

THE WAY



2nd Sunday in Lent
March 1, 2026

Ascension Lutheran Church
1105 N. Washington Blvd.
Ogden, UT 84404
801.782.2810

Welcome to Worship...

Welcome to all God's guests, including those who call themselves "members" of this church named Ascension Lutheran Church more than 65 years ago.

A special welcome to guests who are here for the first time or who call yourselves "visitors" among the people of this community. It is at God's invitation, through worship, the Holy Spirit calls each of us to come to a place of **community, communion** and **commitment**. Each of us brings a different lens to worship, and yet, in a worshipping community, these differences become celebrations of diversity.

Children are always welcome in worship services;

However, please know the cry room at the back of the sanctuary is available for parents who need to tend to their little ones.

Welcome to Worship



Meet me in the still-ness, Lord, be the
air I breathe; meet me in the still-ness,
Lord, free me to re-ceive.

As we continue our Lenten journey
today we come to the table to be sustained for the road ahead.
In our society, we are taught that everything costs.
But our ways are not God's ways, as we will hear in scripture.



We are a wil-der-ness wand-ring peo-ple on a
jour-ney of the soul. May we find our des-ti-na-tion in our long-ing to be whole.

We are all invited to the table of Jesus without price. This is the abundance of God's grace. This is the higher way that we are invited to embody for the sake

of the world. The “rich food” that we are invited to partake is the richness of life when all have enough—not simply to survive—but to thrive. Hospitality is the way—even though we do not agree on everything, we are still one family at one table.

Our Ho-ly God is call - ing to us. With Je - sus by our
side may com - pas - sion be our com - pass may the Spir - it be our
guide, on The Way, on The Way, on The Way.

Confession and Forgiveness

P Let us join together in opening our hearts to the love of God.

All Amen.

P Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Mighty God, lover of justice,

All You call us to a full life in community and service

But we get stuck in our own lives of doubt and regret.

We are full of anxious questions and short on reasonable answers.

We are trapped by our own inability to make decisions
that move us to service.

All We are afraid of consequences and want a guarantee that everything we do will work to our benefit.
We fear that we are not strong enough, nor wise enough, nor caring enough.

Forgive us.

Turn our eyes to you. Show us the way to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God.

Amen.

P Hear this: No matter what juncture you find yourself on in your journeys, you are never alone in your “wondering while wandering.” Whether or not you know it, believe it, or feel it, Jesus is with you now because Jesus has been on this road and knows just how hard it can be.
You are forgiven and carried, ✝ especially when you think you are at the end of the road.

All Amen.

Prayer for This Day

WA God of Grace, we know you are with us on The Way

All But we need sustenance in order to make the journey.
As we come seeking peace and a place at the table,
we find that you have already prepared and were expecting us.
Help us to set tables of abundance
for all who travel this journey of life,
just as Jesus did. Amen.

God invites Israel to a great feast at which both food and drink are free. God also promises to make an everlasting covenant with all peoples, with promises that previously had been limited to Israel. As David was a witness to the nations, these nations shall now acknowledge the ways in which God has glorified Israel.

A Reading from Isaiah, the 55th chapter

¹ Hear, everyone who thirsts; come to the waters;
and you who have no money, come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.
² Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread
and your earnings for that which does not satisfy?
Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.
³ Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live.
I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.
⁴ See, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.
⁵ Now you shall call nations that you do not know,
and nations that do not know you shall run to you,
because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.
⁶ Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near;
⁷ let the wicked forsake their way and the unrighteous their thoughts;
let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
⁸ For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.
⁹ For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Isaiah 55:1-9

WA The Word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God!

Gospel Acclamation

Please stand in body or spirit.

♪ ♪ Meet me in the stillness, Lord ♪ ♪
Be the air I breathe
Meet me in the stillness, Lord
Free me to receive

Gospel Reading

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 3rd chapter.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

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.

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.”

John 3:1-17

P The Gospel of our Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Sermon & Noisy Offering

Message

Pr. Gordon Young

Hymn of the Day

I Could Sing Of Your Love Forever

Words and Music by
Martin Smith

Please stand in body or spirit.



O - ver the moun - tains and the sea Your riv - er runs with love for me,



and I will o - pen up my heart, and let the Heal - er set me free. I'm hap - py to be in the truth,



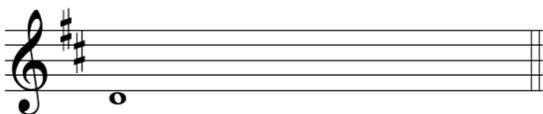
and I will dai - ly lift my hands, for I will al - ways sing of when Your love came down,



I could sing of Your love for - ev - er, I could sing of Your love for - ev - er,



I could sing of Your love for - ev - er, I could sing of Your love for - ev - er.



Apostles' Creed

P Let us join together with the saints across the ages confessing our faith with the words of 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.**

You may be Seated

Prayers of the People

WA Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

**♪ ♪ Meet me in the stillness, Lord ♪ ♪
Be the air I breathe
Meet me in the stillness, Lord
Free me to receive**

(each prayer petition ends with)

WA: Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

Sharing the Peace of Christ

Please stand in body or spirit.

In our continued physical distancing out of love for the health of one another, we will share the Peace of our risen Lord by "speaking" that Peace through sign language.

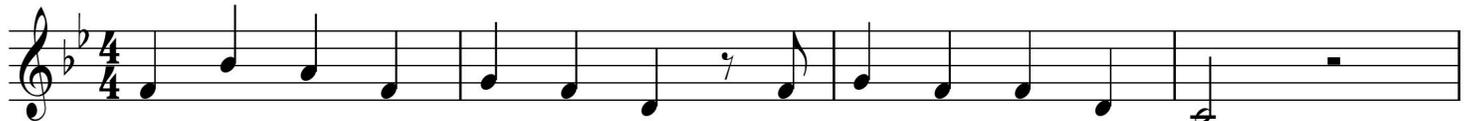
P Christ become Peace with you.

All And also with you.

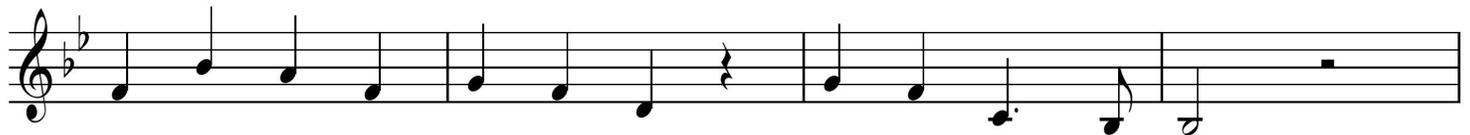
You may be Seated

Offering

Offering plates are available at the entrance to receive your offerings.



All I am, I lay it down, for you, my God and friend;



take my life in - to your hands, here I am to send.



Search my heart, and you will find will - ing - ness to serve,



for your cross has co - vered me with grace I don't de - serve.



Oh _____ Lord lead me _____ on. _____



Oh _____ Lord lead me _____ on. _____

Offertory Prayer

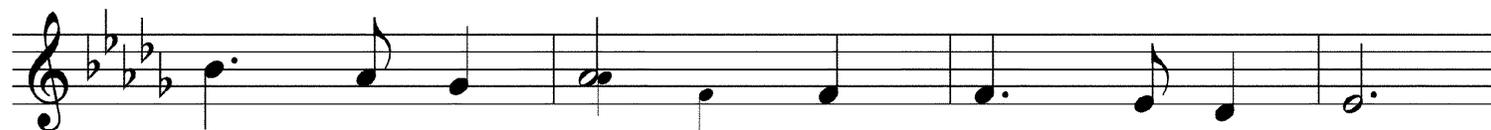
P O God, maker of heaven and earth,
your steadfast love embraces all creation.

All Use what we have gathered on our journey to feed the hungry,
house the poor and embrace all with the reign of God come near,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Come to Us



Come to me, come to us, you who are bur-dened.



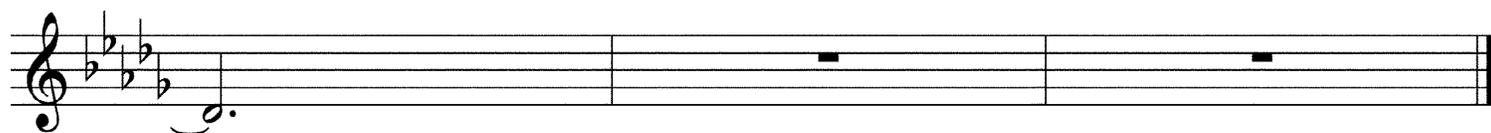
Come to the word, and come to the meal.



Come with-out ques - tion or pres - sure or price:



Come, be em - braced by the bod - y of Christ.



The Great Thanksgiving and Words of Institution

P The Lord be with you

All And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give God thanks and praise.

P Almighty God, Creator of all that was, and is, and is to come,
You led those who could not see by a road they did not know.
You have turned nighttime before them into light.
You have smoothed out the rough places and made them plain.
You have released the prisoners from the dungeon.
You have made all things new.

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.

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.

**♪ ♪ Come to me, come to us, pilgrim or stranger, ♪ ♪
looking for change, or challenge, or light.
We all are people whose calling is care,
bearers of mercy, nourished in prayer.**

P Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
that we may be for the world the body of Christ,
redeemed by his blood.

All Amen

The Lord's Prayer

Please stand in body or spirit.

P Let us together pray as Jesus taught us:

**All 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.**

*♪♪ Come to me, come to us, broken or building, ♪♪
come with your children, your choices, your chains.
All are invited to friendship and rest,
to share in our struggle, our call, and our quest.*

The Invitation

P Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!
Come to the table; taste and see.

You may be Seated

Note: the communion cups on the periphery of the tray contain red wine while the cups in the center contain white grape juice.
Gluten Free wafers available –ask the communion attendant

Communion Songs

All You Who Are Thirsty

Refrain

All you who are thirst - y, come to the wa - ter;

All you who hun - ger, come, re - ceive grain;

All with - out mon - ey, come with - out pay - ing;

All you who heed me, come for rich fare.

Verses

Cantor or choir:

1. Come now and lis - ten that you may have life; my
2. Why spend your mon - ey for what is not bread, your
3. Drink of this wa - ter a - bun - dant with life and

cov - e - nant I will re - new. This
 wag - es for what fails to sat - is - fy? 7
 eat of the bread I pro - vide. 7

cov - e - nant shall be e - ter - nal
 Heed my com - mand - ments and you shall eat well;
 I am the bread, and the wa - ter am I; put



as I prom - ised to Da - vid.
 you shall de - light in rich fare.
 thirst - ing and hun - ger a - side.

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found; was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5

Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1851–1921, alt.

Post Communion Blessing and Prayer

[Please stand in body or spirit.](#)

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

All Amen

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.

**All 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.**

Amen

[You may be Seated](#)

Stewardship of Life and Ministry Announcements

Benediction

[Please stand in body or spirit.](#)

P The Creator God filled you with breath,
inviting you to this journey called Life.

All We will follow on the way

P Jesus, our Guide, showed us what it means
to make a new way with Love.

All We will follow on the way

P The Spirit gives us strength to move forward
with Courage and Compassion for all we meet.

All We will follow on the way

P May this week be filled with opportunities to choose
good over evil; humility over pride;
and loving God over loving the things that do not last.

✝ "Buen Camino!"

All Amen

Sending

Will You Come and Follow Me
The Summons



"Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call



your name? Will you care for cruel and



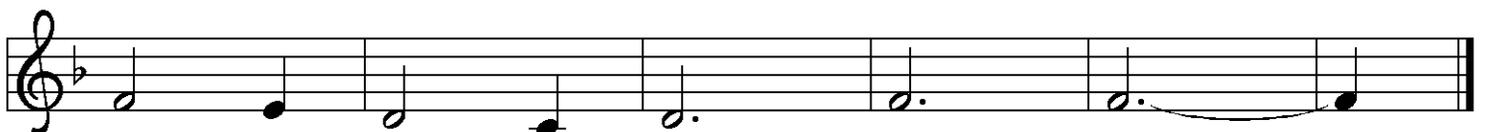
kind and nev - er be the same?



Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -



tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer



pray'r in you and you in in me?"

Dismissal

WA Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

All Thanks be to God.



Front Cover:

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Readings for next Sunday,
March 8th

First Reading:

Romans 5:1-11

Psalm:

32:1-11

Gospel:

Luke 13:31-34

Revised Common Lectionary,
March 8th

First Reading:

Exodus 17:1-7

Psalm:

Psalm 95

Second Reading:

Romans 5:1-11

Gospel:

John 4:5-42

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