



Sunday, March 22, 2026

10:00 a.m.



Pastor Erik Allen

“Living Toward Resurrection”



WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Prelude

“Bread of Life”

James Kosnik

Announcements

Gathering Song

Cares Chorus

Call to Worship

P: Beloved, Wait for the Lord, like those who hope in God’s mercy.

C: God’s steadfast love endures forever.

P: Watch for God, like those who eagerly await the morning.

C: We watch for God, whose power redeems us.

P: Hear God’s hopeful word, like those who long for pardon.

C: Sing praise to God and rejoice in God’s love.

P: Come, let us together worship God this day!

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

C: And also with you.

pass the peace as you feel comfortable

Song

Awsome Power

Confession and Forgiveness

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

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Have mercy, O God,

C: against you, you alone, we have sinned. In your compassion, cleanse us from our sin and take away our guilt. Create in us a new heart and give us a steadfast spirit. Do not cast us away, but fill us with your Holy Spirit and restore your joy within us. Amen.

**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.**

please be seated

The Offering

If you would like, you may give online by scanning the QR code
or Offering Plates are located at the back of the Sanctuary.



Offering Response

I Am the Bread of Life
vs 1 & 4

ELW 485

Offertory Prayer

P: 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.

C: Amen.

Prayers of the Church (*the congregation joins in speaking the first names of those for whom we pray.*)

Members: Lee, Marion, Kelly, Marj, Vickie

Family & Friends: Jessie, Adelyn, Kipp, Dale, Melanie, Charles, Mark, Chuck,
Sylvia, Bill, Marie, Mary, Carol, Bob

Communion

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

C: Our Father in heaven, 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!

Invitation to Communion

P: Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy.

please be seated.

Distribution

All baptized Christians who seek the blessings of Christ's true body and blood in the bread and wine of Holy Communion are welcome. Those who do not wish to receive may come forward for a blessing. Please let your server know if you desire a gluten-free wafer.

Benediction

P: 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.

C: Amen.

Song

Bless His Holy Name

Sending

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

"My Song is Love Unknown"

Joel Vieker

Announcements

Easter Egg Hunt

It will be upon us before we know it. There is a bin in the Gathering Place for candy drop-off. Please make sure your items are individually wrapped and will fit in our plastic easter eggs. They are smaller this year 2 1/2 inches, so find your best deal on smaller candy selections!



Congregational Meeting

We will have a brief Congregational Meeting on March 29 following worship to affirm our new Council Members. We have 6 new Deacons and 2 new Elders! You should have received their answers to the Call Consideration Forms via Flocknote but there are copies at the Hospitality Desk in the Gathering Place if you'd like to pick up a packet. We will also affirm our Synod delegates for the meeting this summer.

Holy Week

Palm Sunday - March 29

Maundy Thursday - April 2 @ 7:00 pm

Good Friday - April 3 @ 12:00 - Stations of the Cross @ 7:00 Tenebrae Service

Easter Saturday - April 4 Egg Hunt @ 11:00

Easter Sunday - Worship at 10:00 with Breakfast following (signups coming soon!)

Weekly Activities

- SUNDAY, March 22
 - 9:00 am Christian Ed
 - 10:00 am Worship
 - 2:15 pm Chinese Orchestra
 - 4:00 pm Girl Scouts
 - 5:00 pm Bell Rehearsal

- MONDAY, March 23
 - 10:00 am Craft Group
 - 6:30 pm Chinese Choir

- TUESDAY, March 24
 - 7:00 pm Boy Scouts

- WEDNESDAY, March 25
 - 8:30 am Men's Bible Study
 - 9:30 am WOW
 - 3:00 pm Women's Prayer Group
 - 7:00 pm Worship
 - 7:30 pm Choir Practice

- THURSDAY, March 26
 - 7:00 pm Emergency Training Group

- SATURDAY, March 27
 - 7:30 pm Lion Dance Rehearsal

WEEKLY DEVOTIONS

Theme of the Week: Christ Meets the Enmity of the World

God promises that in the Jesus Christ, the Living Word we are given all that we need for faith and for a life made holy in love. So we cling to that Word—not as something we possess, but as the living promise that holds us. We cling to it as it is given to us in our baptism, where God’s name is placed upon us and we are claimed as beloved children. We cling to it as Christ meets us in bread and wine, giving himself for the life of the world. We cling to it as it speaks promises that endure forever. We cling to it as we confess our faith before others, and as it assures us of God’s steadfast mercy in the means of grace. And we cling to it even when we are confronted by sin, suffering, and death. In all these things, God remains faithful. So we dare to confess, even in the midst of struggle: **“I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.”**

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE: John 8:46–59 — Before Abraham Was, I Am

In this passage, Jesus speaks words that both reveal and unsettle. His hearers recognize the weight of what he is saying, even as they struggle to receive it. He speaks of a reality that stretches beyond human categories—revealing God’s presence in and through his own life. The Church confesses that in Jesus Christ, we encounter the fullness of God’s self-giving love. Fully human and fully divine, Christ comes not to condemn the world but to draw it into life. While we may not fully comprehend this mystery, we trust the One who speaks and acts with authority rooted in love. In Jesus, God’s promise takes on flesh for the sake of the world. *Gracious God, we give you thanks for Christ, who reveals your mercy and draws us into your life. Amen.*

MONDAY SCRIPTURE: Psalm 54 — A Prayer of Trust in the Midst of Betrayal

This psalm arises out of fear, betrayal, and the painful reality of human brokenness. David finds himself surrounded by those who seek harm, including those who once might have been trusted. Yet rather than placing his hope in human strength, he turns to God, whose faithfulness endures. We, too, know the fragility of trust and the weight of disappointment. Yet God meets us not with abandonment, but with steadfast love. In every season, God remains present—our helper and sustainer. Even when all seems uncertain, God’s promises hold fast. *O God, you are our helper and our strength. Uphold us in times of trouble and lead us in your truth. Amen.*

TUESDAY SCRIPTURE: Hebrews 9:11–15 — Christ, Our Eternal Redemption

The sacrifices of old were repeated again and again, pointing to the deep human longing for forgiveness and restoration. In Christ, we see the fulfillment of that longing—not through endless repetition, but through a once-for-all act of self-giving love. Christ enters fully into our human condition, offering not something external, but His very self. In His life, death, and resurrection, we are drawn into a new covenant marked by grace. Through Jesus, we are freed from all that binds us and invited into renewed relationship with God and with one another. *Lord Jesus Christ, we give you thanks for your life poured out in love, renewing us and leading us into your promise of life everlasting. Amen.*

WEDNESDAY SCRIPTURE: Genesis 12:1–3 — A Promise for All the Earth

God's call to Abram is both personal and universal. Abram is called to go, to trust, and to become part of a promise far greater than himself. Through him, all the families of the earth shall be blessed. This promise continues to unfold in the life of God's people and finds its fullest expression in Christ. God's blessing is never meant to be contained—it is given for the sake of the whole world. As those who share in this promise, we are called to participate in God's work of blessing, justice, and reconciliation. *God of promise, you call us into your unfolding story of grace. Bless us to be a blessing for the sake of the world. Amen.*

THURSDAY SCRIPTURE: Matthew 10:32–42 — Faithfulness in the Midst of Division

Jesus speaks honestly about the cost of discipleship. To follow him is to live in a way that may challenge the values and expectations of the world. This can bring tension, even within our closest relationships. Yet we are not called to fear, nor to respond with hostility. Rather, we are called to remain steadfast in love, trusting that the Holy Spirit sustains us. Even in the midst of division, we bear witness to Christ through acts of mercy, hospitality, and courage. *God of steadfast love, strengthen us by your Spirit to follow Christ with courage, and to live as instruments of your peace. Amen.*

FRIDAY SCRIPTURE: 1 Corinthians 1:21–31 — The Wisdom of the Cross

Human wisdom often seeks clarity, power, and control. Yet in the cross of Christ, we encounter a different kind of wisdom—one revealed through humility, suffering, and love poured out for the sake of others. What the world may dismiss as weakness, God reveals as strength. What seems foolish, God makes the means of salvation. Faith itself is a gift, awakened in us by the Spirit, drawing us to trust in what we cannot fully comprehend. Therefore, we boast not in ourselves, but in the Lord, whose grace is sufficient. *God of wisdom, center our lives in the grace revealed in Christ, that we may live in faith, hope, and love. Amen.*

SATURDAY SCRIPTURE: Psalm 27 — Seeking the Presence of God

This psalm gives voice both to confidence and to longing. It proclaims trust in God's presence even while acknowledging fear and uncertainty. Faith does not remove struggle, but anchors us within it. The cross reminds us that God does not stand apart from suffering but enters into it. And the resurrection proclaims that suffering and death do not have the final word. Even now, we are drawn toward the light of God's presence, where hope is renewed and life is restored. *Loving God, draw us ever closer to your presence, and grant that we may dwell in your house all the days of our life. Amen.*