

TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Service time: 9:30am

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 9:00am-2:00pm

TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

March 1, 2026

2nd Sunday in Lent

9:30 a.m.

Setting - Now the Feast and Celebration by Marty Haugen

INTRODUCTION

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.

PRELUDE

Announcements are on pages 18.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

A very warm welcome to all who worship here this morning, we thank God for sending you to Tabor.

Please stand if you are able

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For failing to recognize your coming reign,

and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition,

and for disdain the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For disregarding voices from the margin,

and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world:

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent,

and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life:

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

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,

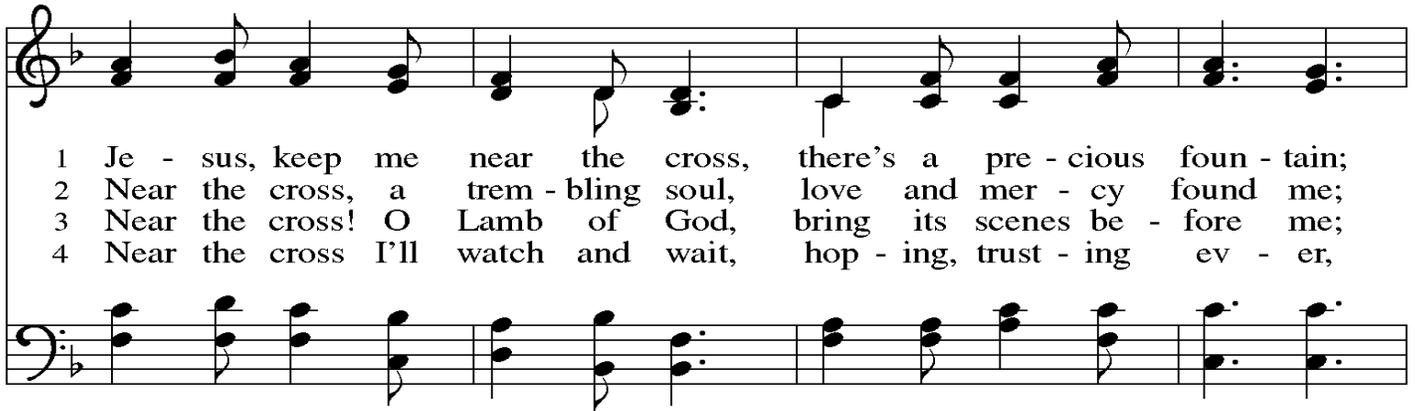
pours God's love into your hearts,

and gives you life and peace.

Amen.

GATHERING

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

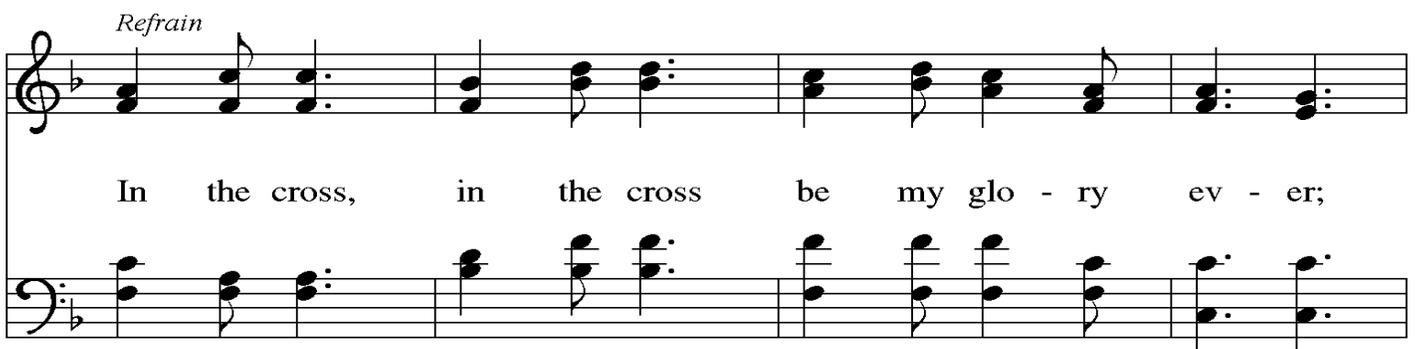


1 Je - sus, keep me near the cross, there's a pre - cious foun - tain;
2 Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, love and mer - cy found me;
3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;
4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,

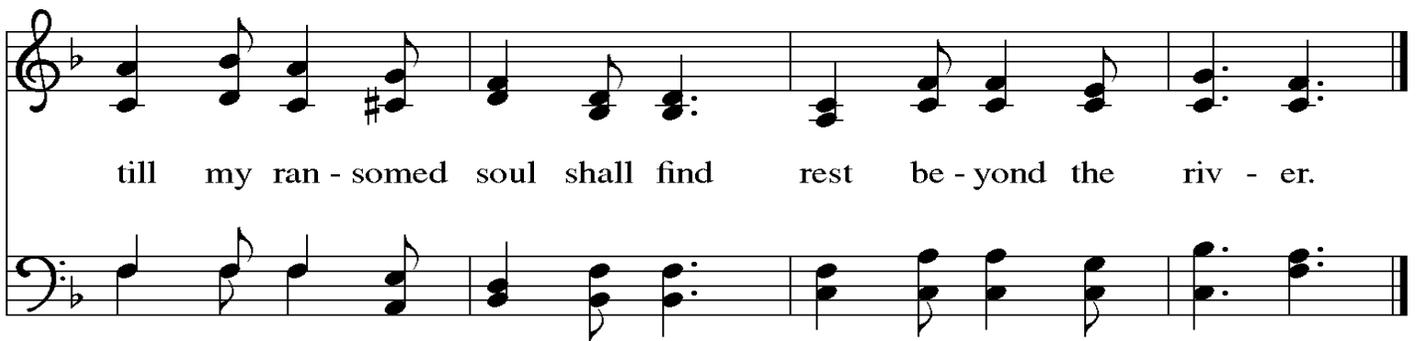


free to all, a heal - ing stream flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.
there the bright and morn - ing star sheds its beams a - round me.
help me walk from day to day with its shad - ow o'er me.
till I reach the gold - en strand just be - yond the riv - er.

Refrain



In the cross, in the cross be my glo - ry ev - er;



till my ran - somed soul shall find rest be - yond the riv - er.

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.

CHILDREN GO TO JAM

The Children are invited to come forward. The children are dismissed for Children's Jam, Sunday School, returning during the Peace.

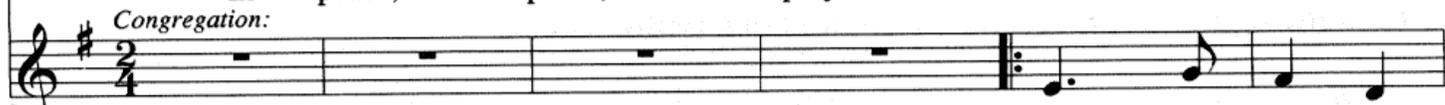
KYRIE

Assistant:



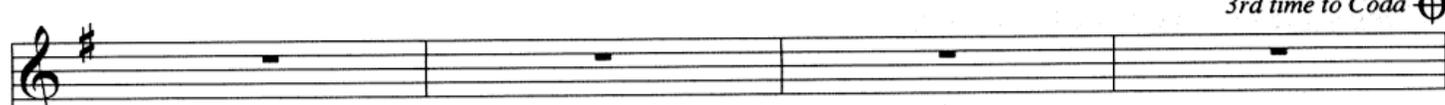
In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Congregation:

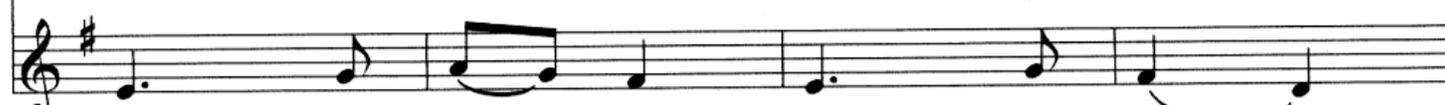


Lord, have mer - cy.

3rd time to Coda ⊕



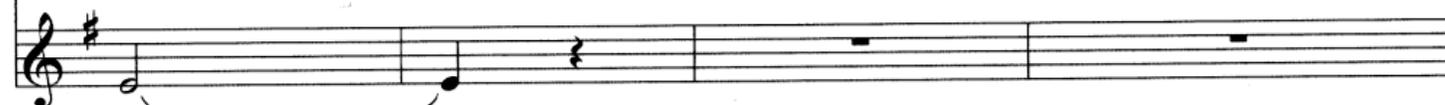
Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer -



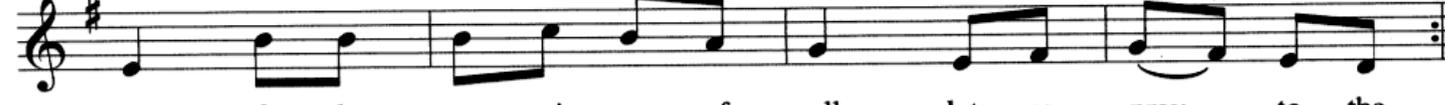
Assistant:



For the Reign of God, and for peace through - out the
For your peo - ple here, who have come to give you



cy.



world, for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the
praise, for the strength to live your Word, let us pray to the

continued on page 5

⊕ Coda

Help, save, and de - fend us, O

cy.

* Ending for Kyrie

God.

A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

WORD

FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

PSALM: Psalm 121

Read responsively

- ¹ I lift up my eyes¹ to the hills;
from where is my¹ help to come?
- ² **My help comes¹ from the LORD,
the maker of heav-¹ en and earth.**
- ³ The LORD will not let your¹ foot be moved
nor will the one who watches over you¹ fall asleep.
- ⁴ **Behold, the keep-¹ er of Israel
will neither slum-¹ 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.

SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Please stand if you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Congregation:



Re - turn to God with all your heart, the Source of grace and



mer-cy; Come, seek the ten-der faith-ful-ness of God.

Text and Music: Marty Haugen; © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

The Holy gospel according to John, the 3rd Chapter.

Glory to you O Lord.

GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Karen Matuska

A brief silence for reflection.

Please stand if you are able

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 660

Lift High the Cross

Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till

all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,
 2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied tree,
 3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
 4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Refrain

our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
 bear on their brows the seal of him who died.
 as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.
 praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956
 Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947
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Please be seated.

RECOGNITION OF CARE TEAM MINISTERS

Care Team members come forward.

Dear Christian friends: Baptized into the priesthood of Christ, we all are called to offer ourselves to our Lord with thanksgiving for what he has done and continues to do for us. It is our privilege to recognize and support those who are engaged in the work of this congregation in the ministry of Care Team, by providing holy communion and Christian comfort to those who are sick or homebound. These people, Vicki Moore, Denise Tristano, Derek Truxell and Connie Wisthoff, have been called to serve the people of God through this essential ministry of the Church to ensure all members of our congregation are united into one holy communion of saints.

The presiding minister addresses the Care Team ministers.

Having offered yourselves in the ministry of Care Team for this congregation, will you follow our Lord's example of humble service? Will you provide compassion and care for those who are unable to regularly attend worship in this building? Will you continue to learn and grow in faith and understanding of the sacraments and God's word through the scriptures?

Yes, with God's help.

To the people of God, do you promise to support these communion ministers in their work through prayer, support and encouragement so that they may represent the core mission of our Church, that is to spread the unity of Christ through the sacraments.

Yes, with God's help.

Let us pray.

Gracious God, loving all you family with a mother's tender care: as you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those in this ministry on which they set forth. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those to whom they bring this sacrament, that through the body and blood of your Son we all may know the comfort of your abiding presence. Amen

Let us show our appreciation for these ministers.

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 into hell.**

**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

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

A brief silence

Each petition ends:

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Prayers conclude with:

Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say:

Peace be with you.

Please be seated.

MEAL

OFFERING OF GIFTS, TITHES AND MUSIC

Special Piano Music

Please stand if you are able.

OFFERTORY

ELW 188

Create in Me a Clean Heart *Offering Song*

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your
pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -
store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,
and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERING PRAYER

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.
Amen.

DIALOGUE

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.

PREFACE

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

Congregation:

The musical score is written on five staves in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The first staff begins with a common time signature (C) and contains the lyrics: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and". The second staff continues with "might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your". The third staff has "glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!". The fourth staff contains "Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho -". The fifth and final staff concludes with "san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!". The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!
Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

Text and Music: Marty Haugen; © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed, ...

Again, after supper ...

...Do this for the remembrance of me.

**Through him, with him, in him,
in the unity of the Holy spirit,
all honor and glory is yours almighty Father,
now and forever.**

Amen

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

Come to the table.
Feast on God's goodness and mercy.
Thanks be to God!

COMMUNION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say
The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.
and each person may respond
Amen.

The Lord's table is open to all worshipers from all denominations who wish to share in God's blessing of the sacrament of Holy Communion. The real presence of Christ is in the bread and wine. Please follow the directions of the ushers. Gluten free wafers and grape juice are available if you prefer.

Please let the usher know if you need assistance.

Please be seated.

COMMUNION SONG

Congregation:

Congregation or Assistant:



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
you call us to the way of your
you are the way of jus - tice and
you are the way of mer - cy and

Congregation:



world: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,
peace:
love.

Final Stanza

Congregation or Assistant:



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you

Congregation:



take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,



grant us peace, grant us peace.

Text and Music: Marty Haugen; © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

COMMUNION HYMN

ELW 542

Please repeat until Communion is complete

O Living Bread from Heaven

1 O liv - ing Bread from heav - en, how well you feed your guest!
 2 My Sav - ior, you have led me with - in your ho - liest place,
 3 You gave me all I want - ed; this food can death de - stroy.
 4 Oh, grant me then, well - strength - ened with heav'n - ly food, while here

The gifts that you have giv - en have filled my heart with rest.
 and here your - self have fed me with trea - sures of your grace;
 And you have free - ly grant - ed the cup of end - less joy.
 my course on earth is length - ened, to serve you, free from fear;

O won - drous food of bless - ing! O cup that heals our woes!
 for you have free - ly giv - en what earth could nev - er buy,
 My Lord, I do not mer - it the fa - vor you have shown,
 and bring me home to praise you where none can peace de - stroy,

My heart, this gift pos - sess - ing, in thank - ful song o'er - flows!
 the bread of life from heav - en, that now I shall not die.
 and all my soul and spir - it bow down be - fore your throne.
 where I will ev - er raise you glad songs in end - less joy.

Text: Johann Rist, 1607–1667; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
 Music: AURELIA, Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–1876

Please stand if you are able.

COMMUNION BLESSING

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.
Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

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.
Amen.

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

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
 pres - ent 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

Music: HAMBURG, Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Believe the good news.

Thanks be to God!

<u>Disciples Serving:</u>	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Sunday</u>
Presider/Supply	Pastor Karen Matuska	Adam Bowens
Assisting Minister:	Cyrisse Cooley	Ryan Kessinger
Pianist:	Dr. J. Michael Beck	Dr. J. Michael Beck
Altar Guild:	Kathy Lambert & Linda Johnson	Kathy Lambert & Linda Johnson
Ushers/Greeters:	Jerry Vargues	Jerry Vargues
Counters/Posters:	Nancy Piazza/Cassie Walgren	Lynn Truxell/Sue Kastelic
JAM:	Leanne Neu/Connie Wisthoff	Children's Sermon

BIRTHDAYS

1 Roger Truxell

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- † We are going to add "Emergency Contact" to our new directory that we will be completing soon. Please put your Emergency Contact name and phone number on the Welcome Slip so that we may update our records.
- † **It's time to direct your Thrivent Choice Dollars:** Eligible Thrivent Financial members who have Choice Dollars available have until March 31, 2026 to call in to direct any remaining Choice Dollars. Go online or call 1-800-847-4836 and select "Thrivent Choice" to talk to a live person.
- † King of Kings has invited us to join them in their Wednesday Lenten Soup Suppers and Worship Service. Beginning February 25 - 6:00pm Soup Supper following by worship service at 7:00pm. Detailed information can be found in the Tabor Tidbits or posted on our bulletin boards.
- † If you would like to donate the lilies to decorate the church on Easter Sunday, please use the order forms and envelopes on the table in the Narthex to order. The cost for each Easter Lily is \$15 and the lily can be taken with you after worship on Easter morning. **Orders are due by March 29th.**