



**Grace Lutheran Church**  
**Sunday, March 9, 2025**  
**First Sunday in Lent**

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

**Prelude**

**Announcements**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

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

**Amen.**

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Compassionate One,

**you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,**

**but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world.**

**We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us.**

**We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people.**

**We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again.**

**We squander the abundant gifts of the earth.**

**Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross.**

**Amen.**

Beloved in Christ,

God's arms are always stretched open wide  
to welcome the wandering ones home.

In ☩ Christ your sins are forgiven.

You have a place in God's house forever. **Amen.**

**\*Gathering Hymn**

*What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine*

ELW 774



1 What a fel - low-ship, what a joy di - vine, lean - ing on the ev - er -  
2 Oh, how sweet to walk in this pil - grim way, lean - ing on the ev - er -  
3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean - ing on the ev - er -



last - ing arms; what a bless - ed - ness, what a peace is mine,  
last - ing arms; oh, how bright the path grows from day to day,  
last - ing arms? I have bless - ed peace with my Lord so near,



lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.  
lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.  
lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

*Refrain*



Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se - cure from all a - larms;



lean - ing, lean - ing, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

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**Greeting**

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

## \*Kyrie



Ⓐ Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son:      ☒ Lord, have mer - cy.  
*Lord, . . . . have mer - cy:*



Ⓐ Chri - ste e - le - i - son:      ☒ Christ, have mer - cy.  
*Christ, . . . . have mer - cy:*



Ⓐ Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son:      ☒ Lord, have mer - cy.  
*Lord, . . . . have mer - cy:*

## \*Prayer of the Day

O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## Special Music

*Bread of Life*

Shea Stokely

First Lesson

**Psalm 91: 1-2, 9-16**

### A reading from Psalm:

<sup>1</sup> You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty—<sup>2</sup> you will say to the LORD, “My refuge and my stronghold, my God in whom I put my trust.”

<sup>9</sup> Because you have made the LORD your refuge, and the Most High your habitation,<sup>10</sup> no evil will befall you, nor shall affliction come near your dwelling. <sup>11</sup> For God will give the angels charge over you, to guard you in all your ways. <sup>12</sup> Upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone. <sup>13</sup> You will tread upon the lion cub and viper; you will trample down the lion and the serpent. <sup>14</sup> I will deliver those who cling to me; I will uphold them, because they know my name. <sup>15</sup> They will call me, and I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and honor them. <sup>16</sup> With long life will I satisfy them, and show them my salvation.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Second Lesson

Romans 10: 8b-13

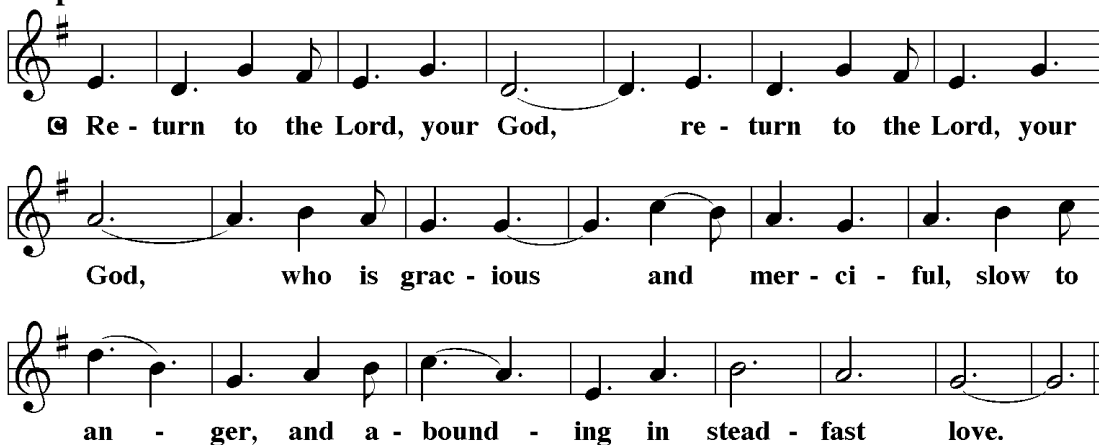
### A reading from Romans:

<sup>8b</sup> “The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); <sup>9</sup> because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup> For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. <sup>11</sup> The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” <sup>12</sup> For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. <sup>13</sup> For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### \*Gospel Acclamation



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, re - turn to the Lord, your  
God, who is grac - ious and mer - ci - ful, slow to  
an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

### Gospel

Luke 4: 1-13

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 4<sup>th</sup> chapter.

### Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup> Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, <sup>2</sup> where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. <sup>3</sup> The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.” <sup>4</sup> Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone.’”

<sup>5</sup> Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. <sup>6</sup> And the devil said to him, “To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. <sup>7</sup> If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” <sup>8</sup> Jesus answered him, “It is written,

‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’”

<sup>9</sup> Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, <sup>10</sup> for it is

written, 'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,' <sup>11</sup> and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.' <sup>12</sup>

<sup>12</sup> Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" <sup>13</sup> When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

**Pastor Priscilla**

**Hymn of the Day**

*O Lord, throughout These Forty Days*

LBW 99



- 1 O Lord, through-out these for - ty days you prayed and kept the fast;
- 2 You strove with Sa - tan, and you won; your faith - ful - ness en - dured;
- 3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet you prayed and fixed your mind a - bove;
- 4 Be with us through this sea-son, Lord, and all our earth-ly days,



in - spire re - pen - tance for our sin, and free us from our past.  
lend us your nerve, your skill and trust in God's e - ter - nal word.  
so teach us to de - ny our-selves that we may know God's love.  
that when the fi - nal Eas - ter dawns, we join in heav - en's praise.

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**\*Apostles' Creed**

**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 to the dead. 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.**

## **\*Prayers of Intercession**

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

*A brief silence.*

Gracious God, speak your word anew among your church. Strengthen it to withstand the temptation to turn inward in fear or complacency. Embolden church institutions to turn from self-preservation toward the self-giving love of Jesus. God, in your mercy,  
**receive our prayer.**

Mothering God, speak the word of life into wilderness places and fertile fields. Grant wisdom to your people, that we may quell the urge to strip lands of their resources and instead preserve first fruits for future generations. God, in your mercy,  
**receive our prayer.**

Almighty God, speak a word of wisdom to people in positions of power: mayors, councils, and tribal leaders, legislators, judges and juries, presidents, and monarchs. Help them discern your voice and follow your guidance, resisting the temptations of the evil one. God, in your mercy,  
**receive our prayer.**

Steadfast God, speak words of courage to your people in the wilderness. Protect migrants and refugees on perilous journeys, that they find safe refuge and a portion in the bounty you have given humanity to share. God, in your mercy,  
**receive our prayer.**

Loving God, speak gently to all who are alone. Bless lay ministers, home communion teams, and others who attend to those who are overlooked, vulnerable, or lonely, that all find belonging in your love. We pray for all who are ill. God, in your mercy,  
**receive our prayer.**

Living God, we give thanks for all the faithful who have crossed the threshold from death to life. Guide us who are living to learn from their wisdom and follow their example. God, in your mercy,  
**receive our prayer.**

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

**Amen.**

## **\*Peace**

Jesus said to his disciples, *“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.”*

The peace of the Lord be with you, always. **And also with you.**

## **Offering**

### **\*Offertory Hymn**

*Let the Vineyards*

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
 bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were  
 sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.  
 Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we  
 of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,  
 Lord, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

### Offering Prayer

Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

### \*The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also 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.**

And so we sing with all the saints in glory...

### \*Holy, Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and  
 might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

**\*Words of Institution**

**\*The 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**

All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.



## Lamb of God

☐ 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, grant us peace.

## Communion Hymn

### *Now the Silence*

LBW 205

Now the si - lence Now the peace Now the emp - ty hands up - lift - ed  
Now the kneel - ing Now the plea Now the Fa - ther's arms in wel - come  
Now the hear - ing Now the pow'r Now the ves - sel brimmed for pour - ing  
Now the bod - y Now the blood Now the joy - ful cel - e - bra - tion  
Now the wed - ding Now the songs Now the heart for - giv - en leap - ing  
Now the Spir - it's vis - i - ta - tion Now the Son's e - piph - a - ny  
Now the Fa - ther's bless - ing Now Now Now

## Blessing after Communion

The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in his grace, from now unto everlasting life. **Amen.**

## \*Post Communion Cantic

*Thank the Lord*



☒ Thank - ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry -



one what God has done. Let all who seek the



Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.



Send us with your prom - is - es, O God, and



lead us forth in joy with shouts of thanks -



giv - ing. A - men, a - men.

## \*Prayer after Communion

Generous Host, you have shared your feast with us and made us new.

Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Blessing

God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit,

☩ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**



1 As the sun with long - er jour - ney melts the win - ter's snow and ice,  
 2 Through the days of wait - ing, watch - ing, in the des - ert of our sin,  
 3 Praise be giv - en to the mak - er of the sea - sons' year - ly round:



with its slow - ly grow - ing ra - diance warms the seed be - neath the earth,  
 search - ing on the far ho - ri - zon for a sign of cloud or wind,  
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it—Source, Sus - tain - er, Lord of life,



may the sun of Christ's up - ris - ing gent - ly bring our hearts to life.  
 we a - wait the heal - ing wa - ters of our Sav - ior's vic - to - ry.  
 as the ev - er turn - ing a - ges roll to their e - ter - nal rest.

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**\*Dismissal**

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

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