

# LARGE PRINT EDITION



## HOLY COMMUNION

*Fifth Sunday in Lent*

March 22, 2026+ 9:30 am

*The raising of Lazarus*

*Image of baptism: out of the tomb*

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All Are Welcome! Mt Carmel at 100 – Past Present Promise 1926 - 2026

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### *Jesus is God's promise of eternal life*

*In today's gospel Jesus reveals his power over death by raising Lazarus from the dead. The prophet Ezekiel prophesies God breathing new life into dry bones. To those in exile or living in the shadows of death, these stories proclaim God's promise of resurrection. In baptism we die with Christ that we might also be raised with him to new life. At the Easter Vigil we will welcome new sisters and brothers at the baptismal font, as we renew our baptismal promises.*

### *Lent 2026 We journey to the place of God's mercy*

#### *(Images of Baptism)*

Feb 22	<i>The temptation of Jesus (renouncing evil)</i>
March 1	<i>The mission of Christ: saving the world (Nicodemus seeks rebirth)</i>
March 8	<i>The woman at the well (living water)</i>
March 15	<i>The man born blind (light and sight)</i>
March 22	<i>The raising of Lazarus (out of the tombs)</i>

## GATHERING

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

### GATHERING MUSIC

*"Spring Song"*

*Lani Smith*

*At the sound of the bell please stand if you are able and face the worship leaders.*

## GATHERING HYMN

*(hymn) ELW 328*

*“Restore In Us, O God”*

- 1 Restore in us, O God, the splendor of your love;  
renew your image in our hearts, and all our sins remove.**
- 2 O Spirit, wake in us the wonder of your pow'r;  
from fruitless fear unfurl our lives like springtime bud and flow'r.**
- 3 Bring us, O Christ, to share the fullness of your joy;  
baptize us in the risen life that death cannot destroy.**
- 4 Three-personed God, fulfill the promise of your grace,  
that we, when all our searching ends, may see you face to face.**

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

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## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism.*

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

**C Amen.**

**P** Let us turn to God and confess our sin  
in the assurance of God's abiding love.

*silence is kept for reflection*

**Kyrie** *(Lord have mercy)*

**Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.**

**Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.**

**Kyrie eleison.**

**Kyrie eleison. Lord have mercy.**

**Christe eleison. Christe eleison.  
Christ have mercy. Christ have mercy.  
Christe eleison.  
Christe eleison. Christ have mercy.  
Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.  
Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.  
Kyrie eleison.  
Kyrie eleison. Lord have mercy.**

*silence for reflection*

**P** Gracious God,  
**C** **we confess that we have sinned  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.  
Forgive us and give us strength to turn from sin  
and to serve you in newness of life. Amen.**

**P** By water and the Holy Spirit, God gives us new birth, and through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, God forgives us all our sin. Almighty God strengthen you in all goodness and keep us in eternal life.  
**C** **Amen.**

## **GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P** 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.**

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in

righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

*The presider continues with words of welcome.*

## **WORD**

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

### **CHILDREN'S WORD**

*Children are invited forward; parents are welcome to come with their children.*

### **FIRST READING**

*The dry bones of Israel brought to life*

Ezekiel 37:1-14

*Ezekiel's vision of the valley of dry bones is a promise that Israel as a nation, though dead in exile, will live again in their land through God's life-giving spirit. Three times Israel is assured that through this vision they will know that "I am the Lord."*

The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. <sup>2</sup>He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. <sup>3</sup>He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." <sup>4</sup>Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. <sup>5</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. <sup>6</sup>I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD."

<sup>7</sup>So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. <sup>8</sup>I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. <sup>9</sup>Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." <sup>10</sup>I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

<sup>11</sup>Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' <sup>12</sup>Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. <sup>13</sup>And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. <sup>14</sup>I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act," says the LORD.

The word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM**

Psalm 130 (ICEL)

*I wait for you, O LORD; in your word is my hope. (130:5)*

A From the depths I call to you, Lord hear my cry.

**C Catch the sound of my voice raised up, pleading.**

A If you record our sins, Lord, who could survive?

**C But because you forgive we stand in awe.**

A I trust in God's word, I trust in the Lord.

**C More than sentries for dawn I watch for the Lord.**

A More than sentries for dawn let Israel watch.

**C The Lord will bring mercy and grant full pardon.**

A The Lord will free Israel from all its sins.

**C Give praise to the Father Almighty;  
to the Son, Jesus Christ, the Lord;  
to the Spirit who dwells in our hearts;  
both now and forever. Amen.**

## SECOND READING

*Life in the Spirit*

Romans 8:6-11

*For Paul, Christian spirituality entails living in the reality of the Holy Spirit. The driving force behind our actions and values is not our sinful desire for self-satisfaction but the very Spirit by which God raised Jesus from the dead and will also raise us from the dead.*

*Paul writes to the church at Rome:*

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup>For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law--indeed it cannot, <sup>8</sup>and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

<sup>9</sup>But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. <sup>10</sup>But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup>If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

The word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## LENTEN GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Joel 2:13

*The assembly stands to welcome the gospel, singing: (ELW setting 3, p. 142)*

**C Return to the Lord you God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and abounding in steadfast love.**

## **GOSPEL**

*The raising of Lazarus*

John 11:1-45

*Jesus is moved to sorrow when his friend Lazarus falls ill and dies. Then, in a dramatic scene, he calls his friend out of the tomb and restores him to life. The raising of Lazarus is presented as the last and greatest sign in John's gospel. It reveals Jesus as the giver of life. But as John 11:45-53 makes clear, this sign leads to the plan to execute Jesus.*

P The holy gospel according to John.

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

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. <sup>2</sup>Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. <sup>3</sup>So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." <sup>4</sup>But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." <sup>5</sup>Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, <sup>6</sup>after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

<sup>7</sup>Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." <sup>8</sup>The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" <sup>9</sup>Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. <sup>10</sup>But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." <sup>11</sup>After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." <sup>12</sup>The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." <sup>13</sup>Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. <sup>14</sup>Then

Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. <sup>15</sup>For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." <sup>16</sup>Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

<sup>17</sup>When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. <sup>18</sup>Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, <sup>19</sup>and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. <sup>20</sup>When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. <sup>21</sup>Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. <sup>22</sup>But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." <sup>23</sup>Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." <sup>24</sup>Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." <sup>25</sup>Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, <sup>26</sup>and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" <sup>27</sup>She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

<sup>28</sup>When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." <sup>29</sup>And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. <sup>30</sup>Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. <sup>31</sup>The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. <sup>32</sup>When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." <sup>33</sup>When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. <sup>34</sup>He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." <sup>35</sup>Jesus began to weep. <sup>36</sup>So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" <sup>37</sup>But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

<sup>38</sup>Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. <sup>39</sup>Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." <sup>40</sup>Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" <sup>41</sup>So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. <sup>42</sup>I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." <sup>43</sup>When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" <sup>44</sup>The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

<sup>45</sup>Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

The gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

*silence is kept for reflection*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*(hymn)* ELW 333

"Jesus Is a Rock in a Weary Land"

### Refrain

**Jesus is a rock in a weary land, a weary land, a weary land;  
my Jesus is a rock in a weary land, a shelter in a time of storm.**

**1 No one can do like Jesus, not a mumbling word he said;  
he went walking down to Lazarus' grave,  
and he raised him from the dead. Refrain**

**2 When Jesus was on earth, the flesh was very weak;  
he took a towel and girded himself  
and he washed his disciples' feet. Refrain**

**3 Yonder comes my Savior, him whom I love so well;  
he has the palm of victory  
and the keys of death and hell. Refrain**

**Refrain**

**Jesus is a rock in a weary land, a weary land, a weary land;  
my Jesus is a rock in a weary land, a shelter in a time of storm.**

Text: African American spiritual.

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

*(adapted: each petition begins "I put my trust in...")*

**A ... we proclaim the faith that we share.**

**C I PUT MY TRUST IN God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I PUT MY TRUST 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 PUT MY TRUST 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**

*Prayers are offered for the Church, the earth, the nations, and those in any need.*

*each petition concludes:*

*...hear us O God.*

**C Your mercy is great.**

# MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ*

## RECONCILING PEACE

**P** In Jesus Christ God has made peace with us.

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C** **And also with you.**

*The assembly is invited to share the peace of Christ with one another.*

## OFFERING

*When bread and wine are broken and shared in the Lord's Supper an offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.*

*Please leave your offerings in the plates as they are passed, at the usher desk or give online. During this time, the table is set. Please stand as the offering procession reaches the chancel. Thank you for your generosity.*

"Lamb of God"

*T. Paris*

## Presentation of the Gifts

**Offertory Procession/prayer**

*(ELW hymn #188)*

**C** **Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of your salvation and uphold me with your free Spirit.**

*The assisting minister pours out the wine.*

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

*The presider continues with the Great Thanksgiving, concluding:*

**Lord's Prayer (1975)**      *(to match Wednesday's Evening Prayer)*

**C** Our Father in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.

### **Breaking of the Bread and Invitation to Communion**

#### **Communion**

“Lamb of God”

*(setting 3; page 146)*

**C** Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have  
mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the  
world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

*silence for reflection concludes the communion*

#### **Prayer after Communion**

**A** Let us pray.

Merciful God, accompany our journey through these forty  
days. Renew us in the gift of baptism, that we may provide  
for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-  
indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure in  
the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,

**C** Amen.

## **SENDING**

*We are sent to be God's hands in the world*

## BLESSING

P Love the Lord your God with all your heart,  
With all your soul, with all your mind, with all your strength.  
Keep these words in your heart as you walk the way of Lent.  
Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

## SENDING HYMN

*(hymn) ELW 334*

“Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery”

*stanzas 1–3, Lent 5*

- 1 Tree of Life and awesome myst'ry,  
in your death we are reborn;  
though you die in all of hist'ry,  
still you rise with ev'ry morn, still you rise with ev'ry morn.**
- 2 We remember truth once spoken,  
love passed on through act and word;  
ev'ry person lost and broken  
wears the body of our Lord, wears the body of our Lord.**
- 3 Christ, you lead and we shall follow,  
stumbling though our steps may be;  
one with you in joy and sorrow,  
we the river, you the sea, we the river, you the sea.**

**Lent 5**

**God of all our fear and sorrow,  
God who lives beyond our death,  
hold us close through each tomorrow,  
love as near as ev'ry breath, love as near as ev'ry breath.**

Text: Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950 © 1984 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.  
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## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

### DISMISSAL

*Please face the worship leaders for the dismissal.*

**A** Go in peace. Love and serve the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### POSTLUDE

“Jesus Is a Rock”

*B. Wonacott*

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**Next Sunday:**

## PALM SUNDAY

**We meet at the front lawn and entrance for the procession with palms. (weather permitting)**

**We celebrate our 100<sup>th</sup> Founder’s Day with a commemoration of the anniversary in worship and our Palm Sunday brunch.**

## SERVING TODAY

Pastor Foy Christopherson, *presiding*

Karen Moeller, *assisting minister*

Youth, *first readers*

Lory Dubbels, *second reader*

Ruth Bills, *director of music & worship*

Sanctuary Choir

Erika Ruser, Matti Gurney, *technology desk*

\_\_\_\_\_, *confirmation sacristan*

Janell Partyka, *sacristan/altar guild*

Dave Samletzka, Patrick Kutzer, *ushers*  
Al Erickson, *bus ministry*  
Nancy and Jim Felicetta, *coffee hosts*

**Chancel flowers** this weekend are given to the glory of God.  
*If you wish to donate flowers sign up in the narthex or call the church office.*

**The YouTube webcast** this weekend is sponsored by  
Dave and Lorna Halaas.  
*If you wish to sponsor the webcast sign up in the narthex or call the church office.*  
*Please join us for coffee fellowship in the lower level following worship.*  
*This service is being streamed live on the internet.*

## WELCOME



**Everyone is welcome.** We are a faith community participating in the life of God, a life that is a gift to us and in which we are actively engaged. That gift compels us to be actively engaged in the neighborhoods of Northeast Minneapolis as well. We are a multigenerational community that proudly celebrates our history while joining together with younger generations to follow where God is leading. We build our community through faith practices like prayer, dwelling in the Word and hospitality.

**Guests are welcome.** We are pleased you are worshiping with us today. If you would like more information about Mt. Carmel, please contact us at 612-781-2796, or email [pastor@mountcarmelmpls.org](mailto:pastor@mountcarmelmpls.org)

**Children are welcome** at all services. Worship bulletins for children and activity bags are available outside the sanctuary.

**Welcome to the Lord's Table.** All who come seeking Jesus are welcome at the Lord's Table. Please follow the guidance of the ushers and instructions in the order of service. During communion, ministers will bring bread and wine to you where you are seated if you require accessibility accommodation. Please inform the ushers. Communion may be received in one kind (only bread or only wine) from any station if wheat bread or alcohol presents a health concern. White grape juice is available by request at most liturgies from most communion stations.

**Welcome to the Holy Baptism.** All who come seeking Jesus are welcome to receive Holy Baptism. Please visit with any worship leader, staff member, hospitality volunteer, contact the church office, or complete an information card, indicating that you wish to be baptized. Our pastor will contact you.

### **Friends of Mt. Carmel...Stay connected**

Across the country and beyond there are many people who have a soft spot in their heart for Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church – people who feel a connection both to the history and the ongoing mission of this congregation. If you're one of them, we invite you to join a new network of Friends of Mt. Carmel. Email [pastor@mountcarmelmpls.org](mailto:pastor@mountcarmelmpls.org) for more information or to join.



**Digital giving** is available at Mt. Carmel. You can easily donate online through our website at [mountcarmelmpls.org](http://mountcarmelmpls.org) and click on Give. Mt. Carmel Lutheran is supported by generous people like you. Questions? Contact the church office at 612-781-2796.

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## **MT. CARMEL LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA**

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