

10:45AM
Celebration Worship
Service



March 1, 2026



Welcome to all, especially visitors! It is no accident that you are here! We've been praying for you. We believe God has brought you here and wants to touch your life. You are among friends.



If you are visiting, please sign in on our guest sign in sheet in the Narthex Hallway.



At our 10:45 AM service: words for the hymns are projected on the screens at the front of the sanctuary.



For the hearing impaired: hearing devices are available in the Narthex outside the sanctuary. ELC now has a wifi enabled Assist System. This will allow you to follow along with the service using your personal hearing aids. If your hearing aids are paired to your smartphone, please scan the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store QR code to download the waveCast app. Please see the tech team if you need any assistance.



Google Play Store



Wifi ELC Hears



Apple App Store



Restrooms: To locate a restroom, exit the back of the worship area. Take two rights and proceed down the hallway. At the stairs, go left. The Women's Room is on the left, the Men's Room is straight ahead.



Holy Communion at ELC: We welcome to the Lord's Table all the baptized people of God. Gluten free options and grape juice are available.



Nursery: We have a fully staffed nursery for infants through children six years of age or children of any age with special needs. The nursery opens at 10:15 AM on Sunday morning for our 10:45 AM worship service. The nursery is equipped with a pager system to help parents feel at ease. There is also a private nursing room for those who wish you use it.



Photo Release Form: Our 10:45am AM service is live-streamed to our Facebook Page and YouTube Channel. All children coming to the front for the Children's Message or Holy Communion will be visible on the live-feed. If you do not want your child's image online, please do not send them up to the front. If you are ok with it, please fill out a Photo Release Form located on the sign-up table in the Narthex and put it in the offering box.



Reserved Seating: Please keep the reserved seats open for people with disabilities and their family members. Thank you!



Background Checks: Mandatory background checks have been completed for all of our Nursery & Children's Ministry Volunteers.

March 1, 2026

The 2nd Sunday in Lent

During Lent we journey with all those around the world who will be baptized at the Easter Vigil. In today's gospel Jesus tells Nicodemus that he must be born of water and Spirit. At the font we are given a new birth as children of God. As God made a covenant with Abraham, in baptism God promises to raise us up with Christ to new life. From worship we are sent forth to proclaim God's love for all the world.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND COMMUNITY SHARING

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

C Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Gracious God,

C have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

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

C have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

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

C have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P 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.

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

C have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P 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.

P 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.

P 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

Open the Eyes of My Heart

GREETING

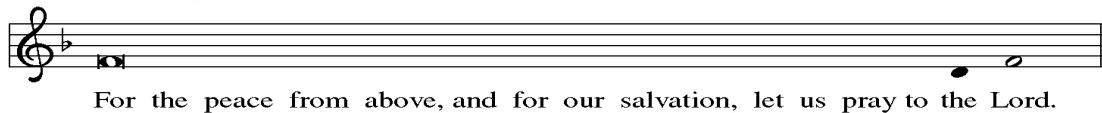
P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

KYRIE



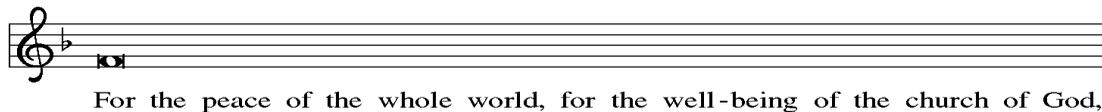
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



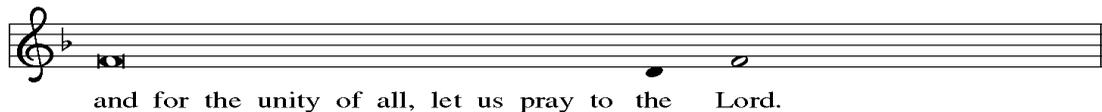
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



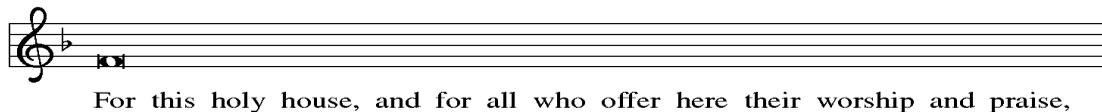
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



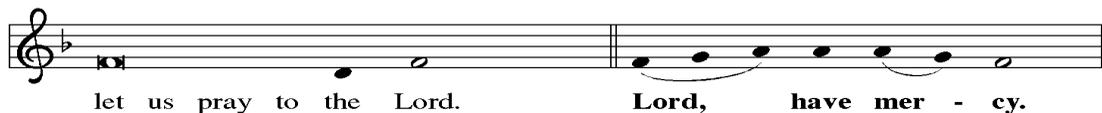
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. O God, our leader and guide, 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.

C Amen.

Please be seated

WORD

FIRST READING

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

In the person and example of Abraham we discover that a right relationship with God does not involve earning a reward from God but entails trusting God's promises. Abraham is the forebear and model for both Jews and Gentiles, because we too trust that ours is a God who gives life to the dead.

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

¹³ 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. ¹⁴ For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵ For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law, neither is there transgression.

¹⁶ 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, ¹⁷ 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.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

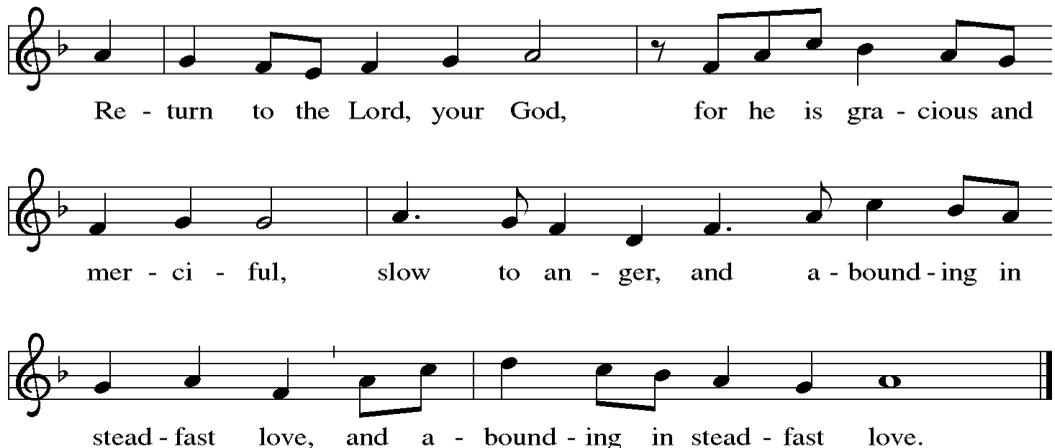
Psalm 121

We will sing the Psalm responsively.

- ¹ I lift up my eyes | to the hills;
from where is my | help to come?
- ² **My help comes | from the LORD,**
the maker of heav- | en and earth.
- ³ The LORD will not let your | foot be moved
nor will the one who watches over you | fall asleep.
- ⁴ **Behold, the keep- | er of Israel**
will neither slum- | ber nor sleep;
- ⁵ the LORD watches | over you;
the LORD is your shade at | your right hand;
- ⁶ **the sun will not strike | you by day,**
nor the | moon by night.
- ⁷ The LORD will preserve you | from all evil
and will | keep your life.
- ⁸ **The LORD will watch over your going out and your | coming in,**
from this time forth for- | evermore.

Please stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

GOSPEL

John 3:1-17

A curious Pharisee visits Jesus by night to learn from the teacher his friends reject. Jesus speaks to him about life in the Spirit and the kingdom of God.

P The holy gospel according to St. John the 3rd Chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ² 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.” ³ Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” ⁴ 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?” ⁵ Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶ What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ ⁸ 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.” ⁹ Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” ¹⁰ Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹ “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. ¹² If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴ And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶ “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. ¹⁷ “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.”

P The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Donkey

SERMON

Pastor Drahus

Please stand

HYMN OF THE DAY

God so Loved the World

ELW 323

THE APOSTLES 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



Members of Our Congregation: *Hilda Carey, Jeff Cecco, Don Cool, Ellen Hess, Bill Hine, Bill Kipe, Art Koenig, Karla Oller, Lena Rowe, and Carolyn and Lamar Sease, Marjorie and Roy Tressler.*

Friends of the Congregation: *Anna Batson, Joanie Amsley, Vicki Ancel, Rosanna Biesecker, Kevin Carey, Vickie Clark, Barbara Dutton, Tammy Earhart, Marvin Egolf, Jim Gleason, Robyn Haskins, Terry L'Heureux, Lana Lammond, Debra Lensbower, Jerry Lindsay, Juli Miller, Elizabeth Martin, Amanda Morningstar, Kathleen Quellmalz, Terry Reed, Billie Jo Rothe, Dan Rovestad, Susan Sees, Spahnoltgli family, Greg & Cindy Spickler, Sherry Toomey, Samantha Uber, Matthew Urban, Lubomira Uhliarova, Joe Vance, Adam Wilson, the family of Marian Mills and Frances Rampmeyer.*

(Names will be posted for a month. If you would like to have them on longer, please contact the church office.)

PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

Please be seated

ANTHEM

It Is Well with My Soul

M. Wilberg

Please stand

MEAL

OFFERING PRAYER

P Let us pray. 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

*Thank you for your continuous support of ELC ministries. Your generosity is making a difference. Please place your offering in one of the boxes at the entrance to the Sanctuary.
You are a blessing!*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE

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.

PREFACE

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san - na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P 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.

LORD'S PRAYER

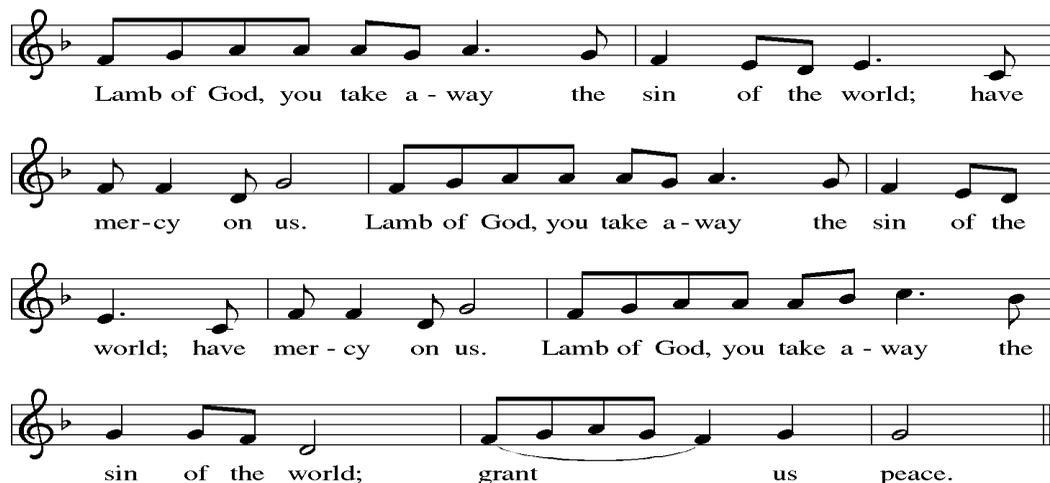
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

Please be seated

COMMUNION SONG



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.

Please stand

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Let us pray. God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

SENDING

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN

God of Grace God of Glory

ELW 705

DISMISSAL

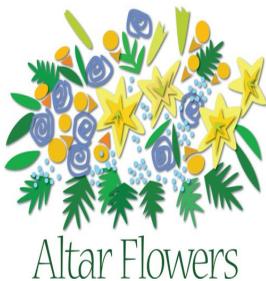
P Go in peace. Believe the good news.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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WORSHIP ASSISTANTS	
Acolyte	Malu Dirr
Altar Guild	Teresa Morningstar & Janey Jenkins
Children's Message	Donkey
Children's Worship	Becky McDonald & Hayley Martz
Communion Asst.'s	Chuck Gates & Sean McDonald
Flower Delivery	Andy & Maggie Rovelstad
Greeters	Ruth Taylor (Welcome) Roxanne Cecco (Choir)
Lectors	Bob Zimmerman
Ushers	Team A
Sound Board	Rich Luquette
Screens	Rhys Erwin



*In loving memory of Ferdinand Betts on
his March 6th birthday
by the family.*

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Rev. Drahus Osliek: Pastor;
Rev. Rosalie Brunner: Associate Pastor
Deborah L. Zacher: Director of Music and Organist
Karen Walker: Contemporary Worship Team Leader
Becky McDonald: Business Manager
Hayley Martz: Office Secretary &
Children's Ministry Coordinator
Andy Rovelstad: Treasurer
Cathy Robinson: Housekeeper
Emily Cordell: Nursery Caretaker
Bobbi Kelso: Youth Director

