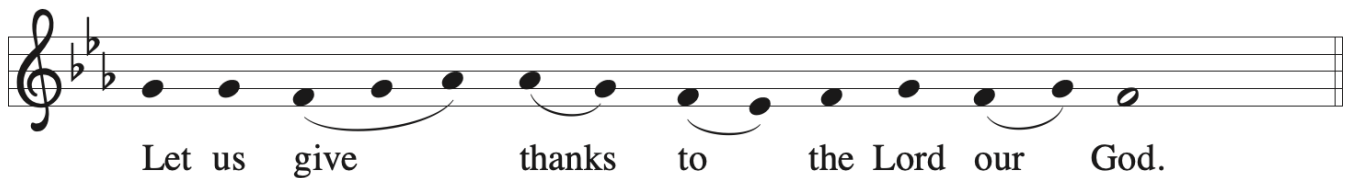
GREAT THANKSGIVING




The Lord be with you. **And al - so with you.**



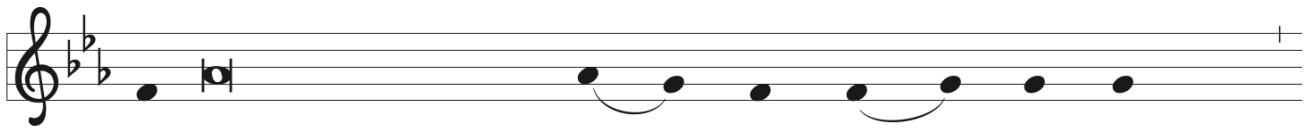
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**



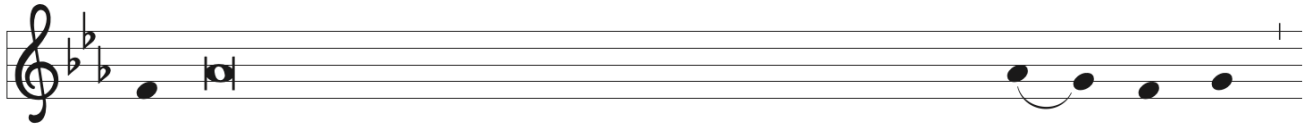
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



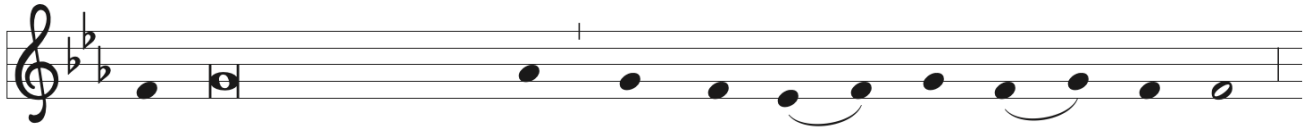
It is right to give our thanks and praise.



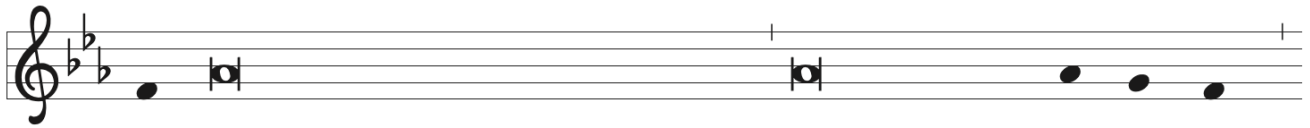
It is indeed right, our du - ty and our joy,



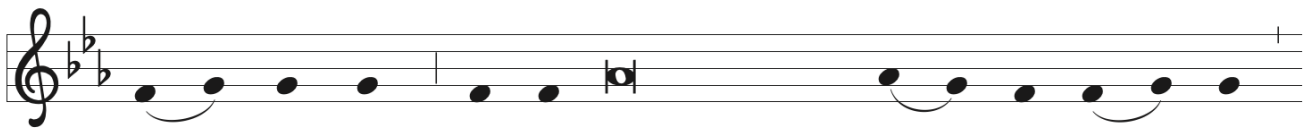
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,



al-mighty and merciful God, through our Sav - ior Je - sus Christ.



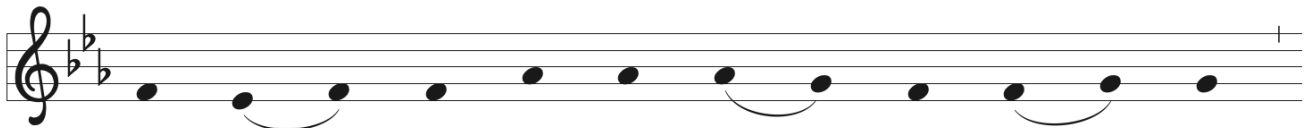
You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the



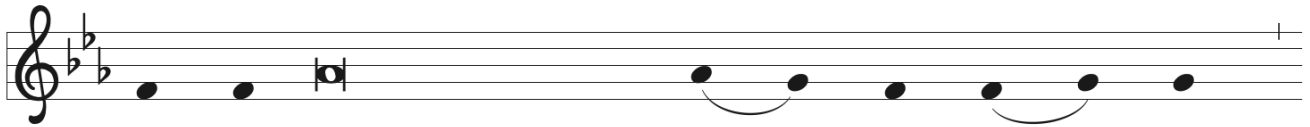
pas - chal feast, that, re - newed in the gift of bap - tism,



we may come to the full - ness of your grace.



And so, with all the choirs of an - gels,

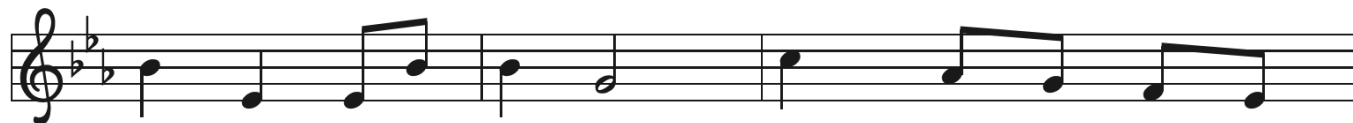


with the church on earth and the hosts of heav - en,



we praise your name and join their un - end - ing hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



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



God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your



glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the



Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, mighty and merciful,
your people praise you, saying:
Your mercy endures forever.
Your mercy endures forever.

By your promise
you bound yourself to earth and all its creatures,
granting them life and calling them to flourish,
setting the sign of your bow in the clouds,
the colors of your love and faithfulness.
Your mercy endures forever.
Your mercy endures forever.

By your promise
you bound yourself to your people of old,
blessing them with family outnumbering the stars
and calling them to be a blessing to others,
showing them steadfast love in every generation
and calling them to be a light to the nations.
Your mercy endures forever.
Your mercy endures forever.

By your promise
you joined us to Jesus, your Beloved,
grafting us into your living Vine,
and calling us to bear the fruit of your self-giving love.

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.

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.

With this bread and cup
we remember his life laid down and lifted up
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

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

Send your Holy Spirit upon us
and these gifts of bread and wine.
Bless us to be a blessing.
Make us a sign of your faithfulness.
Send us to tend and cherish the earth
and to serve the world with mercy and love.

With all the saints in light,
with the earth and all its creatures,
with sun and moon and stars,
we praise you, O God, through Christ Jesus,
in your Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,
your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we
for-give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al
and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,
and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

COMMUNION



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.

COMMUNION HYMN/SONG ELW 325 I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;
 2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me; walk with
 3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

I want Je - sus to walk with me;
 me; in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me; walk with
 when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

me; all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,
 when my heart is al - most break - ing,
 when my head is bowed in sor - row,

Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me. walk with me.
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

Text: African American spiritual
 Music: SOJOURNER, African American spiritual; arr. hymnal version
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SONG AFTER COMMUNION



A - ho - ra, Se - ñor, se - gún tu pro - me - sa, pue - des de -
 At last, Lord, your word of prom - ise ful - fill - ing, you let your



jar a tu sier - vo ir - se en paz. Por - que mis
 ser - vant go forth in free - dom and peace. With my own



o - jos han vis - to a tu Sal - va - dor, a quien has
 eyes I have seen the sal - va - tion you have pre -



pre - sen - ta - do an - te to - dos los pue - blos: . . .
 pared . . . in the sight of all of the peo - ples: a



luz pa - ra a - lum - brar a las na - cio - nes, y
 light that will re - veal you to the na - tions, and the



glo - ria de tu pue - blo Is - ra - el.
 glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

Living God, as the disciples ate and drank with their risen Lord, we have been nourished with the very presence of Christ. Through this meal may we be strengthened to keep your word and to proclaim the power of your love in Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

God, the Source of glory,
God, the Word of life,
God, the Spirit of truth
✠ bless you all, now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN / SONG ELW 326 Bless Now, O God, the Journey

1 Bless now, O God, the jour - ney that all your peo - ple make,
 2 Bless so - journ - ers and pil - grims who share this wind - ing way;
 3 Di - vine e - ter - nal lov - er, you meet us on the road.

the path through noise and si - lence, the way of give and take.
 your hope burns through the ter - rors, your love sus - tains the day.
 We wait for lands of prom - ise where milk and hon - ey flow,

The trail is found in des - ert and winds the moun - tain round,
 We yearn for ho - ly free - dom while of - ten we are bound;
 but wait - ing not for plac - es, you meet us all a - round.

then leads be - side still wa - ters, the road where faith is found.
 to - geth - er we are seek - ing the road where faith is found.
 Our cov - e - nant is writ - ten on roads, as faith is found.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993
 Music: LLANGLOFFAN, Welsh tune, 19th cent.
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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Lenton Meditation no. 2

by Jon Abrams



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Worship Assistants

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS	March 9th 1st Sunday in Lent	March 16th 2nd Sunday in Lent	March 23rd 3rd Sunday In Lent
Preacher/Presider	K. Hester	K. Hester	K. Hester
Liturgist	B. Mitchell	T. Costa	B. Mitchell
Music Director	J. Abrams	J. Abrams	J. Abrams
Reader	L. Schur	J. Reitter	S. Steffensmeier
Greeters/Ushers	Costas	L. Rosse/ G. De Noble	Costas
Altar	S. Retelle	B. Scholz	R. Ede
Bread	S. Retelle	Schurs	D. Cordts
Tech	K. Duesing	D. Schur	David Rinas
Snacks	C. Wisneski	S. Retelle	C. Halvorson
Lead Counter	B. Meldrum	D. Schur	B. Mitchell