

Midday Lenten Worship
March 18, 2026 – 12 Noon



Prayer before Worship

Lord Jesus Christ, draw our hearts and minds to you that we may come before you, and worship you in spirit and in truth. Help us to follow where you are leading in this Lenten season: to the cross and to resurrection. Amen.



Carillon

Selections for the Lenten Season

Welcome

P Holy God, holy and most gracious Father,
G have mercy and hear us.

G 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.

G I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.

P Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful,
C **slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents over disaster.** *(Joel 2:13)*

P Jesus said: If anyone would come after me,
C **let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.** *(Matthew 16:24)*

P Christ was wounded for our transgressions.
C **He was bruised for our iniquities.** *(Isaiah 53:5)*

P Let us pray:
Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Scripture Reading: Peter Denies Jesus Matthew 26:69-75

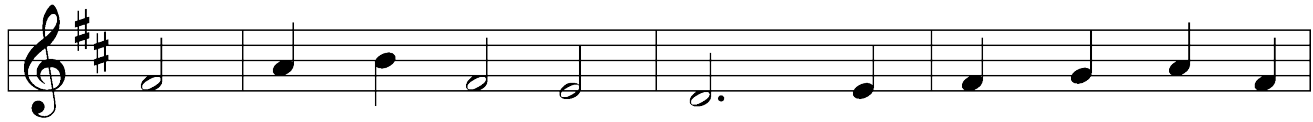
⁶⁹Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. And a servant girl came up to him and said, "You also were with Jesus the Galilean." ⁷⁰But he denied it before them all, saying, "I do not know what you mean." ⁷¹And when he went out to the entrance, another servant girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders, "This man was with Jesus of Nazareth." ⁷²And again he denied it with an oath: "I do not know the man." ⁷³After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, "Certainly you too are one of them, for your accent betrays you." ⁷⁴Then he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear, "I do not know the man." And immediately the rooster crowed. ⁷⁵And Peter remembered the saying of Jesus, "Before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn

"My Song is Love Unknown" (LSB 430)



1 My song is love un - known, My Sav - ior's love to
2 He came from His blest throne Sal - va - tion to be -
4 Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and
7 Here might I stay and sing, No sto - ry so di -



me, Love to the love - less shown That they might love - ly
stow; But men made strange, and none The longed - for Christ would
spite? He made the lame to run, He gave the blind their
vine! Nev - er was love, dear King, Nev - er was grief like



be. Oh, who am I That for my sake
know. But, oh, my friend, My friend in - deed,
sight. Sweet in - ju - ries! Yet they at these
Thine. This is my friend, In whose sweet praise



My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?
Who at my need His life did spend!
Them - selves dis - please And 'gainst Him rise.
I all my days Could glad - ly spend!

Text: Samuel Crossman, c. 1624–1683
Tune: John N. Ireland, 1879–1962
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Meditation

Prayer

Other petitions may be offered, concluding with this prayer:

P Gracious Lord Jesus, who at this hour bore our sins in your own body on the tree of the cross so that we, being dead to sin, might live unto righteousness, have mercy upon us now and at the hour of our death. Grant to us, your servants, with all others who devoutly remember your blessed Passion, a holy and peaceful life in this world and by your grace eternal glory in the life to come, where, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, you live and reign, one God, now and forever.

G Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

P In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Distribution of the Lord's Supper

Dismissal

Post-Communion Prayer

L Let us pray:

Merciful God, we thank you for feeding us with your Son's Body and Blood in this holy Supper. Accompany our journey through these forty days of Lent. Renew in us 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 Lord.

C Amen.

Blessing

L Let us bless the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

Sending Hymn

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" (LSB 425)



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross On which the
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast Save in the
3 See, from His head, His hands, His feet Sor - row and
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, That were a



Prince of Glo - ry died, My rich - est gain I
death of Christ, my God; All the vain things that
love flow min - gled down! Did e'er such love and
trib - ute far too small; Love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss And pour con - tempt on all my pride.
charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to His blood.
sor - row meet Or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
so di - vine, De - mands my soul, my life, my all!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748
Tune: Lowell Mason, 1792-1872
Text and tune: Public domain



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Lent 2026 Worship Schedule

NOTE: livestreaming available for service times with a *

Sundays in Lent

10:30AM* - Worship Services with Holy Communion
March 22

Sunday, March 29 - Palm Sunday

10:30AM* - Holy Communion

Wednesdays in Lent

12 Noon* - Midweek Lenten Worship with Holy Communion
March 25 and April 1

Thursday, April 2 - Maundy Thursday

7:00PM - Holy Communion and stripping of the altar

Friday, April 3 - Good Friday

12 Noon & 7:00PM* -
(No Communion)

Saturday, April 4 - Holy Saturday/Great Vigil of Easter

7:00PM* - Holy Communion

Sunday, April 5 - Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter Sunday

8:00AM & 10:30AM* - Holy Communion

Easter Breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt between worship services



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A member congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

St. John's Lutheran Church Staff

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